

T.E

DELAWARE STREET

#226-228 - Hotel Louise Site
(See Photo No. 50)

Summary: Nicholas deR^Ringh, who had a patent from the Dutch deputy, D'Hinojossa in 1659 was the first known owner of the south side of Delaware Street between Second and Third Streets. His sons had it up to the time they sold to Peter Alrichs in 1670. They were brothers, Mathias and Emilius deR^Ringh. The latter was reader in the Dutch church in the 1670's and probably from 1664. Their ground plot extended from present Third Street to a line of Second Street extended and was about 600 feet deep on Third Street. Peter Alrichs bought this tract in 1670, and in 1683 sold it to Reynier Vanderculen, innkeeper. In 1688, Vanderculen sold to Anthony Green Sr., the ground of the Hotel Louise and Booth house sites, with a house on it, described as "all that messuage and lots of land", with "all the houses, buildings" etc. Later indentures show that the main house was on the side of the plot next Third Street. The deR^Ringh's undoubtedly had a house somewhere on the larger plot, which might have been the original back part of the Louise or of the "Penn house". Whoever built on the corner site, the deR^Ringhs, Alrichs, or Vanderculen, the house was there in 1688. Vanderculen, called "innkeeper" in the deed quoted, was also "gentleman" in other deeds; he had other good property in the town and there is no indication whether or not he kept an inn on this site.

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(Hotel Louise, continued)

Anthony Green left the property to his son, Anthony Jr., who in 1713 sold house and lots to Sylvester Garland, "innkeeper and merchant". By 1719, there is a house on the Booth house site which **was** still part of the property, and in the latter house, Sylvester Garland's daughter Soetje lived with her husband, The Reverend James Anderson, minister of the Presbyterian Church. In 1719, Sylvester **Garland** left both properties to this daughter, who with her husband was executrix of his estate. The Garland house and lot were sold by the sheriff in 1725 to satisfy a claim against the Garland estate, and the property was bought by **Col.** John French for 300 pounds. The indenture gives no bounds except to **say** they are the same as in Sylvester **Garland's** lifetime.

The Andersons sold the Booth house site soon after Sylvester Garland's death and in 1726, Margaret **Williamson**, who owned the property and part or all of the corner property, sold a lot of 23 feet front, between her house and the "large brick house", formerly of Sylvester Garland and **John** French, to Alexander Davis for 30 pounds. Davis built a brick house on it and this property descends separably through Davis, Henry Gonne, Samuel Land, bricklayer, Thomas Holland, cooper, Thomas **Patton**, yeoman, and in 1756 to John Land for 50 pounds.

David French, attorney, bought both the Garland and Alexander **Davis** houses at a sheriff sale as "a dwelling house", buildings,

etc., and lot 85'-5" x 511-1/2', and in 1742 conveyed the whole to William Allen of Philadelphia. John Land, "gentleman", acquired dwelling, buildings and land in 1752, and in 1757, sold it to David Pinney, attorney, for 430 pounds. David Finney lived here with his family until 1792, when he sold house and ground to James Miller, together with adjoining 23 feet building, but minus 111 feet off the back which he had sold to John Bond in 1788. David Pinney had made an alley 8' wide on the east side of the lot as a thoroughfare for himself, and gave the use of it to John Bond whose property was the full 85-1/2 feet across the back of the Finney lot.

In 1794, James Booth Sr., attorney, who had been living in the Booth house next door, bought this property from James Miller for 750 pounds. He lived in the house until his death in 1825. His wife and family continued to live in the house, his daughter Elizabeth until after the middle of the century. Elizabeth's niece, Sarah A. Rogers, bought the property, and it was still known as the "Rogers house" when it was sold to be remodelled into the Hotel Louise.

In 1804, James Booth Sr., had torn down "the old kitchen" and built an addition to the back of the house. His oldest daughter Maria was married to James Rogers Sr. in 1807 "in the northeast parlor of the old mansion". Elizabeth Booth wrote of the house, "Our mansion was the abode of peace and plenty, given to hospitality."

(Hotel Louise, continued)

Conclusion: In Sylvester Garland's time, the large brick dwelling may have had a store in part of it or adjoining it, for "Sylvester Garland's storehouse" is mentioned in a number of deeds, and since he was both "merchant" and "innkeeper" as well as "gentleman", he may have kept a tavern. Except for Garland's time, it seems to have been a dwelling only - until late in the nineteenth century, and up to that time the house was owned and lived in by outstanding families, Influential in the economic and social life of the community.

The house that was on this site in 1688 was probably much like the early part of the Colby house, and of the Penn house, having two or four rooms, of sturdy construction, and a small shed, shop or storage room attached. It seems more than likely that either Anthony Green or Sylvester Garland built the "large brick house" incorporating the early small one, using the customary large room with great fire place of the old house as the kitchen of the new, and doubtless this was the "old kitchen" that James Booth Sr. pulled down in 1804 when he built an extension to the back of the house.

Sketch plot shows
property when David
Finney sold it: