

This small house, on a plot which extended only half-way through the block—the Bridge Street front being occupied, as has been seen, by Hendrick Jansen Smith—was bought in July, 1659, by Johannes de Decker. The site is now designated as No. 41 Pearl Street.

De Decker was a prominent member of the supreme council of New Netherland, and had been, in 1655, president of the court and commissary at Fort Orange.—*Cal. Hist. MSS., Dutch*, 149. He became, in the same year, a notary, and practiced law at New Amsterdam.—*Ibid.*, 147; *Rec. N. Am.*, I: 311, 318, 327. He held office as comptroller (*Register of N. Neth.*, 20, 25), and was one of the embassy to reclaim the ship, "Arms of Amsterdam," which had been taken by a Portuguese privateer.—*Ibid.*, 138. De Decker also served as churchwarden.—*Cal. Hist. MSS., Dutch*, 242.

In 1664, he was chosen by Stuyvesant to confer with Nicolls on the Articles of Capitulation (*Register of N. Neth.*, 162), and was one of the signers of the same at the surrender of the city to the English.—*M. C. C.*, II: 52.

Notwithstanding his part in the yielding of the city at the approach of Nicolls, De Decker was accused of afterwards going up the Hudson, and, at Albany and elsewhere, inciting the Dutch to resistance. For these treacherous doings, Governor Nicolls sentenced him to banishment from the province.—*General Entries*, I: 39.

He sold the property at the Strand to Johannes de Witt, October 1, 1663.—*Liber Deeds*, B: 26; cf. *Deeds & Conveyances* (etc.) 1659-1664, trans. by O'Callaghan, 336-7.