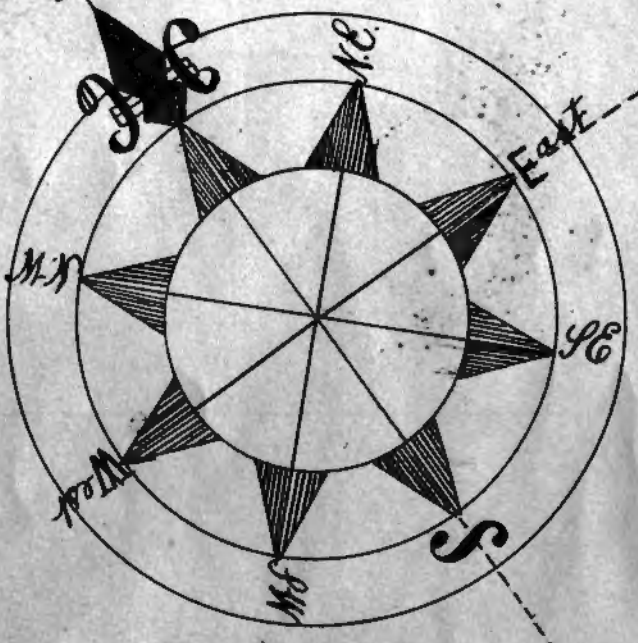


Lewes Creek

Baileys Island

Lewes Creek



The Road from the Battery at White Town.

The Cornackill to Lewes Town

Sam Thompson  
Lyeth heare



house of Tho. Haine  
house of Tho. Cornackill

Luke Shields Sen's house and Land Lyeth heare.

Laid down for Eastimation

Samuel Rowland Land

Rowland house  
Garden

The Rowland Garden & house

Thomas Rowland Land within these pricked lines being part of y<sup>e</sup> whole track

Division line between Luke Shields & Tho. Rowland

Luke Shields Land Lyeth along heare Laid down for Eastimation

The glaid that runs up alonge heare  
Henry Fisher and Henry Fisher

head of y<sup>e</sup> Glaid

Cedar post, N 41 E 84 per & 4 feet

Division line between Sam<sup>l</sup> & Tho. Rowland  
1777 7 8 10 11 12 13 14 15

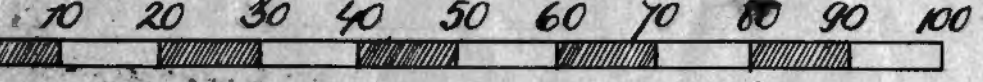
The Rowlands Land

S 48 E 2 1/2 per

Division line  
S 48 E 36 1/2 per

Cedar post Division line  
a line tree standing

A Scale of Perches Laid down



By John Shankland Jan<sup>y</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> 1773;

Henry Fisher Land Lyeth

Division line between Sam<sup>l</sup> Rowland Land

Samuel Rowland Land

Two line Trees Standing  
Samuel Rowland's Land & Marsh Lyeth within this black lines part black & part pricked which he bought of Tho<sup>s</sup> Rowland containing 49 1/2 of Land & Marsh.

Samuel Rowland's Eighty two and a half Acres of Land Lyeth heare Laid down for Eastimation

N 41 E 174 per

Division line

S 41 W 135 per Division line

The road over the

Small Glaid

Marsh Marsh



John Wittbanche Marsh and Land Lyeth heare

Pagen Creeke

Beginning poste  
begin poste

Landing

Geo<sup>s</sup> Kollock Marsh & Lyeth heare

The Ferry to Lewes Town



de

de

# HALVE·MAEN

Quarterly Magazine of The Dutch Colonial

✠ Period in America ✠



*Vol. xliiv*

*July, 1969*

*No. 2*

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# Highlights of History of Hoorn, North Holland

by Richard H. Amerman, Editor *de Halve Maen*.

*Former Zuyder Zee port once home of de Vries and other pioneers in America; Townhall model for Delaware museum.*



New York Public Library

*David Pietersz de Vries, famed explorer and writer of Dutch colony here.*

THE historic ties which link this country with the Netherlands are especially evident in the case of Hoorn, an old Zuyder Zee town chartered in 1356.<sup>1\*</sup>

Its Townhall, depicted at right, became the model for a like building, shown below, erected in 1931 at Lewes, Delaware, to commemorate the tercentenary of a settlement founded there as Zwaanendael (or Swanendael), under the sponsorship of David Pieterszen de Vries.

Hoorn, too, like many municipalities in North Holland, was the home of others who pioneered in New Netherland. More than a few descendants of those colonists are or have been active in the Holland Society, which in 1906 presented a Dutch flag to the "Zwaanendael Society" at Lewes.

Effectually barred from the sea in 1932 by the Enclosing Dam, which connected North Holland with Friesland and inaugurated the great task of reclaiming the Zuyder Zee, Hoorn, today a prosperous town of about 17,000 inhabitants, has a remarkable maritime history reaching back far into the past. As long ago as 1416, men at Hoorn developed a type of drag-net which with the herring-buss, invented at Enkhuizen, became vital factors<sup>2</sup> in the extraordinary growth of the fishing industry that produced the seafarers for an era of Dutch maritime predominance. The period of Holland's naval ascendancy, indeed, can be dated from 1573 when the "Sea Beggars" crushingly defeated Bossu's Spanish fleet on the Zuyder Zee off Hoorn.

A famous seaport during the "Golden Age," Hoorn in common with other Dutch towns at that time, used much of the wealth gained from commerce at home and far-distant parts of the world to erect or to beautify buildings which still survive as monuments of a glorious history. Examples of impressive architecture abound in Hoorn: the Townhall (of which details are set forth later in this article), the St. Jans Gasthuis, West-Friesland Government House (now a museum), churches, weigh-house, gates, orphanages, and the East India Company's spacious warehouses built in 1606.

Closely connected with two celebrated 17th century Dutch commercial ventures from their inception — the East India Company (organized in 1602), and West India Company (1621) — Hoorn also provided administrators, ship captains and colonists in a great

RICHARD H. AMERMAN, Editor 1941-42 and since 1958, graduated with honors from Middlebury College and holds the J.D. degree from New York Law School. Member of the New York Bar, WW II veteran, and retired Army Intelligence reserve officer, he was Bergen Branch President and Burgher Guard Captain. He and his wife have a daughter, four sons.



Courtesy of the Municipality of Hoorn

*Townhall at Hoorn, originally two buildings conjoined in year 1429 and used for civic purposes after Reformation, has served the municipality as its Stadhuis since 1795.*



Courtesy of the Delaware State Archives

*Zwaanendael Museum at Lewes, Del., a careful adaptation of Hoorn Townhall, memorializes Dutch settlement in 1631, to whose establishment Delaware owes existence as State.*

age of exploration and overseas settlement. Hoorn was the birthplace of Jan Pieterszoon Coen (1587-1629) who founded the nation's long-held empire in the East Indies, and of Skipper Jan van Houten, who sailed round the coasts of South America and gave the name of his city to the Cape.<sup>3</sup> With Hoorn are associated the names of Abel Janszoon Tasman (c.1602-1659) who discovered Tasmania, and of David Pieterszen de

\*Footnotes begin on Page 10.

Vries, master mariner, explorer and writer, with whom much of the history of New Netherland is linked.

By Section 18 of the West India Company charter of June 3, 1621,<sup>4</sup> the States General vested executive powers in an "Assembly of Nineteen" to act on behalf of five directorates, or "Chambers," set up for as many geographical parts of the country in ratio to their financial participation. The Chamber of Amsterdam, where most of the money came from, represented four-ninths of the Company capital, and had eight of the Nineteen. The *Noorderkwartier*, which included Hoorn and six other towns in present North Holland,<sup>5</sup> had a one-ninth interest and two men of the Nineteen. In this manner Hoorn became identified with an enterprise which, having been awarded jurisdiction and well nigh sovereign powers over Dutch interests on portions of the coasts of America and Africa, would govern New Netherland until 1664.

To promote colonization in New Netherland the Company on June 13, 1629, issued its charter of "Privileges and Exemptions"<sup>6</sup> by which any member, who within four years planted a colony of fifty settlers along some navigable river, was to receive — if he "satisfied the Indians of that place" — a liberal land grant and the title of Patroon, with various privileges. Three days later Samuel Godyn, a Company director, gave notice of intention to take up land in the vicinity of Delaware Bay. Soon afterward he and a fellow-director, Samuel Blommaert, were given a tract in the present State of Delaware fronting the Bay near Cape Henlopen. Three other men came in as partners in the patroonship: two to provide more capital, and one for his nautical experience, David Pieterszen de Vries.

Organized by de Vries, an expedition under orders to become self-sustaining and to set up a whaling station, sailed from the Texel in December, 1630. Although a companion vessel was lost to pirates en route, the ship *de Walvis*, Skipper Pieter Heyes, landed a party of 28 men, their equipment and farm animals a few miles from Cape Henlopen the following April. Site of the settlement made was at a place named "Zwaanendael," meaning valley of swans, near present Lewes on the right bank of Lewes River which the Hollanders, reportedly from Hoorn, are said to have called Hoornkill.<sup>7</sup> Expecting no trouble from the Indians, the newcomers nevertheless built a protective palisade and within it a large shelter and cookhouse, and set to work on their assigned mission.

Soon afterward tragedy intervened, for when de Vries arrived from Holland with fifty men as reinforcements in December, 1632, he found that the Indians had destroyed Zwaanendael by fire and massacred its people, including four men who had travelled to the settlement from New Amsterdam. No one survived.<sup>8</sup> Informed of what took place, but without enough armed force to retaliate, de Vries remained on the scene three months pacifying the natives by persuasion and seeking ways whereby to retrieve the situation. Short of food by then, and judging he lacked sufficient on-site resources with which to re-establish the colony or a whale fishery, de Vries sailed with his men to Manhattan, in March, 1633. Not for thirty years, when Pieter Cornelisz Plockhoy of Zerkzee planted his Mennonite colony on the site of Zwaanendael, was the area re-settled.

As described in 1650 by a capable reporter, Adriaen van der Donck, lawyer from Breda and formerly *schout* of Rensselaerswyck, the disaster came about in this manner:

\* \* \* The States' arms [coat-of-arms] were also set up at this place [Zwaanendael] in copper, but as they were thrown down by some mischievous savages, the *commis* there very firmly insisted upon, and demanded, the head of the offender. The Indians not knowing otherwise brought a head, saying it was his; and the affair was supposed to be all settled, but some time afterward, when our people were working unsuspectingly in their fields, the Indians came in the guise of friendship, and distributing themselves among the Dutch in proportionate numbers, surprised and murdered them.<sup>9</sup>

Short-lived the Dutch colony may have been, but to its establishment Delaware owes its existence as a State. In 1632 Charles I granted to Sir George Calvert, First Lord Baltimore, lands comprising the present State of Delaware. For years afterward his heirs claimed the territory as part of Maryland. However, the royal grant had described the land as "hitherto uncultivated and occupied by savages." In the litigation that ensued, these words, coupled with proof that in 1631 Delaware had been colonized by a Christian nation, proved decisive. The settlement at Zwaanendael compelled the conclusion that Delaware lands could not be included in Charles's grant. The claims of Lord Baltimore's heirs were therefore denied.<sup>10</sup>

In honor of Zwaanendael on the 300th anniversary of its founding, the State of Delaware erected at Lewes an impressive memorial building which duplicates in many features part of the Townhall of Hoorn. Based upon studies of the ancient Stadhuis by an architect sent to Holland for the purpose, the design produced in "Zwaanendael House" an edifice which conforms

(Continued on Page 16)

<sup>4</sup>Lize Stilma, *Hoorn* (booklet pub. in Dutch and English at Baarn, Holland: Hollandia Ltd., 1963), p. 23.

<sup>5</sup>Charles McKew Parr, *Jan van Linschooten: The Dutch Marco Polo* (New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1964), p. 7.

<sup>6</sup>Gerald L. Burke, *The Making of Dutch Towns* (New York: Simmons-Boardman Pub. Corp., 1960), p. 52.

<sup>7</sup>Text of the charter is set out in Dutch and English, with copious footnotes, at *Van Rensselaer-Bouvier Manuscripts*, A.J.F. van Laer, ed. (Albany: University of the State of New York, 1908), pp. 87-115.

<sup>8</sup>Besides the Amsterdam Chamber there were Chambers representing Zeeland, the Maas region, Friesland-Groningen, and the *Noorderkwartier*, or North Quarter, of which the "Seven Towns" were Alkmaar, Edam, Enkhuizen, Hoorn, Medemblik, Monnikendam and Purmerende. *Ibid.*

<sup>9</sup>*Ibid.*, pp. 137-153.

<sup>10</sup>While possibly true, evidence has not been found to prove these colonists came from Hoorn and named the river for that town. Both de Vries and van der Donck called the river "Hoore-kil" in their writings. J. Franklin Jameson, ed. & trans., *Narratives of New Netherland* (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1909), at pp. 226 and 313.

<sup>11</sup>Stories persisting for many years that "one man escaped," or "two boys survived," appear to be without foundation. C. A. Weslager, "Who Survived the Indian Massacre at Swanendael?" pub. in *de Halve Maen*, October 1965, p. 9.

<sup>12</sup>A. van der Donck, "Representation of New Netherland," pub. in *Narratives of New Netherland*, *op. cit.*, pp. 313-314. The word *commis*, meaning agent (in this instance Gilles Housset, who bought the Zwaanendael land of the Indians for Godyn and the others in 1629), has been substituted for the word "commissary."

<sup>13</sup>Virginia Cullen, *History of Lewes, Delaware* (Lewes: Delaware Coast Press, 1956), p. 13.



## THE COXSACKIE DECLARATION OF 1775

High principle and rare courage shine through the faded writing on a document known as the "Coxsackie Declaration of Independence," signed May 17, 1775 by 225 colonists — mostly of Dutch extraction — living on the west side of the Hudson in what is now Greene County, N. Y., and vicinity. Its draftsman is believed to have been the Holland-schooled Rev. Johannes Schuneman (1712-1794), pastor of the Dutch Reformed Church at Coxsackie.

Drawn up over a year before the American Declaration of Independence at Philadelphia, as pointed out by Olive Woodworth in her recent article (*DAR Magazine*, April 1969, pp.424-425), the Coxsackie declaration discloses complete awareness of events and issues of the time. It expresses the signers' resolve "never to become Slaves," flat opposition to "oppressive Acts of the British Parliament," and plain intent to abide by decisions of the Continental Congress.

Among the signatories were 11 Hallenbecks, nine Van Loons, seven DuBoises, and many others with family names also well known in the Holland Society, such as Houghtaling, Jansen, Osterhoudt, Schermerhorn, Spoor, Vandenburg, Van Hoesen, Van Schaick, Van Slyck, Van Vechten and Van Wagenen.

## HOORN, NORTH HOLLAND

(Continued from Page 10)

closely to the Townhall's architecture. Especially well realized details are the richly ornamented gable topped with a statue of de Vries, the carved doorway, and the identical coursing and jointing of the brickwork.

The memorial was dedicated May 7, 1932 before a large concourse of citizens, who heard the dedicatory address by U.S. Senator Hastings of Delaware, and speeches by the State Governor, Netherlands Minister to the U.S., and other dignitaries. Zwaanendael House, now a museum, open daily except Mondays, contains many exhibits related to Delaware history, and also to the Dutch, such as bonnets, wooden shoes, and a wooden *koekplank* used in 17th century Hoorn to shape cookies for St. Nicholas Day.

Let us now consider the original Stadhuis. Since 1795 the municipality of Hoorn has occupied as its Townhall a building of notable antiquity that had been used for civic purposes almost continuously from the time of the Reformation. Originally two convent houses which were joined together in 1429 — that of the Hieronymites, dating back to 1385, and that of St. Cecilia, founded 1402 — the interiors were extensively altered beginning in the 16th century. For a time the town schools were housed in the rear of these premises while the front part, and a chapel built about 1429, were converted into quarters and a dining room for delegates to the Council of the "Seven Towns" in the region.

On the front of the Townhall that faces Nieuwstraat appear the arms, dating from 1613, of the Seven Provinces, Holland, West Friesland, and the Seven Towns. In 1796, a year after the abolition of the Seven Towns Council, the burgomaster and aldermen of Hoorn held their first meeting in this building. Since then no great changes have been made. The council chamber is well worth seeing for its beautiful panelling, a mantelpiece of 1788, and chandeliers and chairs which are noteworthy specimens of craftsmanship. Over the

mantelpiece hangs a vivid picture of the famous naval battle on the Zuyder Zee near Hoorn in 1573, painted in 1663 and placed within an exquisitely carved frame.

While relatively few people came to America from Hoorn during the "Golden Age," the majority of its emigrants founded families which flourish to this day. An exception to this was David Pieterszen de Vries, who, after seeking to establish patroonships in the 1630s and '40s at Zwaanendael, Staten Island and Vriescudael, returned to his ancestral city, Hoorn. Born about 1594 in France, of Dutch parents (his father was from Hoorn), and a resident of Holland from childhood, he won favorable notice as a sea captain, administrator and ordnance expert from voyages to the Mediterranean and the East Indies while still a young man. Highly competent, though unlucky in his American ventures, de Vries in 1655 published his journal, which for its straightforward style and wealth of detail provides one of the best contemporaneous accounts of New Netherland.<sup>11</sup>

Well known American families, such as the Van Horns and Harings, relate back to pioneers who emigrated to America from Hoorn.<sup>12</sup> At least four men are recorded with the place-name "van Hoorn" in addition to their given names and patronymics: Jan Cornelisz, Sibout Claessen, Reindert Jansen, and Christian Barents. The last mentioned, however, was more likely a Dane or of Danish descent although his descendants adopted the surname Van Horn. Jan Pieterse Haring, thought to be descended from the gallant Jan Haring of Hoorn, killed in the Zuyder Zee battle of 1573, was born in 1633 and settled at New Amsterdam in 1660. His wife Grietje Cozyns was a daughter of Cozyn Gerrits from Petten.

Another colonist, Harmen Bastiaens Visscher, came here from Hoorn about 1639. A carpenter by trade, he and two other men ran a sawmill on Governors Island for a time. Later on, with his wife Hester Tiercks and children, Harmen removed to Beverwyck in 1647 and became surveyor of Albany in 1667. His father, Bastiaen Harmensz de Vyselaer, was still living at Hoorn in 1675. Other Hoorn residents who settled in New Netherland were Pieter Jansz de Boer, in 1648, and Jan Gouwenburg, in 1658.

Among the women of Hoorn who became brides in America was Marietje Jacobsz, daughter of Jacob Walings van Winkle and Tryntje Jacobs. She married, first, Pieter Jans Slot, in 1663; and second, Jan Demarest, son of the Huguenot leader David Demarest, in 1692. Leuntje Pieters, who had relatives in Hoorn, married Cornelis Janz Cloppenburg, who died in 1659. There were three sisters named Pieters from Hoorn: Sara, wife of Jan Janszen Schepmoes from Delft; Elizabeth, wife of Dirck Mayers from Hoorn; and Marietje. In 1655 Janneke Dircks "van Hoorn," possibly the daughter of Dirck Mayers and Elizabeth Pieters, married Michiel Rembout "van Amsterdam" at New Amsterdam.

<sup>11</sup>D. P. de Vries, *Korte Historicael ende Journael Aenteyckeninge* ("Short Historical and Journal-Notes), pub. Alkmaar, 1655. His likeness as shown on the engraved frontispiece is reproduced on Page 9, courtesy of the Rare Book Div., N. Y. Public Library.

<sup>12</sup>Details which follow are mainly based on part of unpub. Mss. captioned "Colonists from Hoorn," by William J. Hoffman, in library of New York Genealogical & Biographical Soc.

At a Court held at Lewes for the County of Sussex by the Kings authority  
and by commissions from William Penn Proprietary and Governor of  
Pennsylvania Structures thereunto belonging the 9<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> days of  
the 11<sup>th</sup> month 1682 Justices present William Dewart Luke Watson  
John Roads Edward Southam Robert Hart John Stephans

upon the Petitions of Edmond Maurin the Court grant  
unto him the Land of the Cape commonly called <sup>cape</sup> Inloper lying on  
the North East side of the Creek formerly called the Whorekill to  
make a Coney Maurin on and liberty to build a House and set  
a Manour upon the said Land upon the conditions that the timber  
and feds of the said Land and Marshes thereunto belonging be  
and forever hereafter lay in commons for the use of the Inhabitants  
of the Town of Lewes County of Sussex as also free Liberty for any  
or all of the Inhabitants of said County to fish get stake off their  
oysters & Cockles shells & gather plums Cramberry & Huckleberrys on the  
said Land as they shall think fit allways provided that no person  
 WHATSOEVER shall not hunt or Kill any Rabbits or Hares on the said  
Land without leave & consent of him the said Edmond Maurin his  
Executors administrators or Assignes

(A True Copy)



Copy of the Grant  
for the Cape  
In Senate  
23 Jan 1817 read



Pennsylvania<sup>ps.</sup>

By the Proprietaries

Whereas a certain Tract or quantity of Marsh lying on the side of Delaware Bay between the Broad Creek and the Canary Al. Pagan Creek in the County of Sussex hath been for several years past by some Resolute Opinion given by our late father to the inhabitants of the Town of Lewes deemed and taken to belong to the said Town as a Common or Pasture for the said inhabitants but no regular Survey been formerly made on the same yet by our permission at the request of Simon Hollock Jacob Hollock and Rives Holt three of the principal Inhabitants of the Town of Lewes aforesaid the said Marsh hath been lately Surveyed and Circumscribed as appears by a draught thereof now exhibited and thereupon the said Simon Hollock Jacob Hollock and Rives Holt on behalf of themselves and the other inhabitants of the said Town Request that we would be pleased to grant our Warrant in order that the survey made on the said Marsh may be duly returned and Established, These are therefore to authorize and require the to accept and receive the Survey of the said Marsh and <sup>make</sup> return thereof into our Secretaries office in order for confirmation to the said Simon Hollock, Jacob Hollock and Rives Holt in trust and for the use and behoof of <sup>the</sup> Inhabitants of the Town of Lewes aforesaid and their Successors to be holden of us ~~and~~ our heirs and Successors under the yearly quit rent of one penny Sterling for every Acre thereof to be duly paid by the said Inhabitants for and toward the Support of a School to be kept within the said Town, Given under my hand and the Reser Seal at Philadelphia this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June Anno Domini 1736.

W. Benjamin Eastburn Surveyor Gen.

Tho. Penn



Superior County Ill

In Testimony that the within  
is a true Copy taken from the Record  
thereof remaining in Book C No 3.  
fol. 379. I have hereto set my hand  
and Seal of office at Geo. Town 2<sup>d</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> 1870  
Phillips Hollock Recorder

Warrant

Copy D 0-75



10th  
11 month

Upon the petition of Edmund Warner the Court grant unto him the land of the Cape commonly called Cape Inlopen lying on the North East side of the Creek formerly called the Whore kill to make a Cony Warren on and Liberty to build a House and Seat of Wariner upon the said land upon condition that the Timber and feed of the said Land and Marshes thereunto belonging be and forever hereafter Lye in common for the use of the Inhabitants of the Town of Lewes and County of Sussex, as also free Liberty for any or all of the Inhabitants of the said County to fish get and take of their oyster & Cockle Shells and gather plums Bramberys and Hucklebureys on the said land as they shall think fitt, Always provided that no person whatsoever shall not Hunt or Kill any Rabbits or Hares on the said land without the leave and consent of him the said Edmund Warner his Executors, Administrators or assigns

At a Court held at Lewes for the County of Sussex and by the Kings Authority and by Commissions from William Penn Proprietary and Governor of Pennsylvania and Territories thereunto belonging the 9<sup>th</sup>. 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> days of the 11<sup>th</sup> Month 1682  
Justices present, William Darwall, Luke Mattson, John Roads Edward Southern, Robert Hart, & John Riphaven

Sussex County ss.

In Testimony that the within is a true Copy taken from the Book of grants called A. which is remaining in the Rolls office for Sussex County ass. I have hereunto set my hand and Seal of office at George Town this 3<sup>rd</sup> of Jan<sup>y</sup> 1810

Phillips Hollock Recorder



Copy of Grant  
1682

page 14

Copy to S.O. 60



Cape

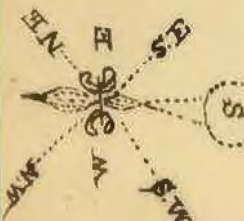
Shankland Island

Marsh owned by individuals Lewis Creek

Marsh owned by individuals

Beginning of the West boundary  
of the land owned by  
the Rev. W. Wilson of  
the Road on the West  
to St. John's

St. John's



North West boundary  
beginning in a S. W. direction from the  
North West boundary

Front Street  
2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Market Street  
B. House  
pond  
Ship Carpenter Street

1/4 of a mile  
Kelp  
South  
along front with Lewis Creek

1/4 of a mile  
South Street

1/4 of a mile  
South East boundary  
of Cape Shankland

Road

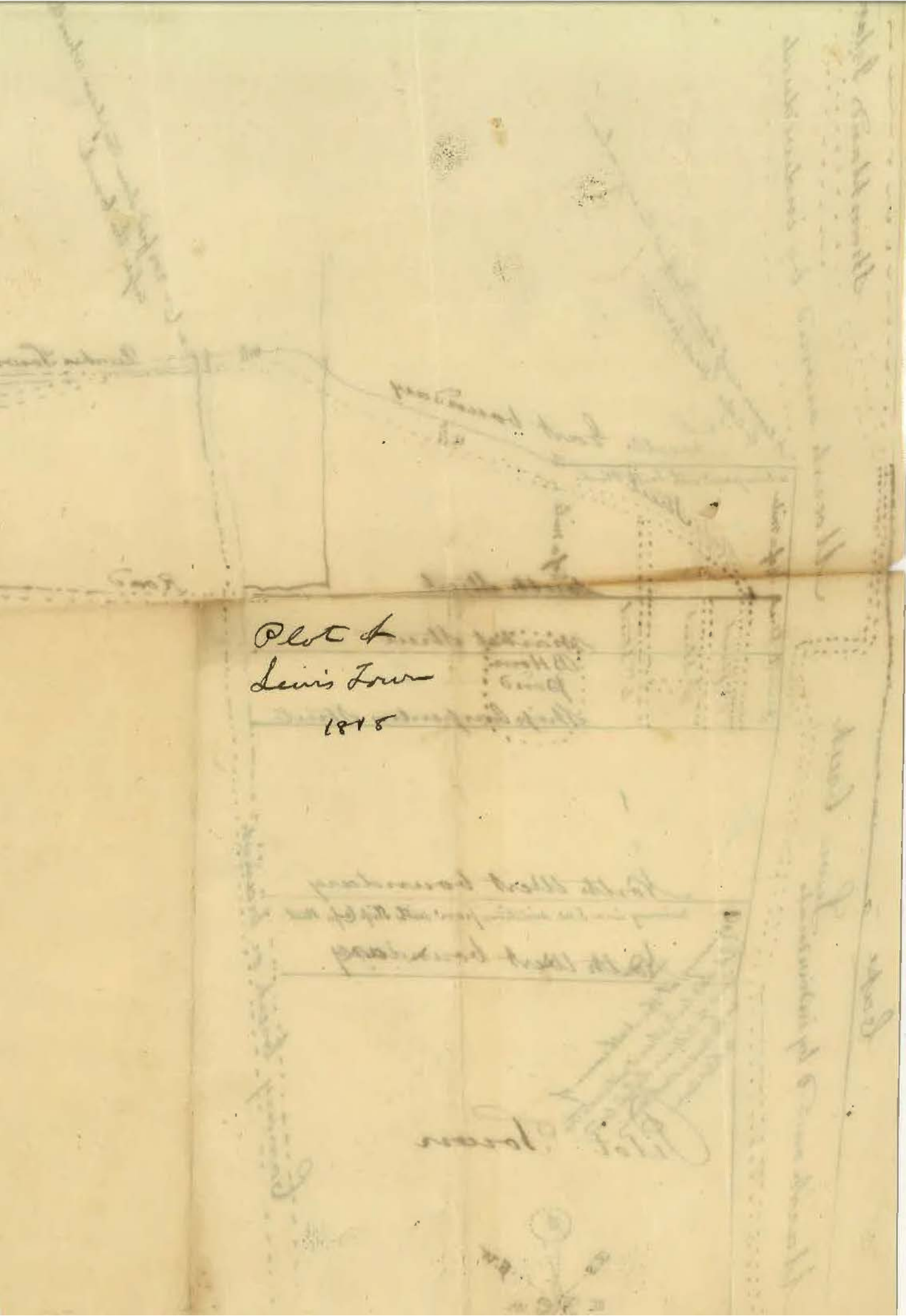
St. John's

a Cor 200 feet down the place where the Road  
crosses the branch

Canary Creek or branch



Plot 4  
Lewis Four  
1815





At a Court held at Lewes for the County of Sussex by the Kings  
authority and by commission from William Penn proprietary and Gov-  
ernor of Pennsylvania and territories thereunto belonging the 9th.  
10th. and 11th. days of the 11th. month 1682 Justices present  
William Davall Luke Watson, John Reads, Edward Southern, Robert  
Hart, John Kiphaven.

upon the Petition of Edmond Warren the Court grant  
unto him the Land of the Cape commonly called Cape Inlopen lying  
on the North East side of the Creek formerly called the Whorekill  
to make a Coney Warrin on and liberty to build a House and seat a  
Warriner upon the said Land upon the Condition that the timber  
and feed of the said Land Marshes thereunto belonging be and for-  
ever hereafter lye in common for the use of the Inhabitants of the  
Town of Lewes and County of Sussex as also free Liberty for any or  
all of the Inhabitants of said County to fish get stake off their  
oysters and Cockleshells and gather plums cranberrys and Huckleb-  
berrys on the said Land as they shall think fit always provided  
that no person whatsoever shall not hunt or kill any Rabbits or  
Hares on the said Land without leave and consent of him the said  
Edmund Warren his Executors administrators or Assigns.

(A True Copy)



Sussex - Treas. - Accts  
1796

Received July 15<sup>th</sup> 1797 of Mr. Daniel Woolf  
the sum of seven pounds & no shillings on  
Account of the allowance made to the  
Commissioners for laying the Streets of Lewes  
1796

D. Hall



Lewes Del, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> 1901

To his Excellency  
John A. Harrington

Governor of the State of Delaware

Hon. Sir, Hoping that the necessity of the case will be sufficient apology for me again intruding on your time and patience; I received yours of the 5<sup>th</sup> inst, wherein you state that the attention of the Legislature will be called to the Cape Henlopen Matter, I wish to state that I think the Legislature has done all it possibly can do in the Case, when it passed the Law for Escheats, Authorising the Governor to appoint an escheator in each County, therefore I do most respectfully ask of You to appoint Charles A. Maule of Lewes Delaware as Escheator for Sussex County; believing that Mr. Maule has the ability and would honestly and truly attend to the Matter of Escheating Cape Henlopen to the State of Delaware; And the Governor be thus able to Grant the Said Lands to the purchasers thereof, to hold to him or them their heirs and assigns forever, as the Said Law of Escheats directs, Hoping this may receive Your most favourable Consideration.

I remain Yours

James C. Debe  
Lewes Del



To his Excellency  
John Gunn  
Governor of the State of Delaware,

Gen. Sir, According to 82<sup>nd</sup> Chap (620, 621, 622, 624 page) Revised Code Laws of Delaware, I hereby inform you that the lands of the Cape Commonly Called Cape Henlopen was granted to Edmund Warner in 1682; And that said Edmund Warner died without any known heirs or kindred to claim the Land, Hence it Escheats to the State of Delaware, Subject to the privilege granted to any or all the inhabitants of Sussex County, the timber, feed, of said land and Marshes thereunto belonging be and forever hereafter lie in Common for the inhabitants of Lewes and Sussex County &c. The Beach is not feed or timber of Marshes, therefore it escheats to the State, and should be done at the earliest possible moment, as the Beach is now in demand and no one has an equitable right to sell or convey it, please inform the Escheator of Sussex County, as I stand <sup>ready</sup> to procure the necessary evidence to substantiate the title of the State to the Same

Yours Most Respectfully  
James C. Beebe  
Notary Public  
& Conveyancer  
Lewes  
Delaware

Witnesses  
Geo. L. Marshall  
Blair Edgema



To His Excellency  
John H. Brown  
Governor of the State of Delaware

Gen. Sir, I hereby  
inform you this fourth day of December  
A.D. 1901, that the Lands of the Cape Com-  
monly Called Cape Henlopen, was Granted to  
Edmond Warner, in 1682, and that Said  
Edmond Warner died intestate without any  
know heirs or kindred to Claim the Land  
hence it Escheats to the State of Delaware,  
subject to the privileges granted to any or all  
the Inhabitants of Sussex County, and as  
the said Land has been surveyed about by  
the Legislature (and the State never did own  
a foot of it) it has been under trustees appoin-  
ted by the Levy Court and now under the Com-  
missioners of Lewes neither of which had  
an equitable right to said Land, and cannot  
sell it or give a title to it, and as said Land  
is now in demand provided a good Fee Simple  
Deed could be given for it, therefore I stand  
ready to procure evidence to substantiate the title  
of the State to the same, in accordance to  
law

Yours Most Respectfully  
Lewes Del Dec 4<sup>th</sup> 1901  
Witness present  
Robert C. Hazard  
Edward S. Linnell

James C. Peebe  
Notary Public &  
Conveyancer  
Lewes Del

I forgot to date my first information sent Nov 30 1901



# State Joins Lewes in Tercentenary

Appropriate Exercises to Feature Celebration

By GEORGE SHTOFMAN

*"Here was the Cradling of a State. That Delaware exists as a separate commonwealth is due to this colony."*

THESE immortal words by George Bancroft, the historian, are inscribed on a monument erected in Lewes by the State of Delaware to commemorate the settlement on that spot of the first Dutch colony, under Captain David Pieterssen De Vries, in 1631. The two brief sentences fully explain why the entire State of Delaware should join with Lewes on Saturday, May 7, in observing the 300th anniversary of the settling of the Dutch in Zwaanendael.

But, has someone interrupted to ask, "Where is Zwaanendael?" Well, to answer that question, it must be explained that Lewes was not always known by its present name. In fact, the first recorded use of the name, Lewes, appears on January 9, 1683. However, long before that date, the Dutch had a name for it. They called it Zwaanendael, or Valley of the Swans, in 1631.

Yes it was the present town of Lewes, with its colorful history, that was responsible for Delaware being a separate State. And that is the reason all patriotic Delawareans should participate enthusiastically in the tercentenary celebration at Lewes. It is not a Lewes tercentenary celebration it is a Delaware tercentenary celebration, taking place at Lewes.

Captain De Vries sent the first Dutch expedition to these shores in 1631 to catch whales for the sale of

oil in Europe, and to cultivate the ground. The colony settled in Zwaanendael, only to be surprised one day with an attack by the Indians. With the exception of one who fled to other parts, all the Dutch colonists were slain.



... The De Vries Monument ...

The story handed down about the slaughter, reveals that an Indian chief went to the settlement of the 'pal-faces' and took a tin sheet bearing the Dutch coat of arms, intending to make tobacco pipes from it. The Dutch expressed their resentment of this action to the Indians, who later returned with the head of the offending chief. Historians appear to disagree as to whether the Indians took

this course on their own initiative, or whether they were ordered to do so by one of the leaders of the Dutch colony. Those who claim the Indians took it upon themselves to decapitate the chief, write that the Dutch reprimanded them for the action. This, it is claimed, aroused the ire of the Indians, who stormed the colony, surprising the men at work in the fields, and slaying them. Those contending the Indians were ordered to kill their chief, argue that they became incensed over this and wiped out the Dutch colony.

On June 20, 1632—the same year in which Captain De Vries brought his second expedition to Zwaanendael, where he remained for but a short while—King Charles I, of England, granted to Lord Baltimore a tract of

(Continued on Page 26)



... Memorial Park Originally a Fort in War of 1812 ...



... St. Peter's Church at Lewes ...



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Donation.....	25.00
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\$19,681.55

## State Joins Lewes in Tercentenary

(Continued from Page 4)

land, comprising the present State of Delaware. For years, Lord Baltimore and his heirs claimed possession of it as a part of their Province of Maryland.

Only because of the establishment of the first Dutch settlement at Zwaanendael in 1631, did Lord Baltimore's claim fail. The reason the settlement at Lewes prevented the establishment of Lord Baltimore's claim was that in the patent to him, King Charles had described the land as "hitherto uncultivated" and occupied by savages. It was the contention of the Dutch and English not allied with Lord Baltimore, that the western shore of the Delaware river, having been colonized prior to 1632 by a Christian nation, must be excepted out of the king's grant. With this claim maintained and upheld, Delaware became established as a State within its present boundaries, but only after considerable squabbling.

Lewes, due to its location at the Delaware Breakwater, has the theme for a story that might sound like fiction, in outlining its interesting history. Its most novel experiences include being plundered by the members of a pirate ship and being bombarded by a British fleet, under Commander Beresford, during the War of 1812.

Threats to lay waste towns which failed to pay them tribute were made by French privateers during the latter part of the seventeenth century. On August 27, 1689, French pirates landed in Lewes and pillaged practically every home in the town.



It was in Lewes that the largest assemblage ever to gather in this State, met on July 28, 1774, in sympathy with the people of Boston, because the British Parliament closed their port, following the famous Boston Tea Party. Prompt action for home rights was taken after Thomas McKean, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, had delivered a most inspiring talk.

The first sea fight of the Revolution was fought off Lewes in March, 1776, when an American privateer with a crew of 16 defeated a British sloop, with a crew of 20. On August 28, 1782, the last sea fight of the Revolution took place off Lewes, and another British boat was taken.

During the War of 1812, Commander J. Beresford sent the following message to "the first magistrate of Lewistown," upon the arrival of the British fleet at the Capes of the Delaware:

"Sir:—As soon as you receive this, I must request you will send twenty-five bullocks, with the proportionate quantity of vegetables and hay, to the Poitiers, for the use of the Brittanic Majesty's Squadron, now at this anchorage, which shall be immediately paid for at the Philadelphia prices.

"If you refuse to comply with this request, I shall be under the necessity of destroying your town."

The magistrate refused to meet the demands, with the result that Lewes underwent a bombardment for two days—April 6 and 7, 1813. A door, part of which was shot away during the bombardment, is now in St. Peter's Church, Lewes. It was taken from the Rodney Place.

An attempt was made by the British to land in Lewes, but they were called back by a signal from their squadron. Col. Samuel Davis, in command of the volunteers and militia at Lewes, resorted to a ruse, marching his men along the waterfront up to where, unseen by the enemy, they could enter a back street of the town. Then, they countermarched to the waterfront and along it, going and returning, thus deceiving the British into believing that an advancing army was flooding troops into Lewes. It is the claim of Lewes residents that cornstalks were carried by many of the marchers to make it appear that they had guns. The fleet left on April 8, without gaining anything it desired from the brave little town.

German submarines appeared off the coast of Lewes in 1918, during the World War. In fact, in that year, the tanker, "Herbert L. Pratt" was sunk by a mine near Lewes. A pilotboat later picked up several mines off Lewes.

Lewes boasts of being the home of six late Governors of Delaware. They were Governors Daniel Rodney, Caleb Rodney, Samuel Paynter, Joseph Maull, David Hall and Ebe W. Tunnell.

Mrs. Roman Tammany, a member of the Lewes Tercentenary Commission, now occupies the home in which Governor Tunnell lived. Henry Rice lives in the home of Governor Daniel Rodney. The home of Governor Hall is located on the opposite side of the street on which has been erected the building patterned

after the old Town Hall, of Hoorn, Holland, from where the De Vries expeditions sailed. The original Hoorn building was erected in 1613.

The quaint structure, built this year to commemorate the landing of the Dutch in Lewes in 1631, will be dedicated at the tercentenary celebration in Lewes on May 7. E. William Martin, of Wilmington, was the architect, and he made a special trip to Hoorn, for the purpose of making a close study of the original building. He found that some of the present building has been restored, but not exactly as it was originally. Going to the museum, he obtained drawings of the building, and made a special study of them. The brick used on the building, was made to match a brick brought over from Hoorn and in existence at the time De Vries sailed.

The building was erected by A. L. Lauritsen, Wilmington contractor. It measures 48 feet by 25 feet. It has casement windows, and the shutters are of a combination red and white coloring. A museum will be located on the first floor, while the library will be on the second floor. Many articles, of historic value, are being given or loaned to the Lewes Tercentenary Commission, for display in the museum at the celebration.

A Dutch coat of arms, sent to Lewes several years ago by Queen Wilhelmina, of Holland, has been placed over the door leading to the museum. A picture of the Queen, which she also sent to Lewes, will be hung in the building.

The principal address of the celebration will be delivered by United States Senator Daniel O. Hastings, of Delaware. J. H. Van Royen, the Netherlands Minister, will represent his government at the celebration and will speak. Among others to take part in the exercises will be Governor C. Douglass Buck, U. S. Senator John G. Townsend, Jr., Congressman Robert G. Houston and Mayor U. W. Hocker of Lewes. Music will be furnished by the Drum and Bugle Corps of Delaware Post, No. 1, American Legion.

The members of the Lewes Tercentenary Commission, who are working diligently to make this celebration one of lasting remembrance to Delaware citizenry, are: Captain Harry V. Lyons, of Lewes, chairman; Judge Richard S. Rodney, of New Castle; Christopher L. Ward, attorney and author; Congressman Robert G. Houston, of Georgetown; Mrs. Walker Mifflin, of Dover, and Mrs. Roman Tammany and Mrs. William P. Orr, of Lewes. Donald R. Morton is secretary of the Commission.

Reams and reams of copy could be written about the history of the town of Lewes, and plans for the tercentenary celebration. But, there is a limit to everything. And the editor of this publication says there is a limit to this article.

So, in closing, is it any wonder that Lewes takes great pride in its history and in its tercentenary celebration? Delawareans should pay fitting tribute to the site which was responsible for this being a separate State, by joining Lewes in the tercentenary celebration.