Starting out in 1947 as a scattered lot builder, Sidney Colen built just 3 houses. The rest is history.

He developed Kenneth City, the incorporated and completely self-sufficient city of 3,000 in the northwest area, and is equally renowned for his subdivisions — Merna Manor, Disston Manor, Leslee Heights, Kendale Park, South Causeway Isles, Sheryl Manor and Merna Park.

Clearview Oaks, a 390-unit apartment complex at 5745 - 40th Avenue North, is the nation’s first condominium. It was conceived in 1959 before anybody ever heard of condominium, much less its spelling and pronunciation.

Editor Elizabeth Whitney of the St. Petersburg Times staff, has written: “Sidney Colen has been a leader in the tough building market in Pinellas County for longer than any other major builder. Those in the know say there’s no more financially solid builder around. Some even say it stronger than that.”

Mr. Colen’s present interests are concentrated on his 450-acre adult community of condominium apartments at 2410 Sunset Point Road (Rt. 588), Clearwater. Known as “On Top Of The World,” it is a Colen masterpiece and represents still another pioneering concept.

Several hundred residents already have purchased their “dream apartments,” priced from $13,450 to $23,450, and over 11,000 folks will be living in the model community when the spectacular undertaking is completed.

There are no mortgage or other outstanding debts owed at “On Top Of The World.” Mr. Colen has paid cash for everything, thereby assuring residents of the success of his bold, new concept in active retirement living.

A million-dollar recreation center, 18-hole golf course and private security force are other features.