

Tour from page 13D

treatments. Antiques and pine are seen throughout the house. Cullen redesigned the interior in a 10-month project that included raising ceilings and removing walls.

What had been the garage became the living room. The room has a brick floor and deep window seats, and a large chandelier from a New Orleans mansion. The limestone fireplace, taller than it is wide, was made for the room.

"It's a little house but full of dramatic nooks and crannies," Cullen said.

One of Cullen's favorite aspects of the house is a vestibule courtyard entry behind double French doors that contains angel sculptures from a church. A breezeway features part of an iron gate on the wall for a dramatic touch, and

The tour will take place 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 15. Tickets are \$25 each; you get one free if you buy four.

brick part way up the wall.

The kitchen is near the front door. An open area extends from the kitchen straight back to a dining area.

Green is the color of counter surfaces and chandelier in this area.

adding to the fresh, friendly feeling. One bathroom features a row of rabbits painted on a wall, part of a decor inspired by a rabbit plate collection from France. A mahogany sideboard works as a bathroom vanity.

A cedar closet became an upstairs landing. Among the accessories here is an endtable with a doily painted on the top. A closet/dressing room also serves as a small workplace.

Ronnie Higgs' Tudor house was built in 1928 and remodeled and enlarged in 1986.

"Our house is a bit on the country side," Higgs said. "We keep it that country home type of atmosphere."

The residence features an eclectic collection from around the world — Japan, Mexico, Peru, China, England, France. Oriental furnishings and accessories include a Japanese screen in the living room, and a tansu chest that originally fit under stairs; here the tansu's stacked shape stands against a wall.

Mexican accents include floor and wall tiles in the kitchen and bathroom, and blue and white porcelain. The kitchen has a stone floor. What was formerly the butler's pantry next to the kitchen has been converted into an eating area, with a booth decorated in a bold design around an octagonal, glass-topped table.

The warm family room, with pieces from the 1800s, is decorated in red and blue, with English Windsor chairs and an American rocker. A cabinet houses the TV.

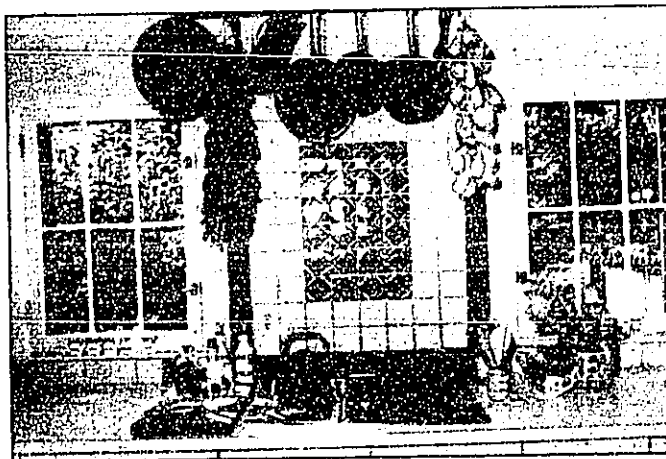
The sunroom is also a dining room, sunny and cheery. A screened-in porch off the room contains wicker furniture.

In the dining room, the walls are pink and bordered on top and bottom in white. A floral rug and white china cabinet are also in the room. The mas-



STAFF PHOTOS BY JORDA STORMER/CACTO

Delightful dining: The sunroom in Ronnie Higgs' house is also a cheery dining room, with a screened-in porch nearby.



Colorful kitchens: Sara Scott Cullen's kitchen (above) features green counter surfaces and chandelier, while Higgs' (left) has blue wall tiles.

ter bedroom features a highboy from Rhode Island, with pointed "slipper" feet rather than the "ball and claw" style. Another bedroom, wallpapered in a pink and white pattern with ribbons, has a lampshade made from a scrap of an old Chinese shawl.

The IFDA is a not-for-profit organization of people from diverse fields related to design and furnishings, such as artists, designers and distributors. Money from events such as the house tour go to scholarships for design students and a yearly competition. The Michigan chapter of the IFDA is celebrating its 20th year.



Open room: Cullen converted the garage into an attractive living room, giving it a brick floor and adding a limestone fireplace.