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Broadlawn is also known as Brownsville and Folly Castle. The latter was a nickname applied by a disapproving relative of the mid-19th century owners, the William Lewis family. The present house is reportedly a late 19th ^{or early 20th} century dwelling built in part on the foundations, and using at least one of the old stone chimneys, of an earlier house which burned in 1899.

The ^{historic boundaries of the} ~~property~~ ^{are} ~~part~~ ^{of} Mann Page ~~III's~~ ^{III's} share of Robert "King" Carter's Bull Run Tract, ~~part~~ and part of a tract ~~a grant in 1726~~ of 255 acres granted on Young's Branch (Bull Lick Run) to John Young. According to one source, in 1769, Young sold ^{to George N. Brown} 230 acres of his grant, and in 1787 Mann Page III sold to Brown 222 adjoining acres. It is believed that Brown built a 1½-story home on the property. In 1818, Bernard Hove bought ~~Brown~~ the property from the Browns, and the estate after

Hooe's death was included with Hazel Plain to the east. In 1835, William M. Lewis purchased the property from William H. Fowle and enlarged the then-existing house on the property, supposed to have been built by George N. Brown.

The house ^{was} located between the lines of the Union and Confederate forces during the Second Battle of Manassas. As were most of the houses in this area, ~~the~~ Broadlawn was used as a hospital after both battles of Manassas.

[or J. Thomas]

In 1864 [?], the property was purchased by John T. Leachman, a son-in-law of William Lewis. Upon Leachman's death in 1915, the property was sold to J. E. Coverstone, who owned it at ~~the~~ least until 1936-37, though he rented it.

In 1885, the French artist Louis [or Leopold] Kowalsky, while painting the renowned "Panorama of the Second Battle of Bull Run," stayed at Brownville for about 6 months. ~~while painting~~ Kowalsky also painted the picture of Brownville

~~the~~ which appears in R. J. Ratcliffe's This Was Bonnie William. Engraving, part of the famous panorama; and the original painting was on view for many years in a building located at 15th and Ohio Streets, in Washington, D.C., but the ~~not present~~ whereabouts of the painting are unknown.

† In 1899, a fire destroyed all but the foundation and chimney(s) of the house at Broadlawn, or Brownsville, ~~was~~ built by Brown and enlarged by Lewis. The replacement house appears to have been built along the same plan of the earlier ^{Lewis} house, which was described as having a high-ceilinged central hall plan with porches both back and front. At the time the house was burned, according to the WPA report, it had 15 rooms, including the basement.

According to the same report, there was in 1936 an old pear tree on the property, said to have been imported with several others from England by Mr. Brown. It is not known whether the pear tree in the ~~the~~ yard is the same tree.

In 1936, there was a family cemetery on the property containing a number of graves of the Brown family, ^{having} ~~with~~ no inscribed stones but only fieldstone markers, reportedly in an open field. This cemetery may have been destroyed. In the years after the Civil War it was reportedly surrounded by trees and shrubs.

The present owners purchased the property in about 1973, intending to create there an amusement park, ^{and had the zoning changed to}

In 1977, probably ~~later~~ as a result of local ~~site~~ opposition to Marriott's proposal, the County Board of Supervisors rezoned the property from commercial

to agricultural, thus preventing the building of the controversial theme park.

The property is now being offered for sale.