

citizens to fix the corners of the streets so that the matter might be set at rest. The court answered this request by directing that Robert Shankland, in connection with other commissioners, namely, Rev. William Beckett, Archibald Smith, Simon Kollock, John Jacobs, Edward Dawes, Richard Herman and John Rhoades, should make a re-survey upon such information as they could obtain from old citizens and contemporary records.

A preliminary survey was made in August, 1722, concerning which Shankland made this memoranda

"of several Bounds and Stations or places of Beginning of some of the streets of Lewistown that were yet known by some of the Ancient & Principle men of Lewistown (to wit): Mr. Jacob Kollock, Sr., Mr. Phillip Russell, Mr. John Miers and Capt. Jonathan Bailey (that is), that ye old Brick chimney of Jacob Kollock's House set on the northwest side of the street, and that the shead or Corner of the House of Joseph Royal that did belong unto William Orr was sett on the southeast corner of ye Market St.; also that Mr. Russell's old house was sett on the southwest corner of the Back Street at the corner of Mulberry Street at ye corner —those are all Boundaries of the Town that were showde me by the Persons above mentioned at my first surveying of the Town as witness my hand this—day of August, 1722.

"ROBERT SHANKLAND."

The report of the survey of Shankland was made to the court May 4, 1723, and throws some light upon the early history of Lewes.

He stated "the town was originally called Deale, in the county of Deale, on the southwest side of Lewes Creek, for many years called Hore Kill Creek."

"That the land of the town was first taken up or claimed by Dysort Peters, and adjoined the lands of Koophaven or Dyre<sup>1</sup> and those of Hermanus Wiltbank, with the creek and the pond on the other sides, &c., &c."

The commissioners located the corners of the streets and decided that the original purpose was to have four principal streets, to be known by the names of Front, Market, Ship-carpenter and Mulberry, and as many cross-streets, which were to be numerically designated. All the streets were to be kept sixty feet wide.

With the exception of an occasional decree from the court, relating to minor affairs, there were no especial orders in regard to Lewes until 1794, when the Legislature passed an act again ordering the streets to be surveyed and imposing a penalty for appropriating or obstructing them.

Like all ancient towns, Lewes had its market, and regulations were frequently made for it. A clerk was stately appointed after 1700, but seventy years later all acts pertaining to it were repealed. The market was kept in the rear of the small brick jail which was used by Sussex County until 1792, when the county-seat was removed to Georgetown. This building, as an enlarged store-house, is still standing, but the county court house, built about 1730, which stood in the cemetery of St. Peter's Church, was taken down in 1833.

At the foot of the market-place a bridge was authorized to be erected by an act of the Legislature, November 6, 1773, which named John Rodney, Henry Fisher and Henry Neil as commissioners. They

were "to build and erect a bridge and causeway over the creek at Lewistown, formerly called the Hore Kill, to begin at or near the place where the Fort in the said town stood, and thence in a strait direction to the point of fast land on the cape side of the creek nearly opposite the house now in the occupation of William Arnold; and also to erect all necessary abutments, wings, banks and other works for the use of the bridge."

Subscriptions to an amount not exceeding one thousand pounds were authorized, and those subscribing a certain amount were to be exempt from paying toll. Under the direction of the commissioners, Peter White, a carpenter, built the bridge at a cost of fifty-seven pounds fourteen shillings and nine pence, completing it August 12, 1775.

This bridge was improved under the provision of a supplementary act, passed January 29, 1791, and was fully completed soon after. In 1794 David Hall and Caleb Rodney were named as commissioners in place of John Rodney and Henry Fisher. After 1818 it passed under the control of the town authorities.

The use of the bridge over Lewes Creek has given the inhabitants of the town direct access to the Beach Marsh, which belongs to them as a common, and from which and the Great March they have derived benefit ever since the settlement of the place. One of the first recorded acts in regard to the former was after the accession of William Penn:

"Upon the petition of Edmond Warner the Court grant unto him the land of the cape commonly called Cape Inlopen, lying on the north east side of the creek commonly called the Hore Kill, to make a coney Warren on, and Liberty to build a House and seat a Warriner 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 the Inhabitants of the said county to fish, get and take off their oyster and cockle shells and gather plums, cranberrys and huckleberrys on the said land as they shall see fitt, always provided that no person whatsoever shall not hunt or Kill any Rabbits or Hares on the said land without the leave or consent of him the said Edward Warner his Executor, Administrator or Assigns, At a Court held at Lewes for the County of Sussex and by the King's Authority and by Commissions from William Penn, proprietary and Governor of Pennsylvania and territory thereunto belonging the 9th, 10th & 11th day of the 11th month, 1682. Justices present, William Dorvall, Luke Watson, John Roads, Edward Southern, Robert Hart and John Kiphaven."

The phraseology of the foregoing decree gives the county of Sussex equal claim to the marsh with Lewes and it has in a measure served as a common for the people outside of the town. By acts of the Legislature, it was placed in charge of trustees, and later the Court of Quarter Sessions of the county was authorized to appoint trustees to care for the commons. Since 1871 the control has been vested in the commissioners of the town of Lewes, and through their sanction a number of improvements have been made and buildings erected on leased lots. A highway to the beach has also been constructed and wharves built into the bay, whereby it has been made possible to establish a considerable shipping business, since the creek has failed to afford the means of navigation.

One of the first recorded references to the Great

<sup>1</sup> Owned by Simon Kollock in 1723.

protection against the driving and severe storms that sometimes prevail here, than when they are weather boarded in the usual way. A number of land marks in these old houses, of the last century, notably the homes of the Rodneys, remain and give evidence of the comfort they must have afforded their inmates when much of this country was still in a primeval condition. Others have been replaced by mansions of modern architecture, but only one is of stone. This is the house of Frank Burton, built in 1880, out of granite belgian-blocks recovered from a wreck near the Breakwater.

The improvements on Delaware Bay have been closely associated with the industrial history of Lewes. It is a matter of tradition that the British Government built a good light-house on Cape Henlopen, as early as 1725. The stone used in its construction were carried up Lewes Creek, whose course, at that time, was much farther to the eastward, and the walls were seven feet in thickness. The tower was octagonal in shape, and being built on level ground was raised seven stories high. A dwelling for the keeper and other buildings were attached. In the course of years the shifting sands completely covered the latter, and formed a high mound on a spot which had originally been flat. Jacob Hargis is remembered as one of the early keepers. During the Revolutionary War the inside, or the wood-work of this light-house, was burned by the British. For the benefit of this light-house, two hundred acres of land, on the cape, were ordered to be surveyed, November 27, 1763, by John Penn, and in the same month, commissioners were appointed by the provisional government of Pennsylvania to raise a fund by subscription, and by a lottery to maintain a light and buoys at the mouth of Delaware Bay. This light and its surroundings, have, with the interruption in the Revolution, since been kept up, but in a much improved condition. The light-houses on Green Hill and on the breakwaters have been erected in more recent years. The breakwater in Delaware Bay, opposite Lewes, is the most important improvement of the kind in the United States. The early history of this work is given elsewhere in the chapter on "internal improvements." It is a massive work of granite masonry, two thousand eight hundred feet long, exclusive of the Ice Breaker, above it, which is seventeen hundred feet long. The first material used, was brought from the North River, but most of the rock was afterwards obtained in New Castle County. It was more than forty years in construction, and cost nearly two and a quarter million of dollars. For the purpose of improving the channel of the Bay near the Delaware shore, it was ordered that the gap between the two pieces of masonry be filled up and that work was begun in 1883. The breakwater has been of incalculable benefit to the navigation of Delaware Bay and the coastwise trade, affording protection to thousands of vessels yearly; as many as one hundred vessels have found shelter

behind its friendly walls in a single storm and the calamities to navigators on this dangerous coast, have through this means been very much diminished. In 1880, the Government established a marine signal station on the inner works, where the Maritime Exchange also maintains an office from which the passage of vessels through the bay is noted by a sub-marine telegraph.

A number of wrecks have occurred off the coast of Cape Henlopen, but one of the most important was the sinking of the brig "De Braak," May 2, 1798, with nearly all its crew and a large amount of specie on board. The "De Braak" was in command of Captain James Drew, a bold Irish seaman, who set sail in January, 1798, with letters of marque and reprisal from the English Government, against Napoleon and his allies. The vessel was equipped with a dozen brass cannon and carried a crew of thirty-eight officers and men. After cruising in southern waters several months, the "De Braak" approached the American shore laden with the fruits of its victories over the enemy and having in tow the Spanish galleon, "La Platte." Taking on a Lewes pilot by the name of Andrew Allen, she was approaching shore for the purpose of getting a supply of fresh water, at Lewes, when not heeding an approaching storm, a gust of wind struck the full sheeted vessel and capsized her, carrying down the captain, the entire crew and fifteen prisoners. The pilot and twenty-five men were picked up alive, and the body of Captain Drew was recovered three days later and was buried in the cemetery of St. Peter's Church at Lewes, where a monument yet marks the place. The prize treasures of the "De Braak" are said to have been (for those times) fabulous, consisting of gold, silver and diamonds, in coins and metals, amounting to millions of dollars. The stories of this unknown wealth have become a part of the traditions of this coast and their recital has encouraged many efforts to raise the wreck which have not yet been successful.

About 1805 Gilbert McCracken, a partner of Pilot Allen, set the bearings of the wreck which have served as guides for these operations. They indicated a spot about a mile from the breakwater, where a mound in the water at a depth of twenty-seven feet, is described. This is supposed to contain the treasure trove, and efforts to uncover them were systematically begun in the summer of 1887, by the International Sub-marine company of Philadelphia and Dr. S. Pancoast, also of that city, acting under the authority of the National Government. The favorable progress of the work before the close of the season has inspired confidence in the ultimate success of the enterprise.

Half a mile above the Cape's End a United States Life-Saving station was opened in March, 1882, and placed in charge of Captain J. A. Clampitt. It is the upper of a series of four stations on the coast from the Bay to the Indian River Inlet, the entire distance being patrolled. The appointments of the sta-

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ward Russell, Alfred L. Burton and Thomas B. Schellenger. Others in that office have been William Russell, Lewis West, David Walker, John Paynter, Thomas Rowland, Henry Wolfe, Dr. David H. Houston, William E. Bingham, Thomas Walker, Henry F. Hall, Peter Waples, John Fatcher, Gov. David Hall, Peter White, John Orr and Joseph Hall, all ordained after 1790.

Good Sunday-schools have long been maintained in the church, David M. McIlvain being the Superintendent of one of the first. Dr. Henry F. Hall held that position many years, until his death. James H. Russell was the superintendent in 1887, and the school had one hundred and thirty-five members.

**FRIENDS' MEETING AT LEWES.**—As early as 1692 the Friends residing at Lewes held meetings after the manner of their sect, and in June, 1712, a regular Weekly Meeting was established at the house of Cornelius Wiltbank. Members of that family, the Fishers, Miers and some others constituted this meeting, which was attached to the Camden Monthly Meeting. The meeting at Lewes appears to have been "raised" about 1800, the few remaining members becoming connected with the Coal Spring Meeting in Broad Kiln Hundred. The grave-yard at Lewes was given up about 1840.

**ST. PETER'S CHURCH, PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL.**—Visiting clergymen held services in accordance with the usages of the Established Church in all the larger settlements of the State, prior to 1700, but it does not appear that it was deemed advisable to organize the people of Lewes into a parish at so early a period. On the 26th of July, 1708, the Rev. William Black came to the town and remained until May 9, 1709, in which period he held meetings here and in other localities, but the interest created was not sufficient to attempt the founding of a church in Lewes; and nearly a dozen more years elapsed before that purpose was accomplished. In 1717 the Rev. George Ross was invited by Sir William Keith, at that time Governor of Pennsylvania, to accompany him in a tour through Lower Delaware to look after the wants of the people. On this mission they visited Lewes, where Mr. Ross held divine service in the court-house August 6, 1717, to the great satisfaction of those assembled. Impressed with the spiritual needs of the people of this section, he returned in 1718, and during his stay of a week baptized more than a hundred persons at Lewes, Cedar Creek Hundred, and the country along the Indian River. An effort was now made to obtain a regular minister, and through the influence of Mr. Ross, the Rev. William Beckett came as a missionary under the auspices of the "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts," of London, to take up this work. He selected Lewes as a central point from which to carry on his operations, locating here in September, 1721. Taking what means had already been gathered, he immediately commenced to build a church, and a year later he reported to his society: "The frame of our church was raised on a

high bank in the centre of our town on the 6th October last, and we hope to finish it the next Summer. The other two churches we have raised at distant places. We intend to fit them up with all convenient speed." The two churches here mentioned were St. Matthew's, in Cedar Creek Hundred, and the first St. George's Chapel, in Indian River Hundred, which also belonged to the parish created by Mr. Beckett. On the 19th of May, 1724, he wrote to his society that not one of his three churches "will contain the hearers that constantly attend Divine Services." In 1728 he built "a fourth church in the middle of a forest, by the name of 'St. John Baptist,' and there is likely to be a numerous congregation there." The interest in his preaching in all those churches continued, and in his last letter, September 26, 1742, he says "the four churches are filled on Sundays, and I am often obliged in summer to preach under the trees, since the houses are too small to hold all who come to hear." Mr. Beckett died August 20, 1743, and was buried in the grave-yard of St. Peter's Church at Lewes.

The first church building was a frame, twenty-four by forty feet, and was fifteen feet between the plate and sill, and was not completed until 1728. That year Patrick Gordon, Esq., then Governor of Pennsylvania, gave £5 to finish the gallery, after the front of it had been wainscoted with black walnut at the expense of Joseph Pemberton. The house was covered with cypress shingles, and the entire amount expended on it was £96 6s. 5½d. These moneys were contributed by the people of the parish, and a considerable portion was secured from friends outside of the State, Governor Keith being a generous donor. On the 10th of June, 1773, John Penn, Governor of Pennsylvania and the three lower counties, presented a fine communion service to the church.

The old church having been condemned as unsafe for further use, a new house was built, of the same size, about forty feet southwest of the old one. The frame was raised in June, 1808, and by September 15th, that year, the church was completed, which was deemed very quick work for those times. After the lapse of forty years an effort was made to build a larger church, but no actual work was done until the fall of 1853, when the above building was removed to the northwest corner of the cemetery, by Dr. William M. Rickard and A. S. Wiltbank, and on the 27th of May, 1854, the corner-stone of a new church was laid on the old site. In 1855 work was continued on the building, under the direction of L. L. Lyons, H. F. Rodney, William M. Hickman, John Rodney and William P. Orr, as a building committee, but the edifice was not completed for consecration until July 15, 1858. That ceremony was performed by Bishop Alfred Lee, who also conferred holy orders upon the rector, Thomas M. Martin, at the same time. It is a brick structure, forty-seven by seventy-six feet, Gothic style, with fine windows, and costs six thousand dollars. The sitting capacity is nearly seven hundred. A tower was added and other im-

provements made to the Church in 1870. Other improvements have been made at a more recent period.

In 1790 St. Peter's Church was incorporated with a board of trustees composed of John Wiltbank, Reece Wolfe, John Russell, Phillip Kolloch, Hap Hazzard, George Barker and Anderson Barker. In 1797 the church-yard was enlarged by the purchase of land from Daniel Rodney and the Rev. James Wiltbank, and other property of the church was sold; the glebe, devised by Daniel Nunez, in 1791, to Peter Robinson and the old Court-House and sundry lots west from it, June 15, 1833, to H. F. Rodney and others. The property, which was in fair order in 1887, was in charge of a vestry composed of William P. Orr and Alexander Harrison, wardens; Hiram Burton, Charles Burton, Henry Marshall, Jacob Marshall, James Marshall, Clinton Long and David R. West, vestrymen. The parish embraced forty-five families, and St. Peter's was the only church within its limits, all the other churches at first associated with it having assumed different parish relations.

The ministers of the church, after the death of Mr. Beckett in 1743, were as follows:

Rev. Arthur Usher.....1746-54	Rev. George Hall.....1848
“ John Andrews.....1767	“ Thomas M. Martin.....1857
“ Samuel Tingley.....1774	“ George A. Crooke.....1859
“ John Wade.....1776	“ Edwin B. Chase.....1860
“ Stephen Sykes.....1779	“ George S. Lewis.....1861
“ Wm. Skelley.....1790	“ John B. Henry.....1863
“ James Wiltbank.....1795	“ George A. Crooke.....1865
“ Hamilton Bell.....1811	“ John A. Parsons.....1867
“ John Forman.....1818	“ John L. McKim.....1870
“ Daniel Higbee.....1821	“ Kensey Johns Stewart...1871
“ Nathan Kingsbury.....1834	“ George Hall.....1879
“ Charles E. Pleasants.....1836	“ John L. McKim.....1882
“ John L. McKim.....1838	“ Thomas McClintock.....1883
“ Whiteside.....1840	“ Theo. Waterman.
“ I. A. Childs.....1842	“ Edwin R. Armstrong <sup>1</sup> ..1885

THE BETHEL METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF LEWES.—Methodist ministers preached in this locality as early as 1774, the meetings being held in private houses. But on the 31st of March, 1788, a board of trustees was incorporated, with a purpose to build a church, namely, John Wiltbank, William West, William Coulter, Abraham Hargis, Sheppard Prettyman, Thomas Coulter and William Prettyman. This board purchased a lot of Rhoads Shankland May 7, 1788, on what was known as Shankland's Lane, on which was raised the frame of the old "Ebenezer Church." Three years later "Bethel Church" was built in Lewes, on the corner of Third and Market Streets, and for many years meetings were alternately held in the two churches. Later Ebenezer Church was allowed to go down, but the burial-place is still maintained. In 1828 Bethel Church was removed from its old site to the location of the present church, and ten feet added to the length of the house, making it twenty-five by forty feet. In a repaired condition the old church was used until the present edifice was occupied. Its corner-stone was laid August 29, 1870, but the dedication did not take place until August 28,

1872. The church is a frame, forty by sixty feet, and is thirty-two feet high, giving it lecture rooms in the basement, and a large auditorium. It was erected by a building committee composed of George Chambers, E. J. Morris and T. E. Record, and cost about six thousand dollars. In 1880 a steeple was built on the church, and it was since otherwise improved. The following year a very neat parsonage was built for the use of the minister, the church having the previous year become an independent charge. In 1887 the entire property was valued at sixteen thousand dollars, and was controlled by Trustees D. W. Brereton, T. E. Record, E. J. Morris, Geo. Chambers, Wm. E. Chambers and P. B. Norman, Sr.

When old "Bethel" was removed to its new location in 1828, about twenty families worshipped in it. In 1887 the membership of the church was two hundred and seventy-three, and it was under the pastoral care of the Rev. H. S. Thompson. The church also maintains a very flourishing Sunday-school of three hundred and forty-five members, of which D. W. Brereton and A. D. Mason are the superintendents.

The first Sabbath-school in Lewes was held in the old Bethel Church as a union school, in 1813, by Mrs. Sallie West, assisted by Mrs. Selfy Beebe and others. In 1816 the school was conducted under a constitution written by the Rev. John Rodney, and eight ladies—three Methodists, three Presbyterians and two Episcopalians—were selected as directresses. The school was first held in the Methodist, but later in the Presbyterian Church. In 1820 a Sabbath-school was taught in the school-house on Second Street by ladies of various denominations, those from the McIlvain, Hall, West, King, White and Rodney families being especially active in this work. This school was subsequently transferred to the Presbyterian Church, and there continued until about 1830, when a separate Methodist Sunday-school was organized. Of the latter, Bailey A. West was the superintendent. In 1834, Ferdinand Schey, a young German watchmaker, became the superintendent, and for six years greatly promoted the interest in the school.

John W. White and George W. Evans were successively at the head of the school, and under the latter the first celebration was held in 1845. Assisted by Dr. H. F. Hall, he was also instrumental in forming the first Juvenile Temperance Society. The later superintendents were Wm. A. Conwell, C. M. Marshall, and, since 1858, D. W. Brereton.

The church at Lewes has sustained many circuit relations, and at first had services only at long intervals. In 1788 it was a part of Dover Circuit; after 1795, of Milford Circuit; in 1803, of Lewistown Circuit; 1841, Milton Circuit; 1852, Lewes Circuit, which then had eleven appointments; in 1864, Indian River Circuit was formed, and Lewes now had five appointments; and in 1880, Lewes became a station.

The following have been the Methodist ministers who preached at Lewes, with the years of their appointment by Conference:

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Armstrong is the rector in 1887.

Rev. Abraham Whitworth.....	1774
“ Philip Gatch.....	1775
“ John Cooper.....	1775
“ Nicholas Waters.....	1776
“ Joseph Hartley.....	1776
“ Martin Rodda.....	1777
“ Joseph Cromick.....	1777
“ Freeborn Garretson.....	1778
“ John Littlejohn.....	1778
“ Joseph Hartley.....	1779
“ Thos. McClure.....	1779
“ Wm. Glendenning.....	1780
“ James O. Cromwell.....	1780
“ John Coleman.....	1781
“ John Tunnell.....	1781
“ Wm. Gill.....	1782
“ Moses Park.....	1782
“ Henry Metcalf.....	1782
“ David Abbott.....	1782
“ Wm. Clendenning.....	1783
“ George Kimble.....	1783
“ Nelson Reed.....	1784
“ Adam Cloud.....	1784
“ Samuel Dudley.....	1785
“ Joseph Wyatt.....	1785
“ Ira Elkins.....	1786
“ George Moore.....	1786
“ John Brush.....	1787
“ Aaron Hutchinson.....	1787
“ George Moore.....	1788
“ Benton Biggin.....	1788
“ Thos. Jackson.....	1789
“ Wm. Rodcliff.....	1789
“ James Thomas.....	1790
“ Evan Rogers.....	1790
“ John Smith.....	1791
“ Shadrack Bostwick.....	1791
“ George Moore.....	1792
“ Solomon Sharp.....	1792
“ Walter Fountain.....	1793
“ Joseph Rowen.....	1793
“ Resin Cush.....	1794
“ Walter Fountain.....	1794
“ Wm. Colbert.....	1795
“ Elisha Cole.....	1795
“ Solomon Sharp.....	1796
“ John Robinson.....	1796
“ David Bartine.....	1797
“ Thos. Jones.....	1797
“ E. Chambers.....	1798
“ Thos. Jones.....	1798
“ Wm. Mills.....	1799
“ Archibald Foster.....	1799
“ Thos. Jackson.....	1800
“ Wm. Mills.....	1800
“ Richard Sneath.....	1801
“ John Wiltbank.....	1801
“ David Best.....	1802
“ Samuel Budd.....	1802
“ Joseph Jewell.....	1803
“ Wm. Earley.....	1803
“ James Moore.....	1804
“ Henry White.....	1804
“ John Wiltbank.....	1805
“ Henry White.....	1805
“ George Wooley.....	1806
“ Thos. Dunn.....	1806
“ George Wooley.....	1807
“ George Armstrong.....	1807
“ Thomas Smith.....	1808
“ John Purden.....	1808
“ James Herrod.....	1809
“ Josiah Colborn.....	1809
“ Thos. Walker.....	1810
“ John Wilson.....	1810
“ Sylvester Hill.....	1811
“ William Williams.....	1811
“ Daniel Ashton.....	1812

Rev. John Collins.....	1813
“ William Leonard.....	1814
“ William Ross.....	1814
“ Joseph Bennett.....	1815
“ James Aiken.....	1815
“ Arva Melvin.....	1815
“ Richard Sneath.....	1816
“ James Bateman.....	1817
“ William Ross.....	1817
“ John Smith.....	1818
“ William Prettyman.....	1818
“ John Smith.....	1819
“ Jacob Moore.....	1819
“ Edward Page.....	1820
“ William Quinn.....	1820
“ Edward Page.....	1821
“ David Best.....	1822
“ James B. Ayers.....	1822
“ John Finley.....	1823
“ Thomas Smith.....	1823
“ Asa Smith.....	1824
“ John Lednum.....	1824
“ Alvard White.....	1825
“ Edward Stephenson.....	1825
“ Alvard White.....	1826
“ John Collins.....	1826
“ William Torbert.....	1827
“ George Wilcher.....	1827
“ William Torbert.....	1828
“ William Barnes.....	1828
“ William Barnes.....	1829
“ Joshua Humphries.....	1829
“ William Smith.....	1829
“ John Boyne.....	1830
“ John Bell.....	1830
“ John Boyne.....	1831
“ J. S. Porter.....	1831
“ J. S. Porter.....	1832
“ D. Landon.....	1832
“ D. Landon.....	1833
“ W. Allen.....	1833
“ D. Daily.....	1834
“ S. Drain.....	1834
“ D. Dailey.....	1835
“ S. T. Ames.....	1835
“ J. T. Hazzard.....	1836
“ S. T. Ames.....	1836
“ Isaac R. Willett.....	1837
“ C. Carsner.....	1838
“ William Spry.....	1839
“ William Spry.....	1840
“ Jonas Bissy.....	1841
“ J. A. Watson.....	1841
“ J. B. Merritt.....	1841
“ G. Barton.....	1842
“ Leeds K. Berridge.....	1842
“ James L. Houston.....	1843-44
“ L. M. Prettyman.....	1845-46
“ Joshua H. Turner.....	1845-46
“ David L. Patterson.....	1847-48
“ Arthur W. Milby.....	1847-48
“ Samuel Pancoast.....	1849-50
“ Adam Wallace.....	1851
“ Robert E. Kemp.....	1852
“ Adam Wallace.....	1852
“ Charles Shock.....	1853
“ Adam Wallace.....	1853
“ Charles Shock.....	1854
“ D. Hough.....	1854
“ D. Hough.....	1855
“ J. Pastorfield.....	1856
“ S. Layton.....	1856
“ James Hargis.....	1857
“ Thomas T. Reed.....	1857
“ Henry Sanderson.....	1858
“ John M. Plumer.....	1858
“ Henry Sanderson.....	1859
“ Joseph N. Mulford.....	1859

Rev. Abraham Freed.....	1860-61
“ Edwin G. Irwin.....	1860-61
“ J. W. Hammersly.....	1862
“ J. T. Reed.....	1862
“ J. W. Hammersly.....	1863
“ ——— Conner.....	1863
“ L. D. McClintock.....	1864-65
“ Thomas B. Killiam.....	1866-68
“ G. W. Burke.....	1869

Rev. J. A. B. Wilson.....	1869
“ Geo. W. Burke.....	1870
“ W. M. Warner.....	1871-73
“ C. M. Pegg.....	1874-76
“ W. E. England.....	1877-79
“ C. W. Prettyman.....	1880-82
“ J. D. Kemp.....	1883-84
“ Joseph A. Brindle.....	1885-86
“ H. S. Thompson.....	1887

In 1853, Nathan Young and Solomon Metcalf were reported as colored preachers.

W. Evans was a local preacher from 1820 until 1887; and Joseph W. Hudson from 1875.

The colored people of Lewes maintain churches: St. George's African Methodist, in Pilot Town, on a lot adjoining the burial-ground, deeded to the Episcopal Church, in 1716. The present church was built in 1883, to take the place of a house burned down in 1882. It is plain but neatly kept. The second church is known by the name of St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal (colored), and was completed in June, 1883, on Fourth Street, near Ship Carpenter Street; it also has an inviting appearance. Each congregation numbers about forty members.

CEMETERIES.—The history of the oldest cemeteries at Lewes is somewhat obscure, but it is probable that the one at the lower part of Pilot Town, on the present Thomas Rowland place, was first devoted to the repose of the dead. As early as 1687 it is mentioned in the court records as the “Ancient Burial-Place,” where the citizens of the Hore Kill section made interment, and one acre of land was ordered to be set aside for such an use. It appears to have fallen into disuse early in the eighteenth century, so far as the public was concerned, and to have become a private burial-ground for the dead of the Bailey, Jacobs and Art families, who owned the adjacent lands. A few plain head-stones to the memory of persons of those families may still be seen in this ground, which is much neglected and not separately inclosed. The oldest stones are marked “John Jacobs, died 1731,” “Hannah Bailey, died, 1732, aged 72 years,” “Jacob Art, died, 1769.”

On the highway along Lewes Creek, and near the upper part of Pilot Town, a new burial-ground was established as early as August 7, 1716, when Samuel Rowland set aside “one acre of land, lying near the town of Lewes, fronting on y<sup>e</sup> river of Lewes to build thereon a church for a religious place of worship, for the church of England and no other ways to be employed, and to pay unto me, my heirs, one grain of Indian corn yearly, forever, if demanded.”

This lot is just above the African Church and has not been used for years for its intended purpose. A few graves only have been marked by low sand-stones. It is probable that when the site of the Episcopal Church was located more centrally, in Lewes, this ground was practically abandoned. The title to the acre of land, which is still reserved for interments, remains in doubt, but the property seems rightfully

claimed by St. Peter's Parish, whose cemetery is at the church.

The oldest known grave in that yard is marked by a stone inscribed as follows :

"Here lyeth y<sup>e</sup> body  
of Margaret, widow  
of James Huling.  
1707."

It is not likely that this yard was opened as early as 1707, and the above may have been a re-interment from the lower Pilot Town burial-ground. The cemetery is inclosed by a substantial brick wall and contains many graves. Four Governors of the State lie buried in it, namely :

Daniel Rodney, died 1846, aged eighty-two years.  
Caleb Rodney.

Samuel Paynter, died 1845, aged seventy-seven years.

Dr. Joseph Maull, died 1847.

The first monument of any size that was erected in this yard has the following inscription :

"Here rest the remains of Captain James Drew, who commanded his Britannic Majesty's sloop-of-war, 'De Braak,' in which he lost his life when she foundered at the capes of Delaware the 10<sup>th</sup> of June, 1798. He was beloved for his virtues and admired for his bravery. His affectionate reliev has erected this monument to perpetuate his memory."

The monument has lately been placed in good order and, in connection with the interest perpetuated in the supposed lost treasures of the ill-fated "De Braak," is an object which attracts much attention. In this yard is also a small memorial to a child of Captain Stotesburg, which is the work of an Italian artist.

It is a small block of Italian marble, on which is carved a mantle half drawn aside, so delicately cut that one looks involuntarily for an inscription underneath the raised folds. Other tombstones perpetuate the memory of—

Died.	Age.	Died.	Age.
1838, John Rodney.....	68	1842, George Parker.....	87
1844, Capt. Henry Virden.....	69	1772, Jacob Kolloch.....	80
1852, Henry Maull.....	69	1799, John Rodney.....	67
1865, John Arnall.....	75	1820, Jacob Kolloch, Jr.....	63
1830, Capt. George Orton.....	57	1760, Jacob Phillips, Esq.....	63
18 4, Thomas N. Orton.....	27	1860, Henry Fisher Rodney.....	69
1786, Albert Jacobs.....		1871, Jacob Conwell.....	77
1845, Wm. Paynter.....	71	1860, Alfred S. Wiltbank, M.D.....	81
1868, Jonathan Marshall.....	66	1763, Ryves Holt.....	67
1845, Jonathan M. West.....	61	1769, Daniel Nunez.....	
1821, John Ware.....	52	1815, John Wolf.....	74
1859, John M. West.....	64	1840, John C. Burton.....	
1852, Dr. Robert A. McIlvain.....	48	1846, Cornelius Paynter.....	81
1827, John Parker.....	44	1814, Samuel Paynter.....	78
1776, John Wood.....	41	1849, Robert Burton.....	77
1842, George Parker.....	89	1868, Henry McCracken (pilot).....	77
1863, Thomas Nouman.....	88	1839, Gilbert McCracken.....	73
1852, Richard Beebe.....	74		

The Presbyterian Cemetery is next in importance, containing the graves of many of the former well-known citizens of Lewes and vicinity. The following inscriptions have been noted :

Died.	Age.	Died.	Age.
1844, David Mills McIlvain.....	71	1867, Peter Waples.....	85
1879, Joseph McIlvain.....	70	1831, Jacob Horgis.....	65
1832, Joshua Hall.....	83	1819, Wm. Shankland.....	51
1818, John Houston, Esq.....	48	1824, Dr. John White.....	54
1880, Robert Houston.....	72	1866, Dr. Peter Fisher Hall, (Surgeon U. S. A. 1812).....	76
1856, William Russell.....	85	1817, Col. David Hall.....	65
1851, James Rowland.....	67	1796, Dr. Joseph Hall.....	48
1854, Thomas Howard.....	76	1865, Aaron Marshall.....	78
1823, Capt. Richard Howard.....	67	1820, Capt. Peter White.....	74
1881, Thomas Rowland.....	88	1854, Capt. Alex. Massey.....	50
1837, Lewis West.....	67	1828, Walsey Waples.....	52
1870, Rev. Cornelius Mustard.....	66	1853, John Sweeney.....	56
1833, Robert West.....	69	1881, Henry C. Long.....	64
1862, Hon. Elisha D. Cullen.....	62	1875, David J. Rowland.....	70
1861, Burton Stockly.....	64	1833, Lieut. James McIlvain, U. S. Army.....	44
1852, John Rhoades.....	69	1847, Benjamin McIlvain.....	92
1866, Capt. David R. Blizzard.....	68	1863, Silby Hutchens.....	73
1851, James Newbold.....	82	1854, Reece Wolfe.....	52
1772, Elias Hugg.....	84	1854, Wm. D. Waples.....	41
1800, Dr. Theodoro Willson.....	27		
1855, Capt. Jacob Morris.....	27		
1803, Capt. Henry Neil.....	61		

As early as 1694 the court ordered that a tract of land near the Block House Pond be used as a place for burial. At this place, in 1727, a Friends' burial-ground was opened, Mary Miers setting aside an acre of land for that purpose. Here some interments were early made, but, after the custom of Friends, were not marked by headstones. In 1813 Jane Cord, a descendant of the original grantor, conveyed the above acre and three more to the trustees of the Camden Monthly Meeting for a burial-yard. The Friends removing, the use of a burial-place was no longer required, and, in 1840, most of the ground was sold to William Russell, and has been converted to other uses. Near by is the burial-ground of the Methodist Church, which has been secured in recent years. An earlier graveyard of this church was located on Shankland's Lane some time about 1788, and is not yet wholly abandoned, though not kept with the care that such places deserve.

The situation of Lewes, at the mouth of Delaware Bay, and its naturally defenseless condition, have exposed it to the attacks of all the foreign powers with which our country has been at war. In the colonial period, in the latter part of the seventeenth century, the coast was much harassed by the French privateers, who threatened to lay waste such towns as refused to pay them tribute. Fears were early entertained that Lewes would be singled out for an attack, and on the 15th of July, 1695, the court at Lewes took action in the matter of providing a watch for the approach of the enemy as follows :

"Present at court, Justice William Clark, John Stokely, Capt. Luke Watson, Thomas Oldman, Capt. Thomas Pemberton and Joseph Booth, when these minutes were placed upon the records :

"An order and Warrant from the Governor and Council was produced and read, Relating to a suspicion of a Designe of our enemies, the french, to attack this or some of our neighboring Plantations, whereon for safe Guard It is ordered. That Two men shall bee Hired to Watch upon the Cape every day from five in the morning until seven att night until ye first day of October next Ensuing. In obedience whereunto the Justices considering of Persons fitting for ye said watch and trusts, and did Agree and approve of Anthony Parsly and John Fulbert, and accordingly did agree with them."

Subsequently it was deemed best that this watch

<sup>1</sup> Governor from 1802 until 1805.

537. ST. PETER'S CHURCH, 1708, 2<sup>nd</sup> and Market Sts., Lewes.

Organized 1708 under the leadership of Rev. William Black who held services in Lewes and at various points in the surrounding country. Organization was informal and finding insufficient support he left in 1709, services then being held only occasionally until 1718 when Rev. George Ross visited Lewes. Through his influence the "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts" sent Rev. William Beckett as a missionary. He arrived in Sept. 1721 and immediately began the construction of a small frame church in the center of town, in addition to two mission buildings in Cedar Creek and Indian River Hundreds, which were included in his parish. Although the building was used immediately, it was not completed until 1728. This building was located on a tract of 4 acre, set aside by the court in 1689 for "any public use that the court shall think proper", a part of which was surveyed in 1796 and deeded to the church on June 13, 1798 as "a gift for pious use" by the commissioners of property of Sussex County. The first church was used until 1808 when a frame building, 40 ft. SW of the original church replaced it. The present building was built in 1851 and consecrated in 1858. Tower added and other improvements made in 1870. A one story brick structure. Wren-Gothic style. Memorial tablets to the memory of Ryves Holt, the First Chief Justice of Delaware, who is buried in the churchyard. A communion service, consisting of chalice, paten and flagon presented to the church on June 10, 1773, by John Penn, a grandson of William Penn. Prayer Book dates 1722. Church incorporated 1789. First settled clergyman, Rev. William Black, 1708-09. See: Rev. Dr. Charles Henry Black Turner, Historical Sketch, Some Records of Sussex Co. (Philadelphia, Allen, 1909, 287 pp.).

Minutes (including financial), 1731--, 4 vols.; Register, 1857--, 4 vols.; in possession of the rector, Rev. Nelson Waite Rightmyer, Lewes. Transcript of Minutes, 1708-97, Register, 1797-1906, in State Archives. Records of deed and incorporation: Sussex Co. Recorder's office, Certificates, vol. X22, p. 95, Deeds Record, vol. B2, p. 312; vol. O14, p. 58; vol. BBH107, p. 110; vol. CCX149, p. 68; vol. DFC207, p. 52; vol. DGW253, p. 542; vol. DIA283, p. 416; vol. DIN296, p. 212.

**St. Peter's P. E. Church at Lewes.** In 1681, the people of Lewes fenced in four acres of land and laid out a graveyard. They petitioned Gov. Sir Edmond Andros for a grant of this land for the use of the Church of England. This land was granted to them on Apr. 25, 1689. As has happened in a number of other places, the citizens assumed that this land was for general use and acted on that belief. The Levy Court built a Court House upon the church land and church services were held in the Court House for several years.

In 1707, the people petitioned the Church of England to send them a minister. The Rev. Wm. Black, a missionary, arrived on July 26, 1708 and stayed until August, 1709. He seemed to think that only a native could stand the terrible climate.

On Aug. 7, 1716, Samuel Rowland donated one acre of land, near Lewes and fronting on the River of Lewes, now the canal. The deed called for an annual rental of one grain of Indian corn and stipulated that a church of the Church of England would be erected on the site.

The Rev. George Ross arrived on Aug. 5, 1717 and preached in the Court House on the 6th, 7th and 9th. The Rev. Wm. Becket arrived on Sept. 1, 1721,



and the building of a church was immediately planned. The frame of the church was raised on Oct. 6, 1721. He reported on May 19, 1724 that the church was nearly finished. It had been placed in use early that year. In 1727, the dispute between Wm. Penn and Lord Baltimore as to the ownership of the three counties comprising Delaware was still unsettled. Mr. Becket believed that the decision would be against both of the claimants and that the land would revert to the Crown. So he suggested to the Church authorities that they petition the King to grant the three counties to the Church as a glebe—a glebe that would have supported many churches in fine style.

On Oct. 11, 1728, Mr. Becket described the church at Lewes as follows: "40 ft. by 24 ft. by 15 ft. high, the frame of wood, roof of cypress shingles and the walls of cypress boards. The floor was laid, the walls wainscotted with cypress as high as the tops of the pews; the pulpit, desk, communion table and rail handsomely built of black walnut and the pews made of pine plank." In 1741, the inside was wainscotted in a "plain decent manner" and the roof was arched.

The Court House at Georgetown, the new County seat, being nearly completed, the Commissioners advertised the Court House at Lewes for sale. It was purchased on Oct. 18, 1791, by Thomas McIlvain, carpenter, for 85 pounds. He sold the building to a group of Lewes citizens on Feb. 6, 1793. This group presented the building to St. Peter's Church on May 6, 1797. The vestry rented the building to various parties at a yearly rental of from 25 to 30 pounds.

On April 11, 1795, the pew rents were raised 33 1/3%. In June, 1808, a new church was raised. It was the same size as the old church but was set 30 or 40 ft. south and west of the old site. The Rev. James Wiltbank held the first service in the new church on Aug. 28, 1808. The building was completed and the workman discharged on Sept. 15, 1808.

In 1854, the old church with its high pulpit was moved over to a corner of the lot and the erection of the present church was started on the old site. The corner-stone was laid on May 27, 1854, by Bishop Alfred Lee. The church was completed and the opening service, was held in November, 1857. The dedication services lasted for a full week with the consecration taking place at 10 A. M. on Thurs., Aug. 12, 1858, with Bishop Lee in charge. He was assisted by the Rev. Messrs. Martin, Colton, Franklin, Slack, Wright, McKim and McIlvaine.

The old church was fitted up to be used as a school and for week-day services. A colored Sunday School was opened on May 9, 1858. In 1870, the church was improved, the tower and spire being added. The second building still stands on a dairy farm near Five Points doing valiant service as a farm building. Additional land was purchased on Apr. 18, 1887, from Wm. P. Orr.

In 1890-91, the church was redecorated and a pipe-organ was installed. A new altar and reredos were installed in 1892. On Aug. 24, 1896, a new altar rail was presented in memory of Dr. Harbeson Hickman. During the summer of 1913, the church was renovated after which Bishop Frederick J. Kinsman conducted a service of benediction for a restored church on Sept. 1, 1913.

On Dec. 14, 1913, Bishop Kinsman dedicated 3 windows and also a tablet placed in the church by the Judiciary of Delaware in memory of the first Chief Justice of Delaware, Ryves Holt, who was a warden of St. Peter's and who is buried in the graveyard.

In the graveyard surrounding the church many early famous Sussex Countians are buried. Four former Governors of Delaware: Daniel Rodney, Caleb Rodney, Samuel Paynter and Joseph Maull are buried here.

Over near the south wall is the famous Feb. 30th tombstone, over the grave of Elizabeth H. Cullen. The present Gregorian calendar was laid out by Pope Gregory VIII, in 1582. It was not adopted by the English Colonies until 1752, and a great many of the colonists opposed the change. These persons continued to use the Julian calendar in which February had thirty days in leap years. The family of Elizabeth Cullen appear to have been numbered among these "diehards" and they insisted on marking her tombstone "Born Feb. 30th, 1760." Close to the front of the church is the grave of Captain Henry McCracken, a Delaware river pilot, who requested that his anchor be buried with him. One of the flukes of the anchor can be seen protruding from the grave. The oldest tombstone, close to the side of the church, is over the grave of Margaret Huling who died on Feb. 16, 1707. So far as the writer can determine this is the oldest inscribed tombstone in Delaware.

St. Peter's Church in the Town of Lewes  
 Hundred of Lewes & Rehoboth was said on  
 Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> day of October 1722. The Contri-  
 tors Names, and the sums they gave are  
 as follows

*The Hon. J <sup>ts</sup> W. Keith Bar. late Governour	of Pennsylvania &c.	5	0	0
Henry Brooke Esq <sup>r</sup>		5	0	0
Cap <sup>t</sup> Jonathan Bailey		5	0	0
M <sup>r</sup> Richard Hinman		5	0	0
M <sup>r</sup> Simon Kollock		5	0	0
William Becket Missionary		5	0	0
M <sup>r</sup> Reverend Eggeshall	2	4	0	0
M <sup>r</sup> Ryves	1	4	0	0
M <sup>r</sup> Anderson		4	0	0
M <sup>r</sup> William Redden	at Mr. Selbidge Son's	2	0	0
William White		2	0	0
*M <sup>r</sup> William Asheton		1	3	8
M <sup>r</sup> Tho. Lawrence		1	0	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Robert Atton Esq <sup>r</sup>		1	0	0
Doctor Thomas Grame		1	3	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
M <sup>r</sup> Isaac Miranda		1	3	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
M <sup>r</sup> Thomas Sobor		1	3	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
M <sup>r</sup> Peter Grame		1	3	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
M <sup>r</sup> Richard Willing		1	3	7
Cap <sup>t</sup> Sam <sup>l</sup> Spofforth		0	11	11
Cap <sup>t</sup> Gruchee		0	11	8 $\frac{1}{4}$
Andrew Hamilton Esq <sup>r</sup>		1	18	0
Berkeley Codd Esq <sup>r</sup>		2	6	9
Col. J <sup>ts</sup> Seger Codd		1	3	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cornelius Weltbanck		3	0	0
M <sup>r</sup> Richard Paynter		2	0	0

Cap. Thomas James	£ 1 <sup>3</sup> 5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Mr. Ezezer Impson	1 <sup>0</sup> 0
Mr. Benjamin Godfrey	1 <sup>10</sup> 0
Woodman Brakley	
Mr. Sam. Lowman	1 <sup>3</sup> 6
Coll. John French	2 <sup>10</sup> 0
Cap. John Price	1 <sup>0</sup> 0
Mr. Woolsey Burton	
Joseph Ford	1 <sup>0</sup> 0
Mr. John Jacobs	
Albertus Jacobs	1 <sup>0</sup> 0
Nicholas Maclander	1 <sup>0</sup> 0
Edward Naws	
Mr. Jeremiah Claypoole	1 <sup>0</sup> 0
Cap. Joseph Royall	2 <sup>0</sup> 0
William Godwyn	1 <sup>10</sup> 0
Joseph Godwyn	
Mr. Martha Johnson widow	2 <sup>0</sup> 0
John Rufel	1 <sup>0</sup> 0
Thomas Brakley	1 <sup>0</sup> 0
Nicholas Green	
Robert Formwall	0 <sup>5</sup> 0
James Sangster	

And, since the Arrival of the Honourable  
Patrick Gordon Esq. when he came to visit this  
part of his Government, he ~~was pleased to~~  
gave five pounds towards finishing the  
Gallery. Mr Joseph Pemberton also has  
undertaken, as a benefaction to this Church  
to cause the front of the Gallery to be  
wainscoted with black Walnut at his own  
proper cost & charge which Work is now  
going on.

The Dimensions of this Church ~~are~~ follow  
viz. 40 feet in length, 24 feet in breadth,  
15 feet the height of the Wall between the  
plate & Sill, the Frame is of Wood, the Roof is  
cover'd with Cypress shingles, and the Wall with  
boards of the same wood, <sup>the windows are glass'd</sup> the inside of the Ch.  
is not yet finish'd, only the Floor is laid, and  
the walls ~~are~~ wainscoted with Cypress planc  
as high as the top of the Pews, The Pulpit  
reading Desk, Communion Table & Rail are  
handsomely built of black Walnut, and the  
Pews are all made of Pine planc; the Situati  
on of this Church is very Pleasant, standing on  
a rising ground in the middle of the Town of  
Lewes, & having a prospect of Cape Hinlope  
grown over with Cedar's & Pine Trees of which  
lies beyond the River of Lewes to the Eastward  
sheltring the Town in great Measure from the  
Violence of the winds that <sup>frequently</sup> blow off from the  
great Atlantick Ocean. To the Northward and  
West from hence we have also a full view.

The great Bay of Delaware. The greatest Advan-  
tage of this situation is that the North-west Wind  
(the All-India passenger or All-India of Am-  
rica) blows with full force upon Delaware Bay &  
directly up Lewis River on the Town, which makes  
it perhaps one of the healthiest spots on the Globe.  
But I must not too long forget that I am writing  
an Ecclesiastical not a Natural History, pardon  
therefore this Digression & we proceed.

The Number of people frequenting this Church I  
reckon at a mean Computation about 150. The first  
settlers of this County were for the far greatest part  
originally English, some few however there are of  
Dutch families, but of late years great Numbers  
of Irish, (who usually call themselves Scotch-Irish)  
have transported themselves & their families  
from the North of Ireland into the Province of Penn-  
sylvania, & have distributed themselves into the  
several Counties where Lands were to be taken up.  
many Families of them are settled in the County  
of Sussex, they are Presbyterians by profession, of  
the most bigotted sort They have a Minister here  
of the same Nation, whom they maintain by Con-  
tribution, and have two Meeting Houses in this  
County, one at the Cool Spring, 8 miles distant  
from Lewes, another in the Town of Lewes, which  
being much decay'd, they have laid the Foundati-  
on of another ~~this~~ last year, close by the old one,  
the building is of brick, and they are now carry-  
ing it on with diligence, so if the Roof is likely  
to be rais'd, as I am told, before the end of this  
present year.

But the Number of people, and their respective  
Profession in my Parish, will be the best seen  
by inserting the Copy of a Letter which I desire  
from Mr. Holt High Sheriff of this County <sup>this City</sup>  
and which I shall here insert.

J<sup>m</sup>

The Taxable persons in Sussex are (at a  
mean computation) one year with another about  
420. of which 350 are heads of Families  
viz.

Of Church men	—	215
Of Presbyterians	—	120
Of Quakers	—	15
		<hr/>
		350

And allowing 5 persons to each family the  
Number of Souls will be 1750. The above is as  
near the Truth as I can possibly come, without  
a Strict Poll was to be taken. I am

J<sup>m</sup>

~~Servant~~

Your very hum. Serv<sup>t</sup>

July. 1728.

R. Holt.

So if according to this computation the Number  
of Souls is as follows

Of Church people	—	1045
Presbyterians	—	600
Quakers	—	75
		<hr/>
		1750

The Quakers have one meeting house in this County 7 miles distant from Lewes, but at present they have no teacher here. however they ~~will~~ hold silent meetings, unless some travelling Friends (as they call them) happen to come this way.

The Inhabitants here live scattering generally at  $\frac{1}{2}$  a Mile or a Miles distance from one another except in Lewes where 58 Families are settled together. The business or Employment of the Country Planters, is almost the same with that of an Eng. lish Farmer, they commonly raise Wheat, Rye, Indian Corn, and Tobacco; And have store of Horses Cows, and Hogs. The produce they raise, commonly sent to <sup>150 miles from hence</sup> Philadelphia to purchase such European or West India Commodities as they want for their families use. or else to N. York or Boston. The people here have generally the Reputation of being more industrious, than <sup>they of</sup> some of the Neighboring Counties; this last year there was a great Scarcity of Corn in Maryland & this Government. except only in this County, which supply'd them with good Quantities of Corn in their Neigbity. This may be look'd on as a mark of their present Care & Diligence, and an Omen of their future Riches & Success.

The distance of the Churches from each other in this County, is thus computed from St. Peters at Lewes to St. Georges South 9 miles. from St. Peters to St. John Baptists West 14 miles and from the said Church to St. Matthews near N. West 25 miles. Again from St. Georges to St.



John Baptists 9 miles, from thence <sup>(24)</sup> via direct  
Road to St. Matthews 12 miles. But then we are a  
very great distance from any other Churches if  
are supply'd with Clergymen. for example my  
nearest neighbours of the Clergy are the Rev.  
M<sup>r</sup> Fletcher of Somerset County in Maryland  
60 miles distant, the Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Adams of the  
same County & Province 70 miles distant, &  
the nearest Missionary to this place is the  
Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Ross at N. Castel 115 miles dis.  
tant.

The Roads in my Parish are very commodi-  
ous for travelling, the Land being level &  
generally sandy. so that people usually come  
to Church Winter & Summer some 7 or 8 miles  
and others 12 or 14 miles which is no strange  
thing, but very common among the Inhabi-  
tants of America.

As yet there have been no Donations. to the  
Church or Missionary here besides the annual  
contributions towards his Support which  
depend intirely upon the pleasure of the Con-  
tributors; only One which I ought in Gratitude  
to mention in this place, which was a Legacy  
of Ten Pounds left me in the Last Will of  
Berkeley Godd Esq. ~~who dy'd in the year~~  
One of the Judges of the Supream Court for  
this County. who died in the year 1724. And  
some other Legacies & Gifts which have de-  
monstrated not so much the Riches, as the  
good Will of the Donors.

And that the Circumstances of the People & their  
Degree of Zeal to promote the Christian Rel. in  
this place may be the better judgd of by the Rea-  
der I shall here insert a Copy of the last sub-  
scription towards the support of the Societies  
Missionary at Lewes

Super County } &c.  
upon Delaware }

Here are <sup>more Subj.</sup> 2 of the same Tenor & Date presented  
to me in this County, but this <sup>one</sup> which I have in-  
serted, amounts to the largest <sup>or the greatest</sup> ~~congregation~~ <sup>Term</sup> considering  
especially the small Number of Subscribers here.  
The Subscription is renewed at the Expiration  
of the Term, if the Missionary desires it.

And now in answer to the remaining part of  
the Query the Truth is, here is no House nor Land  
provided for the Minister, nor any Library but  
that which the Honourable Society was pleas'd  
to allow when they sent over the present Missio-  
nary. And here is no publick School in all the  
County, the general Custom here being for what  
they call a Neighbourhood (which lies sometimes  
4 or 5 miles distant one part from another) to  
hire a Person for a certain Term & Term to teach  
their Children to read & Write English. for whose  
accomodation they meet together at a place a-  
greed upon, cut down a Number of Trees, &  
build a Log. house, <sup>in a few hours</sup> as illustrious as that in  
which Pope Sixtus Quintus was born, whither  
they send their children every day during the  
Term; for it ought to be observ'd by way of com.

mediation of the same, and I am confident  
that whatever pains or charge it may cost,  
I shall not fail to have them ~~instructed~~ instructed  
in reading & writing the English Tongue.  
The Number of Negro's (Free-men & Slaves) in  
this Country are 241. according to the exactest  
Calculations that I can get having procured  
a particular List of them from a person in  
each Hundred who could most commodiously  
take an Account of you. Several of them  
both Bond & Free I have baptiz'd since my  
coming here, but far the greatest part do yet  
remain unbaptiz'd, and (it is to be feared) un-  
instructed; however it is to be hoped that those  
good Sermons & discourses which have been  
sent over by the Charity of Honourable So-  
ciety, & that excellent Letter which was lately  
by transmitted to the Masters & Mistresses of  
Families, in <sup>in America</sup> Order to persuade them to in-  
struct & have their Negro's baptiz'd will  
in a short time produce a very good effect,  
& and the utmost diligence that the Soci-  
ties Missionary can use for that  
purpose

St. John Baptists Church was rais'd on  
Wednesday the 27 day of March 1728. The  
Frame is of White Oak the Dimensions are  
as follows, viz. 30 foot long 20 feet in  
breadth & 12 foot between the plate &  
Sill. It stands about the Center of the  
Country in the Forest of Sussex or *ru'ziqua*  
and is therefore inscrib'd to St. John the Baptist

concerning ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~roof~~ <sup>is to be of Cypress boards</sup>  
the Roof of ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~Church~~ <sup>of the same Wood, which</sup>  
is most us'd here for the like purposes because  
the Rain will not cause it to rot. The Work is  
to be carry'd on by the voluntary contribution  
of the Inhabitants, as it has already been rais'd  
on that Foundation.

Thus S.<sup>r</sup> I have ~~written~~ <sup>every thing material</sup> to you ~~with~~ <sup>with</sup> a very  
certainty I know or could learn concerning the  
State of Religion here in answer to your Quories.  
These matters are here in their Infancy at pre-  
sent, but seem to grow & gather strength, and  
that they may still do so to maturity & may  
long flourish to the Honour of God, & the increase  
of true Piety & Virtue is the ardent Wish &  
Prayer of

J.

Oct. 11. <sup>th</sup>  
1728.

Your very hum. Serv<sup>t</sup>

W. B. Missionary at Lewis

Reverend Sir

In Obedience to the commands of the Honourable Society I here send you an Historical Account of my Parish, which shall be as brief as will consist with what is requisite to make it full & clear, properties essentially necessary to a good History. And herein I shall exactly follow the Method laid down in your Letter to me in June last upon this Subject.

1. My Parish comprehends the whole County of Sussex in the Territories of Pennsylvania (as it is commonly still) or Counties of Newcastle Kent & Sussex on Delaware. bounded with the Bay of Delaware on the East <sup>the Ocean</sup> Somerset County in Maryland on the South, West, and Kent on Delaware on the North, in Length about 30  $\frac{1}{2}$  in breadth 12 or 14 miles. Lat. 39 deg. North.

In this County are 4 Churches erected, none as yet finished, but 3 of them so far carry'd on as to admit of the decent performance of divine Worship every Sunday alternately, I shall give you a particular but brief Acc<sup>t</sup> of each in the Order in which they were rais'd.

1. St. Matthew in Cedar Creek Hundred.
2. St. Georges in Indian River Hundred.
3. St. Peter's in the Town of Lewes; and Hundred of Lewes & Rehoboth.
4. St. John Baptist's in the Broadkill Hundred.

The 2 first of these Churches were erected before my coming here, the 2 last since my arrival here as the Societies Missionary. Of the former I shall give as good an

an Account of ~~the~~ as I can procure from the  
Inhabitants of the County, Of the latter upon  
my own knowledge.

St. Matthews Church in Cedar Creek Hund<sup>d</sup>  
was built <sup>rais'd</sup> in the Year 1787, being the first build-  
ing that was ~~erected~~ <sup>erected</sup> for the Service of God &  
Religion in this County, according to the Rites  
and Usages of the Church of England. It is a  
Timber building the Wall covered with boards  
of Cypress, and the Roof with Cypress  
Shingles, the Floor has been laid, a Pulpit  
desk Communion Table, some Pews were  
built about 4 years ago, but the inside of  
the Church is not yet finish'd. The dimensi-  
ons are thus, Thirty foot long, 20 wide &  
12 between joyns, viz between the Plate  
and Sill. The Reason why the Building was  
left unfinished was, because of the difficul-  
ty they were under of getting a Missionary  
who had contributed towards the building of it.  
But why they have not gone on with the  
building since their Church was supply'd  
not so clear. The work was begun & has  
been carry'd on by Contribution, but as the Ac-  
scription has forasmuch as I can learn  
been lost so I cannot get any Account  
of their <sup>Contributors</sup> Names or of the Summs they gave  
except only these 3 persons following viz  
Mr. Widdow Walton gave Five Pounds, Mr.

Mr Luke Watson four pounds, who Hill promised three pounds, but he dying before the frame was finished, his wife being a Quaker refused to pay the money. The congregation here is numerous being generally on Sundays when the weather is good to Travel, about 200 persons, the Church not being able to contain many more than one half of the Member, tho' a small gallery be rais'd across one end of the Church. I am in hopes however to persuade them shortly to enlarge it, The first Missionary here was the Rev. Mr William Black, son of Accomack County in Virginia, ~~who came hither in the year~~ <sup>who</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>staid</sup> near two years. after his departure the people had no Minister settled among them for about 12 years, untill the year 1721 when the present Missionary arriv'd here. But they were sometimes visited by the Rev. Mr Rofs who came above 100 miles to preach & baptise their children, & by the Rev. Mr Adams who came near 90 miles during this long vacancy who christian zeal & charity deserves to be mention'd with Gratitude on this Occasion.

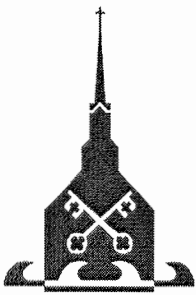
St Georges Chappel in the Indian Burying  
ground

hundred, 9 Miles distant from Lanes was  
rais'd in December 1719. The Frame of Oak  
the length of it was 25 foot, the breadth  
20, and the Height 12 foot the walls & Roof  
were cover'd with red Oak boards, and thus it  
remains till the year 1725. when a New  
Addition was made to it of 15 foot in length  
of the same breadth & height with the former  
building; the Older part of this building has a  
Pulpit, Gallery, & floor, but the New part is  
not yet floor'd, but we have agreed with a  
workman this Year to cover the Whole Roof  
with Cypress Shingles, & to lay the floor of  
the new part, the Congregation frequenting  
this Chappell <sup>consists</sup> usually about 200 people.

This Building was rais'd, as all the rest  
of our Churches in this Government, by the  
Voluntary contribution of well dispos'd peo-  
ple. The sum contributed towards carrying  
on the Work at first was £34<sup>15</sup> 8  
and the repairing & enlarging it since  
cost about as much more. The contributors  
were 66 in Number to raise the first sum  
as I find by their Subscription which now  
lies before me. The principal Contributions  
were these that follow. Henry Brooke Esq  
gave £2<sup>7</sup> 8. Mr Richard Paynter  
£1<sup>40</sup> 0. Mr Woolsey Burton £1<sup>0</sup> 0  
and Mr Joseph Burton £1<sup>0</sup> 0.



not to receive small sums under 20 shillings  
in proportion to each man's local obligations  
the people here are constant attenders on  
the public service, and annually contribute  
something of their small substance to the  
carrying on the building of their great infi-  
rmary (happily the maintenance of  
their Ministers)



# About Saint Peter's

[VESTRY](#)[GROUPS](#)[HISTORY](#)[LEWES, DE](#)[HOME](#)[WORSHIP](#)[CALENDAR](#)[CLERGY](#)[EDUCATION](#)[MUSIC](#)[ABOUT US](#)[CONTACT US](#)

## History of Saint Peter's Church, Lewes, Delaware

Located in the center of "The First Town In The First State", St. Peter's Church has served the spiritual needs of this community since 1680. Early settlers who were members of the Church of England formed the first congregation. Meeting in home later in the Court House, they petitioned the Bishop of London to send clergy to ser them and other churches in Sussex County. The first missionary arrived in 1708, but stayed for only a year. The Sussex Mission owes its permanence to the Reverend William Becket who came to Lewes in September 1721 and remained until his death in 1743. He is buried in St. Peter's churchyard. Under his leadership, not only St. Peter's but three other churches flourished in Sussex county.

In a letter of October 1728 to the Bishop of London, Becket describes St. Peter's Church as follows:

[it is] 40 feet in length 24 broad, the wall between the plate and the sill is 15 feet. The frame...Wood. the Roof...covered with Cypress Shingles and the wall with Boards of the same wood,..the walls wainscotted with Cypress plank as high as the tops of the pews. The Pulpit, reading desk, Communion Table and Rail are handsomely built of Black Walnut - the pews...of pine plank...the number of people frequenting this church I reckon...about 150.

The original communion table is still in use as the altar in the present church. The church also has the original Book of Common Prayer used by the first congregation. In 1773 the church was presented a silver communion service made by John David, Silversmith of Philadelphia. It consists of four pieces, a flagon with domed cover for wine 10" high, chalice with removable cover 12" high, and a paten 10" in diameter. Each piece is inscribed "The Gift of the Honorable John Penn Esq. To St. Peter's Church in Lewis Town June 10, 1773." The service is still used for communion on special occasions. John Marshall Phillips, Curator at Yale University, wrote that the Chippendale Period communion service was "outstanding" and "the finest silver in Delaware." The silver has been exhibited at the Metropolitan Museum in New York, Christie's in London, and in other museum exhibits.

Clergy for the Sussex Mission were supplied by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel from London until the revolution. St. Peter's survived the split with the Church of England, and in 1785 became a part of The Protestant Episcopal Church in The

United States, independent from The Church of England.

It is not known exactly when the first St. Peter's Church was built, although it was sufficiently finished to hold services when Becket arrived in 1721. The vestry minutes record the building of the second church in 1808 as follows:

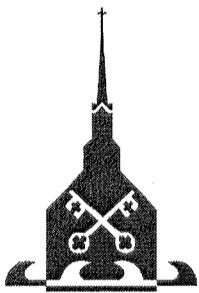
The Wardens, Vestry, Trustees, and other Members of the Congregation of St. Peter's at Lewes agreed to build a New Church of the same size of the Old one, and to set it about 30 or 40 feet to the South and West of the old Church, which was so much decayed it would not bear repair. The new church was raised in June, and on 15 September 1808 the Rev. James Wilt preached a sermon to the congregation in the completed building, which sat on the site of the present building.

In 1848 it was decided to build a new building to replace the second church "which was much decayed and badly constructed for a house of worship." In 1853 the old church was moved to the southwest corner of the churchyard on Third Street. Plans were purchased from a Philadelphia architect and on 27 May 1854, The Right Reverend Alfred Lee, Bishop of Delaware laid the cornerstone of the present building. The vestry asked Bishop Lee to consecrate the church in 1858, but the church was probably finished long before this, for Episcopal churches can only be consecrated when all the debts have been paid. The steeple was added in 1870. The interior of the church was refurbished in a Victorian gothic style in 1889, but has since been restored to a modern colonial style. A sacristy and other rooms were added to the rear of the church in 1910.

Over the years, the church has acquired all of the property bounded by Second and Third Streets, and Market and Mulberry Streets. The parish house was built in 1924 and lot given to the church by Dr. C.H.B. Turner, a former rector of the church. It was rebuilt and enlarged in 1994. Today it is used for many church activities and is shared with a variety of community groups. The rectory is located at 213 Mulberry Street. The house on the corner of Second and Mulberry Streets commonly called the Ryves House is believed to be the oldest standing building in Delaware. It was recently sold to the church to the Lewes Historical Society, although the church retained ownership of the land.

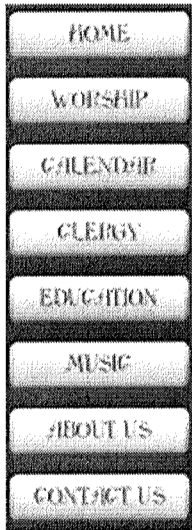
The church also owns a "new" cemetery located near the end of Pilottown Road on the site of the fort built by the original settlers in 1631 and the Ancient Burial Ground. The cemetery was established in 1955 after it was determined there were no longer any burial sites available in the church yard.

Today, more than three hundred years after its founding, St. Peter's Church is an active faith community welcoming all to share in our fellowship.



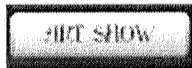
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# Welcome to St. Peter's, Lewes DE



Saint Peter's Episcopal Church serves the city of Lewes, Delaware, and its surrounding communities. Located in the heart of the first town of the first state, St. Peter's is one of the oldest congregations in the state of Delaware. The church has served the community faithfully since 1681. Today St. Peter's is more active than ever.

Holy Eucharist is celebrated Sunday mornings at 8:00 and 10:00, and Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm. St. Peter's warm and welcoming congregation and clergy invite anyone seeking a relationship with Christ to join us.



Any person who is Interested in deepening his or her understanding and relationship with the Lord is welcome to worship with us.





PETER'S P. E. CHURCH, LEWES  
(Page 276)

Deed Samuel Rowland for One Acre of Land for the use of the Church

To all Christian people to whom these presents shall come I Samuel Rowland of the County of Sussex upon Delaware Esq. do hereby Certifying & Know ye that I do by this my Deed of Gift, Give, Grant, Enjoyn, Alien & Convey in Law & Religious use, One Acre of Land Situate lying & being near y<sup>e</sup>. Town of Lewes, in the County above said fronting on y<sup>e</sup>. River of Lewes and adjoining on the North west side of a parcel of Land which formerly belonged to William Clark dec<sup>d</sup>. & now in y<sup>e</sup>. Possession of Thomas Bedwell which is One Acre of Land it bounded as followeth v<sup>z</sup>. Beginning at a Post standing near the bank being the lower bound, that divides this Land from y<sup>e</sup>. Land of the afo<sup>r</sup>. W<sup>m</sup> Clark dec<sup>d</sup> and from the s<sup>d</sup>. Post North west down the afo<sup>r</sup>. River Lewes ten Perches to a Stake, Thence back South west Sixteen Perches to a Standing in the line Thence South East Ten Perches to a North East Sixteen Perches of the afo<sup>r</sup>. Clark's Land, and from thence North East Sixteen Perches home to first bounded post which Compleats One Acre of Land as above<sup>d</sup>. The same I hereby for myself my heirs & against me & theirs & shall & will forever Warrant and Defend Always provided the same be Occupied to the use and purpose of mine the above donor's Intention v<sup>z</sup>. for to Build thereon a Church for a Religious place of worship for the Church of England, and no other ways to be Employed, and to pay unto mee my heirs & One Peck of Indian Corn yearly forever if Demanded in Witness whereof I have hereunto sett my hand & Seal the Seventh day of August in the second year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord George by the Grace of God King of Great Britain &c. Annoq<sup>ue</sup> Dom<sup>ini</sup>. One Thousand, Seven hundred & Sixteen.

Signed Sealed & Delivered in presence of Samuel Rowland (Seal)  
 Anderson Parker Phil Rufel Jur. The above written Deed of Gift was  
 Acknowledged & made Over in Open Court held at Lewes for the County above; August 1786 By Sam<sup>l</sup> Rowland above. Esq<sup>r</sup> for  
 the use above mentioned according to Law & y<sup>e</sup>. above Contents  
 Test<sup>r</sup> Preserv<sup>r</sup> Loggshall (Ck<sup>r</sup> &c.)

Incorporation of Trustees for St. Matthews Church  
 Sussex County in the Delaware State

Agreable to an Advertisement Dated the 16<sup>th</sup> of June 1788 Giving Notice to the Congregation of St. Matthews Episcopal Church in Cedar Creek Hundred to meet on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> day of this Ins<sup>t</sup>. June, at the said Church to Elect or Chuse any Number of their said Congregation, not exceeding seven nor less than three to be Trustees of the same - which said Trustees and their Successors in Office, are hereby Constituted a Body Politic and Corporate, in Deed Fact, Name and in Law" Agreable to an Act of the General Assembly of the Delaware State in such Law lately made and Provided -

The Congregation met Accordingly and by Plurality of Voices did then and there Elect three and nominate the Following Persons

day and year first above written. }  
Sealed & Delivered in the presence of us }  
Prufel Elizabeth Prufel

Uriah Hazard (Seal)  
Sarah Hazard (Seal)

Superior Delaware Be it Remembered that personally appeared before me the  
Subscriber One of the Justices of the Court of Common Pleas for the County aforesaid the within  
named Sarah wife of the within named Uriah Hazard and One of the Parties to the  
to the within Deed (she being of full age) and by me examined Separate and Apart  
from her husband Touching the Execution of the within Deed did declare and say that she  
became a Party thereto of her Own free will and Accord without any Compulsion of her  
said Husband or for fear of his Displeasure In Witness whereof I have hereto set my hand and  
seal this Twenty first day of July in the year of Our Lord 1780.

Jm Wittbank (Seal)

The above and foregoing Deed of Mortgage was Recorded the 12th day of July 1789

J Prufel Record.

John Wittbank Esqr Trustee Incorporated for St Peter's Church  
Superior County In Pursuance of the directions, of an Act of General Assembly of the  
Delaware State, and Agreeably to Advertisements, dated the eighth day of July, in the  
year of Our Lord, One thousand Seven hundred and Eighty nine; giving Notice to the  
Congregation, of St. Peter's Episcopal Church at Lewes, in Lewes and Rehoboth Town  
aforesaid; to meet on Saturday the Eighteenth day of this Instant July, at the said Church  
in Order to Elect, or Chuse, any Number of their said Congregation; Not Exceeding  
Seven, Nor less than three; to be Trustees of the Same. Which said Trustees, and  
their Successors in Office, are hereby constituted a Body Politic, and Corporate in Law

Trail, Name, and in Law" Agreeably to the above recited Act of Assembly, in such Cases lately made and Provided -

The Congregation met Accordingly, or so many of them as thought fit to give their attendance; and by plurality of Voices did then and there, Elect, Chuse, Nominate, and Appoint, the Following Persons, to wit, Mess<sup>rs</sup>. John Wittbank Esq<sup>r</sup>, Anderson Parker, Rees Woolf, John Ruffel, Phillips Kollock, Rap Haggard, and George Parker to be Trustees as aforesaid, and to be hereafter distinguished, and known by the name of Trustees, of St. Peter Episcopal Church, at Sewer, in the County of Sussex aforesaid, which we do hereby Certify, under Our hands and Seals, this Eighteenth day of July in the year of Our Lord, One thousand Seven hundred and Eighty Nine.

Witnesses Present  
Henry Fisher & John Woolf  
David Haggard & William Brunton  
George Haggard

J<sup>n</sup> Wittbank Seal  
Anderson Parker Seal  
Rees Woolf Seal  
Ruffel Seal  
Phillips Kollock Seal  
Rap Haggard Seal  
George Parker Seal

Deed George Mitchell Esq<sup>r</sup> From Joseph Durickson of Delaware State Sussex County. This Indenture made this fifteenth<sup>15th</sup> day of July in the year of Our Lord Seventeen hundred & Eighty Nine Between Joseph Durickson of the County and State afo<sup>r</sup> of the One part, and George Mitchell of the same place of the other part



Deed William P. Owsley, To The Rector, Wardens and Vestrymen of St Peter's Church at Lees, V.

This Indenture, made the eighteenth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty seven, Between William P. Ows. of the Town of Lees in the County of Sussex, and Emily Ows - his wife, parties of the first part and The Rector, Wardens, and Vestrymen of St. Peter's Church Lees, parties of the second part, Witnesseth, that the said party of the first part for and in consideration of the sum of Fourteen hundred Dollars (\$1400.00) current lawful money of the United States of America unto them well and truly paid by the said parties of the second part, at and before the sealing and delivery of these Presents the Receipt whereof is truly acknowledged hereunto, bargain, sell, alienate, enfeeble, release, convey and confirm and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell, alienate, enfeeble, release, convey and confirm unto the said parties of the second part their successors and assigns, All that certain Lot, piece or parcel of Land, with the Buildings thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Lees, in the County of Sussex and State of Delaware, on Second Street, and running through to Third Street, then being about eight feet front on each side, adjoining the rear yard of the said St. Peter's Church on the South East, and the Lot of Charles A. Jenkins Lewis la Marshall, Thomas J. Juxton, and Harry C. Wall, on the North West, and containing Ten thousand square feet, or thereabouts more or less, and being the same property which Coley Hodner and wife conveyed to Bailey W. West by deed dated August 30<sup>th</sup> 1838, now of Record in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds at Georgetown in Lib. B. B. B. Vol. 1 folio 465 and which the said Bailey W. West and wife conveyed to Ferdinand Schuy, by deed dated August 30<sup>th</sup> 1838, now of Record in said Recorder's Office in Lib. A. G. W. H. S. folio 62, and which said property at the death of said Ferdinand Schuy, descended to John C. Schuy & Christianne C. Carpenter formerly Christianne la Schuy, children and heirs at Law of the said Ferdinand Schuy, the said John C. Schuy and Christianne C. Carpenter, subsequently conveying the said property to the said William P. Ows. by deed dated December 10<sup>th</sup> 1884 and now of Record in said Recorder's Office in Lib. B. B. B. Vol. 1 folio 466, all of which will fully appear from said Record in said Recorder's Office aforesaid being had thereto, Together with all and singular the buildings, improvements, ways, easements, waters, water-courses, rights, liberties, privileges, tenements and appurtenances whatsoever thereto belonging or in anywise appertaining and the revenues and remainments, rents, issues and profits thereof and the estate, rights, titles, interest, property and claim and demands, whatsoever of them the said Parties of the first part in Law, Equity or otherwise, however of, in and to the same and every part and parcel thereof, to have and to hold the said Lands Tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances unto the said Parties of the second part their successors and assigns, together with the only lawful and undisturbed

= of the said estate of the second part their successors and assigns forever.  
 And the said William P. Orr for himself his heirs, executors, and administrators  
 both by these presents covenants, grants, and agrees to and with the said  
 parties of the second part their successors and assigns that for the said  
 William P. Orr his heirs all and singular the heirs, executors, and assigns  
 have and lawfully obtained and granted or mentioned or intended to be  
 with full intention and the said parties of the second part their  
 successors and assigns against him the said William P. Orr his  
 heirs and, against all and every other Person or Persons who now or here-  
 after claim or to claim the same or any other part thereof by  
 force or under Claim of Right and will by them, heirs, executors and  
 assigns, do Witness Whereof the said Parties of the first part have  
 hereunto set their Hand and seals, & also the day and year first above written  
 Signed and sealed

In the Presence of  
 Robert H. Orr  
 James H. Russell  
 State of Delaware  
 Sussex County S.S.

Wm P. Orr  
 Emily Orr  
 Deed of Gift in and to her on this  
 Eighteenth day of April in the year of our  
 Lord one thousand eight hundred and  
 eighty seven personally conveyed to  
 James H. Russell, Attorney at Law in the State of Del-

James H. Russell  
 Notary Public  
 appointed  
 July - 1885  
 In 7 years

aware residing at New Wilmington, Ore and  
 Emily Orr his wife under the Indian name  
 she personally to her and personally acknowledged this  
 Delaware and Indiana to her and the said Emily Orr being  
 on the same time, privately examined by me at her former  
 residence well known to her and the said Indiana willingly without  
 compulsion or threat or fear of her husband or second, given under my  
 Hand and Seal of Office this day and year above written,

Recorded for Record  
 April 27<sup>th</sup> A.D. 1887  
 James H. Russell Notary Public  
 John E. Morris Recorder

Deed Thomas J. Davis living to James D. Bennett  
 This Indian title made the fourteenth day of November in  
 the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty five  
 Between Thomas J. Davis and Mary Jane his wife of South Michigan  
 Sussex County and State of Delaware of the one part, and James  
 D. Bennett of the other part of the second part. Witnesseth  
 that the said Parties of the first part for and in consideration of the  
 sum of Six hundred Eighty six Dollars and fifty five cents Cash  
 money of the United States of America unto them well and truly paid  
 by the said James D. Bennett at and for the Sealing and Delivery  
 hereof these Presents the Receipt which is truly acknowledged here  
 granted by James D. Bennett on preffed release conveyed and  
 confirmed and by these presents, do grant, bargain, sell, alien  
 convey, release convey and confirm unto the said James D. Bennett  
 his heirs and assigns, All that certain piece or parcel of  
 Land being a part of a larger tract of Land that the said Thomas  
 J. Davis purchased of Mary M. Butler as per Deed of Conveyance  
 dated November 22<sup>nd</sup> A.D. 1851 and Recorded at Georgetown Pa  
 A. A. L. W 57 folios 14 & 15 Located in Slaughter Creek Basin  
 Creek Area Sussex County and State of Delaware

of the said Parties of the second part their executors and assigns  
 And the said William P. Orr for himself his heirs, executors, administrators  
 his both by these presents grants and assigns to and with the  
 parties of the second part their executors and assigns that the  
 William P. Orr his heirs all ones singular the heirs, executors, administrators  
 their alone descendes and grantes or maintaines or intendes  
 with the appointments unto the said parties of the second part  
 Successors and Assigns against him the said William P.  
 heirs and, against all and any other Person or Persons who  
 fully claiming or to claim the same or any other part thereof  
 from or under them shall and will by these presents warrant and  
 defend. In Witness Whereof, the said Parties of the first part  
 have unto their Hands and Seals. Dated the day and year first above  
 written.

Signed and delivered  
 In the presence of  
 Robert H. Orr

James H. Russell  
 State of Delaware  
 Sussex County ss.

James  
 H. Russell  
 Notary Public  
 appointed  
 July - 1885  
 Jan 7 1887  
 Delaware

Received for Record  
 April 27 A.D. 1887

Be it Remembered, That on the  
 Eighteenth day of April in the year of our  
 Lord, one thousand eight hundred and  
 eighty seven personally came before me  
 James H. Russell, a Notary Public for the State of  
 Delaware, Emily Orr his wife parties to this Indenture  
 and personally acknowledged this  
 Indenture to be such and personally acknowledged this  
 Indenture to be such and the said Emily Orr being  
 at the same time privately examined by me and  
 she being well minded and that she executed the said Indenture willingly without  
 compulsion or threat or fear of her husband the said George William  
 Hana and Seal of Office this day and year first above  
 written.  
 James H. Russell Notary Public  
 J. P. Morris Recorder

DEED. Thomas J. Davis & wife. To James D. Bennett  
 This Indenture made the fourteenth day of November  
 the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and  
 eighty seven Between Thomas J. Davis and Mary Jane his wife of Sussex  
 County and State of Delaware of the one part and  
 James D. Bennett of the other part of the second part witnesseth  
 that the said Parties of the first part for and in consideration  
 of the sum of Six hundred Eighty Six Dollars and fifty five  
 money of the United States of America unto them well and  
 by the said James D. Bennett at and for the sealing  
 hereof these presents the Receipt whereof is truly acknowledged  
 granted bargained and aliened enfranchised released conveyed  
 confirmed and by these presents, do grant, bargain  
 enfranchise, release convey and confirm unto the said  
 James D. Bennett his heirs and assigns, All that certain parcel  
 of Land being a part of a larger tract of Land that  
 James D. Bennett purchased of Mary M. Reuter as per Deed  
 dated November 22nd A.D. 1857 and Recorded at  
 A. H. L. No 57 folios 14 & 15 Section in Maryland  
 County of Kent

Certificate of Incorporation of The Rector, Wardens and Vestrymen of St Peter's Church. To The Recorder of Deeds, in and for Sussex County, Delaware. On the Rector, Wardens and Vestrymen of St Peter's Protestant, Episcopal Church, at Lewes, in the County of Sussex and State of Delaware, do hereby certify that at a meeting of the congregation of said church held on Easter Monday the fourth day of April A.D. 1904. The Rector the Rev. Charles, H. B. Turner being in the chair, the following persons were elected Wardens and Vestrymen of said Church according to the canons, discipline, rules and regulations of The Protestant Episcopal Church, viz

Senior Warden  
 Junior Warden  
 Vestrymen

James W. Marshall  
 William P. Orr, Jr.  
 James J. Thompson  
 Robert C. Chamber  
 Robert R. Napier  
 Henry V. Lyone  
 Arthur W. Marshall  
 Clinton Long and  
 Charles H. Maull.

We further certify pursuant to the act of Assembly in such case made and provided that our name and style has been and shall be "The Rector, Wardens and Vestrymen of St Peter's Church" In Testimony Whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals this sixteenth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand, nine hundred and four.

Charles H. B. Turner  
 James W. Marshall  
 William P. Orr, Jr.  
 James J. Thompson  
 Robert C. Chamber  
 Robert R. Napier  
 Henry V. Lyone  
 Arthur W. Marshall  
 Clinton Long  
 Charles H. Maull

Rector  
 Senior Warden  
 Junior Warden  
 Vestrymen

Signed and sealed  
 at Lewes of  
 Charles H. B. Turner

Certificate of Incorporation of The Rector, Wardens and Vestrymen of St Peter's Church. To The Recorder of Deeds, in and for Sussex County, In the Rector, Wardens and Vestrymen of St Peter's Protestant, Episcopal Church, at Lewis, in the County of Sussex and State of Delaware, do hereby certify that at a meeting of the congregation of said church held on Easter Monday the fourth day of April A. D. 1904. The Rector the Rev. Charles H. B. Turner being in the chair, the following persons were elected Wardens and Vestrymen of said Church according to the canons, discipline, rules and regulations of The Protestant Episcopal Church, viz

Senior Warden  
 Junior Warden  
 Vestrymen

- James W. Marshall
- William P. Orr, Jr.
- James J. Thompson
- Robert C. Chamber
- Robert R. Napier
- Henry V. Lyone
- Arthur W. Marshall
- Clinton Long and
- Charles H. Maull.

We further certify pursuant to the act of incorporation in each case made and provided that our name and style be, "The Rector, Wardens and Vestrymen of St Peter's Church" In Testimony Whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals this sixteenth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand, nine hundred and four.

Charles H. B. Turner.	<i>[Signature]</i>	Rector
James W. Marshall.	<i>[Signature]</i>	Senior Warden
William P. Orr, Jr.	<i>[Signature]</i>	Junior Warden
James J. Thompson.	<i>[Signature]</i>	} Vestrymen
Robert C. Chamber	<i>[Signature]</i>	
Robert R. Napier.	<i>[Signature]</i>	
Henry V. Lyone	<i>[Signature]</i>	
Arthur W. Marshall.	<i>[Signature]</i>	
Clinton Long	<i>[Signature]</i>	
Charles H. Maull.	<i>[Signature]</i>	

signed and sealed  
 in presence of  
 Thos. R. Ingram.  
 as to each

Deed; Charles H. B. Turner to The Rector Wardens and Vestrymen of St. Peter's Church.

This Indenture, made the Third (3) day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and Seventeen Between Charles H. B. Turner of the town of Lewes County of Sussex, State of Delaware and "The Rector Wardens and Vestrymen of St. Peter's Church" a corporation of the State of Delaware and town of Lewes County of Sussex, party of the second part. Witnesseth, That the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of Four hundred dollars current lawful money of the United States of America, unto him well and truly paid by the said parties of the second part, at and before the sealing and delivery of these Presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, has granted, bargained, sold, aliened, enfeoffed, released, conveyed and confirmed and by these Presents do grant, bargain, sell alien, enfeoff, release, convey and confirm unto the said parties of the second part their heirs and assigns, All That certain tenement, piece, parcel, or lot of land situate lying and being in the town of Lewes, County of Sussex, State of Delaware, and on the south east side of Mulbury Street in said town and between second (2<sup>nd</sup>) and Third (3<sup>d</sup>) streets and fronting forty feet (40) on Mulbury, running back (63) Sixty three feet to the land owned by St Peter's Episcopal Church on the south east side of said lot adjoining the lands of Louisa C. Marshall, widow of Charles M. Marshall on the North East and being part of the lands which formerly belonged to John Marshall (Pilot) sold under and by an order of the Orphans Court of Sussex County, and was purchased by Thomas J. Truxton and Eliza J. his wife, and by them conveyed to John M. Barnes and wife by Deed bearing date March 14, 1885, and conveyed to Charles H. B. Turner by deed bearing date the Twenty ninth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and three, Recorded in the office of Recorder of Deeds at Georgetown in Deed Record C. H. B. Vol 144. Page 423. Together with all and singular the Buildings improvements, woods, ways, waters, water-courses, rights, liberties, privileges, hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever therunto belonging, or in anywise appertaining and the reversions and remainders, rents, issues and profits thereof, and all the estate, right, title, interest, property, claim

and demand, whatsoever of him the said party of the first part, in law, equity or otherwise, howsoever, of, in and to the same and every part and parcel thereof. To have and to hold the said lands hereditaments, and premises hereby granted, or mentioned, or intended so to be, with the appurtenances, unto the said parties of the second part their Heirs and Assigns, to and for the only proper use and behoof of the said parties of the second part their Heirs and Assigns forever. And the said party of the first part for himself his Heirs, Executors and Administrators, Do by these presents, covenant, grant and agree to and with the said parties of the second part their Heirs and Assigns that he the said party of the first part his Heirs and singular the hereditaments and premises herein above described and granted, or mentioned, or intended so to be, with the appurtenances unto the said parties of the second part their Heirs and Assigns against him the said party of the first part his Heirs and against all and every other Person or Persons whomsoever lawfully claiming or to claim the same or any other part thereof shall and will by these presents warrant and forever defend. In witness whereof, the said party of the first part has hereunto set his hand and Seal Dated the day and year first above written.

Sealed and Delivered

In the Presence of  
Robt. C. Chambers  
Charles H. Maul

Charles H. B. Turner (S.D.)

State of Delaware } ss. Be it Remembered, That on  
Surrex County. } this Third day of May in the  
year of our Lord one thousand nine  
hundred and seventeen personally  
came before me Napoleon B. Register,  
Notary Public, Charles H. B. Turner party  
For 4 years. Levee to this Indenture, known to me personally,  
Delaware to be such, and he acknowledged this

Indenture to be his Deed. Given under my  
Hand and Seal of Office, the day and year aforesaid

Napoleon B. Register

Transcript delivered to

Notary Public

Board of Assessment 5/7/17.

Received for Record

May 7<sup>th</sup> A. D. 1917.

John T. Callahan, Recorder

State of Delaware

Success County Be it Remembered, that on this eighth day of  
18. Thompson October in the year of our Lord One thousand

1925, 2 Arthur Wellington Gray and Susie A. Gray, his  
years. wife, Parties to this Indenture, known to me personally  
to be such, and severally acknowledged this Indenture  
to be their deed. And the said Susie A. Gray being at  
the same time privately examined by me, apart from  
her husband has acknowledged that she executed  
the said Indenture willingly, without compulsion or  
duress, or fear of her husband's displeasure, since  
under my hand and seal of office, the day and year aforesaid.

Received for Record  
Oct. 12th. A.D. 1925.

J. Thompson Reel  
Notary Public

Horace W. Surman, Recorder

Transcript delivered to Board of Assessment 10/15/25

Deed: Annie M. Scott To Rector, Wardens & Vestry of St. Peter Episcopal Church,  
This Deed, made the Fifth day of October in  
the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and  
seventy-five, Between, Annie M. Scott, widow of  
Robert Scott, of the Town of Lewes, Sussex County,  
Delaware; party of the first part & The Rector,

Mailed to Kent & Sussex Co. & L. Owen  
Mulford 11/20/25





Wardens and Vestry of St. Peter Episcopal Church of Delaware, party of the second part, witness that the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of One Thousand (1000.00) Dollars lawful Money of the United States of America the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hereby grant and convey unto the said parties of the second part, their heirs or assigns, all that certain lot or parcel of land lying and being situated in the Town of Dover and on the North West side of Market Street and more fully described, as follows to wit: Beginning at a point in the curb line of Market Street thirty three and one half feet from the front corner of the brick building, now in possession of the said thence North forty six degrees West fifty two feet to an iron bolt, thence South forty two degrees West sixty six feet, thence South fifty two degrees East four feet, thence North forty two degrees East twenty seven feet, thence South fifty two degrees East fifteen feet, thence South forty two degrees West three feet, thence South fifty two degrees East twenty five and one half feet to the curb line of Market Street thence with the same North forty seven and one half degrees East forty three feet to the place of beginning containing twenty two hundred and fifty square feet of land be the same more or less, being a part of the same lands which Robert Scott in his last will and Testament devised to this Grantor to wit: James Whoseof, the said party of the first part has bought at hand and seal, the day and year aforesaid.

Witness my hand and seal  
in the Presence of  
Wm J. Burton

Amos M. Scott

REC'D. 10/15/1923  
A.M. 3. 11.00

State of Delaware  
Sussex County, Town of Dover, Clerk of the Court  
do hereby certify that on the 14th day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty three, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State of Delaware, personally appeared the said party of the first part, James Whoseof, personally to be seen and their acknowledgment of the contents of the foregoing instrument to be true and correct, as acknowledged before me in my Notary Office, the day and year aforesaid.

Notary Public  
Oct. 14th A.D. 1923  
James H. Dismore, Notary Public

sent to Chas. H. Merrill  
Lewes, Del. 10/15/23

Mailed - Wm. S. Maxwell, Jr.  
6/30/31. Delaware.

she executed the said Indenture willingly,  
without compulsion or threats, or fear of her  
husbands displeasure. Given under my Hand  
and Seal of Office, the day and year aforesaid.  
Received for Record, J. G. W. Perdue  
June 8th. A.D. 1931. Notary Public.

Nathaniel M. Conauby, Recorder.

Purchasers Report Made This 8th. Day June 1931. Board  
of Assessment of Sussex County. Per, W. Elwood  
Wright, Clerk. ✓

Deed: Annie M. Scott To St. Peter's Church.

This Deed, Made the ninth day of March  
in the year of our Lord one thousand nine  
hundred and Thirty one. Between Annie M.  
Scott, widow, of the town of Sewer, County of  
Sussex and State of Delaware, party of the  
first part, and Rector, Warden and Vestrymen  
of St. Peter's Church, a Religious Corporation of  
the State of Delaware, located at Sewer, Delaw-  
are, party of the second part; witnesseth, That  
the said party of the first part, for and  
in consideration of the sum of Fifteen Hun-  
dred Dollars (\$1,500.00) lawful money of the  
United States of America, the receipt whereof  
is hereby acknowledged, hereby grants and  
conveys unto the said party of the second

part, its successors and assigns, all, that certain lot of land with a Bakery shop thereon erected situated on Second Street in Severe, Sussex County, Delaware, described as follows: Beginning at the curb line on Second Street at a point in same that the building line run from the foundation walls of the Bakery Building and the brick store and dwelling would make with said curb line; thence from this point running along and with the curb line in a North - westerly direction a distance of approximately twenty-four (24) feet and ten (10) inches to the line of property of Fred L. Subker; thence turning and running along and with said Subker property line a distance of approximately one hundred thirteen (113) feet to a corner for this lot and the lot of Anna Webb, which was originally the Reese B. Wolfe property; thence turning and running along and with the Webb property line to an iron bolt driven in this line fifty-two (52) feet from the curb line on Market Street, which marks the boundary of the lot conveyed by Annie M. Scott to St. Peter's Church; thence turning and running with the line of the lot conveyed to St. Peter's Church and the building line between this property and brick building before mentioned, home to the place of beginning. Being the same lot of land conveyed to Annie M. Scott, party hereto, by Robert Fitzsimmons and A. Laurie Fitzsimmons, his wife, by Deed dated July 11th. 1927, and recorded in the Office of Recorder of Deeds at Georgetown, Delaware in Deed Record W.H.K. Vol. 267, Page 340. In Witness whereof, the said party of the first part has hereunto set her hand and seal the day and year aforesaid.

Sealed & Delivered, Annie M. Scott (what)  
in the Presence of  
William P. Carter

State of Delaware, ss. Be it Remembered, That on  
Sussex County, this ninth day of March, in  
the year of our Lord, one thousand  
nine hundred and thirty-one,  
William P. Carter, Notary Public for the  
Town of Severe, appointed  
Feb 29th 1930  
an office  
year  
personally came before me the said  
Notary Public, Annie M. Scott  
widow, party to this Indenture,  
to me personally to be such, and acknowledged  
this Indenture to be her deed given in

# ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## Second & Market Streets (c. 1858)

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### Take The Tour

The third structure on the site, this is one of the oldest churches in Delaware. The first building was built in 1707 and the next in 1808. The current structure was consecrated in 1858.

The original oak frame church was able to hold services in 1724. The cornerstone was laid by Rt. Reverend Alfred Lee, D.D., the first bishop of Delaware. The steeple was added in 1870.

A church building was started before Feb. 14, 1707 and the Rev. William Black appointed to serve on April 18, 1707. He arrived in Lewes on July 26, 1708. He was a layman at meetings of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel but in 1709 he moved to "Accomake, Va.", now known as Accomac, after Lewes was plundered by French ships.

The first full-time rector was Rev. William Beckett, M.A. He arrived in Lewes in 1721 and stayed there until his death on Aug. 20, 1743. His had been the longest rectorship in the church's history.

The cemetery has many older tombstones, including the oldest tomb in the yard, that of Margaret Huling, born in 1631 and died in 1707, and the tombs of the Rev. William Beckett, Capt. James Drew, the captain of the ill-fated HMS deBraak, and the famous stone of Elizabeth H. Cullen, inscribed "born February 30, 1760."

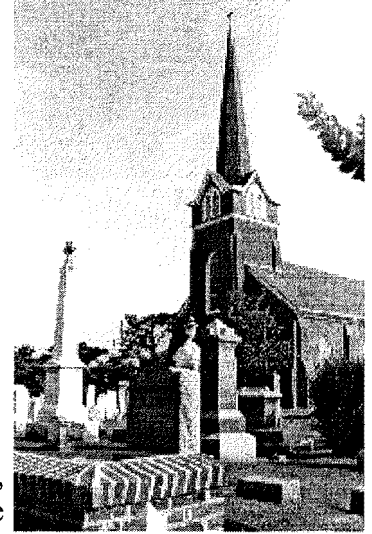
### **Other graves of note:**

- Ryves Holt, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Three Lower Counties of the Delaware, and Ryves Holt Jr.
- The tomb of Henrietta Stokesbury, a child whom it is believed died on a sailing vessel taking her family from Philadelphia to Europe. The ship was interred after it reached the Breakwater.
- Capt. Henry F. McCracken, a pilot of the Delaware Bay and River. Capt. McCracken requested that his anchor be buried with him and the iron fluke can be seen protruding from the ground.
- Jacob Kollock, a member of the legislature for 40 years and speaker of the house and warden of the parish for many years.
- Four governors, Caleb Rodney, Daniel Rodney, Samuel Paynter and Joseph Maull, are buried where three stones of the original foundation of the church lay on the side of the sacristy over the large window.
- Mary Kollock, who died in 1741 at 95 years of age.

[Check out a Cat's Meow reproduction of this building](#)

### **The Tour**

- [Lewes Facts & Figures](#)



for the same then delivered by the said William Prior to the said William Pufel  
the 6th Instant

The Court Considering what few Inhabitance there is in the Town of Lewes, and being will-  
ing to Encourage people to Live in the said Town, and to Seat and Improve the back part  
of the said Town, are willing to grant Larger Lots then hath been usually granted, and  
for that the Clearing the back part of the said Town, will be convenient and benefice  
all to bring them to the front of the said Town, they do order that whosoever shall take  
up any back Lots, shall not suffer any Trees to grow there on to the height  
of Twenty feet, and whosoever plants any fuste Trees, or other Trees thereon, shall be  
not plant them nearer then forty foot distance, and keep their Lots continually  
Clear of brush or other wood, and also to keep the Streets before their Lots Clear of  
brush, and all the trees in the Streets to be grubbed up, the said back Lots to be fur-  
rowed Lots, with a Square of four Acres in the middle of the Town, for any publick use  
or uses that the Court shall think fitting, the pond on the back side of Souths Town  
to be drained and remain for Commons to come down the Valley, thither where the Ship  
is building into the River of Lewes, and that he that builds and Clears first shall  
have the first Lots next to the Town

After an Act Court held by the Honorable Authority in the said Town of Lewes  
wherein for the County of Delaware to be set by the said Court of Collecting of Taxes  
Lease of Purgance of the said County of Delaware, the day of the month 16th Instant  
William Pufel, and Thomas Lyndal, Thomas Pufel, and Thomas Lyndal, Thomas Pufel, and Thomas Lyndal

Griffith Jones Acknowledgeth, by Deed of Sale delivered in Open Court, unto William  
Pufel all his Right Title and Interest, to a Plantation and Tract of Land which  
Cornelius Johnson, formerly of Sweden, according to the Contents of the said deed or  
writing, bearing date the 17th day of the 12th Month 1682

Griffith Jones Acknowledgeth, by Deed of Sale delivered in Open Court, unto William  
Pufel all his Right Title and Interest, to a Plantation and Tract of Land which  
Cornelius Johnson, formerly of Sweden, according to the Contents of the said deed or  
writing, bearing date the 17th day of the 12th Month 1682

# Record Book B. N. 2.

			Page	Date
aton	Coyington Jacob & Bethe	Depositions	296	1788
"	Cricket of Englands	Deed from Samuel Rowlands	312	1786
Wens M	Church (called St. Matthews)	Incorporation of Trustees	312	1788
Wheeler	Glows John	Commissions of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Justice of Court of Com. Pleas, &c	313	1788
Wison	Chance John	Bond of Conveyance from Thomas May	318	1774
Wiley	"	Articles of Agreement with W <sup>th</sup> Bagwell	318	1788
Wicker	Crippen Simon Dec	Petition by Executors to make over land	336	1788
Wicker	Wolman William	Deed from Elizabeth Prain	347	1788
Wicksom	"	Bond of Warranty from Peter H Wright	351	1788
"	Wole Conventions	Town of Altz from John Michens	372	1788
Winton	Collings Simon	Bond of Conveyance from James J. Spencer	375	1764
"	Carey Nehemiah	Assignment from Robert Houston	376	1788
Wizer d	"	Deed from Luke Spencer & they, Executors	377	1788
Wyley	Church (called St. Matthews)	Deed from David Martin Wife	390	1788
Wynnas	Cannon Nehemiah & others	" " Elijah Cannon	419	1788
Winton	Clifton John	Certificate from Do <sup>r</sup> Joseph Hall & affidavit	451	1790
Wheeler	Carpenter Luke	Bond of Conveyance from William Buxton	460	1776
Wicksom	Cook George	Deed from Geo. Mitchell & others, Commissions	467	1771
Wicksom	Cornwell George	Bond of Conveyance from John Colover	481	1781
"	Glows John by Exec <sup>rs</sup>	Petition for leave to convey land to Geo. Cornwell	481	1792
Wicker	Cornwell George	Deed from John Colover by Exec <sup>rs</sup>	482	1791
"	Mallaway & Matham	Bill of Sale from Sampson Boyce	517	1793
Winton	Culver Nathan	Bond of Conveyance to Nathan Polba	528	1760



Lands of Seneca, that ~~lot~~ he hath already improved, on which the Court  
granted, he performing those Conditions such persons are Obliged to, who  
have such Lots granted

12th mo. 89  
Henry Stretcher Acknowledgeth in Open Court, the sale of Three Hundred  
and fifty Acres of Land, called the flat Lands, unto Griffeth Jones of Philad.  
According to the Contents of Wille of Sale, bearing date the 7th of the 12th month 89

The Court seeing the Inconveniency of granting of four Acre Lots, they do  
therefore Order and forbid all persons whatsoever for time to come to propose  
themselves, or make any Improvement on any of the Town Lands upon the  
Penalty of losing their Labour Cost and Charges which they shall have  
bestowed on it, untill they have Obtained an Order from the Court

Witness ~~William Clark~~ by Virtue of a Letter of attorney from John Vines in  
Open Court, Acknowledged a Tract of Land belonging to the said Vines ly-  
ing at the flat Lands unto Henry Stretcher according to the Contents of  
Wille of Sale, bearing date the 5th day of the 12th month 1680

~~Witness~~



new man's wife " John Miller 499 1/2  
 Upwmark Hamattanole " Nevada Mollison 329 6602

## Record Book B. No. 2

Andros Edmunds	Patent to Edward Socher	65 1/2
"	" " William Tom	67 1/2
"	" " Abraham Clement	82 1/2
"	" " George Young	90 1/2
Avery John wife	Conveyance to John Deane	99 1/2
Andros Edmunds	Patent to John Avery	288 1/2
Aydelok John Jr.	Deed to Matthias Aydelok	299 1/2
"	Deed of Goods to Matthias Aydelok	300 1/2
Aydelok James & Samuel	Deed of Mary to George Mitchell	372 1/2
Adams John	Deed to John Butler Jr.	381 1/2
Addison Jonathan	" " John William Nassard	420 1/2
Abbott John	Conveyance Bond to Richard Goodley	571 1/2
Adams Nathan & John	Release to Thomas Ellegood	586 1/2
Ange John	Deed to John Insley	527 1/2
Ary William	" " William Light	533 1/2

## Record Book C. No. 3

Assures Hendrick	Deed to Gabriel Henry	13 1/2
Alecks Thomas	Discharge to Negro Sarah Windsor	15 1/2
Andros Edmunds	Patent to John Kishaven	205 1/2

## Record Book D. No. 4

Andros Edmunds	Patent to James Wells	6 1/2
"	" " William Warren	11 1/2
Avery John wife	Deed to William Titcher	12 1/2
James Robinson	Patent to James Robinson	13 1/2

April 25, 1689 - Granted land for use of Church of England

1707 – people petitioned Church of England for a minister. Black arrived 1708. (Zebley)

Organized 1708 under leadership of Rev. William Black. (WPA) (Scharf) (Zebley)

Services were informal resulting in his leaving the following year (WPA).

In 1716 - Samuel Rowland gave one acre and stipulated a Church of England would be erected. (Zebley) (Deed B2 p 312)

Services continued occasionally until 1718 when Rev. George Ross visited the area. Through his influence, Rev. William Beckett was sent to serve as missionary and arrived in Sept 1721. (WPA)

Construction of a small church near the town's center began and was finally completed in 1728. (WPA)

St Peter's Episcopal Church was incorporated in 1789. (WPA and Deed O14 p58) (or 1790 Scharfs)

1791 – the court house in Lewes was sold to Thomas McIlvain who resold it to the citizens in 1793. The citizens presented it to St. Peters 5-6 1797. (Zebley)

The land on which the church sat was finally deeded to the church June 13, 1798. – FIND DEED

The original structure was used until 1808 when a frame building replaced it. (WPA) (Scharf)

The present building was started in 1851 but not holding opening services until Nov. 1857. (Zebley) (WPA) (Scharf)

Dec 14 1913 Bishop Frederick J. Kinsman dedicated 3 windows and a tablet in the church in memory of the first Chief Justice of DE, Ryves Holt who also was a warden the St Peters and is buried in the graveyard. (Zebley)

Governors Daniel Rodney, Caleb Rodney, Samuel Paynter and Joseph Maull are all buried here (Zebley)

Feb 30<sup>th</sup> gravestone of Elizabeth Cullen (Zebley)

Capt. Henry McCracken, a DE river pilot is buried here with his anchor – which can be seen protruding from the ground (Zebley)

1707 – Margaret Huling – oldest inscribed tombstone in DE (Zebley)

Irish seaman Captain James Drew of the De Braak set sail and sank in 1798 (Scharf)