

“The Gasthuys [hospital] is in the Bruch Straet behind the fiscal’s house.”—De Sille List, of 1660.

Dr. Jacob Hendricksen Varrevanger, in December, 1658, petitioned for a hospital to be established for sick soldiers and negroes; he was ordered to look about for a convenient place and a steward.—*Cal. Hist. MSS., Dutch*, 204. He found a suitable matron in Hilletje Wilbruch, who was appointed on December 23, 1658, before the new hospital was built.—*Register of N. Neth.*, 128. The site chosen was behind the five houses of the Company, in the rear of the old brewery plot, and on the corner of the Brugh Straet and the Brugh Steegh. This lot, and part of the lane itself, which in earlier years led only to the brewery, belonged to Abraham Planck, or Verplanck, by virtue of his grant of March 14, 1647 (*Liber GG: 187, Albany*), and his apparent acquisition of Pieter vander Linden’s small lot adjoining. He claimed ownership of the entire lot, on March 14, 1659, and was just about to build on it, having the timber already on the ground, when Schout de Sille appeared in court, and secured an order restraining him from such action, “as the Company shall retain it, to build thereon at some future time, as occasion requires, an Hospital or Orphan Asylum.”—*Rec. N. Am.*, VII: 216. The same day, Verplanck petitioned Stuyvesant and council for a lot, “in lieu of his lot taken for a square.”—*Cal. Hist. MSS., Dutch*, 162.[¹] The Plan shows that the Brugh Steegh was widened and a “square” laid out, on which the hospital was built, between March 14, 1659 and July 10, 1660. The other small building (No. 24), obviously, was the fiscal’s house—not his residence, but his office. Even as early as 1646, the “Fiscal’s Kitchen,” on this spot, was mentioned in the records.—*Liber GG: 139 (Albany)*. Evidently, an incorrect translation; the kitchen and other outbuildings are referred to as offices, in England, to this day.

The hospital had been demolished prior to May 24, 1674, when Colve granted the land in three separate parcels to Jan Dircksen Meyer, Andries Meyer, and Pieter Jansen Mesier—*N. Y. Col. Docs.*, II: 629-36; *cf. Rec. N. Am.*, VII: 13.