

CHESTER TIMES – January 29, 1916 – RAPID STRIDES IN REAL ESTATE –  
Development and Growth of Newtown Township Apparent in the advance in Land Prices

While the attention of the real estate interests of this county have been centered upon Eddystone and vicinity, and to a somewhat less extent upon Upper Darby Township, where the biggest of booms have been in progress, sight has almost been lost of the growth of Newtown Township, a section of the county which has been making rapid strides in development. Two or three years ago property in Newtown Township was farm land, and was valued for its productiveness.

Then Miss Anne Vauclain, daughter of S. M. Vauclain of the Baldwin Locomotive Works, began to make purchases of ground, and in a little while, had acquired several hundred acres. Other financial lights came into the township, and land soared to a point which put farming out of the question except to those who owned their farms before the prices rose.

Garrett-Williamson Lodge, a charitable organization, acquired some property there, and is putting up a home for working girls which will cost About \$80,000, this being the first of a number of big buildings which will be erected at Newtown Square. Bids are in for the Dunwoody Memorial Home for Convalescents at Newtown Square, being chairman of the building committee. The site for the home and \$100,000 as an endowment were left by William Dunwoody of Minneapolis, who was a wealthy flour merchant, was born. The building will be started in the spring, and will be completed, if possible, this year.

HAVERFORD'S BOOM – Oakmont in Haverford Township is about to experience a rapid growth from the development financed by E. T. Stotesbury, and a similar development by Joseph R. Connell. The two properties adjoin the Merion golf course, and that of E. T. Stotesbury is being improved by the building of macadam streets, sewers, electric lights, and other improvements.

Charles F. Gilligan, a Clifton Heights contractor, has purchased a tract of ground on Glenwood Avenue, Clifton Heights, north of Baltimore Avenue, from J. V. Kane, real estate broker, and will erect eighteen houses of the semi-detached type. They will cost about \$4000 a pair, and will be two-story bricks. This will be the biggest operation in number of houses that Clifton Heights has seen for some years.

At Eddystone, the Greater New York Building Company has had representatives in the borough looking over the conditions, and in a talk with a real estate dealer they declared it to be their purpose to erect two hundred houses there. The big hotel to be erected by John M. Kennedy, Jr., at Thirteenth and Leiper Streets, will, it is understood, be started within a few days; and today is the final day for the receipt of bids for the hotel to be put up by the Remington Arms Company. This will be located at Twelfth and Simpson Streets, will be seven stories high, and contain 240 sleeping rooms. The new grammar school building will be opened for use on Monday, and many houses are in course of construction.

GET BIG CONTRACTS – James B. Flounders, a Media contractor, has received contracts during the last few days for two fine buildings. One of these is a big apartment house at Elkins Park at a contract price of \$48,000, and the other a residence at Ryal to cost \$16,000. The apartment house is to be of hollow tile and plaster, and the owner is Mr. Nixon of the National Tile Company. The dwelling is of stone and is for Dr. E. L. Diamond.

The greatest interest has been aroused by the announcement this week that John H. McGlatchey, who has erected a great many houses in West Philadelphia, has purchased fifty acres of land near the Sixty-Ninth Street terminal, and that he will improve the site. The tract is of sufficient size for a good-sized community, and the announcement that he will erect at once

fifty semi-detached houses at a cost of about \$6500 each, makes the announcement one of the greatest importance.

Bids will all be in on Monday for the new public school for Marcus Hook Borough. The structure will be of brick, 45x104 feet, two stories high and roofed with slate.

Edgar Ross of Moylan has purchased the beautiful property of the late Henry C. Saunier known as "Hurricane Hill," at Ivy Mills. It consists of sixteen acres of land with fine buildings. John A. Donohue of Newtown Square has been awarded a contract to plaster the Garrett-Williamson Lodge's home for working girls at Newtown Square. The price is not given.

**DOWNING PROPERTY SOLD** – Among the important sale of the week is a tract of thirteen acres of land on the road from Lewis' Mill to Hinkson's Corner, sold by Kate P. Downing, William C. Downing and The Colonial Trust Company of Philadelphia, executors to John J. McClure of Chester. The price paid was \$20,000, or almost \$1540 an acre. The price is not an exorbitant one, however, as there are fine buildings on the property, which was owned by the late Charles Downing, for years controller of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company.

Postmaster Matthew C. Fox, Jr., of Media, has received word that the new post office to be erected in Media will be of brick with stone trimmings and that sketch plans for the building are ready. Working plans are being prepared.

Work has been started by J. B. Flounders, a Media contractor, upon the new school house for Glen Mills School. The same contractor is completing the Fulweiler house at Wallingford, and the Elkinton house at Moylan, and work is progressing upon the J. Harvey Smith bungalow at Lima.

**WORK PROGRESSING** – During the course of the warm weather of the past week active work has been resumed on the construction of the plant of the Stewart Distilling Company on the riverfront east of Upland Street. Progress has been delayed during the excessively cold weather owing to the cement freezing and the men working on the foundations for the several buildings were compelled to stop work, but advantage is now being taken of every day during the present warm spell. At this same plant the Williams Construction Company is now building a large floating pile driver to be used in the construction of the dock on the river front along the face of the site. When this piece of mechanism has been completed, it will make the third pile driver at work on the operation.

**PERMITS GRANTED** – Building permits issued during the course of the past week are as follows:

Caylor and Snyder, two-story store and office building on the east side of Edgmont Avenue between Sixth and Seventh Streets, 51 feet 6 inches front by 85 feet in depth.

Fayette Manufacturing Company, two and one-half story building, steel frame covered with corrugated iron, north side of Front Street between Welsh and Upland Streets, 75 feet 16 inches in length by 16 feet in heights. Additional half story, 8 ½ feet in height.

James A. Fryer, William A. Maron, contractor, one-story frame building covered with corrugated iron, on the east side of dock Street, between Second and Third Streets, 16 by 18 feet.

**REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS** – The following transfers of real estate were yesterday recorded with Recorder of Deeds McClenachan:

Swarthmore – Marion B. Work of Norristown to Frank M. Scheibley of Swarthmore, two lots on Strath Haven tract, \$1

Swarthmore – Anna Thomas Scheibley of Swarthmore to Marion B. Work of Norristown, two lots on Strath Haven, \$1

Middletown Township – Media Title and Trust Company to Miles Kelly of Port Tampa City, Florida, seven lots at Lima, \$1

Lansdowne – Alfred E. Philips, executor to Harry Schalcher of Philadelphia, lot with buildings on Lansdowne Avenue, \$1

Chester – Edmund H. Butler of Chester to William Raum of same place, house and lot at 712 Jeffrey Street, \$1850

Upper Darby – John H. Moriarty of Jamison, Pa. to Ruth H. Withington of Drexel Hill, lot at Drexel Hill, \$1

Chester – Mary A. Fisher of Chester to August E. Fisher of same place, house and lot on Fourth Street east of Wilson Street, \$1