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82

HARMONY AND SECOND STREETS
NORTH OF READ'S ALLEY

#126 Harmony Ctreet

(See Photos #100 and #120)

In 1718 Dr. Patrick Reilly, st that time the owner of the Tile House and the 60' x 300' Tile House plot, bought a lot from an heir of Johannes deHaes, Rebecca deHaes Burney, wife of William Burney. This lot "with all improvements and appurtenances" was located at the southeast corner of Second and Harmony Streets, part of which was the site of #126 Harmony Street. The lot was over against and adjoining the northeastern line of the Second Street end of the Tile house lot and contained 52' in breadth. It contained no specified buildings except "formerly an old stable."

This lot was successively sold as part of the Tile house lot by the heirs of Patrick Reilly, by the heirs of Anthony Whitely, and by Anthony Passmore and Israel Israel until William Armstrong bought it in 1796. In an indenture William Armstrong described the lot as being 94' on Harmony Street and 77' on Second Street, and in 1801 began cutting it up into smaller lots for sale.

In 1802 he sold a lot fronting 20' on Harmony Street and 60' on Second Street, the site of #126 Harmony Street, to Hugh Mercer, a blacksmith, for \$230, with no mention of a house. In the 1804 survey a house is shown on this site, both in plan and elevation, that looks very much as if it is the present house and no indication has been found, in this search, that this house, built before 1804, has been removed or replaced.

(#126 Harmony Street, continued)

In 1867 Henry Vining left a two-story brick house to a relative, John Vining. It stayed in the Vining family until 1906 when it was purchased by John S. Casperson, who sold it in 1910 to James F. Downs. Charles H. Willis bought it in 1926 and sold it in 1944 to Jacob Handloff. It's present owner is Rodney Willis.

1976 - Dr. Mrs Robt R Casford

This sturdy brick house also needs little done to its exterior. A very small wing and porch to the south of the main gable on Second Street could well be removed as it is of very late design. A small shop is shown on the 1864 survey on Second Street, separated from #126 by an alley. With the lack of further detail concerning this shop, which might reveal itself with further research, it would be fitting to treat the south portion of the lot as a garden.