



GOLFERS at Independence Green in Farmington need only step out their front door to be on the green.

The Apartment Complex

The thought of apartments and condominiums brings mixed feelings to the heart of suburbia. City officials rub their hands over the extra tax money apartments generate; school administrators worry that new high density areas may upset enrollment projections; and homeowners are sure the government is going to sneak some low-rent people into each new complex.

But a lot of young, old and in-between people who don't want to groom and care for a house or who want to get involved in an organized community are glad to see the recent suburban apartment boom.

Most of the apartments, condominiums and co-ops in Observerland were built in the past 15 years as people from Detroit and from outstate demanded housing near -- but not in -- Detroit.

The units are higher priced than similar housing in Detroit. The cheapest one-bedroom apartment we could find was \$160 per month.

Holiday Park Co-op in Westland offers a one - bedroom unit for \$130 per month but requires a down payment of about \$2,000.

Suburban apartments offer a wide variety of luxury options for those willing to pay: golf courses, pools, saunas, clubhouses and movies. Most units come equipped with carpeting, air conditioning, laundry facilities, parking, appli-

ances and drapes.

Most young singles are willing to double up in one or two bedroom apartments but many senior citizens, especially those without partners, face housing problems. A young single man who has scoured the area several times for an apartment gives the following assessment:

"Livonia won't rent to two bachelors, Farmington is very swinging but expensive, Southfield is the highest rent district in the metropolitan area and Westland is cheap if you want to live in farm country."

Independence Green, a 982 unit complex built around an 18 hole golf course at Grand River and Ten Mile Rd. in Farmington, is considered to be one of the in residences for monied singles. Rents range from \$175 for a one bedroom apartment to \$379 for a three bedroom townhouse with a view. No children under 17 are allowed.

Features include a washer and dryer in each apartment, built in vacuum and attachments, TWO swimming pools (one outdoor; one indoor) an ice skating rink and free weekly color movies in the clubhouse.

Furnished apartments -- a rarity -- are available. Independence Green also offers "many planned activities and social functions."

An apartment complex like that is more than a place to live -- it can

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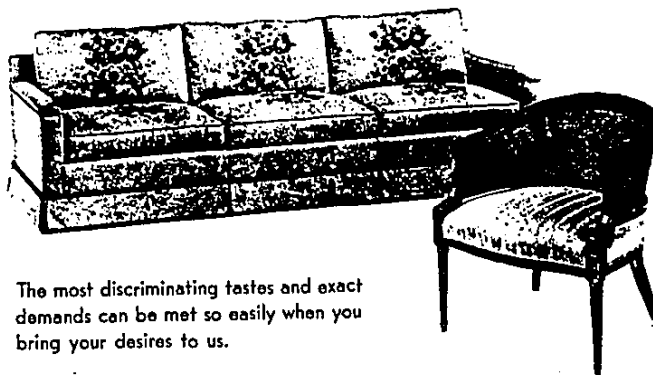
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