

# Building permits drop \$1.7 million

The value of building permits issued in Halton Hills this year was \$1.7 million less than last year, a reduction of 11 per cent. The '74 total was \$15,829,407 and the '75 total \$14,182,761.

The year end report, by Chief Building Inspector and Zoning Administrator Doug Sargent, shows a switch in residential buildings, to more semi-detached houses this year.

In 1974, 320 single family home permits and 48 multiple family homes were issued, while in 1975, 230 single family home permits and 85 multiple housing unit permits were issued.

More people seem to be renovating their homes, rather than buying new ones, according to the statistics. Last year 119 alteration permits were sold, while this year 166 such permits were issued.

The popularity of the backyard swimming pool continued unabated with 147 this year and 154 last.

In Acton housing permits dropped from 275 in 1974 to 132 this year. In Esqueping (Ward 2) housing permits dropped from 79 to 67.

The number of housing permits in the Georgetown area this year jumped from 14 last year to 116 this year, due primarily to Marywood Meadows.

Building Inspector Sargent said the drop in Acton and Esqueping shows the dwindling supply of available residential lots.

A number of large industrial projects boosted this year's total to an increase of \$347,651, despite three fewer permits being issued. Included in the larger industrial permits this year were Georgetown Medical Clinic, Shoprite Store, an addition to Burns Warehouse, two new industrial malls on Armstrong Avenue, McDonald's Restaurant, the new Cercor factory, the residence for the mentally retarded at Hornby, the addition to North Halton Golf and Country Club, new factory on Armstrong Avenue, the Loblaw's addition, the Penecostal Church on Highway 7, six stores and offices on Mountainview South, Halton Region Day Care centre on Maple Avenue, an addition to the town works garage on the Seventh Line, and an addition to Commercial Shearing's plant on Commerce Court, Acton.

The building inspector forecast a slight increase in permits in '76 despite an anticipated drop in single family home construction.

The month of December '75 topped November by \$100,000 with a \$87,500 permit for the addition to the town works garage on the Seventh Line, boosting the institutional permits, and two commercial permits totalling \$135,000 pushing the commercial permits.

Alterations and an addition

## Chop roads budget

Halton Region's Public Works Committee will chop close to \$190,000 from its proposed \$2,212,900 roads budget at its regular meeting this afternoon.

Considering the budget last week, the committee agreed not to spend any funds on projects that do not receive provincial subsidies.

The region's subsidy for roads this year is \$992,000. With the region paying its share, a total of \$1,984,000 can be spent.

The bulk of that budget is set aside for the reconstruction of the Guelph Line from Highway 5 to upper Middle Road in Burlington. That project alone will cost over \$902,000.

Other major projects rating high on the priority list include property acquisition and engineering for Upper Middle Rd. in Oakville at \$200,000 and the realignment and construction of Campbellville Rd. from the Town Line to the Fifth Line at \$176,000. All other projects are under \$100,000.

Of the 41 projects considered, staffers identified 32 projects that they feel should be done this year.

The proposed budget for water and sewer programs calls for an expenditure of \$18,808,090. The regional committee will also attempt to cut over \$6,000,000 from those estimates.

to the abattoir, owned by M. Dorogo, Hornby, accounted for \$100,000 and an addition to the Dairy Queen, on Guelph Street, Georgetown, for \$35,000.

Only three permits for houses were issued in the last month of the year.

During the year the town

collected \$98,325 in lot levies in Georgetown and \$14,700 in Acton.

The lower figure in Acton is due to the lot levies under some agreements in Acton being paid directly to the treasury department and would not show up on the building inspector's report.



MARJORY BOX and Heide Haessler work side by side as they make beautiful articles in their night school macrame class on Mondays at the high school.



MRS. DITRA GOODINGS works hard at her macrame during her night school class at the high school on Mondays.

## Heart decals for handicapped

"Have a Heart—Save a Life" is the theme of an on-going public safety campaign launched last year by the Halton Region Fire Prevention Committee.

The Committee is offering free heart-shaped decals to handicapped residents of the region. The bright red decals are to be placed on the window in the front door, or the window nearest the front door, to alert firefighters in case of an emergency that there is a handicapped person or invalid living in that building who may require special assistance.

In apartment buildings, decals are placed behind the glass of the intercom system in the lobby and the apartment number will be noted on the decal.

No charge  
Decals are available from

all the fire halls in Halton Region, at no charge.

Committee chairman Capt. Jim Coulson of Milton Fire Department said the "Have a Heart" program has been running about a year and to date approximately 100 decals have been distributed. But the Committee feels there are more invalids or handicapped persons who should be displaying a decal on their place of residence.

"The heart program is NOT a substitute for fire safety or responsibility," Capt. Coulson stressed. "Firefighters will always make a thorough search of any building but the decal will alert the firefighter to look for an elderly or handicapped person. "Heart decals point the way to a speedy rescue," he said. "They are intended to be an extra safety aid, not a substitute."

## Councillor upset

### Planning brochure

Burlington Councillor Tom Sutherland told Regional Council Wednesday that the region's planning committee was being extremely wasteful. He said it wasn't just the \$9,000 the committee spent on a recent brochure, but referred to indications there would be other waste.

In his opinion all the brochure accomplished was to tell the people that an official plan was being prepared for the region.

His comments did not sit well with committee members. One committee member, Councillor Ric Morrow termed the criticism "cheap, irresponsible and political."

Expert advice  
Chairman Mary Munro explained the brochure took the format it did only after much consultation with experts and other regions which had one through the process.

She said the expert advice was free and the brochure was prepared in-house. Both Munro and Planning

Director Ed Cumming said the committee had concluded there was little good that could come from a program that invited comment and participation without first providing background information and a basis on which people could comment.

Cumming told regional council the plan would develop land use strategies for the region and it will address itself to critical planning policies of the province which affect the region.

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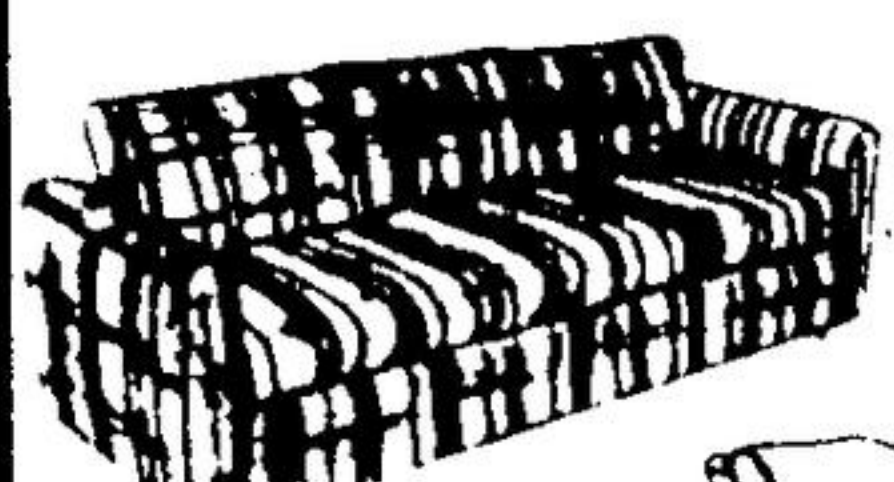
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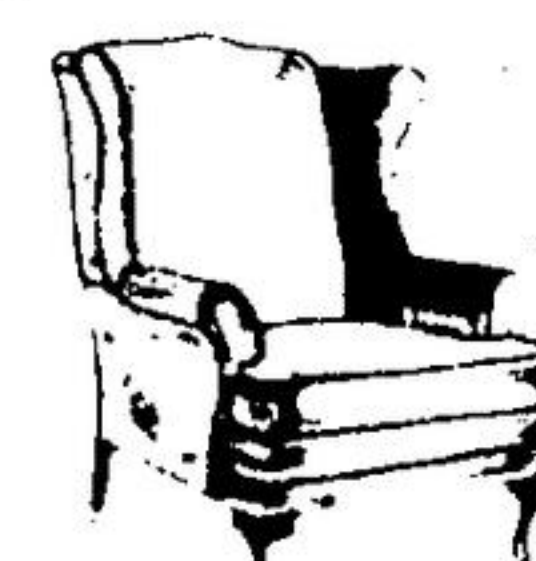


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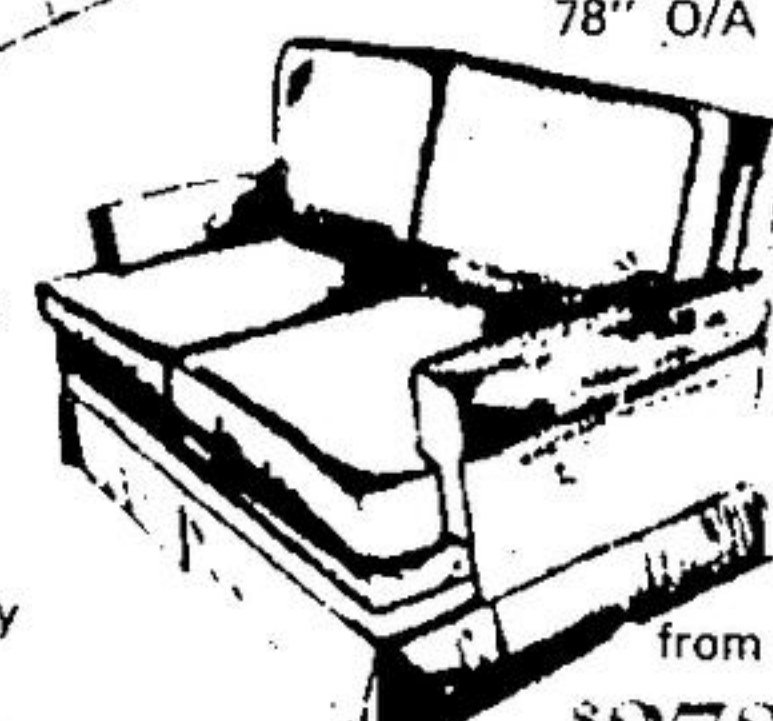
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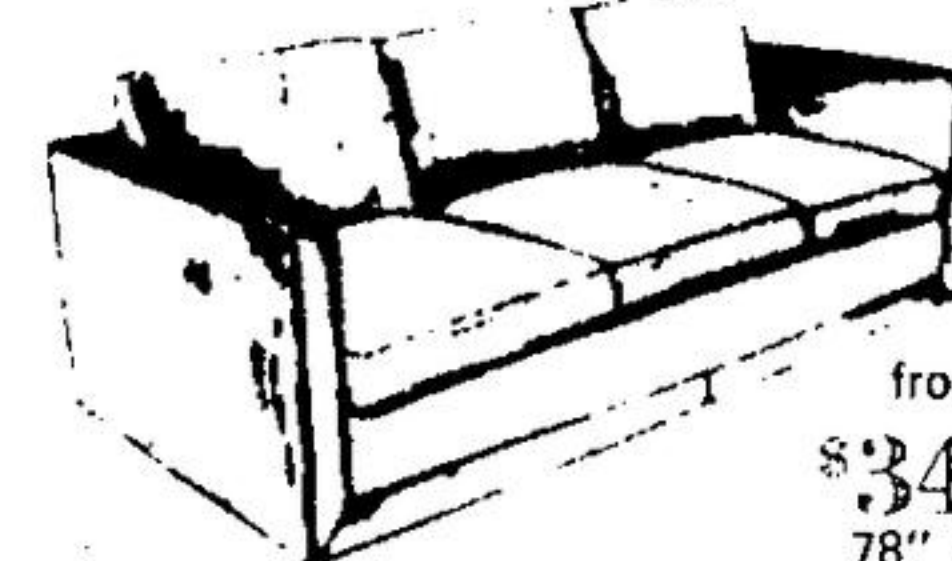
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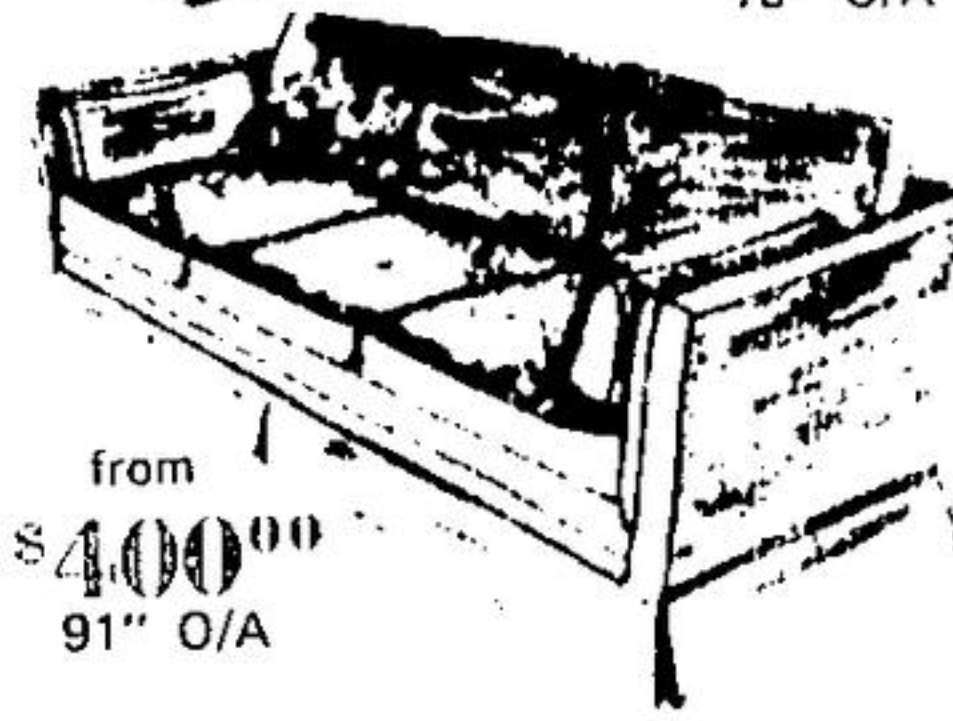
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