In the world of Thoroughbred breeding, the same names come up again and again, whether as roots or as branches in the family trees of top racehorses. The same is true of farm names, which often crop up over and over in the history books. This week, we’re launching a series looking back at some of the big stable names of yesteryear, and finding out whether horses still live on their land today.

One of the oldest names in the Kentucky racing business was Elmendorf Stock Farm, which occupied various pieces of land along the Paris Pike/Iron Works Pike/Russell Cave road corridor from the 1870s forward.

Although it existed as farm land for several decades beforehand, the property was originally christened Elmendorf in 1881 by Daniel Swigert, who used an old family name for his new farm. Swigert bought the farm from Milton Sanford, who had called it Preakness Stud, named after his horse and Triple Crown race namesake, Preakness.

Under Swigert’s management, the farm produced Hall of Famers Firenze and Salvator, and Kentucky Derby winners Ben Ali and Apollo. Swigert also bred Kentucky Derby winners Baden-Baden and Hindoo and himself was the eventual great-grand sire of Leslie Combs II, who started Spendthrift Farm. Combs named Spendthrift after one of Swigert’s horses.

The farm passed through the hands of Con Enright and on to James Ben Ali Haggin in 1897. Haggin was a colorful character, a self-made man whose fortune, at its height, was dwarfed only by John D. Rockefeller and Andrew Carnegie. He made his money in copper and gold mining in the West. At the time he bought Elmendorf – then about 545 acres – he had built a sizable operation at Rancho Del Paso in California. Within a few years, Haggin had sold his California farm, purchased adjoining properties to Elmendorf and expanded it to encompass 8,900 acres and over 2,000 horses. At its largest, Elmendorf included a training center, a stallion complex that stood 43 stallions, a dairy, a power plant, a grain elevator, a greenhouse complex filled with tropical fruits, and a barn for Haggin’s coach horses. Allegedly, Haggin also installed “one of the finest henneries in the country” when he discovered there were no eggs in the house for his breakfast one morning.

Under Haggin’s ownership, Elmendorf produced 200 to 400 yearlings each year, making him the owner of more horses than C.V. Whitney and August Belmont put together, according to the Lexington Morning Herald.

Haggin managed the property hands-on until an advanced age, which most reporters guessed to be his late eighties or early nineties. They had to guess at the time because he was sensitive about revealing his exact age. Upon being told he looked “at least twenty years younger” than his rumored eighty nine years, Haggin demanded “Who said I was eighty nine?” and concluded, “Well, eighty is enough. I am eighty years old.”

Haggin died in 1914 (for the record, he was 92), and Elmendorf was sold in pieces. The central portion went to Joseph and George Widener, brothers from New York with established racing names. Under Joseph Widener’s reign, the farm housed Fair Play and Mahubah, the eventual sire and dam of Man o’ War.

Continued on Page 5
When a stallion has been the country's leading sire for three years running, one expects certain things. For one, the highest stud fee around. Then, the best mares around. And it goes without saying that the combination gives you the highest proportion of premium sales yearlings around.

It also goes without saying that the stallion is Tapit.

The handsome gray son of leading sire Pulpit (by A.P. Indy) is out of the Unbridled mare Tap Your Heels, who also passed along her gray coat to her famous son. Tapit combines some of the greatest Thoroughbred lines, and the horse has parlayed his unique genetic heritage into a spectacular stud career.

After a freshman sire season that placed him atop the leaderboard with champion filly Stardom Bound, Tapit has never looked back.

The stallion's consistency is exceptional, his percentages of stakes horses are very good, and the Tapits race effectively wherever they are called on. They perform early, show speed, train on, and stay a distance.

As a result, Tapit has sired three of the last four winners of the Belmont Stakes: Tonalist (2014), Creator (2016), and Tapwrit (2017). It took Horse of the Year American Pharoah and his Triple Crown triumph to prevent that being four in a row. Tapit's son Frosted was second in the 2015 Belmont.

As a result of consistency and quality, Tapit commands an exceptional book of mares annually at Gainesway Farm, where he has stood since retirement.

At the 2017 Keeneland September sale, there are 23 Tapit yearlings consigned to Book 1 alone. There are 21 more in the rest of sale, with 18 of them in Book 2.

Nice, eh?

One of the nicest of the nice is Hip 69, a full sister to Grade 1 winner Cupid. The filly was bred by owners who "have a very large construction business in south Louisiana," according to George Waggoner, who bred Yes It's True, among other good horses. Waggoner said, "Pretty 'n Smart has the prettiest Tapit filly I've seen. She is big, tall, stretchy, and muscular; better than Cupid when he sold. She is purely outstanding, and I have no financial interest in her, other than the pride of seeing her raised on my farm."

Waggoner owns a farm north of Lexington on Paris Pike where Tom Gentry bred and raised numerous top racers, and Gentry's son Olin manages the bloodstock for the breeders of this filly. Waggoner said, "I told Olin that this filly would be the highest-priced Tapit filly out there. Maybe the highest-priced Tapit period."

Those are great expectations, but Tapit is the sort of sire who generates the feeling that anything is possible. Often enough, Tapit delivers with stock that can make good on those high hopes, and for that, people will pay a premium.

Where else can you find an evolving store of hope that might make your dreams come true?

And with Tapit siblings to major performers like Honor Code, Commissioner, Mohaymen, New Year’s Day, and Sweet Lulu in the September sale, who’s to say how high they will take the lucky buyer.
Bay colt, by Flatter – Caressing, by Honour and Glory. Consigned by Hermitage Farm, agent to 2015 Keeneland September Yearling Sale, purchased by Ben Glass, agent, for $425,000.

Following his purchase of Hermitage Farm in 1995, Carl Pollard’s approach to the bloodstock game was two-pronged, according to general manager Bill Landes. Pollard sent bloodstock agent Mike Ryan to the sales to pick out female racing prospects, and he sent Landes to other sales for broodmares.

One of the mares Ryan selected was Caressing, a 1998 daughter of Honour and Glory bred by Brereton Jones. She commanded $180,000 as a yearling, and the next year carried Pollard’s colors to victory in the 1990 Breeders’ Cup Juvenile Fillies.

Caressing’s first two foals did not survive, but she foaled a healthy filly in 2005 by Storm Cat. My Goodness brought $475,000 as a yearling at Keeneland, and though she won a single race in the U.S. she has since become a graded stakes producer in Japan.

"It seemed like something clicked after that foal," said Landes. "She started producing bigger and better stock after that."

Her 2007 Distorted Humor filly named Fun Affair was a winner, and Caressing later produced a pair of stakes-placed runners in Gold Hawk (2011 Empire Maker) and Juan and Bina (2012 Indian Charlie).

Caressing foaled the future Travers winner West Coast in 2014.

The other side of West Coast’s breeding is, of course, Claiborne stallion Flatter. Landes and Pollard had each purchased a share in the son of A.P. Indy at the beginning of his career.
In conjunction with Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital, “Ask Your Veterinarian” is a regular feature in the PR Special newsletter distributed online and at Thoroughbred sales. Veterinarians at Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital answer your questions about sales and healthcare of Thoroughbred auction yearlings, weanlings, 2-year-olds and breeding stock.

**Email us at info@paulickreport.com if you have a question for a veterinarian?**

**QUESTION:** Mature-looking yearlings often do well at auction, but do buyers need to be concerned about that early growth having negative impacts down the road?

**DR. KATHLEEN PAASCH:** Horses, by design, undergo rapid early development, but there are several additional factors that contribute to “mature-looking” sale yearlings. The first is age in months. Even though The Jockey Club defines all horses born in the previous year as yearlings, there may be as much as a 5-6 month difference in the youngest and oldest sale horses. A January yearling typically looks more mature than a June yearling because it is.

The second influence is management. Breeders strive to raise the best and biggest racehorses by providing optimum nutrition, exercise and health care. Maximizing these components results in more mature-looking individuals. Finally, there can be great variability in individuals. Some families and body types physically mature earlier than others.

As to whether buyers need be concerned about early growth having negative impacts, most developmental orthopedic problems or OCDs form before the horse is a year old. Thoroughbreds pointed toward yearling sales are generally screened radiographically in the spring. Any problems found are treated either surgically, medically, or with management. Yearlings are again radiographed in the fall for the repository. By the time repository films are taken, yearlings are old enough that new problems related to growth are unlikely.

In other words, developmental issues generally present well before sale time and would likely be picked up on radiographs.

Dr. Kathleen Paasch is a shareholder in Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital. She received her DVM from Washington State University and completed Rood and Riddle’s internship program the following year. Dr. Paasch specializes in lameness, diagnostic imaging, and acupuncture.

---

**About PAULICK REPORT**

For advertising inquiries please call Emily at 859.913.9633

Ray Paulick - Publisher ray@paulickreport.com

Emily Alberti - Director of Advertising emily@paulickreport.com

Scott Jagow - Editor-in-Chief scott@paulickreport.com

Mary Schweitzer - News Editor mary@paulickreport.com

Natalie Voss - Features Editor natalie@paulickreport.com

Chelsea Hackbarth - Asst Editor chelsea@paulickreport.com

Amy McLean - Print and Advertising Production

Frank Mitchell - Contributing Writer

COPYRIGHT © 2017, BLENHEIM PUBLISHING LLC
Maxwell Gluck purchased Elmendorf in 1950, jumping into the business with both feet. Gluck, who made his fortune selling women’s apparel, owned two horses before buying the farm. One of them won just one race in four seasons of trying. The second won the 1951 Camden Handicap, only to keel over and die after the race.

“I asked myself, ‘How the hell do I get another stakes horse?’” Gluck told the Lexington Herald-Leader. “I realized then that you make them yourself.”

The soft-spoken Gluck rose to the top of national breeding standings in the 1970s with his breed-to-race operation producing about 50 foals per year. He was leading breeder in 1973, 1981, and 1982 by money won. His style, together with pedigree advisor Bob Bricken, was to seek quality mares, often imports from England, with family emphasis in distance. Gluck’s sharp eye for pedigree earned him the Eclipse Award as outstanding owner in 1977 and later, the P.A.B. Widener Trophy for outstanding achievement. Top Elmendorf horses under Gluck’s tenure were Prince John (who became sire of Stage Door Johnny and damsire of Alleged and Cozzene among others) and Eclipse Award winners Protagonist and Talking Picture. Elmendorf’s multiple graded stakes winner Verbatim sired Hall of Fame champion mare Princess Rooney.

Gluck died in 1984 and stipulated in his will the farm be sold together with its stock. Jack Kent Cooke, flamboyant owner of the Washington Redskins and Los Angeles Lakers, purchased the farm and kept his broodmares there until 1997, when he sold the property to Dinwiddie Lampton.

With a lifetime spanning more than a century, Elmendorf has seen its fair share of tragedy. Shortly after selling the property to Milton Sanford in 1874, former owner WT Hughes was shot and killed by his uncle over a financial dispute as he vacated the property for a new home in central Kentucky. Another former owner, Carter Harrison, was assassinated in his Chicago dining room in 1893 over a business dispute. The farm lost several dozen horses in the early 1900s to barn fires; one of them was believed to be arson committed by the night watchman, according to the Lexington Leader; another the result of a lightning strike, and a third whose cause was not immediately apparent. In more recent times, a driving accident at the farm resulted in the death of Elizabeth Lampton, wife of Dinwiddie.

Various pieces of the original Elmendorf are still in operation. Parts of it, on the east side of Paris Pike, were eventually turned into the modern Gainesway Farm. Clovelly Farm, which was purchased by Golden Age Farm in 2011, and Normandy Farm, are both in operation as Thoroughbred farms today. Some of the land that forms the modern-day Dixiana Farm was also part of Elmendorf under the Haggin administration.
Hip 40 Dark bay colt by War Front x Liscanna, by Sadler’s Wells: This colt is a full brother to a pair of G1 winners – Brave Anna (highweight 2yo filly in Europe, G1 Cheveley Park) and Hit It a Bomb (G1 Breeders’ Cup Juvenile Turf) – out of a stakes winner by leading European sire Sadler’s Wells. Liscanna won the G3 Ballyogan Stakes, and the sire of these high-end performers is leading international stallion War Front (by Danzig).

Hip 48 Gray filly by Scat Daddy x Mekko Hokte, by Holy Bull: Full sister to unbeaten juvenile and highly regarded Caravaggio, a G1 winner at 2 and 3. Both are by the very popular and versatile sire Scat Daddy (Johannesburg), who died young in December 2015. Therefore, this filly is from her sire’s final crop and is also a half-sister to G2 winner My Jen (Fusaichi Pegasus). They are out of stakes winner Mekko Hokte.

Hip 62 Chestnut colt by Malibu Moon x Oatsee, by Unbridled: The April foal is by leading sire Malibu Moon and is a half-brother to five stakes winners. Chief among these are G1 winners Shackleford (Preakness, Metropolitan Handicap, Clark) and Lady Joanne (Alabama). They are all out of the stakes-placed Unbridled mare Oatsee. The sire has gotten top 2yos and classic horses, such as Kentucky Derby winner Orb.

Hip 84 Chestnut colt by Flatter x Seeking Gabrielle, by Forestry: This is a half-brother to 2015 champion juvenile colt Nyquist (Uncle Mo), the winner of the 2016 Kentucky Derby. They are out of a winning Forestry mare who is a half-sister to four black-type horses. Sire Flatter gets good 2-year-olds and older horses, such as multiple G1 winner Flat Out and 2017 Travers winner West Coast.

Hip 153 Bay colt by Candy Ride x Common Hope, by Storm Cat: This colt is a full brother to champion 2-year-old Shared Belief, winner in 10 of his 12 starts, including five G1s, and they are half-brothers to G3 winner Little Miss Holly (Maria’s Mon), winner of the Iowa Oaks. Candy Ride is a major American sire with such stars as 2-year-old G1 winner Mastery and 2017 Whitney and Woodward winner Gun Runner. The dam is a half-sister to G1 winner Key Phrase, dam of stakes winner Yankee Gentleman, the broodmare sire of American Pharoah.