

Business and Professional Men Built 55 Homes in Fine Suburban Area on James Island Bank of Stono

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Riverland Terrace, one of Charleston's finest residential suburbs, sprang from what probably were the most elaborate plans for real estate development ever attempted in this section of the state.

While the original dream has not yet been realized, there are today at Riverland Terrace some of the best modern homes in the Charleston area.

Set in the extreme northwest corner of James Island, the development is bordered on the west by the Stono river. A short distance from its northern boundary is the inland waterway which connects Quebec and Florida.

Thirteen years ago, the real estate firm of C. Bissell Jenkins & Sons, Inc., of 28 Broad street, secured the seventy-five-acre tract of farm land and laid out lots, avenues and drives. In December, 1925, construction work on the first houses was started.

Today, fifty-five families, comprising approximately 250 people, live in the fifty-five houses on lots which have average measurements of more than 10,000 square feet. Property owners largely are business executives and professional men.

Only One Small Store

Riverland Terrace is strictly a residential development and the only business establishment in the area is a small store near the entrance on Wappoo Drive.

Despite a popular idea, Riverland Terrace was not so named because of its proximity to Stono river and Wappoo creek. The development was named for Riverland plantation, homestead of the Jenkins family. The word terrace was suggested by the rolling slope of the terrain.

The entrance to Riverland Terrace is three miles from the Ashley river bridge and approximately five miles from the Charleston county courthouse. Residents commute in their own automobiles. When the development was started, the Riverland Terrace Express, a bus operated by the developers, ran a regular schedule to and from the city. The service was discontinued some years ago.

The development is in an area rich in history. Driving from Charleston, one passes on the west bank of the Ashley river near the site of the headquarters in 1670 of Colonel William Sayle, first governor of South Carolina.

Military History Written

The road to Riverland Terrace is the same road taken by the British under Sir Henry Clinton on his way from John's Island through what now is the Terrace to Charleston. Nearby is the site of old Battery Means, where Confederate forces stood to protect Charleston. The Country Club of Charleston is on the site.

Riverland Terrace itself is on the spot where old Fort Pemberton stood during the War Between the States, and where another fort stood during the Revolutionary war.

Workmen grading the streets of the development unearthed an old British cannon. It is now in the yard of Dr. Pierre G. Jenkins.

Running through Riverland Terrace is the famous old King's highway, heavily used in 1776. Corn-

wallis and his men once marched down the highway.

The distinguishing landmark of the development is Wappoo Drive, the tree-lined road which leads straight from the entrance to Stono river. Many persons know Riverland Terrace as that settlement adjacent to the Municipal golf course.

About 50 per cent of the dwellings are of brick. A few are of stucco, and the rest are wooden. The average cost of Riverland Terrace houses is about \$8,000, structures ranging in value from \$5,000 to \$20,000.

125 Pupils in School

Electricity and telephone service are supplied by city utility companies. A central water system was built when the development was started. Approximately half the residents, however, have private water systems.

The Riverland Terrace school is one of the central points for Terrace residents. Approximately 125 pupils attend the school. At the school is a spacious playground, an athletic field equipped for night games, a softball field, tennis courts and a grandstand for spectators.

Riverland Terrace mothers long ago formed a Parent-Teacher association. Today the association is the active organization in the little city. Among the earliest home builders on Riverland Terrace who still live there are E. H. Johnson, O. W. Johnson, W. D. Wagner and Robert E. Bradham.

Some of the other well known homes on the Terrace are those of Bonnie Huff, Dr. John van de Erve, Dr. Pierre G. Jenkins, T. C. Stevenson, Oscar W. Schleeter, Ernest L. Godshalk, E. G. Hastings, C. W. Martin, E. C. Morrison, John E. Adams, H. C. Essick, A. C. Huthmacher, J. G. Martin, F. E. Beaty, J. D. Burney, J. W. Roberts, Dr. W. H. Boylston, A. L. Welch, J. L. Alderman, E. P. Howle, W. R. Harley, Paul E. Murphey and Harold F. McGinnis.

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