

Garden Club's

'Christmas On Bolton Hill'

By ROBERT G. BREEN

THE house at 1412 Bolton street is just what it should be—a big, Baltimore row house of the mid-Nineteenth Century, designed for midtown family living.

It was built as such, and in the hands of the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Sterling O. Gaylord, it has remained so.

The atmosphere is comfortably Victorian without adherence to rigid conformity of style.

The house is probably as typical as any of those on Bolton Hill and will be one of the ten houses opened to the public from 2 P.M. to 5 P.M. Sunday.

Art Institute To Benefit

The tour, called "Christmas on Bolton Hill," has been planned by the Town Garden Club to finance its landscaping of the Maryland Institute grounds.

Tickets are priced at \$2 and will be available at the parish house of Memorial Episcopal Church, Bolton street and Lafayette avenue.

In the eight years that Mr. and Mrs. Gaylord have been in their Bolton street home, they have made their hobby the visible re-creation of the era in which the house was built.

What has helped as much as anything are the old lace curtains, in perfect condition, which hang at the parlor windows, giving an air of warmth to the home.

A reminder that in the mid-Nineteenth Century parental authority was still supreme is seen in the pair of chairs, "lady's and gentleman's chairs," one for Mother and one for Pappa, placed at each side of the marble fireplace mantle. The chairs still have intact their original red velour upholstery.

Proper Victorian Art

There are plenty of pictures on the walls too, pictures that are honestly sentimental and grandiose in the proper Victorian manner.

A collection of 38 pictures in the hall can be viewed today with a touch of amusement and much interest. They are all scenes from grand opera, many of the operas seldom, if ever, heard today.

The pictures are all printed on satin. The huge dining room is graced by a

three-part mahogany banquet table. The sideboard, like the table, is Chippendale. A small hunt board with unusual inlay is probably the oldest piece in the room, dating from the latter part of the Eighteenth Century.

The gilt metal cornices over the windows, restored by Mr. Gaylord, along with the gold-framed mirror over the mantel and the gilt frames of the pictures, perpetuate the atmosphere of the substantial family life that characterized ante bellum Baltimore.

Covered Terrace In Back

To make their home as pleasant to live in during the summer as in the winter, the Gaylords have constructed a covered terrace in the back, where the porch used to stand. Overhead is an open sun deck supported by wrought iron work in the New Orleans fashion. The terrace, which looks out on the Gaylords' rose garden, is a place for pleasant dining in summer.

It has been painted a washed Mediterranean blue. The light fixture on the porch was an antique table lamp that the Gaylords have turned upside down and placed in the ceiling.

The other Bolton Hill residents who will open their homes for the tour are:

Miss Jane Smith and Mrs. Welda Bowlers, 239 West Lanvale street.

Mrs. Thomas G. Young, Jr., 1305 Park avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Trail Mathias, 221 Lafayette avenue.

John Beane and John Egging, 1423 Bolton street.

Albert Hill and Howard Haller, 1408 Bolton street.

De Witt Battams, 129 West Lanvale street.

Dr. and Mrs. James T. Hopkins, 205 West Lanvale street.

Mr. and Mrs. Barr Harris, 1309 John street.

Herman C. Bainter, 1306 Rutter street.

Mrs. John Notley is tour chairman. The assistant chairman is Mrs. Merryman Ros-
l. Other committee members are Mrs. avid Royer, Mrs. Ernest L. Stebbins and Mrs. Henry W. Keating.