

## Unique homes will make you grin - or grimace

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The suburbs have their share of architectural oddities, and many would make a geometry teacher proud.

Take Wadsworth, where Jim Onan lives with his family in a 54-foot- tall Gold Pyramid House, completed in the early 1980s.

Over the years, it has become such a popular attraction, partly because of its close proximity to Interstate 94 and U.S. 41, that many drivers pull over to gawk and take pictures of the five-story Egyptian-style edifice. A good 45 minutes south on the Tri-State Tollway will bring you to another architectural wonder: the Worth Castle. The gigantic home, built on a standard lot in a neighborhood of ranch houses and bi-levels, is the brainchild of retiree Bob Stewart, who has toiled on the structure on and off for almost 20 years. "I created it as a piece of art," Stewart said, pointing to a glass tower with a spiral staircase. But some neighbors don't like it. And the village wants it demolished, said Worth Village President Jim Bilder, who said Stewart didn't have approval for much of the work. The matter has been tied up in court. And Barrington has the Octagon House, first a one-story home and now a two-story office building out of which operates Corporate Identity. Owner Linda Selman said the red, ivory, yellow and green home was believed to have been built in 1871. "I love old things," she said. But with windows facing every which way, it can be a bit breezy, she added.