

CHESTER TIMES – May 18, 1912

REALTY AND BUILDING ACTIVITY CONTINUES – Several Frame Structures Being Erected in Chester – In City and County

Building and realty activity continues throughout the city and county, although but few new operations were reported during the past week. This is probably due to the recent rains that were a set back to new operations and a retarding element to the work now in progress.

Among the contractors who have work under way in this city and county are included: George D. Hewes, William Provost, Jr., General William G. Price, William Hewes, Samuel A. Hewes, H. Louis Morris, William Ward, William L. Devinney, George Weigand, Amos P. Sheaff, Martin J. Dwyer, William J. Wiser, Andrew Bell and others, all of Chester.

The county contractors who are also busily engaged on various operations include: L.E. Talley of Garrettford; Thomas E. Manley of Clifton Heights; J.H. Phillips of Eddystone; Jordan Brothers of Prospect Park, Herbert L. Walton of Moylan; Metzgar and Wells of Radnor and others.

IN THE CITY – It was not without more or less surprise that the people of the West End watched the progress on the work of several frame buildings in the Eleventh ward. A frame store at 2725 West Third Street has been erected and is now occupied by Max Abram, a cobbler. A frame stable one story in height is being erected at the corner of Hayes and Mary Streets and another one about the same size is being completed at Lewis and Mary Streets. All three of these frame buildings are within a radius of a half a block. In the Tenth Ward, an addition is being erected to the frame stable of Thomas Riley at the rear of 10 Reaney Street.

George J. Hunter, the proprietor of the Central Hotel, Third and Palmer Streets, is having a garage erected on Commerce Street, just east of Palmer Street, which is near his hotel. The garage is of brick and one story in height.

William L. Devinney, a West End contractor has decided to build eight modern dwellings on West Fourth Street between Townsend and Palmer Streets. Work will be started in the very near future.

The front of the dwelling at 218 Market Street has been torn out and is being extended to the building line. A store front will be put in the building.

The old mill property of the Gartside estate on the Delaware River front of Fulton Street, is being demolished by workmen and the material disposed of the various contractors for building purposes. The roof and top story of the ancient stone structure have already been torn down and with good weather the entire structure will be razed in a few days. This mill, which was one of the old landmarks of that section of the city, was built by the late Benjamin Gartside, father of Amos and John Gartside, who operated it as a woolen mill for a number of years after their father had retired from active business. The sons, too have since passed away. The old mill was built before the Civil War and at one time was one of the busiest plants of its kind in this city, employing a large number of operatives of both sexes. For a number of years it has been idle and fast going to decay. Alexander Minus, general caretaker of the Gartside estate, has been long employed as a watchman of the property to prevent vandals from stripping the plant, although the machinery was removed from it long ago and the place has been in the market for sale or rent.

The Keystone Cabinet Company, whose plant is located at Front and Franklin Streets is building a two-story brick addition to the works on the Cherry Street end of the plant, which is increasing its capacity to supply the demands of the trade. The firm has also built a corrugated iron garage on the corner of Front and Franklin Streets for the accommodation of their automobile.

The cellars have been dug, but the wet weather his week interfered with the progress of the foundation walls of the new store, factory and dwelling that Contractor Amos P. Sheaff is constructing for T. Brooks McBride at the corner of Third and Lloyd Streets.

Contractor and Builder George Wiegand's two new houses at Third and Uinch Streets, are well-advanced and the first stories will be finished in a few days. The bricklayers have already commence work and the structures will make attractive homes in that rapidly-building up section of the city.

Martin J. Dwyer of the Ninth Ward is erecting two brick dwellings on West Second Street, west of Reaney Street. Excavation for the cellars of the proposed houses is now being made by Andrew Bell, a contractor of 2111 West Second Street.

William L. Devinney of 2617 West Third Street, a contractor is erecting three brick dwellings at Third and Booth Streets. The new houses will be on the site of the old Downey blacksmith shop. The work of digging the cellar is swell under way.

William Hewes, the contractor of Eleventh Street and Highland Avenue, who recently completed four modern brick dwellings at Eleventh Street and Highland Avenue contemplates the addition of four more to that same row. Two of the new houses have been put under roof and ground for the other two will be broken for the fourth pair as soon as the weather will permit.

Vincent Griffith of Fourth and Engle Streets, a news dealer of the West End, had purchased the two story brick dwelling, until recently owned by Samuel Robinson of Linwood Heights situated on West Fourth Street, west of Jeffrey Street.

IN THE COUNTY – No new operation were reported in the county during the past week. Operations already commenced are reported as progressing nicely. The beginning of work on the smaller of the factory additions at the plant of the American Viscose Company is recognized as the beginning of a big building boom for Marcus Hook.

In addition to the Marcus Hook activity there are many buildings going up in Yeadon, Millmont, Clifton Heights, Lansdowne, East Lansdowne, Eddystone, Upland, Leiperville, Prospect Park and practically in every town, borough and township in the county.

Lansdowne – J. Henry Bartram of Lansdowne to Clara N. Wilson of same place, buildings and lot 53 by 217 feet, \$8200

Chester – Charles P. Perkins, et al., of United States to James A. Shropshire of Chester, lot 150 by 120 feet in south side of Seventh Street \$2500

Penfield – Suburbs Holding Co., of Pa. to Frederick W. Meyers and others of Phila. Lots Nos. 447, 448, 449, \$750

Media – Lydia C. Biddle of Lansdowne to Fred J. Nast of Media, house and lot 48 by 140 feet at southwest corner, Fifth and Jackson Streets, \$4000

East Lansdowne – Henry C. Pyne of East Lansdowne to Charles Ott of New York City, buildings and lot 492, \$2500

Leiperville – Felomino Seneca of Philadelphia to Kate Flynn of Leiperville, lot 40 by 125 feet, \$750

Darby Township – William L. Edgar and wife of Darby to Byard D.L. Wilson of Philadelphia, buildings and lot 100 by 156 feet. \$3400

Darby Borough – Harry P. Krah and wife of Darby borough to John C.F. Franke and wife of Philadelphia, brick house and lot 21 by 167 feet \$2750

Radnor – Samuel E. Waters and wife of Darby to J. Walter Myers of Haverford a house and lot 30 by 170 feet \$1000

KEITH LOCKHART COLLECTION