HOME & GARDEN

Opening the doors to distinctive properties

It's one thing to go to an open house that's for sale and examine the layout and furnishings.

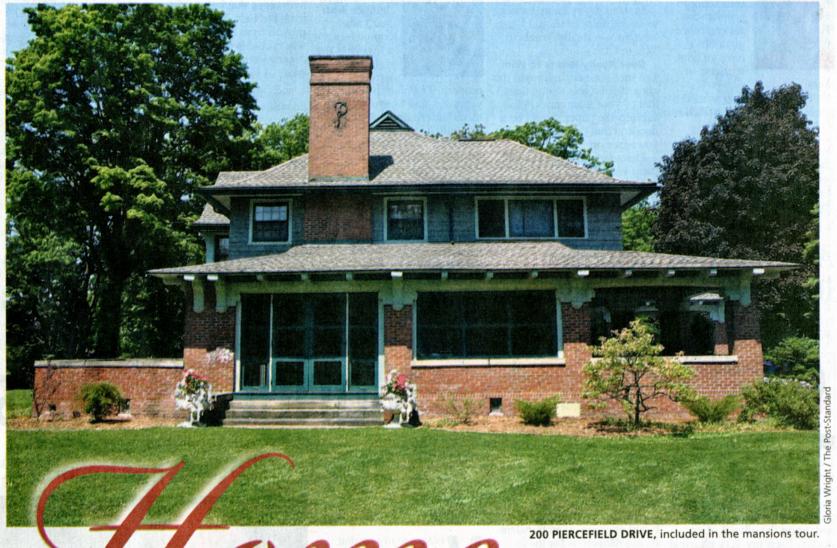
It's another thing to go on a tour that shows off distinctive architecture, estate gardens or

historic neighborhoods.

People who are curious about Strathmore. Sedgwick, Solvay or Skaneateles can make plans to take part in tours this month, when dozens of properties will open their doors to benefit local charities. (-)



Dozens of properties open this month to benefit charities



Canden TOURS

Piercefield Neighborhood mansions and gardens self-guided tour

Where: Piercefield Drive, Orchard Road and Wynthrop Road, Solvay.

When: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 12.

Cost: \$10; benefits the Onondaga

Historical Association.

Highlights: The self-guided tour will lead through three mansions and four estate gardens in the little-known Piercefield neighborhood in Solvay. The homes were built in the early 20th century by officers at Solvay Process Co.

Tour: Check-in and tours begin at 200 Piercefield Drive (*pictured above*).

By Pam Lundborg Home & Real Estate editor Strathmore

'Tis the season to get out and see those interesting houses you've always wondered about. Central New York has four neighborhood

house tours coming up this month. Here are the highlights of each:



Dick Blume / The Post-Standard, 1999

204 ROBINEAU ROAD, Syracuse, is the former home of Syracuse Arts and Crafts potter Adelaide Alsop Robineau.

For more information: Call 428-1864. ext. 314.

Save the Mansion Tour

Where: Sedgwick neighborhood, Syracuse.

When: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. today.

Cost: \$20; benefits the George and Rebecca Barnes Foundation.

Highlights: See six historic mansions: 930 James St.; 12 Brattle Road;

104 Sedgwick Drive; 400 Sedgwick Drive; 100 Sedgwick Drive; and 1718 James St.

Tour: The tours start every half-hour at 930 James St.

For more information: Visit www. grbarnes.org.

Skaneateles: A Summer Place house tour and flower show

Where: East Genesee Street, Skaneateles.

When: 1 to 5 p.m. June 25 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. June 26.

Cost: \$25 at the door, \$20 in advance. Money benefits the Skaneateles Garden Club.

Highlights: Tour six Skaneateles properties, including a barn that was converted into a house, a historic Gothic house and the Thaver House.

Tour: Tickets may be picked up at St. James Church at 96 E. Genesee St.

For more information: Call Ros Schwartz at 685-3394.

history. Tour: Groups will leave every 15 minutes from 245 Robineau Road. and tours last one hour and 15 minutes.

Ghostwalk

Strathmore Festival)

Where: Robineau

When: 2 to 4 p.m.

June 19: 6 to 8 p.m.

June 26; 2 to 4 p.m.

Onondaga Historical

Money benefits the

Highlights: Meet the ghost of famed

ceramicist Adelaide

Alsop Robineau and

her contemporaries as they stroll through the

historic neighborhood,

dishing gossip on

the neighbors and

offering perspectives

on the neighborhood's

Association members.

Cost: \$12 for the

public, \$10 for

Road, Syracuse.

(Part of

June 27.

OHA.

For more information: Call 428-1864, ext. 312.