

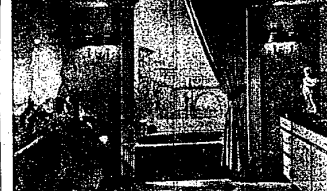
# Plumbing System Outlast Home

Why have millions of Americans moved to suburban areas? Many say they wanted the elegance of city living closer to nature — and they've found a new and economical way to bring nature to their living rooms, and other rooms as well: quarried stone.

Because it is derived from nature, stone enables a home in the country to fit naturally into its environment. Stone is one of the few building materials that can give a home an undecorated appearance without looking drab.

The wide color range of sandstone, quartzite, granite, marble, limestone and slate and the extraordinary textures available—thanks to new methods of quarrying and cutting—are beauty factors of importance to the suburban homeowner. In addition, the rugged adaptability of these natural varieties of stone—both alone and in combination with other materials—is being demonstrated anew by today's architects.

Walls, fireplaces and floors of natural stone provide a dramatic counterbalance for the sleek, trim lines of modern furniture. Ruggedly handsome with a warm texture, stone adds an extra premium of luxury to any interior — and helps increase the resale value of the home as well.



And to make sure that you're using a quarried stone that will best suit your taste get free information about the different types and colors available from the Building Stone Institute, 420 Lexington Avenue, New York, N.Y.

STONE HAS BEEN used to good advantage in many suburban homes as a continuation of outdoor materials inside the house. For example, the outdoor flagstone wall leading up to the front door can be continued inside the foyer. Or the same stone can be used for the fireplace inside the house as is used for the chimney outside. If the hearth is flanked by a stone window, the effect can be quite striking.

Despite its rough and humble origin, stone can also assume an air of regal elegance, as in the case of marble. It is natural that many people associate marble with traditional architecture because most of the classic examples of architectural beauty are marble structures. Yet, the pages of the leading home magazines are full of photographs of striking modern interiors that owe much of their glamor to marble.

To some, marble still seems to be a luxury of the very rich, as is the haughty or the dour. But many suburban homeowners now realize that with new cutting techniques they can afford the loveliness of a marble floor, fireplace, wall or table, just as easily as they can afford wall-to-wall carpeting, or a TV set.

THINKING AGAIN in more rustic terms, stone is the most logical and appropriate of all landscaping materials.

Whether it is used as a retaining wall, patio floor, path, barbecue or any number of other possibilities, stone provides color, texture and pattern that are essential to every well-conceived garden design.

Suburbanites also include the durability and maintenance-free qualities of stone as further reasons for its wide popularity.

The ancient Egyptians used stones to house spirits... now modern Americans are using stone to bring spirit to their homes. How's that for progress?

## Wood Panels Give Charm

It's astonishing how much charm and character can be added to a living room or bedroom simply by installing wood paneling on one or two walls.

Choose a naturally light-hued western lumber, such as western hemlock or larch, and finish it clear, without paint or stain. You'll have beautiful accent walls that your friends are sure to rave about.

By using lumber you will achieve a depth and solidity of appearance that is worth the small amount of extra work that is required for sheetrock. The job really is not difficult, taken step by step.

First, measure each wall to be paneled for length and height. Measure all openings, such as doors and windows, in square feet, so this can be subtracted from the surface footage you must cover.

Take these figures and your ideas to your retail lumberman. He'll help you estimate quantities.

If you have typical stud frame walls, don't forget furring strips. 1x4-inch pieces to be nailed horizontally to the studs. Three of these strips are usually enough for nailing the paneling, placed at top, bottom and midway.

Two Livonia and Farmington brothers, owners of the Paddock Pools, Inc., received the swimming pool industry's highest honor — a gold medal — Monday in Cleveland.

The presentation was made to Charles and William Robertson at the National Swimming Pool Institute convention. In excess of 1,500 installations were made throughout the U.S., Canada, England and South America, were reviewed for excellence in design, construction and workmanship.

Don't spoil the job with improper finishing. First, sand each piece to satin smoothness. Apply sealer and let it dry thoroughly, then sand it smooth before applying the finish coat. Sand lightly between any additional coats.

To preserve the natural grain and light coloring of the wood, apply a transparent coating over the filter, such as clear resin or lacquer.

Two Livonia residents defended the behavior of appraisers for the Wayne County Road Commission, the target of criticism by other last week.

Julius Costello, 18855 Merriman Rd., and Wallace Hetherington, 18825 Merriman Rd., said the appraisers, who visited homes on the street in connection with a paving project, were "polite and competent."

Last week, some other residents claimed that the appraisers had come into their homes and acted rudely while checking property for the Merriman Rd. paving project.

"The appraisers called me two days before they came in and made an appointment," said Costello. "When they came, they were very polite."

Costello also said residents on Merriman who had signed petitions opposing the paving project had not taken the time to inform themselves. "There were no plans for a four-lane highway," he said. "The people who told them this were not correct. All that residents had to do was to call City Hall and find out."

Costello and Hetherington petitions favoring the project and said they collected 50 signatures in one hour. The other petition had contained more than 100 names opposed to the paving.

In any case, the paving project will be underway this spring, with two lanes of Merriman between Seven Mile and Schoolcraft being paved.

## Observer Newspapers' Home Improvement Page

### County Appraisers 'Polite,' Merriman Residents State

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## Two From Area Win Pool Award

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