

Warnaer Wessels bought this house and lot from Abraham Clocq, giving a purchase-money mortgage for 95 beavers, on February 7, 1658.—*Mortgages*, 1654–1660, trans. by O'Callaghan, 80–2. The house had been the residence of the Rev. Everardus Bogardus, who had lived there with his wife, Annetje Jans, up to the time of his ill-fated voyage to Holland with Kieft, on the “Princess Amelia.”

Wessels was a brewer, distiller, and wholesale wine-merchant, dealing in sack by the pipe, and a tobacco-merchant as well, who, as was common in early days, handled the leaf by the hogshead.—*Rec. N. Am.*, I: 266; II: 114, 404. He afterward came down considerably in the world. In 1656, he became farmer of the excise on beer and spirits (*ibid.*, II: 12, 47), Paulus vander Beeck outbidding him in the following year.—*Ibid.*, II: 210, 211. Wessels, however, in 1657, was elected gauger and assizer, and, in 1658, marker (*ibid.*, II: 262, 266, 336); he bid for and secured the farmership again in that year.—*Ibid.*, II: 305, 374.

He rented the premises on the Winckel Straet to Ariaen Juriaensen Lansman (*ibid.*, III: 146), who is here taxed, apparently as tenant, in 1665.—*Ibid.*, V: 223. In this year, Wessels appears in court with other tavern-keepers, who are warned to observe good order and notify the watch of rioting.—*Ibid.*, V: 263. He was, evidently, now retailing strong drink where he had formerly sold it in quantity, and his public house seems to have been on the High Street, between the houses of Johannes van Brugh and Dirck Jansen, from Deventer.

In 1669 and the following year, he was appointed a constable.—*Ibid.*, VI: 203, 208. He was living with his wife, Elizabeth Cornelis, on Pearl Street in 1686 (Selyns's List, in *N. Y. Hist. Soc. Collections*, 1841, p. 393), and was a voter in the South Ward in 1701.—*M. C. C.*, II: 164, 166.

In 1693, with Antie (or Annetie) Christians, he was allowed by Governor Fletcher to collect money by public subscription for the redemption of their relatives from Moroccan slavery; and the curious proclamation to this effect was one of the earliest documents to issue from Bradford's new printing-press.—See its reproduction, in Dutch (facsimile) and English, in Wilson's *Mem. Hist. City N. Y.*, I: 503, 578, 587, 593.

The money thus collected was afterwards applied towards the building of Trinity Church, the wardens and vestry alleging, in 1697, “that it so happens ye said Captives are escaped, dead, or otherwise not to be relieved,” and that the money may as well be used to finish the church edifice.—*Trinity Min.*, 1697, September 6; 1703, February 19, August 4; *Eccles. Rec.*, II: 1216, 1217; Berrian's *Trinity Church*, 19–20.