

House Provides Exotic Departure

By BETTY BARRETT

SCHUYLERVILLE Nine sites will be visited Sept. 10 during the tour of homes being sponsored by the Old Saratoga Historical Association for benefit of the General Philip Schuyler Furniture Fund, according to Miss Helen Bullard, association president.

Advance tickets may be obtained from Mrs. Louis Follett or they may be purchased from the hostesses at one of the homes during the tour.

Mrs. J. Leighton Cromie, president of the Schuylerville Garden Club, will receive the guests on the lawn of her home where refreshments will be served.

PLACES TO BE VISITED will be the Old Dutch parsonage, the Marshall House, the General Philip Schuyler House of the Revolutionary Period, the homes of Mr. and Mrs. John J. O'Brien and Mr. and Mrs. David Bullard, the Latridge Farm, the Old Champlain Canal Locks, and Old Saratoga Reformed Church.

Providing a rather exotic point of departure from the Georgian, Classical, or Cape Cod styles which the enthusiasts of House and Garden tours have come to expect, is the home of Mr. and Mrs. David Bullard. Located immediately in the rear of the Marshall House, once occupied by the Baroness de Riedesel during the siege of Old Saratoga, it is now in the possession of the Bullard family, it is a tiny but charming cottage of only four main rooms.

It is filled with an amazing large collection of unusual objects, mostly from Japan and other Far Eastern countries. Incorporated in the interior construction of the building itself are many rare Oriental woods such as cypripedium and persimmon. But their role is functional as well as beautiful for the house has been designed to utilize every inch of space, and the unusual work treatment helps to do so most effectively. Few to doubt would suppose that this house was originally built in 1817 of old beaver siding to serve as a camp for the Bullard Orchard workers.

THE TRANSFORMATION from camp bunkhouse to its present appearance came when David and Yasuko Bullard returned to Schuylerville after several years of living and traveling in the Orient. Bullard is a noted local authority on Orientalia, and Mrs. Bullard is a native of Japan. They bought with them their large collection of woods and furnishings and then set to work re-designing and redecorating the cottage after first moving it to its present location.

Many of the Oriental pieces in the house are also antiques in their own right; and, in fact, some are many centuries older than what Americans think of as antique, such as a Korean bowl dating from 889 A.D. Another Korean piece is a Koryu vase made circa 1740. This white vase with blue design is an especially fine example of Korean pottery.

Among the Japanese pieces is a very fine chest from the 1800 period which still has the original key for each drawer. The hinges and other iron work on the chest show fine hand workmanship. Another interesting item is the Japanese highball of Ca. 1840-50, made of black persimmon. This type of Hibachi would have been used in Western Japan. Most of the drawers are for keeping tea dry. Pipes and tobacco were kept in the long drawers. There are vats for heating saki bottles and keeping them warm.

THROUGHOUT THE HOUSE the visitor can't help noticing the many uses of the woods. For example, the cherry poles which are false rafters and the split bamboo ceiling such as might be found in a Philippine house near Luzon. The balustrade and rails of the staircase are made of cypripedium, and the off shape in the center is cypress, and is a large screen in the downstairs vestibule. Wallpaper is made of hand-tied straw.

Upstairs hangs a blowfish, symbol of a safe house in Northern Japan, and most of



AN HISTORIC EYEFUL—The Marshall House, once occupied by the Baroness de Riedesel during the siege at Old Saratoga and now in the possession of the Bullard family, is one of nine sites to be visited Sept. 10 during the tour of homes being sponsored by the Old Saratoga Historical Association. The tour will benefit the General Philip Schuyler Furniture Fund.

the lamps in the house are made of abalone shell from the Philippines. There can be seen also some example of Okinawan handmade glass, and the cloth hanging in the stairs well is traditional Okinawan dyestuff.

NOT ALL of the furnishings in the house are Oriental. Combined with these are many American, English and French pieces, and the unusual work treatment helps to do so most effectively. Few to doubt would suppose that this house was originally built in 1817 of old beaver siding to serve as a camp for the Bullard Orchard workers.

Few Saratoga County homes have as much claim to history as does the famed Marshall House on North Broadway, Schuylerville. This was the house that sheltered the Baroness Riedesel and her children during the fateful days of Oct. 1777, when the entire area was being bombarded with British and American shot and shell. Although now the private residence of Mrs. T. Kenneth Bullard, the house has almost a museum-like quality, not only through its historic associations, but owing as well to a magnificent collection of antiques and other unusual items which have been assembled by the owner. The Marshall House, together with eight other Schuylerville homes and landmarks will be featured in the tour.

FROM THE GREAT Dutch door with its original hinges and locks to the bloodstains under the serene blue drawing room rug, the Marshall house is full of surprises, large and small. In describing some of her prize possessions, Mrs. Bullard's tone denotes a special hint of pride, for these are her heirlooms, only recently acquired. Other pieces came with the house when Mrs. Bullard and her late husband purchased it in 1927. Still a great many more were collected by the Bullards on their travels throughout the world.

Notable among the "new" heirlooms is a pair of hand-made portraits of the 1825 period. These Mrs. Bullard describes as Grandmother and Grandfather Hungerford. Grandmother Hungerford was Marietta Burr, cousin of Aaron. Across the hall and through the French doors in the "Red room" one can almost catch the old Baron Riedesel wishing at Marietta, from where he hangs opposite, together with his Baroness.

These elegant portraits are here to remind one of the vigilance and personal courage displayed by that lady of truly noble character, as well as her birth.

THERE ARE other works of art in the house. Of particular interest is a charming autumn scene, painted especially for Mrs. Bullard by Grandmother Moses when the latter was 90.

Rivalling the painting for one's interest are many fine antiques, including a rare 17th or early 18th century vermillion vase, a Georgian samovar, an elegant Dutch foot dining table, an unusual Georgian gaming cup, and a Sheraton unlay chest, all in the dining room.

Returning to the Red Room, one notices the mantle, a 200-year-old Japanese screen and iron pot which was probably in the house at the time of the battle. Another piece possibly in the house at that time is a large spinning wheel which is now displayed in the north drawing room. Also in this room is one of the cannons which was fired at the house during the battle.

STILLWATER Mr. and Mrs. Frank Alexch have returned to their home on Park Avenue after a motor trip to New Hampshire and Needham, Mass.

Four of these exhibits were by individual club members and were entered under the new class, American Vulgarism. As specified in the premium list book for the junior department of the fair, each of these exhibits consisted of roadside litter labeled as to section and length of road where the litter was collected.

David Clatworthy, South Argyll Country Farmers, earned a blue award for his windmill constructed of roadside litter collected along a two-mile stretch of the Summit Lake Road.

Cherie Herrington earned a blue award for a litter statue titled "77 Dress and Accessories." Litter composing the statue was picked up on the Cottrill road from the Lakespring road corner to the Anthony road corner, a half mile.

Elizabeth Connor of the Sugar and Spice 4-H Club used litter gathered on three tenths of a mile of Vly Summit road to create an artistic mock floral arrangement, and received a blue award.

Kathryn Johnson also earned a blue award for a large modern art arrangement of litter on a burlap, the litter having been collected in 60 feet of the Henderson road.

Three clubs entering exhibited under Section 13, class 270, general exhibits, those "Keep America Beautiful" as the central theme for their group exhibit.

A scarecrow constructed of tin cans collected by club members in a cleanup project was displayed by the Sugar and Spice 4-H Club. It also featured a newspaper article and photo relating to its project. The exhibit received a red award.

The Adamsville Green Jacket's display of litter gathered in 20 minutes between power poles 48 and 67 in an approximately 200-foot area on county highway 4 earned the club a blue award. Posters accompanying the exhibit stated: "Litter Costs Tax \$," "Do Your Part, Use a Litter Bag," and "Trash Costs Our County \$15.00."

4-H Exhibits at Washington Co. Fair Stress Keeping America Beautiful

GREENWICH — Interest in keeping America beautiful was evident in several of the exhibits entered by Washington County 4-H members and clubs and displayed in Junior Domestic building at the Washington County Fair.

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