

DELAWARE STREET

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#112 - "Star Hotel"ⁿ, now owned by E. E. Bailey
(See Photo No. 36)

Summary: This property is part of an original plot of 50 feet along Delaware Street, sold by Edward Blake, Jr. to Abraham Jessop, cooper, in 1723. Two years later, 1726, Jessop sold the whole property to John Richardson, merchant, with a "recently built" dwelling upon it. From subsequent indentures, this recently built dwelling must have been #114, and there is no clear reference to the second house, #112, until 1783, in the will of John VanGezell, who acquired the house, now #114 and the 50 foot lot about 1747. VanGezell left to his daughter, Gertrude, his brick house (#114) and half the ground between this house and his "frame messuage to the eastward". VanGezell was a "shop-keeper" who lived on the Strand. (In 1776 he bought the "burnt lot"^e, the whole of the property along the north side of Delaware Street between the Strand and Second Street.)

No indenture or record so far discovered indicates that John VanGezell kept a shop in the frame house. Following the division of the property by VanGezell's will, #112 and #114 continue as separate properties, #112 passing through the hands of several owners between 1816, when it was sold by the sheriff as land of Christopher Weaver, deceased, and 1859, when it was sold to William Sherer, innkeeper, as a "frame dwelling". Sherer evidently built the three-story brick hotel for it is mentioned as such in succeeding indentures.

-----Detailed history in file-----