

**Guide to the Oral History of
FARR, JANET SHARON (1904-1994)**

Biographical/Historical Notes

Janet Sharon Farr was a community leader in Montgomery County. She was born in 1904 in Jamestown, Rhode Island. She spent part of her childhood in France and came to the Washington, D.C. area in 1916. She was the granddaughter of Senator Francis Newlands, the founder of the Chevy Chase Land Company. Farr served on the Board of Governors for Montgomery College, as a Trustee of Suburban Hospital, and as President of the Board Directors for Washington Home.

Interview – Interviewed October 21, 1976 by James Scull for MCHS.

Subject

Chevy Chase (Md.) – History
Chevy Chase Land Company
Corby House

Subject Names

Farr, William Sharon
Newlands, Francis

Table of Contents/Index – See also Time Index for additional topics and subjects.

TIME INDEX
Interview with Mrs. William Sharon Farr

MINUTES- SIDE I

- 0:0 - Introduction
- 2:15 - Mrs. Farr's first recollections of her grandfather, Senator Newlands, and step-grandmother (Edith McAllister)
- 3:38 -The Newlands daughter- Edith, Janet, Frances. Births in the Palace Hotel, San Francisco, the earthquake and fire.
- 5:10 -Clara Sharon and father, Senator William Sharon
- 7:50 -Memories of Senator Newland's daughter growing up in Chevy Chase Circle house and at Woodley. Educational freedom.
- 11:30 -Marriage of Edith and Janet to Johnston brothers. Dr. William Bernard Johnston, Janet's father- physician to painter in Monet colony. Family life in Europe. World War I and return to America
- 17:30 - Janet Johnston's business activity- Place Hotel, Newlands Nevada land and Chevy Chase Land Company. Building houses in Chevy Chase
- 20:35 - William Sharon Farr joins C.C. Land Co. From landscape architect to president to board chairman
- 25:25 - The FARRS and the Francis Johnstons build homes in Chevy Chase
- 25:35 - Scottish family connections
- 29:20 - World War II- Family growing up, Mobility in Chevy Chase.

MINUTES - SIDE II

- 0:0 - Mrs. Farr on board of Suburban Hospital, Washington Home for the Incurables.
- 1:20 - Changes in Chevy Chase since the 30"s. Newlands Office Building
- 5:50 - The FARRS purchase a farm in Comus
- 8:40 - Charles Haven Johnston, author of "Loafing Along at Sugar Loaf" and boys' stories.

TIME INDEX (continued)

MINUTES - SIDE II

- k 9:40 - The Newlands fountain at Chevy Chase Circle
- 11:50 - Senator Newlands relationships with daughters, his liberal political ~~philosophy~~ philosophy
- 18:35 - Children of the William Sharon Farris
- 20:00 - Chevy Chase Land Company - future Developments. The Newlands Company
- 25:00 - Chevy Chase Club vs. life at the farm
- 26:00 - More memories of Senator Newlands at Chevy Chase, Woodley and Sheridan Square homes - his loves of clothes and shoes, marriage of his sister in England to Lord Hesketh, calling
- to
- 39: 50 days at the Embassies