

SOUTHEAST SIDE OF SECOND STREET PROM
DELAWARE STREET TO THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

#11. #13. #15 and #17 East Second Street

(See Photos #105, #106, #107, #108, #109, #112 and #112-A)

Nos. 11, 13, 15 and 17 East Second Street, each being an individual property, are located on the **back** or Second Street end of the Strand Plot of George Hogg the first (Original Strand Plot 3 of Justa **Andries**). On this site George Hogg II had a "mansion house" before 1721, which makes it the oldest known house of any importance on Second Street.

The exact size and foundation lines of this house of George Hogg II cannot be definitely determined from deed indentures or any records found to date in this search. The will of George Hogg the first dated 1721 seemed to place it on the north half of the Second Street end of his lot (the site of the present #15 and #17). George Hogg II died in 1748 and left his mansion house to his daughter Elizabeth who married Benjamin Barrett. At Elizabeth's death it went to George Gregg, son of **Sarah**, another daughter of George Hogg II.

When George Gregg sold the house and lot to John **Passmore** in 1768, he called it a lot **31'** on Market Street adjoining a **12' alley** which seemed to place it near the center of the Second Street end of the lot of George Hogg II (**#13 and #15**) - yet the bounds he **gave** (n.e. by Mary Hill, s.w. by John Eves) were the bounds of **the entire 60'** lot on Second Street.

(#11, #13, #15 and #17
E. 2nd St., continued)

From John **Passmore** the property went to his son **William Pass-**
more, who by his will dated 1802 left the site of #11, #13, #15
and #17 East Second Street to his daughter Elizabeth, the wife of
Adam Barr. The property was divided and sold, combined and re-sold
a number of times within the Barr and **Passmore** family until 1840
when **William** Smith bought the site of #15 and #17 from Joseph Barr,
and 1847, when the same **William** Smith bought the site of #11 and
#13 from Robert Barr.

None of these indentures clearly establishes which house or
houses comprised the original mansion house of George Hogg II. The
site of #11 was an alley and the present #15 is part of the "**man-**
sion house" of Hogg. Only a complete architectural study of the
houses can prove whether #13 or #17 or both present houses are
part of the old mansion house.

The present #17 has a two-story frame front and porch of
fairly recent construction. The back or main house may have
been the northern part of the George Hogg II house, and if not,
it was built within the 1700's. It is at present owned by John
VanVeen and was formerly owned by Henry **Witsel** (keeper of an inn
on Delaware Street), Samuel **Massey** (1856 to 1864), James Reddish
(1852 to 1856), and Rev. John L. Long, minister of **Oxford**,
Pennsylvania and **Talbot** County, Maryland (1848 to 1852).

The present #15 has a two-story brick front of rather recent construction. The back or main house of two and a half stories is part of the George Hogg II house built before 1721. It is at present owned by Dorothy E. Lawson and was formerly owned by David Lewis and Rev. John Spotswood, who was the minister of the New Castle Presbyterian Church when the new church was built and author of "The Spotswood Historical Sketch of the Presbyterian Church in New Castle."

The present #13 is a three-story brick house, probably built or extensively remodeled by William Smith around 1850. It is quite likely that part of this house is also the old George Hogg II house, perhaps leveled at the second floor and raised and extended to its present three-story form. It is at present owned by Rosa M. Lenoir. It was formerly owned by Francis McCullin, who left this house to Rosa M. Lenoir in his will along with several thousands of dollars to various Catholic organizations in and around New Castle, including the Catholic Church of New Castle. It was owned before that by James and S. A. Wilmot from 1868 to 1897.

The present #11 is a two-story brick notion store and dwelling wedged between #13 and #9 East Second Street. It was built late in the 1800's by Wilmot or early 1900's by McCullin. Before its erection the site had served as an alley. It is at present owned by Rosa M. Lenoir.