

Rutger Jacobsen, ancestor of the Rutgers family of New York and Albany, built this house, after October 4, 1649, and before October 15, 1655, when the house was taxed.—*N. Y. Col. MSS.*, III: 67; *Rec. N. Am.*, I: 374.

It seems to have been the finest residence on the block, with a coach-house, or possibly a small warehouse, in the rear (No. 19). The garden was more than 150 feet deep, and included the end of the Slyck Steegh. That part of the land which lay between the High Street and the Steegie was bought from Wessel Evertsen; the remainder from Megapolensis. The little lane, cut through pursuant to the survey of 1657, did not diminish Jacobsen's land at all.

Rutger Jacobsen, from Schoonderwoert, province of South Holland, began his career in these parts at Rensselaerswyck, April 8, 1637. He probably came in the ship "Rensselaerswyck," which arrived at the "manatans," Wednesday, the 4th of March, 1637.—*Van Rensselaer Bowier MSS.*, 374. He married a maiden of New Amsterdam, Trijntje Janszen, from Breestede, June 3, 1646.—*Marriages in Ref. Dutch Ch.*, 14. The greater part of his life was spent at Albany, where he was engaged very extensively in the brewing industry.

There is a very interesting history of this settler and his descendants (several of whom, also, were prosperous brewers), in an article on "The Rutgers Family of New York," written by one of them—Hon. Ernest H. Crosby—and printed in the *N. Y. Geneal. & Biog. Rec.*, April, 1886. Also, a good biographical sketch is to be found in the *Van Rensselaer Bowier MSS.*, 812.

Between 1656 and 1661, Abraham de Lucena, a prominent Jewish merchant of New Amsterdam, occupied the premises, only surrendering his lease to Isaac Bedloo after the

house had been sold at public vendue, September 9, 1660.—*Rec. N. Am.*, IV: 9; *Liber Deeds*, A: 252. Jacobsen had mortgaged his property here and at Fort Orange to Johannis Withart, in 1656, for 1528 guilders (*Mortgages*, 1654-1660, trans. by O'Callaghan, 43), and Trijntje Jansen, his wife, mortgaged "her house and lot" to Cornelis Steenwyck, September 4, 1658, to secure notes for 5482 gl., 2 st.—*Ibid.*, 97. The creditors forced a sale, and Withart bid the property in at a low valuation, Steenwyck consenting.

Rutger Jacobsen protested against the proceedings, alleging sharp practice. He fought the case through the courts for nearly a year; but he was at Albany, his creditors were powerful, and the case was decided in their favour.—*Rec. N. Am.*, III: 224, 229, 236, 238, 254, 261, 297. Reluctantly, he gave the deed to Withart, November 12, 1661.—*Liber Deeds*, A: 252. The latter had already deeded it to Isaac Bedloo, who was in occupancy. (Recitals *Patents*, IV: 34, Albany.) Bedloo was confirmed here in 1667 (*idem*).

Nicholas Bayard was taxed here in 1677, probably as tenant.—*M. C. C.*, I: 58. John Withart had again become the owner of the house before 1670, when he secured a patent for it from Lovelace. In 1685, he sold it to Nicholas Bayard.—*Liber Deeds*, XIII: 68.