

# Original Land Titles in Delaware

Commonly Known as

# The Duke of York Record

Being An Authorized Transcript From the Official  
Archives of the State of Delaware, and Comprising  
the Letters Patent, Permits, Commissions,  
Surveys, Plats and Confirmations by The Duke  
of York and Other High Officials, From

1646 to 1679.

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Printed by Order of the General Assembly of the  
State of Delaware.

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(Note.—The numerals appearing in parenthesis throughout the text indicate the manuscript pages of the Record.)

Note.—Page 1 of the Record is in Old Holland Dutch, the translation being on the following page. This printed transcript begins, therefore, with page 2 of the Record, being the translation of page 1.)

No. 1.

(2)

We Willem Kieft, Director General, and Councilors, in the name of the High and Mighty Lords the States General of the United Netherlands, of his Highness of Orange, and of the Honorable Lords Directors of the Privileged West India Company residing in New Netherland, Witness and declare hereby that we on the day of the date hereinafter mentioned have granted and permitted to Abraham Planck, Symon Root, Jan Andriesen and Pieter Harmensen to, settle on the South River of New Netherland, and take possession of the lands situate on the said river obliquely opposite to the Islet called 't Vogele Lant (the Birds' Land), of which lands they are authorized to appropriate to themselves One hundred Morgen, \* to establish there four Farms or Plantations and begin to cultivate the same within a year from this date, or sooner if it be possible, on pain of losing this their grant. Upon condition that the aforesaid persons, or such as might get their grant, acknowledge the Honorable Lords Directors aforesaid as their Lords and Patrons under the sovereignty of their High Mightinesses, and provided they willingly submit themselves to all such charges and duties as by the aforesaid Lords are already or still shall be determined upon. Constituting therefore aforesaid Abraham Planck, Symon Root, Jan Andriesen and Pieter Harmensen, to take, in our place, real and actual possession of the aforesaid One hundred Morgen land, giving them full power, authority and special command to accept, cultivate and use the aforesaid land, situate in the aforesaid South River, as they do their own patrimonial lands and effects; we the

\*A "Morgen" was equal to about three acres.—Translator.

grantors, in our aforesaid capacity, not having, holding or reserving in the least any part, claim or authority of and to the aforesaid One hundred Morgen of Land, but desisting therefrom, for the use as aforesaid, from now forever. Promising further to keep this present grant firm, staunch, inviolable and irrevocable, and to observe and execute it,—all under obligation as provided by law.

In Witness whereof these presents are signed by us, and confirmed with our seal in red wax appendant hereto.

Done in the Fort of New Amsterdam. (The aforesaid persons are promised, if in future they should want more land, than hereabove mentioned, it will be granted them, provided they build on the land houses for dwellings, and that, if they quit, they shall then be deprived of this grant.)

(Signed) Willem Kieft.

Underneath stood:

By order of the Hon. Director General and Councilors of New Netherland,

Cornelis van Tienhoven,  
Secretary. 1646.

No. 2.

(3)

Petrus Stuyvesant, in the name of the Honorable High and Mighty Lords the States General of the United Netherlands and the Honorable Lords Directors of the Privileged West India Company, Director General of the New Netherland, Curacoa, Boynairo, Aruba and the dependencies thereof, together with the Honorable Lords Councilors, Witness and declare that we on this day, the date hereinafter mentioned, have granted and bestowed upon Alexander Boyer, A Plantation situate on the South River of New Netherland, to the North of Fort Casamier on the corner between the first and second Valley on the South End of Frans Smith's, wide along the river side from the corner of the Valley to the land of the aforesaid Frans Smith North-east by East, rather Easterly, Sixty six Rods, further along said Smith into the Woods North North-West  $\frac{1}{4}$  point more Westerly one Hundred and two Rods, further North North-West fifty Rods, further to the Valley South-West One hundred Rods, further along the Valley East South-East fifty Rods, further West sixty Rods, further East by South forty-four Rods, further to the first starting point South-East by East fifty-three Rods, and are herein measured two inlets of Valleys; amounting to about four and twenty Morgen. Upon express conditions and provisos, &c, the 30th of November, Anno 1656.

No. 3.

(4)

Petrus Stuyvesant, in the name of the Honorable High and Mighty Lords the States General of the United Netherlands and the Honorable Lords Directors of the Privileged West India Company,

## No. 25.

(27)

Petrus Stuyvesant in Behalf of the High and Mighty Lords the States General of the United Netherlands and the Honourable Gentlemen the Directors of the privileged West India Company, Director General of New Netherland, Curocoa, Bonnairo, Aruba and their Dependencies together with the Honourable Gentlemen of the Council Witness that we on the Date underwritten have given and granted to Sander Leendersen one Lot for a House and Garden situate on the South River of New Netherland at Fort Casamier between William De Hit and John Andriessen is wide in Front and Rear fifty six Feet, long on both sides three hundred Feet with express Conditions and Provisoes &c. Done Amsterdam in New Netherland the 1st March 1657.

## No. 26.

(28)

Petrus Stuyvesant, in the name of the Honorable High and Mighty Lords the States General of the United Netherlands and the Honorable Lords Directors of the Privileged West India Company, Director General of New Netherland, Curacoa, Bonairo, Aruba and the appendencies thereof, together with the Honorable Lords Councilors, Witness that we on the date hereinafter written have granted and bestowed upon Willem Tailler A Lot for a House and Garden, situate on the South River of New Netherland near Fort Casamier in the first Row at the front of the shore between Thomas Broen and Sander Leendersen, being wide in front and rear sixty five feet and long on both sides thirty feet. Upon the express conditions and provisoes, &c. Done at Amsterdam in New Netherland March 1, Anno 1657.

## No. 27.

(29)

Petrus Stuyvesant, in the name of the Honorable High and Mighty Lords the States General of the United Netherlands and the Honorable Directors of the Privileged West India Company, Director General of New Netherland, Curacoa, Bonnayro, Aruba and the appendencies thereof, together with the Honorable Lords Councilors, Witness and declare that we on this day, the date hereinafter written, have granted and bestowed upon Jan Eeckhoff, A Lot for a House and Garden situate on the South River of New Netherland near Fort Casamier in the Second Row No. 36, behind the Lot of Jan Andriessen, being wide in front and rear fifty six feet, long on both side three hundred feet; upon express conditions and provisoes, &c. Done at Amsterdam in New Netherland June 17, Anno 1657.

## No. 28.

(31)

Peter Stuyvesant in Behalf of the High and Mighty Lords the States General of the United Netherlands and the honourable gentle-

men the Directors of the Privileged West India Company Director General of New Netherland, Curacoa, Bonayro, Aruba and their Dependencies, together with the honourable gentlemen of the Council Witness and Declare that we on the Day of the Date underwritten have given and granted to John St. Gaggen a Tract of Land situate on the South River of New Netherland at the First Corner above Fort Casamier, stretches on the North-East side from the Land formerly possessed by Sander Boyer along the Strand North-East Easterly sixty Rods to the Valley, further along the Side of the Valley, as follows, North-West by North Forty Rods, North North West sixty five Rods, North East Easterly twenty five Rods, North-West twenty six Rods, East North-East thirty Rods, North thirty five Rods, North-West forty-six Rods, West by North Northerly one hundred and twenty eight Rods, further from the side of the Valley into the Woods South South West Southerly one hundred and fourteen Rods, further through the Woods to the Place of Beginning, amounting in the whole to about forty one Morgen with express Conditions & Provisoes &c. Done in New Amsterdam the 20th June 1657.

## No. 29.

(32)

Petrus Stuyvesant, in the name of the Honorable High and Mighty Lords the States General of the United Netherlands and the Honorable Lords Directors of the Privileged West India Company, Director General of New Netherland, Curacoa, Bonnairo, Aruba and the dependencies thereof, together with the Honorable Lords Councilors, Witness and Declare that we on this day, the date hereinafter written, have granted and bestowed upon Pieter Lourensen, A Lot situate on the South River of New Netherland near Fort Casamier, now called New Amstel, contiguous North East to the Common Road, being the fourth in No. from the Fort, commencing on the shore side, wide in front and rear sixty two feet, long on both sides three hundred feet.

(Note.—The aforesaid Lot was granted the said Pieter Lourensen in the year 1652, but whereas at that time no deed thereof was given him these presents are now issued.)

Upon express conditions and provisos, &c. Done at Amsterdam in New Netherland, on the 2d of September 1657.

## No. 30.

(33)

Peter Stuyvesant, in the name of the High and Mighty Lords the States General of the United Netherlands and the Honorable Lords Directors of the Privileged West India Company with headquarters in Amsterdam, Director General of New Netherland, Curocoa, &c., together with the Honorable Councilors, Witness and declare that we on this day, the date hereinafter written, have granted Jacob Van der Veer, A Lot for a House and Garden situate on the South River of New Netherland near Fort Altenae, wide on the street or East side

assigns the afore recited plantacons and proporcon of meadow grounds and premises with all and singular the appertances to have and to hold ye said plantacon meadow ground and premises unto ye sd Johan Hendricks Neils Neilson Sr., Hendrick Neilson, Mattijs Neilson and Neils Neilson Jr., their heirs and assigns unto ye proper use and behoofe of the sd Johan Hendricks, Neils Neilson, Sr., Hendrick Neilson, Mattijs Neilson, and Neils Neilson Jr. their heirs and assigns forever, rendering and paying and &c. The patent is dated the eighth day of January 1667.

Five bushells of wheat acknowledgment.

Fo. 78

Delaware

Johannes Hendricks & al.

A Confirmacon Graunted unto Capt. John Carr for a piece of land and Platacon upon Delaware Ryver.

Whereas there is a certaine piece of land with a plantacon thereupon at New Castle upon Delaware heretofore belonging to Alexander Boeijr scituate lyeing and being upon ye first hook or corner of land above ye Fort betweene ye first meadow ground or valley and ye land of Frans Smith and Jan Willer, from whose sd land strenching to ye valley South West and By West it Contains sixty rods, further along by ye side of the sd valley North West and by West Fifety two rods, West and by North Forty six rods, North east Sixty one rods, N. W. and By West One hundred and five rods, then from the meadow or valley to the opening of ye woods by the land of Smith and Willer aforenamed North East and by North, one hundred rods, and so from ye opening of ye woods to ye first desent amounting in all to about fifty (167) acres or twenty five morgen, and whereas there is at New Castle upon Delaware aforesaid another piece of land with a bowery heretofore belonging to Frans Smith and Jan Willer lyeing and being also upon the first hook or corner of land adjoining unto tother and being above ye Fort on the North East side thereof and stretching from ye land heretofore appertaining to Alexander Boeyer alongst ye strand Northeast somewhat more Easterly to ye meadow or valley it contains sixty rods, further along by ye side of the sd valley, northwest and by north Forty rods, North Northwest sixty five rods, East and by North somewhat more Easterly twenty five rods, North and by West twenty six rods, West and by North something more Northerly one hundred twenty eight rods. Then from the side of ye valley into ye woods South South West somewhat more Southerly one hundred and fourteen rods and so from ye opening of ye woods to the first desent amounting to about one hundred acres or fifty morgen. Now both the sd pieces of land with the plantacon, bowery and appertances having beene purchased from the Owners by Anthony Bryant and by him since sould for a valuable consideration under Captain John Carr in whose tenure and occupation it now is for a confirmacon unto him the sd Capt. John Carr in his possession and enjoyment of the premises know yee that by vertue of the comision and authority unto me given I

have ratified confirmed and graunted &c. the patent is dated the eighth of January 1667. Two bushells of Wheat acknowledgment.

Fo. 79

Delaware

C. John Carr.

A Confirmacon graunted to Matthias Nicolls,, Esqr. for a tract of land at Delaware.

Richard Nicolls, Esqr. &c. Whereas there is a certaine tract or parcell of land at Delaware called by the Indian name of Chiepiessinge scituate lyeing and being on the West Syde of the Ryver up above Peter Alricks Islands stretching out into ye sd river and bending like a halfe moone, conteyning by estimacon 3000 acres or thereabouts be they more or less which (168) said tract or parcell of land lies unmanured and unplanted. Now to the end some good improvement may be made thereupon and for divers other good reasons and considerations mee thereunto especially moving know yee that by vertue of the comision and authority to me given I have thought fit to give and graunt and by these presents do give ratifye confirme and grant unto Matthias Nicholls his heirs and assigns the afore recited piece or parcell of land and premises called Chiepiessing as aforesd together with all ye lands soils, woods, meadows, pastures marshes creeks, waters, lakes fishing hawking hunting and fowling, and all other profits comoditys, emoluments and hereditaments to ye sd tract or parcell of land and premises belonging or in any wise apperteyning with their and every of their appertances and of every part and parcell thereof, to have and to hold ye sd tract and parcell of land and premises unto ye sd Matthias Nicolls, his heirs, and assigns unto ye proper use and behoof of ye sd Matthias Nicolls, his heirs and assigns forever. The patent is dated ye 15th of January 1667.

Two Otter skins acknowledgement.

Fo. 80

Delaware

M. Nicolls, Esq.

A Confirmacon graunted to Peter Alricks for two certain Islands in Delaware Ryver.

Richard Nicolls Esqr. &c. Whereas there are two certain islands in Delaware Ryver scituate lyeing and being on ye West side of ye sd River and about South West from ye islands commonly called Matini Conck. The which is the biggest of the two islands haveing been formerly knowne by the name of Kipps Island and by the Indian name of Koomenakineknock Conteyning about a myle in length and halfe a mile in breadth, and the other island lyeing somewhat to the North of ye former being of about half a mile in length and the quarter of a myle in breadth, And there being also a small Creeke near unto ye lesser of ye sd islands fitt to build a mill thereupon now to ye end of ye best improvement may be made of ye sd island and Creeke to which there appeare no other lawful pretenders and for divers other good reasons and

wheat as a quitt rent when it shall be demanded by such person or persons in authority as his Majesty shall please to establish and empower in Delaware river, and the parts and plantacons adjacent. Given under my hand and seal at Fort James in New Yorke, on the island Manhattans the first day of January in the 19th year of his Majesty's Raigne. Anno Domini 1667.

Fo. 5.

(174)

A Confirmacon Graunted unto Capt. John Carr for a Parcell of land at Delaware,

Richard Nicolls, Esqr., &c. Whereas there is a certaine parcell of meadow valley or marsh ground scituate lyeing and being in Delaware river near the fort conteyning by estimacon one hundred and fifty acres or thereabout either more or less not long since in the tenure or occupacon of Alexander D'Hiniosa butted and bounded upon the South by the river, upon the North and North East by the land and Meadow and valley lately in the possession of Gerritt Van Sweering upon the Northwest by the plantacon commonly called the landey and upon the South and South West by the land lately belonging to John Weeber, Now it being sufficiently knowne that the said Alexander D'Hiniosa then Governor was in hostility against his Majesty for which reason all his estate stands confiscated. **Know yee that by vertue of ye comision and authority unto me given, and in consideration of the good service performed by Capt. John Carr, in storming and reducing the fort at Delaware, I have thought fit to give and graunt and by these presents do give ratifye confirme and graunt unto Capt. John Carr, the afore recited piece or parcell of meadow, valley or marsh ground with all and singular the appertances to have and to hold the said piece or parcell of meadow valley or marsh ground unto the sd Capta. John Carr, his heires, and assigns, unto the proper use and behoofe of the sd Capta John Carr his heirs and assigns forever, yielding and paying therefor yearly and every yeare unto his Majesty's use one bushell of Wheate as a Quitt rent** when it shall be demanded by such person or persons in authority as his Majesty shall please to establish and empower in the Delaware River and the parts and plantacons adjacent. Given under my hand at Fort James in New Yorke, on the Island Manhattans, the first day of January, in the 19th year of his Majesty's Raigne Anno Domini, 1667.

Fo 7.

(175)

A Confirmacon Granted unto Thomas Wollaston, James Crawford, Herman Otto, And Girard Otto for a certaine island in Delaware River.

Richard Nicolls, Esq., and &c. Whereas there is a certaine island scituate lyeing and being in Christeen kill or Creeke, in Delaware river commonly called or known by the name of Swarten Nutten island, conteyning by estimacon Three hundred acres or thereabouts be it more or

Lawyer David Finney's 1799 transcription of the 1677 grant of Boyer's land to Capt. John Carr

To have and to hold the said piece or parcel of Meadow Valley or Marsh ground, unto the said Captain John Carr, his Heirs & Assigns unto the proper Use & Behoofe of the said Captain John Carr, his Heirs & Assigns for ever. Yielding and paying therefore Yearly + every year, unto his Majesties use one bushel and a half of wheat [?] as Quit Rent, when it shall be demanded by such Person or Persons as in Authority as his Majesty shall please to establish + empower in Delaware River, and the parts + Plantations adjacent. Given under my Hand and Seal at Fort James in New York on the Island of Manhatans the 1st Day of January in the 19th year of his Majesties Reign, Anno Domini 1667.

Richard Nicolls

Recorded by Order of the Governor  
the Day + Year first above written

The rest of the certificate is wanting

The above is copied from the Original Patent in my possession this  
10th Day of February of 1799

David Finney

To have and to hold the said piece or parcel of Meadow  
Valley or Marsh ground, unto the said Captain John Carr, his Heirs &  
Assigns, unto the proper Use & behoofe of the said Captain John  
Carr, his Heirs & Assigns for ever, Yielding and Paying therefore  
Yearly & every Year, unto his Majesty's Use, one bushel and a  
half of wheat at a Quit Rent, when it shall be demanded  
by such Person or persons in Authority, as his Majesty shall  
please to establish & empower in Delaware River, and the  
parts & Plantations adjacent. Given under my Hand & Seal  
at Fort James in New York, on the Island of Manhattan  
the 1<sup>st</sup> Day of January in the 19<sup>th</sup> Year of his Majesty's Reign,  
annoq; Domini 1667.

Richard Nicolls.

Recorded by Order of the Governor  
the Day & Year first above written.

The rest of the Certificate is wanting.

The above is Copied from the Original Patent, in my possession this  
10<sup>th</sup> Day of February 1799.

David Finney

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