

CHESTER TIMES – December 20, 1913 – SEVENTH WARD IMPROVEMENTS
– Many New Houses in Course of Construction in the Vicinity of Twelfth and Kerlin Streets

Kerlin Street, from Tenth to Twelfth Streets, seems to be a choice locality for building operations recently, and in spite of the cool days, the builders are taking advantage of the still clement weather and are pushing their work to completion.

J. Irvin Taylor is conducting the most extensive operations. He has opened up a street, cutting off from Kerlin Street westward, parallel to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and has built fourteen modern two story houses upon it. These houses are of the \$2600 type, with peaked roofs and spacious front porches, with an extra-long rear yard. These houses will be completed in six weeks and prospective occupants are already contracting for them. Mr. Taylor is building them for Edmund Pennell, Jr. of Philadelphia.

On the other side of Kerlin Street on Twelfth, P. J. G. Boudart is building four houses, the design being the same as the other houses of that locality. These houses will be completed in less than a month, and will serve to fill up a vacancy in the continuous blocks of houses erected in the past few years on that side of Kerlin Street.

WILL BUILD IN SPRING – Charles B. Prettyman is making arrangements to build an entire block of houses in the spring on Kerlin Street near the B & O railroad, and this project will nearly use up the available building lots on the south side of the railroad. In former years, this entire section was uninhabited, while Chester was being built up in almost every other section, but the delay shows an apparent better class of houses being erected than in any other particular section.

The opening of Fifth Street Bridge has greatly enhanced the building value of adjoining property, and J. Irvin Taylor is already planning to take advantage of the choice plots on Penn Street. After finishing his Maple Terrace operations, he will erect ten houses on Penn Street near Fifth Street on the \$300 and \$500 design. These houses will be of the latest pattern and will be somewhat out of the ordinary run of new houses.

James McDonald of 519 West Third Street is having a two story brick addition built to his frame house and when completed, his property will extend about twenty feet nearer the pavement.

Charles Deshong is having his large stables at Crum Lynne extensively enlarged and improved in general for the accommodation of a large herd of high-bred Guernsey cows which he recently purchased. A bull, which captured the first prize on the Island of Guernsey, is numbered among the herd. The improvements to the stables are being made by contractor Samuel R. Bell of this city.

The Chester Realty and Investment Company of 619 Edgmont Avenue is laying the foundation for Attorney William B. Northam's new house on the Wetherill tract on Twenty-Fourth Street. The dwelling, which will be constructed of brick, will have a hip roof and will contain all the modern conveniences.

Finishing touches are being made to the interior of James McKane's handsome stone residence, at Twenty-First Street and Providence Avenue, and it is expected that the dwelling will be ready for occupancy in about a week. Nolan Brothers have the contract.

The new house being built on Twenty-Fourth Street by contractor Brown of the Ridley Park Brick Company for Daniel E. Casey, cashier of the Pennsylvania National Bank is under roof. The dwelling will be up-to-date in every respect and of ornate design.

WILL SOON BE COMPLETED – The Chester Realty and Investment Company expects to have its big operation at Seventh and New Market Streets completed by January 15. Four of the nine stores face on Seventh Street. There are five rooms and a bath room on each of the second and third floors, which are laid out in a modern manner for apartments. The bay windows will have a balcony effect and the entrances to the apartments will be graced with hoods of ornate design. The brick work of the buildings is laid on a concrete base. Cement pavements have been laid about the entire operation. Yards, trimmed with hedges, have been laid out in the rear of the buildings. Modern fire escapes will be provided and the apartments are designed in such a manner that provisions, coal and furniture can be moved in or taken out through the rear. The four apartments on the Seventh street side of the operation will be ready for occupancy in about ten days. Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Elsenbise have already rented the apartments on the second floor over the corner store.

The large apartment house at Broad and Potter Streets is rapidly nearing completion. New porches with stone supports are being built at the front of the building, which was formerly the Chester Academy. The old educational institution was purchased several months ago by William Lukens of Fairview, who is making the extensive improvements and alterations under way.

THE NEW ART GALLERY – While in this city this week in connection with the new Deshong Art Gallery to be erected at the corner of Eleventh street and Edgmont Avenue, E. Donald Robb, architect of the firm of Brazer & Robb, took a number of photographs showing the topography of the land in the vicinity of the proposed building which will contain the valuable paintings left to the city by the late A. O. Deshong. Some of the photographs were taken from the top of the old homestead and others were taken from positions about the grounds with a view of getting the elevations and the point where the art building will be seen to the best advantage upon its completion. It was after taking these views that trustees under the will of Mr. Deshong, Clarence Deshong, Judge William B. Broomall and Col. James A. Campbell decided that the building shall be erected at the point selected.

For the first time in a long while not a single building permit was issued during the week by Building Inspector T. T. Williams. This is due to the fact that cold weather is coming on and that the builders are not anxious to start any new work before spring. Most of the buildings over the city are under roof, according to Mr. Williams, and well on toward completion.

There is much talk of lots of new building in the spring but this will depend largely upon the business condition according to real estate men. They say that if business generally is going to be dull, as present conditions indicate, that there will be but little new work next year, but on the other hand if the country recovers from the present slump that the prospects are bright for many new houses being erected.

WEST SIDE SALES – The following properties have been transferred through the office of J. Horace Witsel of 1806 West Third Street:

Hugh Doran has sold his property at 1024 West Second Street to James Ponce who has moved his family there.

Mrs. Margaret Singleton, widow of Robert Singleton of 334 Pennell Street has sold the property at 1230 West Second Street to Pedro Sacchi

Peter W. Nuttle of 213 Pennel Street has sold two houses on Ivy Street to Luigi Camalone

Antonio and Arnnestina Dominico, two brothers, have purchased the property at 1216 West Second Street from Mrs. Hannah Friel, widow of James Friel

David S. Jackson of 1001 West Seventh Street has just sold the two story brick house at the northwest corner of Ninth and Edwards Streets, Joseph Fleitz being the purchaser.

A HANDSOME RESIDENCE – One of the handsomest houses in Delaware County is nearing completion in Ridley Park for W. H. Stanton. The house is situated on Swarthmore Avenue, east of Chester Pike, and is being built by the Pomeroy Construction of Philadelphia. The house is three stories high built of Westerly granite, and has a large veranda surrounding it with huge granite columns, and with the small windows, give it a Colonial appearance.

On the first floor, there are three large rooms and pantry, the reception hall having a stone fire place, and open stairway which leads to the second floor, the parlor overlooks the Delaware River, and surrounding country, while the pantry is directly across a small hall from the kitchen. The second floor is laid out into three bed rooms, sitting room and bath room. A large door leads out of the sitting room onto a large veranda, which is built so that a person can plainly see the Jersey shore and far into the country. The third floor is one large room with trap doors leading to the roof, and also under the eaves. The house is heated with hot water, and has electricity throughout, hardwood finish, and floors. The paint on the exterior of the house being pure white, and a deep green gives it a pretty appearance. Each room contains several large closets and the hardware that is to be used, is of the latest design. An immense lawn surrounds the house, which adds much beauty.

GOOD YEAR FOR BUILDING – Although nearly 800 houses were erected in the various boroughs of Delaware County during the year of 1912, which established a new high record for building progress, it is believed that this record will be even exceeded by the number of houses erected this year. The opening of the new short line from Media to sixty-Ninth Street Station, which opened up a big district hitherto untouched for building purposes; the agitation for the new Darby L and the great industrial developments at Marcus Hook, Eddystone, Folsom and other places, caused a veritable boom not only in real estate, but in building. Collingdale, which always has been active in the building line for the last three or four years, was among the boroughs that were active in the building line. Drexel Hill, Glenolden, Lansdowne and Darby were also active and many new dwellings were erected in these places. Builders and realty operators speak most optimistically of the progress made during the past year and say that the year has not only been an exceptional one, but that, in addition to that, its outlook for next year is exceptionally bright.

Darby expects to put up many new buildings next year. At least two hundred houses will be started in this ancient borough early in the spring in one operation. Between fifty and seventy-five houses will be erected in different sections of the borough. Collingdale's outlook for future work next year is excellent, as are Glenolden, Drexel Hill, Marcus Hook, Eddystone, Leiperville and other places.

RURAL IMPROVEMENTS – M. T. Ackerman of Morton this count, has been awarded the contract for the erection of two and one half story residence and garage to be

built at Palmer's Corner on the line of the trolley between this city and Media, for Howard M. Davis.

Lindsay & Moorehouse, J. W. Worrilow of Media and J. B. Flounders are estimating on plans and specifications for a two and one half story frame residence to be erected in the borough of Media for Dr. M. Jacobs. Robert Goodwin is the architect.

Graham & Campion have been awarded the contract for the erection of a three-story stone and frame residence 31 by 34 feet on Gordon Avenue Haverford Township, for Charles H. Howell, McIlvain & Roberts are the architects.

The bids for the new addition to the bank building of the Media Title and Trust company are scheduled to be received today. A number of well-known contractors were figuring on the work. The addition is to be a one-story brick affair, to make room for the constantly increasing business of this well-known county seat financial institution.

Eddystone has not had much building of late, but the latest rumor is that there is going to be a big building boom on Saville Avenue, by several of the Chester contractors consolidating and forming a realty company.

The two houses on Thirteenth Street, which were built for Andrew Cassiday, Sr., are completed, and are awaiting tenants, while the house on Ninth Street near Saville Avenue, which is being built for Charles Adams, will be ready for occupancy in a very short time.

In Essington, building is rather scarce at the present time, and only one house is under way. The house in question is for John Hoffman, and is situated on Wanamaker Avenue. The plasterers will begin work in a few days, and it is only a question of a short time before it will be ready for occupancy.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

Haverford Township – Midland Realty Company to W. H. Bennett of Philadelphia, two lots at Brookline, \$1100

Glenolden – J. H. Fairbank of Glenolden to Levena F. Crowley of Philadelphia, lot on Chester Avenue, \$800

Darby Township – J. D. Schenck of Jacksonville, Fla. to George Harris of Philadelphia, three lots on Linden Street, \$1150

Upper Darby – George W. Statzell of Drexel Hill to A. E. Dickson of Philadelphia, lot at Drexel Hill, \$1500

Clifton Heights – Philip Dick of Clifton Heights to Louis Schotz of same place, lot on Wyncliffe Avenue, \$13.50

Collingdale – Elizabeth L. O'Neill of Bryn Mawr to Margaret L. Scott of Collingdale, house and lot at 708 Parker Avenue, nom

Upper Darby – Samuel Crothers of Philadelphia to Isaac H. Downes of same place, lot at Clover Hill, \$300

Chester Township – Joseph W. Jones, trustee of Chester Friends to Delaware Stanton of Collingdale, three acres on road from Brookhaven to Bridgewater, \$900

Upper Darby – P. E. Swartley of Philadelphia to Eliza F. Jones of Upper Darby, two lots at Highland Park \$575

Chester – Curtis G. Wiegand of Chester to Julius Schleicher of Chester, house and lot on West Third Street, \$2900

Upper Chichester – Boothwyn Farms Company to excelsior Savings Fund, ten lots on Chichester Avenue, \$1800

Chester – William H. Morrow of Denver, Col to R. P. Mercer, M.D. of Chester, house and lot on Concord Avenue, \$1350

Chester – Howard D. Taylor of Chester to C. F. Kelly of Chester, house and lot on Twentieth Street, \$3500

Upper Darby – Samuel Crothers of Philadelphia to Louisa M. Fuhs of same place, two lots at Drexel Hill, \$700

Haverford Township – J. F. P. Lathrup of Wayne to H. J. McLean of Philadelphia, three lots at Brookline, nom

Newtown Township – P. J. Hurley of Newtown Township to Edmond F. Prendergast, Archbishop, one acre on West Chester Pike, nom

Sharon Hill – H. W. Mayer of Northmont, N. J. to Rev. Mack Allen, trustee Emanuel Baptist Church of Sharon Hill, two lots on Hook Road, \$375

Upper Darby – Richard Brookes of York to John Sweeney of Upper Darby, lot in Garrettford, \$1000

Collingdale – T. J. O'Neill of Bryn Mawr to H. Blair Cooke of Collingdale, house and lot on Parker Avenue, nom

Upper Darby – Israel W. Fields of Philadelphia to Nicola Sgarro of Philadelphia, lot at Drexel Heights, \$400

Upper Darby – W. H. Rust of Philadelphia to J. A. Kauferson of same place, lot at Drexel Heights, \$500

Tinicum Township – Ellen Cahill of Philadelphia to Louis Hanselman of Philadelphia, two lots at Faraday Park, \$300

Media – Mary T. Brooke of Philadelphia to Joseph Richardson of Media, lot on South Avenue, \$700

Media – Mary T. Brooke of Philadelphia to F. H. Hadley of Media, lot on South Avenue, \$700

Collingdale – L. I. Bartram of Lansdowne to J. D. Bartram of Lansdowne, two house at Clifton and Andrews Avenue, \$3650

Chester – H. L. Morris of Chester to J. J. McClure of same place, lot with buildings on Market Street, north of Second, nom

Upper Darby – Elizabeth L. Levis of Upper Darby to J. E. Levis, same place, one half acre on Township Line Road, nom.

KEITH LOCKHART COLLECTION