

Nestled amongst stately pine trees stands the unique structure. It really doesn't have a particular style, but it does have a timeless quality. And that is just what architect Charles Simon envisioned when he designed the Rockwood Memorial Chapel. It stands on the site of the old Quaker Chapel. As yet not officially named, the building of a chapel was at the bequest of the late Gladys Hanna, who passed away two years ago.

The idea of the chapel is to be multi-faith; it shouldn't look like it belongs to any one denomina-

Around Rockwood

With Debbie Tilson



tion. As for the shape, Charles' design provides for lots of flexibility. His idea was to preserve the surrounding trees and use natural materials. He hopes for a "sense of quiet and a feeling of warmth, massiveness yet lightness."

The chapel has a wonderfully open feeling. Huge windows are placed quite high, so you see out to the sky and the trees, without any feeling of intrusion from the outside world. The interior finish will be lightly stained to retain a natural look. A concave tilted roof slopes in one direction so that rain water can run down chains (an old Japanese concept) to a decorative sculptured pond or catch basin. Located beside the entry, visitors who regularly water or maintain

flowers and plants in the cemetery will have easy access to water.

A big part of the concept was a forecourt, a garden of remembrance for outside memorial services. Unfortunately, this area cannot be completed until more money comes forward.

Charles Simon and his wife Anna live in their beautifully restored mill beside the Eramosa River in Eden Mills. His company has been in business since 1970. One area that they specialize in is

energy conservation; an early project was the first passive solar house in Canada in nearby Arkell. Another project was a greenhouse and a multiple housing complex of passive solar energy (the largest in Canada) for Brock University. Their work ranges from renovations to planning. Charles and his company recently won the contract, over 50 to 60 other architectural companies, to plan and design the Toronto Island housing co-operative.



These four Warren Grove "originals" are helping plan a reunion for Acton's Wartime Housing — our town's first subdivision. Left to right, Lorna Chisholm, Ella Morton, Marjorie McDonough and Anne Drysdale. (Frances Niblock photo)

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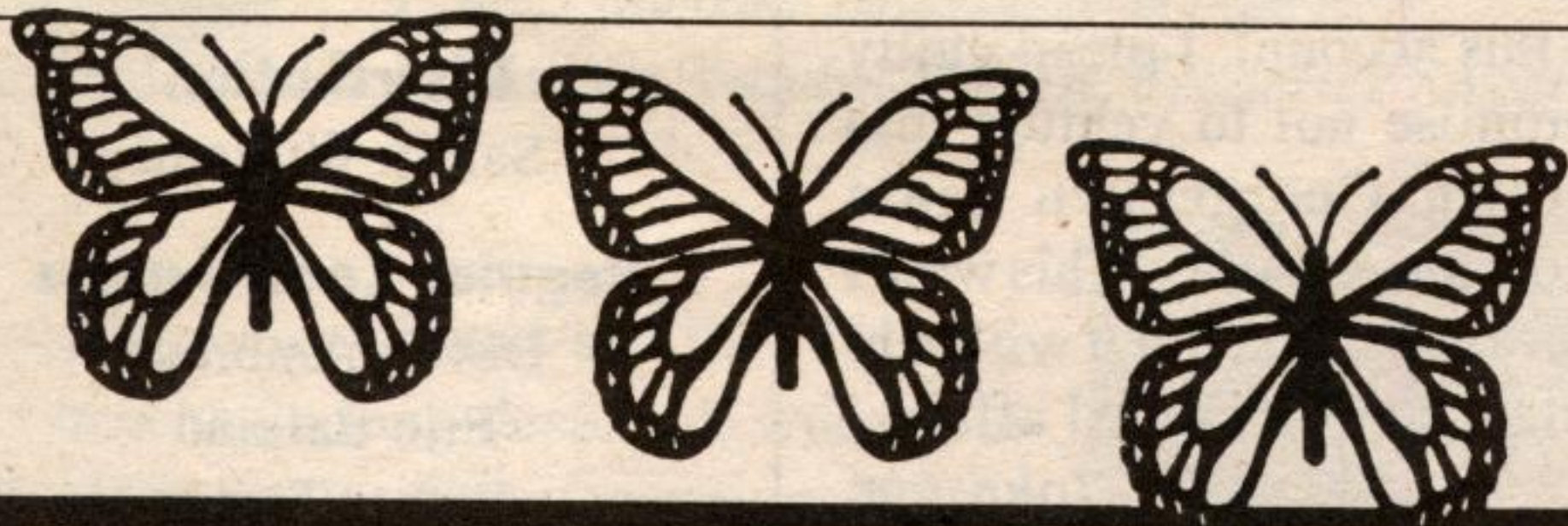
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