

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. C-1



Gloria Wright / The Post-Standard

200 PIERCEFIELD DRIVE, Solvay.

Dozens of properties open this month to benefit charities



Gloria Wright / The Post-Standard

200 PIERCEFIELD DRIVE, included in the mansions tour.

Home & Garden 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

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

Strathmore Ghostwalk (Part of Strathmore Festival)

Where: Robineau Road, Syracuse.

When: 2 to 4 p.m. June 19; 6 to 8 p.m. June 26; 2 to 4 p.m. June 27.

Cost: \$12 for the public, \$10 for Onondaga Historical Association members. Money benefits the OHA.

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 history.

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

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

'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.

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 Thayer 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.