

*The Beall-Dawson House, 1815
home of the
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ROOTS FOR THE NEW NEIGHBORHOOD OF BEAU MONDE ESTATES

by Margaret M. Coleman

Beau Monde Estates is a new neighborhood on land that was farmed until 1963. It is located on Old Baltimore Road between Neelsville and Clarksburg. Although the Post Office considers us a part of Boyds, the Supervisor of Elections sends us to Clarksburg to vote and our children are bussed to school in Germantown and Darnestown. To add to the confusion, various neighbors tell the telephone company that they are in Boyds, or Clarksburg, or Germantown, and are listed as such in the telephone book! No one seems to know where he belongs. Clearly we needed some roots for our new neighborhood. Beau Monde has a unique blend of a wide variety of people, and it turns out that our predecessors on this land were unusually interesting too. We are closely involved with the history of three families: the Waters, the Linthicums, and the Dowdens.

Sir George Calvert, Lord Baltimore, was the first to receive a deed to land which included the neighborhood of Beau Monde. In 1632, King James I granted him title to a vast area - all of what is now Maryland, the southern part of Pennsylvania, and east to Delaware Bay.¹ Lord Baltimore began the subdividing, breaking up his vast holdings into manors. Present Beau Monde land was a part of the Manor of Conogocheague, which

1. T.H.S. Boyd, History of Montgomery County, Maryland (Clarksburg, MD: 1879; republished Baltimore, MD, Regional Publishing Company, 1968), p. 18.

contained 40,000 to 50,000 acres and extended from a Washington County creek of the same name as the tract south to Seneca Creek.²

Henry Griffith was deeded part of Conogocheague in 1712, which he named "Cow Pasture."³ "Cow Pasture's" southern boundary is included in part of Beau Monde; the tract then spread north and included most of Clarksburg.

At the next subdivision of our land in 1793, a stone was placed which remains as a boundary marker today. Nicholas Ridgeley Warfield bought a tract of land from Henry Griffith. The boundaries were disputed with the adjacent landowner, Zachariah Waters. The land was resurveyed, and the tract was named "Errors Corrected." The stone marker distinguishes the point at which the tracts "Peach Tree Hill" and "Errors Corrected" met.⁴

Three years later Warfield returned to court with Zachariah Waters to clarify further "Errors Corrected" as bordering the land of Joel Holland called "Panthers Range." Warfield and Waters agreed that the 51st line of "Conclusion" should be the east line of "Panthers Range," and another stone was set in place to mark the spot.⁵ This stone also remains today and marks a Beau Monde boundary.

Five years before this latter stone was placed, Zachariah Waters' younger brother, Basil, was deeded land bordering Beau Monde; he became the first settler in the neighborhood. In 1788, he inherited a 490-acre estate from his father, William Waters. It was part of "Conclusion," which he resurveyed and named "Pleasant Fields."⁶

In 1798, Basil Waters married Anne Pottinger Magruder, a Montgomery County girl. Anne's father, Zadok Magruder, attained the rank of colonel in command of the Home Defense Battalion of Lower Frederick County, the area which became Montgomery County in 1776. Basil and Anne's home at "Pleasant Fields" was the west portion of the house that still stands behind us, a structure of two rooms down and two up.

The Waters shopped in Clarksburg, a distance of about three miles - or one hour in a horse-drawn wagon. Clarksburg in the early 1800's was a center of commerce and industry with two tanning mills and shoe and harness manufacturers, three hotels, and regularly scheduled stops of the stagecoach between Georgetown and Frederick. An early store ledger, dated 1823-1828, reveals that the Waters bought their needs from Willson's store in Clarksburg, a frame and log structure still standing. Usually Basil did the shopping, according to Willson's book, but sometimes purchases were made by Anne or a slave, Bill. They bought such supplies as sugar, chamber pots, beef, spools of thread, and molasses. Perhaps they purchased their shoes at Hurley's shoe shop, still standing north of Willson's store.

Basil and Anne may have dined at Dowden's Ordinary on their shopping trips to the big town of Clarksburg, across the street from Willson's store. Michael Ashford Dowden had established the inn by 1753, long before the Waters moved nearby. The ordinary

2. Hall of Records, Annapolis, MD; Patent Certificate E1 #5, 1736, and BC & GS # 38/72, 1796.

3. Ibid., Certificate of Survey #999, 1757.

4. Montgomery County Land Records, Book E, pp. 246 and 247.

5. Ibid., Book G, pp. 261 and 262.

6. Hall of Records, Annapolis, MD; Patented Survey #918, 1788, and Unpatented Certificate #205, 1797.

changed hands but continued to be a well-known inn on the road into the capitol city for many years.

The early citizens of Clarksburg seem to have been Methodists for they established a congregation in 1794 named Ebenezer Chapel. The Waters were members of Ebenezer and worshiped in the log church. This building was subsequently replaced by a brick structure in 1853 which, in turn, was replaced by the present frame building in 1909.

Basil and Anne led a comfortable life, managing their extensive holdings and their growing family of one daughter and four sons. Unlike our servantless homes in Beau Monde, the Waters had slaves to clear their land, grow tobacco, and help in the house. The slaves had a separate dwelling, very similar to the Waters' own in size and comfort. It had a large stone fireplace for cooking and heating and a narrow staircase leading to a second floor. The red log house still standing west of the large house at "Pleasant Fields" resembles these slave quarters as described by a Waters descendant.⁷

But, when sickness struck, the tenuous nature of nineteenth century health care could not prevent it from taking a heavy toll. In April 1824, black measles infected the Waters family, and three people died in one month. Anne and her son, Robert, aged nine, were buried in the same grave; two weeks later Susannah, Anne's 18-year-old daughter, followed.⁸ Basil set off a plot for his family's burial grounds and laid his wife, his little son, and his only daughter to rest.

Basil Waters built up a large estate in the 56 years he lived at "Pleasant Fields." He died in 1844 and left 22 slaves plus cash to his three surviving sons, Zachariah, William, and Zadok Magruder Waters. Zachariah inherited "Pleasant Fields" and sold the place to his cousin, William Alexander Waters, in 1883.⁹

William A. Waters (1826-1907) married Mary Willson Neel, daughter of William Willson of Clarksburg and widow of Thomas Neel of Neelsville. William and Mary had one son, Charles Clarke Waters, born in 1866 and named for his maternal great-grandfather, John Clarke, Clarksburg's founder. Mary died, and William married her sister-in-law, Maria Harris Willson, widow of Leonidas Willson, William Willson's son.¹⁰

William Waters was a physician, affectionately remembered as "Dr. Bill."¹¹ He drove out the long lane in a black buggy to visit his patients and shared an office in Clarksburg with his brother, Dr. Washington Waters. According to his granddaughter, Dr. Bill never lost an obstetrical patient.

Dr. Bill built the center section of the big house, doubling the floor space. Like Basil and Anne, Dr. Bill and his wife were members of the Clarksburg Methodist Church.¹² At the end of the Civil War, however, the Clarksburg Methodists divided according to sentiment into a "north" and a "south" fellowship. A new church was built and named the "Methodist Church, South." The Waters contributed to the new sanctuary, a gracious building with arched windows fitted with interior wooden shutters. When the Methodists

7. Maria Waters, "How Dear to My Heart," unpublished manuscript, 1965, in possession of Miss Waters' niece, Marian Waters Jacobs.

8. Edith Worley Beatty, The Waters Book (no publisher or date), p. 27.

9. Montgomery County Land Records, Book EBP 27, p. 471.

10. Waters, op. cit.

11. Charles G. and Ethel R. Linthicum, interviews, 1969-1979.

12. Waters, op. cit.

reunited in the twentieth century, this building was dismantled.¹³ Now only the steps from the street to the entrance walk remain.

Dr. Bill died at the age of 81, still practicing medicine.¹⁴ He had loved the woodlands, rolling hills, and streams of "Pleasant Fields" and never wanted to leave. In his will he asked to be buried on the farm, next to Basil and Anne, and carried to his grave by the men who worked the fields. His will was carried out, and his tombstones (head and feet) can be seen in the family graveyard.

The farm was left to Charles Clarke Waters.¹⁵ Charles married Maude Estelle Getzendanner, who was also the child of a physician. She had graduated from the Frederick Female Academy,¹⁶ known today as Hood College. Three children were born to Charles and Maude Waters of "Pleasant Fields" - William, Maria Elizabeth Lorain, and Joseph Thomas.

Charles built the third part of the house, completing the present "telescope" effect. His was an expansive addition with a magnificent circular staircase, an elaborate bay window, and gracious porches. For his construction project, he cut his own lumber, felling huge oak trees and hauling them with chains pulled by draft horses along Old Baltimore Road to Watkins' Mill in Barnesville.¹⁷ Charles added luxurious features to his home, such as the delicately etched, glass, transom window at the main entrance. In those prosperous times of no income tax, he spent lavishly on his estate. He dug a trench from a spring about a mile from the house to water his stock and added an ice house and pond to his yard. He built big barns, forming a square around the



The Waters' Home at "Pleasant Fields," about 1910

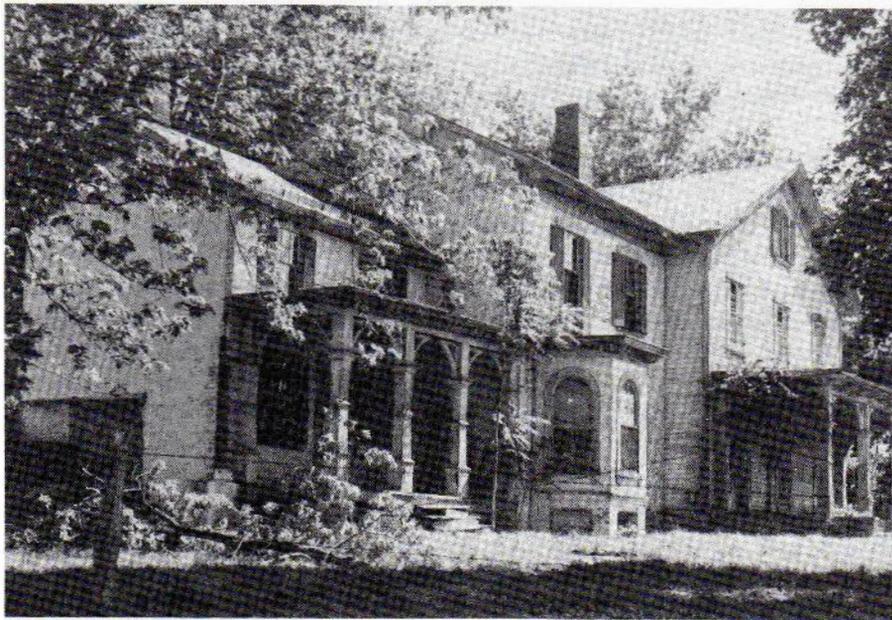
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13. Mrs. Clarence Day, interview, 1977.
 14. Waters, op. cit.
 15. Montgomery County Wills, Book HCA 4, p. 471.
 16. Waters, op. cit.
 17. Linthicum interviews, op. cit.

barnyard, an arrangement which protected his animals from the wind. To top it all off, he put in a race track and developed a championship line of trotters and pacers.

On a clear September Saturday in 1898, Waters' horse, Kinster, made racing history. In record-breaking time, he won his race at the State Fair in Timonium and went on to become the top winner on the east coast. The local newspaper reported, "Kinster is the fastest trotter ever bred in this county, ... and may truly be said to be one of the phenomenons of this phenomenal season of trotting and pacing." At the time Kinster was four years old, bay, blocky, and very short, just 15 hands high. But he ended the season in a race which "fairly dazzled the light harness horse world."¹⁸

In 1903, Charles Waters increased his land holdings and bought the property where Beau Monde stands.¹⁹ He then owned a truly vast estate of almost 1000 acres, just 25 miles from Washington, D.C.

"Pleasant Fields" was sold out of the Waters family in 1933.²⁰ The elegant house, embracing county history of family and craftsmanship, is now crumbling into the earth. A tree grows unchecked out of the cellar's broken window, and the front porch is caving in below the lovely entrance hall. But Beau Monders can glimpse the old estate where Anne, Susannah, and young Robert died in April long ago, where Dr. Bill rode out to visit the sick in his black buggy, and where the little bay horse, Kinster, began his race to fame.



The House at "Pleasant Fields" in 1980

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18. The Montgomery County Sentinel, October 7, 1898.
 19. Montgomery County Land Records, Book TD 19, p. 385.
 20. Montgomery County Land Records, Book 538, p. 270.

The history of Beau Monde Estates belongs, too, with the Linthicums who still own and farm their land next to our neighborhood. Part of the subdivision was once a continuation of the Linthicum farm. In 1826, Lott Linthicum bought 228 3/4 acres of "Errors Corrected" from the heirs of Nicholas Ridgeley Warfield.²¹ Four years later he bought another fraction of Beau Monde land from Asa Holland, 30 acres of the tract "Cow Pasture."²²

Lott (also spelled "Lot") was a descendant of Thomas Lincecomb who arrived in Maryland in 1657. Captain Edward Selby brought the 18-year-old youth to America from England with five other settlers; he was awarded 300 acres of land by Lord Baltimore for helping to populate the new land. Thomas was a Quaker but dropped out of the meeting and joined the Church of England. He married Jane (family name unknown) in 1668; their children were Hezekiah, Mary, Thomas, and Jane. Thomas and Jane Lincecomb moved to London Town, Maryland, in 1683, and were buried in the cemetery of All Hallow's Church.²³

The next generation simplified the spelling of the name to its present form. Slingsby Linthicum, great-grandson of Thomas and Jane Lincecomb, became a circuit-riding minister. Slingsby's son, Lott Linthicum, was born March 3, 1784. He married Catherine Warfield and, after her death, Ann Eliza Watkins, from the area of Montgomery County now known as Boyds.²⁴ Lott purchased "Errors Corrected," cleared the land, planted tobacco, and built a two-story log house.

Ann and Lott's children were named Ruth Ann and Gassaway Watkins Linthicum. Gassaway became the owner of "Errors Corrected," still containing 228 3/4 acres.²⁵ Like his father, he married a local girl, Amanda Hoyle, from Boyds. He raised wheat and potatoes instead of tobacco. He used a windmill to furnish energy and checked the livestock at night with the light from a coal-oil lantern.

Gassaway died in 1883 and was buried in the family plot with Lott and Ann. Title to the farm had been transferred to his son, George, four years before his death.²⁶ George was to live less than 50 years, his short life typical of the repeated sadness and helplessness of the days before antibiotics and modern obstetrical techniques were developed. George was a widower three times; his fourth wife and her children survived him. His first three wives died giving birth in the log house on the hill; his infant children are buried near their mothers at the Neelsville cemetery. George's fourth wife, Martha E. Best, bore him seven children, but only four sons survived infancy - Best, Lloyd, Charles Gorman, and George F. Linthicum.

When George died at age 49, Charles was just five years old. As their father lay dying, the children were sent out of the house to visit their family friends, the Griffiths. With nightmarish clarity, Charles Linthicum remembers running pell-mell through the woods. His older brothers outran the little boy, and a hornet stung his nose. But he finally reached the comfort of his friend's home, the gray stuccoed log house on Old Baltimore Road, just west of the present Route 1-270.

21. Ibid., Book T, pp. 418 and 419.

22. Ibid., Book BS, pp. 415-420.

23. Harry Wright Newman, Anne Arundel Gentry (Baltimore, MD: Lord Baltimore Press, 1933), pp. 455 and 456.

24. Ibid., pp. 472-475.

25. Montgomery County Land Records, Book JGH 8, p. 482.

26. Ibid., Book EBP 20, p. 78.

Recovering from this staggering blow, the Linthicums were determined to remain on their land. Gassaway's widow, Amanda, took over the care of the house and the children. Martha assumed the full management of the agricultural operations. She built the bank barn still used by her grandsons. She replaced the two-story, log tenant house on the opposite side of Old Baltimore Road with a frame, two-and-a-half story home.

The Linthicum boys went to school at Neelsville, in a schoolhouse near the intersection of Brink Road and Route 355. Best Linthicum went on to high school. He rode a horse to Boyds each morning and caught the train, enabling him to attend Rockville High School.

Old Baltimore Road fronts the Linthicum farm. Since landowners were paid to maintain the road fronting their property, Lott, Gassaway, George, and Martha Linthicum must have done their share of road repairs. Old Baltimore Road was laid out in the eighteenth century to transport stock and produce to the markets of Baltimore. The road was probably used from time to time as a rolling road, carrying hogsheads of tobacco to the Georgetown-Frederick Road (Route 355) and from there east to Baltimore or even south to Georgetown.

George and Martha Linthicum's son, Charles, eventually took over management of the farm. He began a dairy business in 1913. Every morning he hitched a horse to the farm wagon, loaded the ten-gallon cans, and drove to the train station in Boyds. Harry Black of Black's Dairy in Washington contracted for the milk and distributed it in the city.

In 1922, Charles married Ethel Rose Reid from a neighboring farm. Ethel inherited her family farm,²⁷ and the two properties were combined into one agricultural enterprise; the cattle were kept at "Errors Corrected," and their feed was grown at the "other place."

In 1927, the old log house, built by Lott and Ann in 1826, burned down. Pictures and heirlooms were lost, but no lives. The young couple rebuilt on the same foundation, over the original cellar. For a total of \$300 in cash, Charles and Ethel built the large, two-and-a-half story, frame house next door to our neighborhood. Their friends and relatives swarmed in to help, sawing wood, nailing rafters, and even wiring for electricity, all as volunteers.

Charles received title to "Errors Corrected" in 1927.²⁸ About the same time he began to ship his milk by highway instead of by rail. Harry Black hired a Mr. Thomas to drive his truck north from Washington on Route 355 to the intersection with Route 27, called "Henderson's Corner." Linthicum met the truck and loaded the milk cans on the wide, flat, covered bed.

By this time the lady of the house, Ethel Linthicum, did not need to hitch up her horse and drive all the way to Clarksburg to shop as previous generations of "Errors Corrected" householders had done. The Metropolitan Branch of the B & O Railroad made shipping so much easier by rail than by horse power that several small stores located nearby. Ethel was able to buy needs at two stores in Rocky Hill, Cliff Larman's and Billy Watkins' establishments. Watkins had a fairly good selection of merchandise, from yard goods to pear cider. She could also shop easily at Basil Burdette's store in Burdette, each store being equally distant from home, about three miles in opposite directions.

27. Montgomery County Orphans' Administrations, Case 7820, 1952.

28. Montgomery County Land Records, Book 428, p. 487.

Money was scarce during the great depression of the 1930's, and the price paid for their milk did not support the growing Linthicum family with their two sons, Charles Thomas and John. So Charles Linthicum went to work as a carpenter with his wife's uncle, Albinio Reid. They worked for a time in Chevy Chase, necessitating the purchase of a car for transportation. The Chevy Chase job completed, Charles and Uncle Biney were hired to work in Loudoun County, Virginia. Charles roomed near his job during the week, returning home on weekends. In this way they were able to get by without borrowing money on either of the two farms, and the hard times passed with the property intact.

Despite the depression, medical technology developed rapidly in the 1930's. The county had a hospital, and the Linthicums were relieved to be able to use its facilities. One Friday when he returned home from Loudoun, Charles discovered that Wallace Wims, their tenant farmer, was very ill with typhoid fever. Charles drove him to the Montgomery County General Hospital in Sandy Spring, and Dr. Jacob Bird cared for Wims until the fever left.

Ethel Linthicum managed the farm and home when her husband was working with Uncle Biney. But, with the hired man sick, it was difficult to finish the chores. The two little boys ran around under foot every minute and threatened to fall into Seneca Creek each time she turned her back. There were no customers to buy eggs at the farm, and she was not able to juggle her babies and the eggs and drive the horse too. But matters could get worse, and they did. The Health Department told them that they could no longer sell their milk! A few weeks later, when Mr. Wims was well again, they were allowed to resume selling their milk. The dairy business picked up, and Linthicum returned to being a full-time professional farmer.

Milk marketing shifted again. For several years Linthicum had not needed to hitch up the horse to cart milk to the train station, and, since 1942, he has not taken the milk anywhere. In fact he does not touch it. The milk is pumped into an insulated, stainless-steel tank on a truck driven by Gerald Arnold. Linthicum's milk is taken from his cows by machines, pumped through glass tubes to his automatic cooling tank, and chilled. Since 1952, Arnold has taken the "Errors Corrected" milk to Embassy Dairy, operated by Lucerne.

The sign at the entrance to their farm reads "Seneca Ayr Farm." The name was chosen by Charles Thomas and John when they were youngsters. They joined the local 4-H club and needed a herd name to show the family Ayrshires so they chose this one. In time Charles Thomas' son, Thomas, also joined 4-H. He has shown the family cattle for many years and has received national recognition as a young dairyman. Tom is currently taking a year out of his college career to serve as state president of the Future Farmers of America.

The passing of life at the Linthicum farm is marked by celebrations. On the first weekend in December 1978, Mr. and Mrs. Linthicum sponsored their 56th butchering, a tradition for the Linthicums as long as they can remember. Knowledge of the techniques (of particular interest to the Beau Monde neighbors who attended and who are accustomed to buying their meat at a market) is passed along from generation to generation, and the needed skills are practiced and refined. "We'll butcher every year so long as I own this farm," Mr. Linthicum says. And he has no intentions whatsoever of selling.

With 67 years in the dairy business in Montgomery County, Charles Linthicum is indeed unique. He has accepted the changes going on all around him and adapted to them. Transportation methods, health department regulations, the advent of electricity with its blossoming advantages - he has known them all and gone on milking his cows.

Ethel Rose Linthicum died February 4, 1980, aged 86, just a few weeks after presiding over her 57th butchering. But Charles G. Linthicum, his sons, daughter-in-law, and grandson continue to farm next door. The strongest roots for our new neighborhood are in the soil of "Errors Corrected."

* * *

The third family to settle in the neighborhood and the first to build in what is now Beau Monde Estates was named Dowden. In 1858, Zachariah Dowden purchased, for \$150, ten acres and a log house from Enoch and Rebecca Holland,²⁹ directly opposite Beau Monde on the north side of Old Baltimore Road, in the subdivision now called "Ruby Drive." Two boundary stones mentioned in this 1858 deed can be seen in the woods north of Ruby Drive; they still mark the boundaries of this development.

The Dowdens moved into the log house and extended their holdings in 1867. Gassaway and Amanda Linthicum sold them 22 1/2 acres of their farm,³⁰ marking the single incidence of subdivision for "Errors Corrected" since it was named by Waters and Warfield in 1793. The same day the Dowdens bought 22 1/2 acres from Enoch and Rebecca Holland, part of "Cow Pasture" and part of "Poplar Spring."³¹ The Holland tract purchased at this time begins at a stone planted on the 12th line of "Pleasant Fields;" this stone is still there and can be seen in the woods behind Beau Monde Lot 17. The plot containing the Holland family graveyard was transferred to Dowden with his purchase of "Poplar Spring."

Zachariah Dowden and his family lived in the log house while carefully crafting a large, two-and-a-half story dwelling across the road. When it was finished, they planted oak trees in the front yard and moved in. A century later, the house was purchased by a group of developers who planned to level it and build a subdivision of new homes. But their chief carpenter, Clifford Strickland, demurred. He had placed his level on the floors and found not 1/16-inch variance. The exterior walls were straight and square, and he could not, in good conscience, knock it down. So the developers kept it and added on instead. Today the oak trees are magnificent, and the house (owned by Martin and Patricia Fritsch) is in excellent condition, the focal point of Beau Monde Estates.

Charles Waters bought the Dowden farm in 1902 and used it to pasture his race horses. He sold the ten-acre tract north of Old Baltimore Road to Everett S. Andrews,³² who built himself a comfortable two-and-a-half story frame house and moved out of his log cabin.

In 1932, the First National Bank of Gaithersburg became the owner of the "Pleasant Fields" property, including the Dowden place.³³ The following year William J. (Jen) and Evelyn M. Selby bought the Dowden house and the adjoining acreage, a total of 69 1/4 acres.³⁴ The Selbys farmed the land, raising corn, hay, wheat, and fresh

29. Montgomery County Land Records, Book JGH 6, p. 425.

30. Ibid., Book EBP 4, p. 167.

31. Ibid., Book EBP, p. 91.

32. Montgomery County Land Records, Book 182, p. 264.

33. Ibid., Book 538, p. 270.

34. Ibid., Book 554, p. 216.

produce such as tomatoes, sweet corn, and watermelons. Their sons, William, Jr., and Dallas, fished in the little stream and caught suckers. The school at Brink was closed so the boys went to the consolidated four-room school in Clarksburg which is now on the National Register. Evelyn was a teacher; she had commuted in a horse and buggy to classes at the University of Maryland. In addition she drove the first school bus to run between Darnestown and Gaithersburg, a shaky vehicle with canvas sides and roll-up windows. She carried a derringer pistol for protection.

Jen Selby managed the Hoskinson farm at Henderson's Corner. His boss, Harry Hoskinson, had developed a local grocery chain, Sanitary Stores (now Safeway). He was a very active member of the Neelsville Presbyterian Church and owned the old house and property at Henderson's Corner. He also purchased the remainder of "Pleasant Fields" from the bank.³⁵ Very little remains at the Hoskinson farm at Henderson's Corner but an old wagon shed and an elderly Hecht Company delivery van. But it was once considered to be a very pretty spot. The house and the several outbuildings were all painted yellow and white and kept in immaculate condition. Harry lived in the large frame house he moved across the street to its current location on the west side of Route 355.

Jen Selby died February 16, 1954, and Evelyn had trouble maintaining the farm. She leased the land to the Gaithersburg Canning Company which used it for intensive crops, planting a series of vegetables successively throughout each season.³⁶

In 1959, Evelyn decided to sell the farm and move to a smaller place. She went to see Mr. and Mrs. Linthicum and offered to sell the land to them. They seriously considered buying it and restoring the boundaries of "Errors Corrected" lost by Gassaway in 1867. However, they decided against the purchase.³⁷

Mrs. Selby did sell the land, and it was never again to be used for farming. Harry Himelfarb bought it.³⁸ Himelfarb, like Hoskinson, was a merchant who worked hard and made good in true Horatio Alger tradition. He was a European immigrant who landed in Baltimore and joined the fuel-oil business. He "opened up a string of gasoline stations and retired when he was in his 30's".³⁹

Himelfarb sold the neighborhood property to Henry and Martha Revane, Dick and Jean Diller, Bobby Lee, Augusta "Kay" Bowling, and another immigrant ex-grocer, Jimmy Deoudes, in 1963.⁴⁰ Henry Revane conceived the name "Beau Monde Estates," and the group adopted it, believing it would attract prospective buyers.⁴¹ A subdivision of large lots was planned, and three streets were installed - Diller Lane, Diller Court, and Deoudes Road. Jimmy Deoudes, like Hoskinson and Himelfarb, had come to this country in less-than-wealthy circumstances. He worked several years as a green grocer, arriving at his stall before dawn each day to polish the radishes and wax the cucumbers for his customers.

The old tract names disappeared. "Errors Corrected" and "Cow Pasture" described the land on the Selby-Himelfarb deed, but "Poplar Spring" was dropped. The name

35. Montgomery County Land Records, Book 182, p. 264.

36. William J. Selby, Jr., interview, 1977.

37. Ethel R. Linthicum, interview, 1977.

38. Montgomery County Land Records, Book 2639, p. 515.

39. The Washington Post, October 13, 1979, p. C 6.

40. Montgomery County Land Records, Book 3132, p. 610.

41. Augusta Bowling, interview, 1977.

"Errors Corrected" was subsequently abandoned for neighborhood deeds, and only the term "Cow Pasture" was used to describe the land on the Himelfarb-Revane deed. The land was broken into lots and deeded to new owners as "Lot X, Beau Monde Estates."

Varied and interesting people bought the houses and moved into the new neighborhood - doctors, lawyers, merchants, and even an Indian chief! In 1965, Rush and Margaret Wright bought the old Dowden house.⁴² They had two ponies for their daughter, pheasants for their son, and chickens for their own use. All were housed happily on the six acres that went with the house. Tony and Judy Minner were the first to buy one of the new houses.⁴³ They wanted a large yard for their beagle, Minny, and their infant daughter. Eric and Mary Nelson moved in with their three children and Tony, their black pony. In 1968, my husband and I bought two acres fronting on the path which was subsequently paved and called "Deoudes Road." We built a house and a barn for our daughters' two horses. We named our place "Two-Acre Farm" and added dairy goat and lambs. More and more people moved in and filled up nearly all the 60 lots.

Zachariah Dowden's oak trees are now enormous. They have many roots, some more than a hundred years old which tunnel deep into the earth, and some fragile which are quickly clipped and blown away. Like these roots we in the neighborhood all touch one another in some way. We mingle together for awhile, the old and the new neighbors. Some are here for just a few months and then move on. Others, such as Jack and Jean Muhlolland and Jim and Gerry Roberts, were among the first to buy in Beau Monde Estates and intend to remain here. But each one of us forms a part of the new neighborhood and contributes to its development and its history.

42. Montgomery County Land Records, Book 3449, p. 344.

43. Ibid., Book 3631, p. 4.