

It may be comforting to you to remember, always, that you are living in a world that, from a human standpoint, is far from perfect. Yet this same world produces, each generation, more and more men and women who seek to take us higher up the road to Utopia.

\$18,000,000 Westchester Village Opens Tomorrow

Three Model Homes Offer Latest Innovations for Modern Living

When the three model homes in Westchester Village subdivision are opened to the public—it will mark the first steps in the development of the 325-acre Mercier farm that lies west of the new Birmingham High school in Bloomfield township.

Ultimate construction on the property bounded by Cranbrook, Maple and Lahser could see the erection of nearly 600 homes.

The models will be opened tomorrow, Friday, Sept. 10.

The property, purchased by the Garling Construction company in January, 1952, for a sum slightly less than \$700,000, has been the center of bitter controversies in the past over recommended development of the area.

Latest snag to delay home construction on the farm was denial of Bloomfield township building permits because of sewage treatment problems. These problems seem to have been eased by both the State's Water Resources Commission and negotiations between the township and the City of Birmingham concerning a sewage treatment contract.

THE BUILDERS now feel that their overall plan for the land, which includes half-acre lots on winding streets with sewer and water systems, will make the area comparable to adjacent developments in Birmingham and Bloomfield Village.

The models are on the Lahser road side of the property and incorporate many of the newest innovations in the building trades industry. Materials and design for the new homes have taken months of study and the public is promised a new look at living when they tour the three homes.

A blending of traditional Colonial architecture with some of the most advanced home planning and design in America today has been the aim of Westchester Village's developers. Termed by its builders as "a brand new way of living," Westchester is exactly that. Many new-setting innovations that are sure to be copied may be found in these homes.

TO SECURE the latest ideas and developments in the building field—from electrical appliances and

Built-In Music System in Homes

Reflecting the wave of enthusiasm for "Hi-Fi" that is sweeping the country, every home in Westchester will have a built-in Seeburg "Select-a-matic" record player with High Fidelity speaker.

A panel in the wall conceals a music system of a hundred records (45 rpm)—enough to play 25 hours without repetition if extended play records are used. The flick of a lever controls each record, and a mechanical brain does the rest.

equipment to new materials and construction processes—Garling's went to five big companies—General Electric, Carrier, Reynolds, Ford, and Detroit Edison.

All have contributed to the livability and charm of these homes.

General Electric, for example, is honoring the Westchester project with a "world premiere" of the two newest products in its famous line—the G.E. built-in refrigerator and the G.E. built-in food freezer.

Ford is putting its sleek new Thunderbird sports car (or a station wagon, if the home owner prefers) in every garage.

Carrier is installing its Weather-maker Year-Round Air Conditioning in every home. Reynolds is featuring new and unique uses of aluminum in "Mr. Peepers' Honey-moon House."

And Detroit Edison is employing its "Diamond Jubilee House" as a showcase for the most advanced type of lighting, wiring and electrical appliances, celebrating 75 years of electricity in the home.

OTHER MODERN practices found in the homes include the free use of fiberglass and interior brick to accent the studio-type construction.

The latest in electronic devices, electrical wiring and lighting give a new look to both the interiors and exteriors of the models.

Convenient living indoors and out is provided by the planning of the homes' living area units.

Developers look for a slow, careful development of Westchester Village and are planning a landscaping program to keep abreast of home building.



Built-In Refrigerators and Freezers are "Firsts" In Westchester Village Model Homes

The kitchen and dining nook in the new General Electric House of built-in refrigerator and the new General Electric built-in food freezer. The kitchen cabinets are of a unique slanting design with a rich mahogany finish. There is a pass-through divider wall between the dining room and kitchen.

The entire living-activities area enjoys the spaciousness afforded by a high sloped ceiling of exposed 3" x 8" timber rafters. The huge fireplace of Mercier Slag Stone and brick combined with Roddiscraft Cherrywood paneling soars 12 feet high to the summit of the room. Flanking the fireplace on the right is an 8 foot slag stone wall with a planting box on top.

Diamond Jubilee House Boosts Outdoor Living

Most talked-about feature of the Detroit Edison Diamond Jubilee House is the Cabana room, designed for outdoor living. The Cabana room is a sheltered terrace open at both ends with a translucent colored Fiberglass roof on exposed egg crate constructed timbers.

The massive barbecue is flanked by built-in stone seats and planter boxes, surmounted with a trellis. For evening entertainment, spot lights are suspended overhead. Translucent Fiberglass panels also serve as wind-breaks on either side of the barbecue.

Detroit Edison has designed special lighting for the entrance hall, dining and kitchen areas. The ceiling is constructed of square wood frames, suspended from timber rafters. In these frames are removable translucent sheets of colored Fiberglass which transmit light from the indirect fixtures concealed above. Illumination of the attractive kitchen is the elaborate masonry barbecue of tan Roman vertical jointed brick.

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Convenience, Space Found in Village

Westchester Village occupies one square mile of land, bounded by Lahser, West Maple and Cranbrook Roads on the outskirts of Birmingham. It is in the Birmingham school district, and directly across the street from the new Birmingham High school.

It is flanked by Birmingham Country Club on the east, Oakland Hills on the west, and is within 10 minutes driving distance of half a dozen more clubs including Plum Hollow, Orchard Lake and Pine Lake. It is just 10 minutes drive from Hudson's Northland.

Westchester Village has water, sewers, winding streets . . . and half-acre lots assure spacious living. The natural beauty of the area will be enhanced by an extensive landscaping program costing thousands of dollars.

A Promise and an Invitation

The Mercier farm, long a landmark in Birmingham, has taken on a new look. Where fields of grain once waved in the wind, new homes are rising . . . some of the loveliest homes in a community noted for its gracious living.

These homes are far out of the ordinary. Architecturally styled in keeping with Colonial tradition of the area, they possess many features that place them ten years ahead in design. They represent the combined thinking of some of the nation's finest home planners . . . and embrace the latest products from the laboratories and research centers of General Electric, Carrier, Ford, Reynolds, Briggs and other great American firms.

We are proud of Westchester. We pledge our continuing efforts to make it a Community of fine homes second to none in this area. It will be built slowly and carefully, with constant attention to new and improved developments in the fine home field. Whether or not you are in the market for a new house, we cordially invite you to visit Westchester Village for the sheer pleasure you will experience in viewing these outstanding residences. Your time will be well rewarded.

—FRED C. GARLING

