

“A House and Double Lot belonging to Nicolaes Boot.”—*Liber Deeds*, B: 124.

Skipper Boot's house, and the wide garden to the east of it, had a frontage of nearly eighty feet. His garden fence, shown on the Plan, nearly coincides with the west side of New Street, as it was extended south of Marketfield Street.

In 1659, he mortgaged this property to Pieter Jacobsen Buys for 1055 guilders, a large sum in the real estate transactions of the day, and lost it under foreclosure in 1663.—*Mortgages, 1654-1660*, trans. by O'Callaghan, 133; *Rec. N. Am.*, III: 203; IV: 300; *Liber Deeds*, B: 124, 126.

Boot spent much of his time in Virginia, where, from an early date, he traded heavily in tobacco.—*Rec. N. Am.*, II: 394. In the fall of 1662, when Boot was "about to depart for Virginia," he left his affairs in New Amsterdam in charge of his son-in-law, Cristoffel van Laer.—*La Chair's Register*, in *Hol. Soc. Year Book*, 1900, p. 152. Evidently, they did not prosper.

His domestic affairs, too, were embarrassing. His wife, Merritje Joris, unfortunately, was addicted to drinking, and often disgraced herself and her family. Boot tried to restrain her, on occasion even locking her up in the house and nailing up the doors and windows. Finally, they separated; he shook the dust of New Amsterdam from his soles, and removed to Virginia, after making an arrangement to pay to his unfortunate wife 1200 pounds of good Virginia tobacco, yearly, for her maintenance.—*Rec. N. Am.*, II: 335, 338; IV: 328.