

CHESTER TIMES – August 29, 1914 – BIG DEAL IN WAYNE REALTY – Local Company Purchases the Louella Mansion and Ground Connected With It

The largest real estate deal recorded this week in the county was the sale of the Louella Mansion and ground at Wayne, in Radnor Township. This property parallels the Pennsylvania Railroad and is among the most valuable land in that section of the county which is being eagerly bought up by Philadelphians and other rich persons for country homes. The sale of this tract was made to the Louella Realty Company, a local organization and which was recently formed for the purpose of developing the property. The plans which have been prepared call for a division of their land into forty-four building lots, ranging from 65 to 80 feet in frontage, and various depths, the average being about 160 feet. Three streets will be laid out through the plot of ground. The lots will be sold or houses will be erected upon them for purchasers if desired.

The old mansion which has quite a history, is to be transformed into a modern apartment house, the plans calling for eighteen separate suites, each complete with bath and kitchen. John D. Lengel has received the contract for doing the remodeling and his contract also includes a large parlor and dining room.

This old mansion was originally built back in 1866 by J. Henry Askin, a rich man of Philadelphia. Later the original owner sold it and the mansion was changed and made suitable and was used for this purpose for a number of years. It changed hands again some time ago and for several years has been idle. The proposed improvements mean much to the town of Wayne, which is fast developing. The consideration price is not stated, but it is understood that a good price was paid for the old mansion and land.

BEACON LIGHT IMPROVEMENTS – The extensive building operations at the plant of the Beacon Light Company on Second Street near Market are well under way. The contract was started nearly a month ago, but will not be finished before the first of the new year.

The Keystone Paving Company and a number of other contractors are laying a six-foot pipe from the inlet that runs along the Consumers for Company's pier to the boiler room. The trench in which the pipe will rest is 20 x 10 feet and runs directly from a point a few feet below Front Street and under the overhead coal transfer, to the engine room.

Three new large boilers have been installed by the Edgemoor Boiler Company. J & J Hanna have a force of bricklayers at work placing a new brick wall around the boiler room. This wall is being built directly overtop of the old building as a further safeguard against fires.

The Beacon employees will have a three-story lavatory built for them directly beneath the two large stacks at the plant. This building will be up-to-date in every detail, having a number of shower baths, bath houses and everything else for the comfort of the employees.

CONTRACT AWARDED – During the week the contract for the new church and Sunday school building for the Ridley Park Presbyterian Church was let to the Pomeroy Construction Company at their bid of \$40000. Work has been started and no time will be lost in getting this new church edifice under roof. It will be built of stone, two stories high and will have a dimension of 70 x 120 feet, will have a slag and slate roof, metal frames and sashes. The heating and lighting are under separate bids.

Bids have been received by the architect. The owners are Judge William B. Broomall and Kingsley Montgomery. The building will be of brick three stories high 42 x 74 feet and will have a slag and slate roof, steam heat and electric light.

CORNER STONE LAYING – The corner stone of the new future home of the Upland Lodge of Odd Fellows will be laid this afternoon in the presence of a large number of prominent

officials and citizens. The laying of the corner stone will mark an important event in the life of the secret societies of the city and will give to the city another handsome land attractive building.

The Turner Plumbing Company has been awarded the contract for the plumbing work on the new home of the Young Women's Christian Association building at Seventh and New Market Streets. The bids for the heating are being revised.

It is understood that a halt has been called for the present in the matter of the erection of fifty odd two-story dwellings in the second Ward. This is an operation of some magnitude and it will require considerable money to carry it through. The condition of the money market it is said was the prime cause for the owner staying work at this time. He hopes to be able to go on with the houses before cold weather sets in.

GAS COMPANY IMPROVEMENT – A permit has been taken out by the Philadelphia and Suburban Gas and Electric Company for a brick and concrete building on the east side of Central Avenue between Delaware Avenue and the Delaware River, with dimensions of 32 x 50 feet.

This building, the construction of which has been started, will be in line with the extensive improvements of the concern. It will be divided, part to be used as a condensing plant for purifying the gas, and the remaining section to be fitted up for removing the section to be fitted up for removing the by-products engendered in manufacturing gas. The cost of the building will be \$12,000.

Preparations are also being made for the construction of a coal handling system to facilitate the work of assembling coal in the proper placers.

WEST END OPERATIONS – Work is progressing rapidly in the alterations and additions being made to the two-story brick structure at 1819 West Third Street. This property, which was recently purchased by the National Benefit Society, is being extensively remodeled. The first floor will be fitted up in a modern manner for the Chester offices of the Society, and the second story will be fixed up for apartments. William Wilson of Philadelphia has the contract for making the improvements under way. It is expected that the building will be ready for occupancy about the middle of October.

The fifteen dwellings and one store building in course of erection at Second Street and Central Avenue by Simon Burner, former proprietor of the old Steamboat Hotel, are now under roof, and on Monday artisans of various trades will begin work on the interior finishing. Mr. Bruner is personally superintending the construction of these modern buildings.

Contractor Francis J. Moore has broken ground for the erection of two modern two-story brick dwellings on West Ninth Street below Highland Avenue. The foundation walls for the cellars have been laid and work will be started on the brick work Monday morning. The houses will be similar in design to the dwellings built by Mr. Moore on West Fourth Street between Palmer and Ward Streets.

Contractor Harry Hughes of the Eleventh ward has about completed constructing the foundation walls for the superstructure for the new hospital at the Quarantine Station at Marcus Hook, which will be a two-story brick building. The dimensions of the building will be 80 by 60. Husted and Parker of Erie, Pa., have the contract for the construction of the structural work and have considerable material on hand for beginning their part of the operations.

The annex to the Watts school at Fourth and Edwards Streets is rapidly nearing completion, and it is expected that the structure will be turned over to the Board of Education by H. Louis Morris, the contractor, within a few days. The annex is two stories high and constructed of brick. The new addition contains four rooms of spacious dimensions. The lower

floor can be converted into an auditorium by means of a movable partition. The annex will be opened for children at the beginning of the school term. A heating system is now being installed.

THE CROSS IMPROVEMENTS – Nolan Brothers, the local contractors, who are making improvements to the Cross jewelry stores on Edgmont Avenue near Seventh Street, yesterday installed the fronts. They are off a mahogany finish, with a base of marble resembling dark onyx. The improvements will be completed in a few weeks.

The work on the Miller Building, which was formerly the Theatorium picture house at Seventh Street and Edgmont Avenue, is progressing rapidly and should be completed in a few weeks. The plasterers have about finished their work and the glass will be placed in the front next week. The carpenters are finishing the interior of the first floor.

The iron girders which will support the heavy glass canopy over the Roder cigar store at Seventh Street and Edgmont Avenue, have all been put in position and the rest will arrive in a few days for the finishing up of the canopy. The small building which is known as the “lighthouse,” will be very attractive when the improvements are completed.

Bricklayers are busily engaged in putting up the walls of the six houses at Tenth Street and Morton Avenue, and the seven houses at Chester Pike and Hyatt Street. The seventeen houses on Chestnut Street, which are also included in the Parvin operation, are nearing completion and will be ready for occupancy the middle of September.

Contractor William Provost will complete the house at Thirteenth and Potter Streets, which he is erecting for Richard Wetherill member of the firm of Robert Wetherill & Co. The residence will be one of the handsomest in the city and the workmen are getting ready to finish the sidewalks and lawns which surround the new building.

The four two-story houses which J. H. Phipps is building on Crosby Street below Third Street, will be completed in the course of a week or so. The houses are only two-story but they extend back a good distance and contain quite a number of rooms.

BUILDING PERMITS – The following building permits have been issued by Building Inspector T. T. Williams:

C. B. Harper, two-story brick dwelling on the north side of Seventh Street between Penn and Barclay

James Shropshire, one-story brick kitchen in rear of 2126 West Third Street

William Crush, one-story frame building covered with corrugated iron on the west side of Baker Street between Front and Second Streets

Philadelphia Suburban Gas Company for a concrete and brick building on the east side of Central Avenue between Delaware Avenue and the Delaware River, the dimensions of the building to be 32 x 52. The first story will be 217 feet and the second story 23 feet.

J. H. Phipps, one-story frame kitchen in rear of 916 Walnut Street. Two 2-story brick dwellings on the north side of Third Street between Crosby and Madison

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS – Real estate transfers recorded in the office of the Recorder of Deeds yesterday were as follows:

Chester – John Dooley and wife of Philadelphia to John A. Werstlin and wife of Chester, brick house and lot 907 West Seventh Street, \$1425

Upper Darby – Agnes Pohl of Philadelphia to John H. Eckhardt of Drexel Hill, four lots in Drexel Hill, Nom

Darby – William C. Fleck of Philadelphia to Clara C. Snill of Darby, house and lot, \$900

Darby Township – John T. Smith of Philadelphia to George W. Richards of same place, two lots and buildings, \$300

Aldan – Robert H. Watts of Philadelphia to John S. Delenair of the same place, several lots, Nom

Haverford – Milton Campbell and wife to Charles J. Feeser of Glenside, Pa., thirteen lots, Nom