

1750 - Map by N. Scull and G. Heap
(New York Public Library Digital Collection)

Places Where Peter David Hansell Lived



Near Marshall's Mill
Upper Darby

Coultas/Gray Property
Whitby Hall
Blockley

Richards/Hall/Telfair Property
Kingsessing

Birth Place of Peter David Hansell

It has been said that Peter David Hansell 1724-1786 came from England, Holland/Netherlands, or, in one instance, Wales. Mrs. Anne Hansell Lane Scollay, who did early research into the Hansell family, originally thought maybe Germany or Holland, but eventually settled on Holland, "based on family tradition."

Ed Bradford, long-time Hansell researcher, put together this family from German Lutheran marriage and baptism records that have come on line in the past few years. Images are available for the entries. If anyone can translate old German, written with poor, sometimes illegible, handwriting, additional information might be gleaned from these entries.



Frankenthal & Ludwigshafen, Bavaria, Germany
1901 Atlas Map by Edward Stanford, DavidRumsey.com

Marriage

Georg Bernhard Heßel and Annamaria Mullerin
(also indexed Georg Bernhard Heissel and Anna Maria Mueller)
January 28, 1721, Frankenthal, Bavaria

Children

Anna Maria Henssel (also Heßel)
baptism September 13, 1722, Frankenthal, Bavaria

Peter David Hansel
born December 3, 1723
baptism December 7, 1723, Ludwigshafen, Bavaria

Susanna Hensel
baptism May 21, 1726, Frankenthal, Bavaria

This is either Peter David Hansell himself or a grand coincidence.

Germany, Lutheran Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials, 1500-1971 - indexes and images can be viewed at Ancestry.com, <https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/61229/>
Evangelische Kirche Frankenthal, Film 488252 (marriage, Anna & Susanna)
Evangelisch-Reformierte Kirche Oggersheim, Film 488257 (Peter David)

What clues on this side of the Atlantic do we have that PDH was German?

- After PDH's wife Dorothy died, an inventory of her worldly possessions included: *sundry German books*. (Ancestry.com, PA Wills & Probate Records, Peter D. Hansell, 1813, Case 9)
- 1765 Naturalization Record infers PDH was of a nationality other than English. See [\(Peter\) David Hansell Naturalized in 1765](#) Also I ran into a story that sheds some light on why PDH might have taken up citizenship at this time, which has a German element to it.
- Baptism records of Philadelphia's St. Michael's/Zion German Lutheran Church list four of PDH's children. Interestingly, Peter David Hansell's son Barnet was baptized Bernhard. Likewise, his daughter Mary was baptized Anna Maria.
- Gloria Dei Swedish Lutheran Church records have baptism records for the last two children of PDH. The last child Andrew, born in 1778, baptized 1780, is entered in the records as the child of Peter David & Dorothea Hanson. A 1783/1784 church census compiled by Rev. Mathius Hultgren has an entry for a Peter Hanson, identified as German. I think this fellow is Peter David Hansell.

1765 Naturalization

I picked up an interesting tidbit from the Findagrave memorial for William Young, born 1713 in Hessen, Germany and died 1785. Originally buried in the Young Family Burial Ground in Kingsessing, Young now rests at Arlington Cemetery in Drexel Hill, Delaware Co, Pa. <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/50148391/william-young>

There's a lot to be said about Young and his family, but the interesting point here is in 1765 William Young went around the countryside encouraging his fellow Germans to take up citizenship so they could vote. Was PDH one of the Germans William Young encouraged to go to the polls?

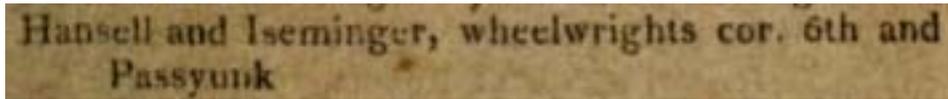
Naturalizations of Foreign Protestants in the American and West Indian Colonies lists two men in Upper Darby who were naturalized in August 1765: David Hansell and Adam Bole. We know Peter David Hansell is living in Upper Darby in 1765. David Hansell is PDH. Who is Adam Bole?

Bole is found in Upper Darby from 1764 through 1774, renting a 96 A plantation from Dr. Pascal (probably Dr. John Paschall). PDH purchased two graveyard lots at St. James Church in Kingsessing, numbers 26 and 27. An Adam Bools purchased Lot 25, but it was never used. Are PDH and Adam Bole fellow German tenant farmers, church members and friends? Did they come over on the same ship? I don't know the answers to these questions, but I do know their grandchildren went into business together.

The story of William Young is originally told in Volume 1 of *Six Columbiana County, Ohio, Pioneer Families* by William B. Fetters, viewed at FamilySearch books.

Adam Bohl 1729-1794 married Anna Conratina Leppig in 1757 (St. Mikes/Zion). When Adam left Upper Darby he moved across the Schuylkill to Moyamensing where he owned property. Bohl's daughter Elizabeth married Nicholas Iseminger in 1783 and they had a child Adam.

Peter David Hansell's grandson John W. Hansell 1786-1831 and Adam Bohl's grandson Adam Iseminger 1786-1827 were in the wheelwright business together from at least 1813.



John W. Hansell is a son of David Hansell and Rachel Walters. John, his wife Ann (daughter of David Morris) and five children who predeceased their parents are buried at St. James Church in Kingsessing.

Adam Bohl signed documents with his mark "AB" just in case anyone finds him on a ship manifest prior to 1757.

Hansell Baptism Records

In the 1760s, Peter David Hansell lived in Upper Darby, among descendants of the original English Quaker settlers. He traveled six miles into Philadelphia to have his children baptized in the German speaking St. Michael's/Zion German Lutheran Church.

The last two Hansell children were born when PDH lived in Blockley. These children are recorded in the Gloria Dei baptism records. Presumably, PDH traveled just down the road to the St. James Swedish Lutheran Church in Kingsessing which conducted services in English.

PDH children	18th Century Records of the German Lutheran Church at Philadelphia (St. Michael's and Zion), Vols 1-5 by Robert L. Hess	https://philadelphiacongregations.org/Gloria-Dei-Records "Records Miscellaneous 1750-1789"	Marriage
David 6-5-1756			St. Mikes/Zion 1784 Rachel Walters
William 12-28-1757			St. Mikes/Zion 1783 Sarah Morris
George 5-25-1759			St. Mikes/Zion 1783 Deborah Suplee
Barnet 1-9-1761	Bernhard Haenser b. 1-9-1761/bapt. 5-3-1761 Peter David & Dorothea Haenser parents sponsors		St. Mikes/Zion 1784 Sarah Sutton
Jacob 12-16-1762			St. Mikes/Zion 1786 Mary Rathschlag
John 10-16-1764			did not marry
Mary 11-11-1766	Anna Maria Henzel b. 11-11-1766/bapt. 5-30-1767 Peter David & Dorothea Henzel parents sponsors		1 st - St. Mikes/Zion 1784 Joseph Henrion? 2 nd - Gloria Dei 1795 Daniel Kinzie
Elizabeth 12-25-1768	Elisabeth Henzel b. 12-25-1768/bapt. 4-16-1770 Peter David & Anna Dorothea Henzel parents sponsors		did not marry
Charles 12-27-1770	Carl Hensel b. 12-27-1770/bapt. 10-13-1771 Peter David & Dorothea Hensel parents sponsors		did not marry
Peter David 1-14-1773		Peter Hansley b. 1-14-1773/bapt.3-2-1773 Peter and Dorothy David Hansley	St. Mikes/Zion 1798 Ann Walters
Andrew 3-7-1778 or 2-28-1778		Andrew Hanson b. 3-7-1778/bapt. 4-6-1780 Peter David & Dorothea Hanson	Gloria Dei 1800 Hannah Morris

1783/1784 Hultgren Church Census

This is my favorite clue that Peter David Hansell is German. It takes a bit of doing to sort this out because, as often is the case, PDH has been misnamed. In short, Rev. Mathias Hultgren, pastor of the Gloria Dei Swedish Lutheran Church 1780 to 1786, thought PDH's last name was Hanson.

PDH was affiliated with St. James Church in Kingsessing, which is an offshoot of the Gloria Dei Church. He was among the first to buy plots in the graveyard and he apparently owned a pew (or at least his descendants owned a pew - see plan in the End Notes). His last two children were baptized by ministers serving St. James (Rev. Andrew Goransson and Rev. Mathias Hultgren).

The facts:

- Peter David Hansell died 11-19-1786, age 62, and is buried at St. James in Kingsessing, Lot A-27.
- PDH did not write; he made his mark. For the most part, his last name was omitted or erroneously transcribed on tax and church records.
- PDH lived in Upper Darby 1754-1772 where he was taxed as Peter David until 1771 and 1772 when he was taxed as Peter David Hansley and Peter David Hamset, respectively.
- PDH's first nine children were born 1756-1770. There are baptism records for four of these children in St. Michael's/Zion German Lutheran Church records, where PDH's last name is entered as Haenser, Henzel, and Hensel.
- The years 1772-1779 find PDH in Blockley, taxed by the name Peter David
- In 1779, PDH purchased property in Kingsessing, less than a quarter mile from Whitby Hall. PDH is taxed as Peter D. Hansell in Kingsessing. In the same year, George Gray moved from Kingsessing to the Whitby Hall property in Blockley. George Gray, PDH's neighbor, was a witness to PDH's will signed 9-1-1784.

Thanks to Creston F. Laager IV who, some years ago, suggested the Hultgren church census might have information about the Hansells. Creston's ancestor John Walters of Kingsessing is designated German on the Hultgren census. Two of Walters' daughters married two of PDH's children.

St. James Church, Kingsessing Records 1835-1892 viewed at ancestry.com. Peter D. Hansell original owner of Lots 26 and 27.

Headstone inscriptions for St. James viewed at ancestry.com. The pages are scanned last page first and the document is incorrectly identified. Pennsylvania and New Jersey, Church and Town Records, 1669-2013 - PA - Philadelphia / Philadelphia / Roman Catholic / Ascension Church Peter David Hansell and Anna Dorothy Hansell, Lot A-27, page 24, image 157.

Gloria Dei Records

PDH's 10th child Peter, Jr. was baptized by Rev. Andrew Goransson on March 2, 1773. PDH is entered in the baptism ledger as Peter Hansley.

PDH's 11th (and last) child Andrew was born March 7, 1778 and baptized April 6, 1780 by Rev. Mathius Hultgren. PDH is entered in the ledger as **Peter David Hanson**. (John T. Humphrey in his book *Philadelphia County Births 1766-1780* transcribed the name as Peter David Hansso.)

When Andrew Hansell married in 1800, the Gloria Dei Marriage Records 1799-1856 describe him as the son of deceased Peter Hansell and his relict Dorothy.

Hultgren Church Census

Rev. Mathius Hultgren compiled a census during 1783/1784 of the three sister churches: Gloria Dei in Southwark, St. James in Kingsessing, and Christ Church in Upper Merion.

On the census, members of the St. James Kingsessing parish are grouped in geographical areas, starting close to the church, then moving south-west: Kingsessing, Boon's Island, Darby, Kalkon Hook, and Tinicum. The distance, in miles, from the parishioner's household to St. James Church and the distance to the mother church Gloria Dei are listed.

The last person mentioned in the St. James Kingsessing parish is **Peter Hanson, German (Tysk)**, no family listed, age 52, lived 1½ miles from St. James and 6 miles from Gloria Dei in Philadelphia. The comments for this person are:

Bor brevid Geo. Gray. Komer bestandigt til kyrkan.
Lives next to Geo. Gray. Always comes to the church.

The entry for Peter Hanson is placed at the end of the Tinicum section, i.e. at the very end of the St. James Kingsessing parish section of the census. The mileages given indicate Peter Hanson lived in Kingsessing.

We know that in 1784 PDH lived in Kingsessing, he was 60 years old and had a wife and children and he lived 1½ miles from St. James. PDH lived next to George Gray.

For the Kingsessing and Boon's Island entries on the Hultgren Census, I researched the names of the heads of the households--those with mileage entries by their names. You can find some information for every person, be it a tax record, will, marriage, etc. No person by the name of Peter Hanson turns up in this area and time frame.

Are **Peter David Hansell** and the German **Peter Hanson** of the Hultgren church census one and the same? I think so.

- We know PDH's name was most often incorrect on tax and church records.
- We know PDH was affiliated with St. James Church.
- Rev. Hultgren recorded Peter David and Dorothea Hanson as the parents of the child Andrew baptized in 1780. We know Andrew's father is Peter David Hansell.
- We know PDH lived next to George Gray.

Philadelphiacongregations.org

Gloria Dei Church - "Records Miscellaneous 1750-1789"

<https://philadelphiacongregations.org/records/items/show/382#?c=0&m=0&s=0&cv=0&xywh=-7470%2C-1%2C20321%2C8322>

Baptism of Peter David Hansell Jr., (Peter Hansley) images 46 and 65

Baptism of Andrew Hansell (Andrew Hanson), images 192 and 198

Hultgren 1783/1784 Church Census, start at image 239 (Peter Hanson image 241)

Gloria Dei Church

"Marriage Records 1799-1856

Image 19 - *February 26, 1800, Andrew Hansell, son of deceased Peter Hansell and his relict Dorothy in Kingsess, p. 22 and Hannah Morris, daughter of David and Hannah Morris, p. 19*

Upper Darby 1754-1772 - Revisited

Since I last researched Peter David Hansell in Upper Darby, a 1757 lost horse advertisement, deeds, probate records and more tax records for Chester and Delaware Counties have come on line. As it turns out, I had been looking for PDH on the wrong end of town!

Peter David Hansell was a tenant farmer for a 144 acre tract located on Marshall's Road in Upper Darby. Naylor's Run coursed through his front yard. The abutting properties to the east were Marshall's grist mill and "Sellers Hall"; to the west lived PDH's landlord William Garrett, scythe maker and mill owner.

Under the name Peter David, PDH is on the Upper Darby tax rolls from 1754 to 1772. The 1764 record confirms PDH was paying rent to William Garrett.

A handwritten tax record from 1764 for Peter David Hansell. The document is titled "Upper Darby Rate Continued" and is numbered "9". It lists the following items and amounts:

Item	Amount
Horses and 14 Cattle and 8 Sheep	80
Pay Wm Garrett 3/4 to 1/2 yr	1 10 8
Land tax 1/10 " 8	1 18 6

For the years 1764, 1766 and 1767, the assessor for Upper Darby traveled from house to house, so we know Peter David Hansell's neighbors on Marshall's Road:

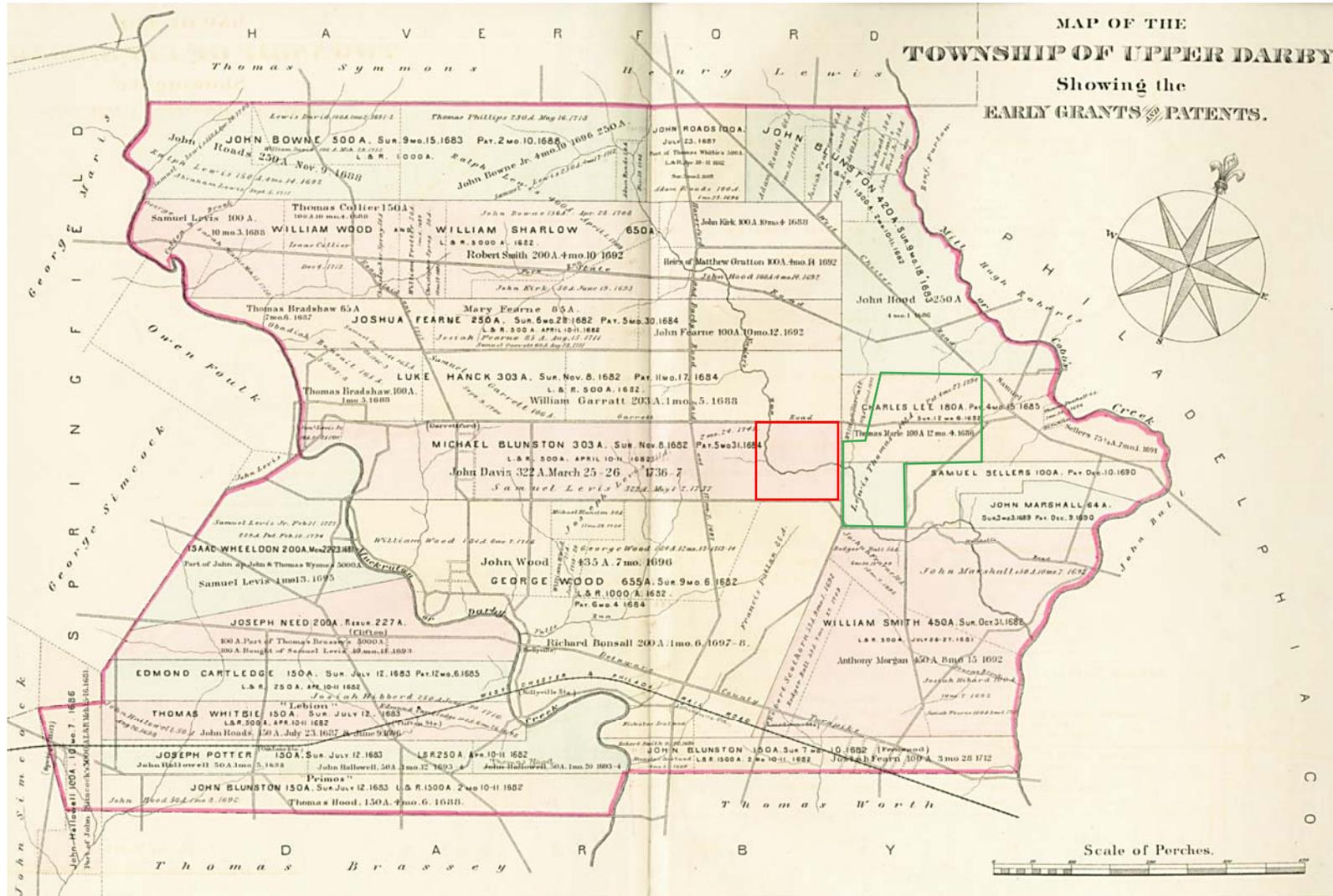
- James Steel, John Thomas, Thomas Marshall, Abraham Johnson, John Hayes, all millers
- William Garrett, scythe maker, mill owner and PDH's landlord
- John Brannan, yeoman and cordwainer
- Samuel Sellers, weaver, and his son John, wire weaver, living at "Sellers Hall"

PDH's neighbors were easy to find--all are well documented Quakers, descendants of the original English immigrants who came to Pennsylvania at the invitation of Mr. Penn (with the exception of Mr. Brannan who apparently was a Presbyterian). During his years in Upper Darby, Peter David Hansell traveled six miles into Philadelphia to have his kids baptized at the German Lutheran church. Those records, along with tax records, his 1765 naturalization, and the 1757 and 1770 lost horse advertisements, form the scant paper trail PDH left behind from his Upper Darby years.

While nothing new came up directly related to PDH in Upper Darby, it is interesting to pin-point his home, see what his neighbors were up to, and by inference know more about his life. Some of the first water-powered mills on Naylor's Run and Cobb's Creek were owned by PDH's neighbors.

Township of Upper Darby - Early Grants (Atlas of Delaware County, Pennsylvania, 1880)

Red - William Garrett 62 A
Green - Peter David Hansell 144 A



Upper Darby Rate Continued (17)			\$	
James Steel L 1.16	Grist Mill and Tenement Miller & Horse & Cow	1	16	2
John Thomas L 1.18	Grist Mill & Tenement Miller	1	18	16
John Sellers	120 Acres Improved & 20 th L 20 per an 50 th Unimproved a L 8 per an 1 Servant 4 Horses 15 Cattle 12 Sheep		18	67
Samuel Sellers	40 Acres Improved & 20 th a L 8 per an 60 Unimproved a L 9 per an 2 Horses 2 Cattle 4 Sheep		72	81
Peter David L 1.10 1/2	140 Acres Improved & 20 th a L 34 4 Horses 10 Cattle 4 Sheep	1	107	93
Thomas Marshall	9 Acres Improved & 20 th a L 5 per an 2 Horses 2 Cattle Filling Mill a L 8 per an		46	3
Abraham Johnson	30 Acres & Improvement a L 10 per an 4 Horses 2 Cattle Saw Mill a L 20 per an		9	5
John Brannon	120 Acres Improved & 20 th a L 20 per an 27 Acres Unimproved a L 7 per an 3 Horses 5 Cattle 5 Sheep		18	3
John Hayes 5/4 & 3/4	Tenement a L 6 per an 4 Acres Improved a L 3.10 per an 1 Horse 2 Cattle a Mill Wright		56	3
William Garrett L 9	50 Acres Improved & 20 th a L 20 per an 10 th Unimproved a L 10 per an 1 Negro 3 Horses 3 Cattle Mill for Working Leather a L 10 per an Blade Mill a L 8 per an		18	16

1767 Assessment
Marshall's Road
Residents

- James Steel
- John Thomas
- John Sellers
- Samuel Sellers
- Peter David
(Hansell)
- Thomas Marshall
- Abraham Johnson
- John Brannon
- John Hayes
- William Garrett

View at ancestry.com, Pennsylvania, Tax and Exoneration, 1768-1801
Peter David, Upper Darby, Chester County, PA

Mr. Marshall's Mills

Peter David Hansell's 1757 advertisement places him next to Marshall's Mill. Who is Marshall and where is his mill?

Came to the Plantation of Peter David in Upper Darby, adjoining Marshall's Mill, about two Weeks ago, a Chestnut sorrel Mare, shod before both her hind Feet white, a small Blaze in her Face, branded with M on the near Shoulder has a jwitch Tail, large Mane and Topin, paces and trots. Whoever has lost any such Creature, may repair to the Place aforesaid, prove their Property pay Charges, and have their own again. Dec. 3. 1757. ||

12-8-1757 *Pennsylvania Gazette*

In the tax records for Upper Darby where names are grouped geographically (as opposed to alphabetically), some of Peter David Hansell's nearest neighbors include:

- Thomas Marshall, fulling mill
- John Hayes, millwright
- John Thomas, miller
- Abraham Johnson, saw mill

The pioneer John Marshall married and settled in Darby in 1688 and died in 1729. In 1723 he (or maybe his son John) petitioned the court to construct a road from the Marshall

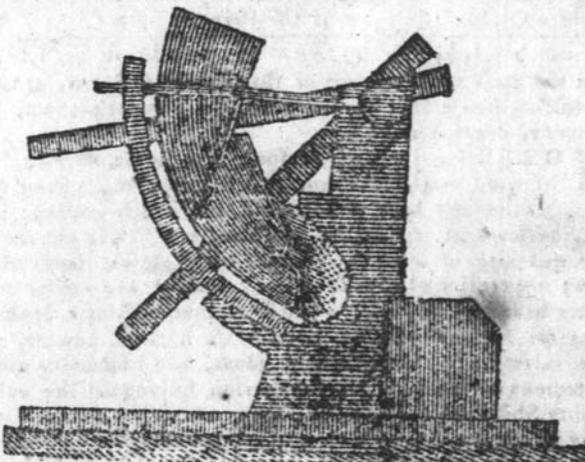
home near Cobb's Creek to the Darby-Haverford Road. The road would conveniently run right by his mill near Naylor's Run. Naturally, this road became known as Marshall's Road.

A few years before his death, the elder John deeded a good portion of his land to his son John.

The will of the son John Marshall 1690-1749 mentions a fulling mill, a grist mill and a sawmill which were parceled out to his male children, Thomas, Abraham and John.

The son Thomas Marshall 1716-1789 inherited the fulling mill, situated on nine acres near Cobb's Creek.

During 1771, Thomas placed this advertisement in the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, illustrated with a fulling hammer. The hammer was lifted by cams on the shaft of a water-wheel. On its descent, the hammer struck cloth placed in a tub of water and a cleansing solution. This repeated action would clean, soften, and shrink the material.



To the PUBLIC.

WHEREAS THOMAS MARSHALL, of the Township of Darby, 2 Miles and a Half from Darby Town, 3 Miles from the Corporation Ferry, and about 5 Miles from the City of Philadelphia, has a compleat Fulling-Mill, and all the Works in good Order for carrying on the Fulling Business in the neatest Manner; also a London Frame, for dressing Camblets, Cambletees, Silks and Grograms, in the best Manner, and now being strong handed, suitable for carrying on the above-said Branches of Business, all those that please to favour him with their Custom, may depend on being served with Care and Dispatch, and on the lowest Terms.

N. B. Cloths, and the above-said Stuffs, are received by John Brown, Merchant, at the Bird-in-Hand Wharff, Emanuel Josiah, Merchant, at the Corner of Front and Market-streets, opposite the London-Coffee-house, and at Sarah and William Austin's new Ferry-house, Arch-street Wharff, Philadelphia, at which Places Attendance will be given once a Week.

In 1743, before his father died, the middle son Abraham 1720-1752 was deeded the grist mill on 98 acres (Del Co H:683). A mariner, Abraham Marshall died at sea (Latitude 28), age 31. In 1774, after his children attained their majority, the mill and land were sold to John Tyson (Del Co H:685).

This grist mill is the Marshall's Mill mentioned in Peter David Hansell's 1757 advertisement. According to the deed, the western edges of the 98 acres abutted the Fearn, Ball and Samuel Sellers properties, which places it adjacent to PDH's location on William Garrett's 144 acres on Marshall's Road.

To be SOLD by PUBLIC VENDUE,
On Thursday the 13th day of May next, on the premises, (if not sold before by private sale)
A CERTAIN Plantation or Tract of Land, situated six miles from Philadelphia, in Upper Darby Township, Chester County, containing 98 acres, be it more or less: The land is fertile, and excellent for wheat. There are 20 acres of good meadow, the chief part if not the whole of which may be watered by a good stream running through said place, on which is erected a grist mill, with two pair of stones, known by the name of Marshall's Mill. There are about 25 acres of thriving timber, an excellent orchard of 300 trees, a large framed dwelling-house, a barn, and a spring-house. A reasonable time will be given for the payment of the greater part of the purchase money, with interest thereon, by giving security if required. The title is indisputable. Any person inclining to purchase the above described Land and Mill before the day of sale above-mentioned, may be further informed of the terms by applying to the subscribers in the borough of Wilmington and county of Newcastle, on Delaware, heirs of the estate of ABRAHAM MARSHALL, deceased.
JOHN MARSHALL,
ARCHIBALD WOODSIDE,
BARNEY COUSINS HARRIS.
N. B. The sale to begin at Two o'clock in the afternoon.

Prior to the 1774 sale, the grist mill property was advertised in the 4-26-1773 *Pennsylvania Packet*. In the ad, John Marshall is Abraham's son; Woodside and Harris are the sons-in-law, married to Abraham's daughters Sarah and Margaret.

In 1795, the miller John Tyson advertised the property for sale. He described the mill as an over-shot grist-mill.

Clearly there were more mills than Marshall boys left to run them (the youngest son John, birth and death unknown, apparently died early). The widow Eleanor Marshall 1703-1768 solved this problem by marrying off her daughters to millers. Eleanor is a sister of Lewis Thomas 1694-1761, former owner of the land where PDH lived.

- Rachel Shenton & John Hayes m. 10-18-1751 (daughter from Eleanor's first marriage to Nathan Shenton)
- Joanna Marshall & John Thomas m. 11-7-1751
- Martha Marshall & Abraham Johnson m. 4-17-1754. Abraham Johnson purchased Mr. Marshall's sawmill on a 32 acre parcel near Cobb's Creek (Del Co G:60)

Mr. Marshall's mills would eventually be acquired by Nathan and David Sellers: Delaware Co. Deeds: 1789 fulling mill G:54. 1790 saw mill G:46-57. 1806 grist mill H:688.

John Brannan, Cordwainer

On the tenth Day of February next ensuing, will be exposed to Sale by Way of Vendue,
A Messuage, and Plantation, in Upper Darby, containing near 100 Acres, about 50 Acres clear'd, 6 Acres of it being Meadow, and much more may be made, it produces extraordinary good Timothy and Clover Grass; having thereon a good brick House, Kitchen, Barn, and Out-houses; likewise a very good young Orchard, containing 87 Trees, all grafted, 65 of them being House-Apples, and bears Fruit, the rest Vandiveers; about ten Acres of good Corn in the Ground, lying about six Miles from Philadelphia, about a Mile from Merchant Mill, Saw Mill, and Fulling Mill, distant two Miles of Darby Town, three sides of it fronting the main Road; likewise Horses, Cows, Sheep and Swine, Hay in the Stack, Implements of Husbandry, and Household Goods, a Loom, Slays and Geers, with several other Things too tedious here to mention, it being the Estate of Francis Pullan, deceas'd, and to be sold by us the Subscribers, Executors of his last Will and Testament. Usual Credit being given, by
Jan. 14. 1742.
Amy Pullan,
Richard Hall.

John Brannan 1706-1768 was a long-time neighbor of Peter David Hansell.

The early land grants map shows the name Francis Pullan on a property to the south of the 144 acre tract where PDH lived

Francis Pullan, yeoman, died in 1742. Lewis Thomas was a witness to his will. Pullan's property was advertised in the 2-2-1743 *Pennsylvania Gazette*.

In 1743 the widow Amy Pullan and Richard Hall, cordwainer of Philadelphia, executors, sold Pullan's property to George Bullock, tanner of Philadelphia. (Del Co W:584)

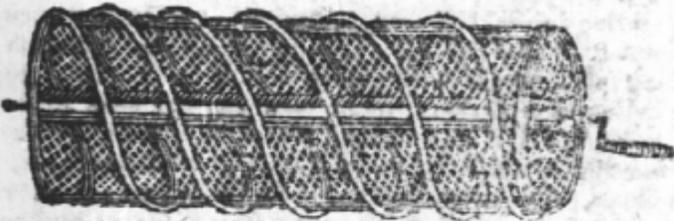
In November of 1746, George Bullock, tanner of Philadelphia, sold the property to John Brannan, cordwainer of Darby, "already in possession of the property." (Del Co H:470)

All this is interesting in that Howard Barclay French in his *Genealogy of the Descendants of Thomas French* (1913) reported "Peter David Hansell...constructed and operated for many years a tannery..." So far I haven't found a smidgen of data to support that statement. Was Francis Pullan a cordwainer on the side? Did Pullan have something to do with his neighbor Lewis Thomas who had a set of shoemaking tools in his back room? Richard Hall the cordwainer of Philadelphia may have been Amy Pullan's father? brother? George Bullock had a tannery on Dock Street in Philadelphia. John Brannan the shoemaker reportedly came from Middletown, Delaware County. Soon William Garrett will start running a mill for leather work. And Peter David Hansell may have had a tannery. Well, there's a lot of leather in these connections, but nothing to shed light on PDH and the purported tannery.

Anyway, John Brannan died in 1768. He left his wife Grace, daughters Mary Brannan and Margaret married to Ephraim Armstrong, and one son, Benjamin 1739-1825 who inherited his real estate. William Garrett assisted with the inventory of Brannan's property.

Peter David Hansell's first child David was born in 1756. In David's very sparse paper trail there is a 1786 tax record in Kingsessing for David Hansell, Cordwainer.

The Sellers Family of Upper Darby



M ADE and SOLD by the SUBSCRIBER, in Darby, various kinds of WIRE WORK, such as twilled or plain, as may best suit their purposes; rolling screens for cleaning wheat, consisting of four various sorts of wire, each calculated to the greatest exactness, and found, from long experience, to answer the purpose; rolling screens for cleaning flaxseed from the yellow or wild seed; small bolts for separating the cockle from the flaxseed; or bolts so constructed, as for one to perfect both the said purposes, as may best suit the stores in which they are to be used; small bolts for Indian corn meal; fans, for taking out garlic, and common Dutch fans, both made in the neatest and best manner. Likewise all other kinds of wire work for standing shoe or shoot screens, wire sieves and riddles of all degrees of fineness, and short cloths for millers. Those that please to favour him with their orders, may depend on their work being done with care, and the greatest dispatch, and the work warranted, and that he is not pretending to perform that which he has not, in a great number of instances, given the utmost satisfaction, having had long experience in the use of them, and made upwards of thirty rolling screens for wheat, and upwards of fifty for flaxseed. The Subscriber, for the conveniency of his customers, keeps them in Plumsted's stores, in Philadelphia, where the several sorts may be had, at the most reasonable rates, by applying to John Brown, at said stores. And he attends generally twice a week in Philadelphia, so that any person, by leaving a line at the Conestogoe Waggon, in Market-street, or sending by the post, may give their orders, and depend on his care and fidelity therein.

JOHN SELLERS.

N. B. He proposes to affix his name on the heads of all his bolts, rolling screens, and fans.

Other close neighbors to Peter David Hansell were Samuel Sellers, Junior 1690-1772 and his son John Sellers 1728-1804.

It is said the original settlers Samuel Sellers, Sr. 1655-1732 and John Marshall, neighbors and friends, helped each other clear land and build houses. This Samuel was a weaver by trade as was the above Samuel, Jr.

The Sellers family is quite well-known. They have their own Wikipedia page. Miraculously the original family home, "Sellers Hall," stands.

Smart, curious, scientifically minded and inventive, the Sellers and their descendants left an engineering legacy.

John Sellers advertises his wares in the 7-27-1769 *Philadelphia Gazette*.

James Steel, gristmill miller, is on the tax list as a close neighbor of Peter David Hansell. Jordan in his *History of Delaware County* tells us James Steel operated a mill for the Sellers until 1805 when he was succeeded by his son Thomas. Thomas taught the milling business to the next generation of Sellers.

Sons of John Sellers 1728-1804, Nathan 1751-1830 and David 1757-1813, and their descendants, would eventually buy, among other Upper Darby properties, Mr. Marshall's mills, William Garrett's property, and the 144 acre tract where Peter David Hansell lived.

William Garrett, Scythe Maker, Mill Owner and PDH's Landlord

It is an oft told story how the friends William Garrett and Samuel Levis of Harby, Leicestershire, England, purchased a 1,000 acre tract from Mr. Penn, sight unseen, in Willis-town, Chester County. For whatever reason, this land did not suit and William Garrett rummaged up a 500 acre tract in Darby. Here he settled in 1684, in the company of other like-minded English Quakers. This first William Garrett 1643-1724 was married to Ann Kirke.

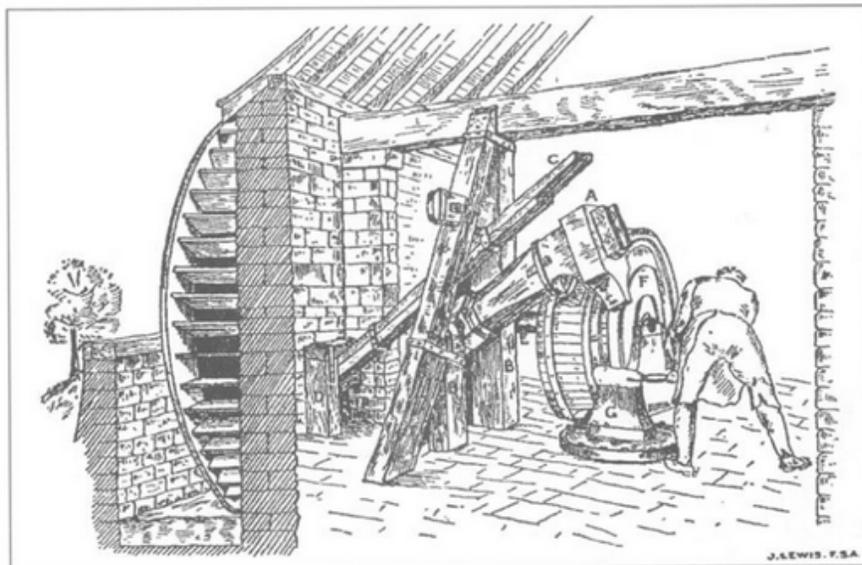
William Garrett, Jr. 1679-1726 was a weaver. He married Mary Rebecca Smith. Of their children, we are interested in the first born John Garrett 1711-1780 and the last born William Garrett 1726-1779.

When the second William Garrett died in 1726, he left his real estate and his looms and other equipment for weaving to his first born John. The last child William was only a year old when his father died, so he was essentially on his own if he reached maturity.

This child William went to Philadelphia to seek his fortune as a merchant. At age 25 he came back home to Upper Darby, married Ann Oborn, purchased land and went into the scythe making business.

William's first land purchase is dated 3-12-1750/51. Abraham Musgrove, yeoman of Darby, sold 62 acres to William Garrett of Darby, late of Philadelphia, merchant (Del Co C:463). In January of the same year, William entered into an agreement (Chester Co B2:287) with his brother John (for a consideration of five shillings and brotherly affection), whereby on John's land William would build a dam across Naylor's Run and dig a race to the property he was purchasing from Musgrove. Dig he did--the race was probably a half mile long before it fed back into Naylor's Run.

In subsequent deeds and in his probate inventory, William is identified as a scythe maker. Tax records use the words blacksmith and cutler. He apparently had two mills: one for blacksmith work and one for leather work (fulling and bark).



William Garrett probably had a water powered tilt hammer for forging strips of metal to form scythes.

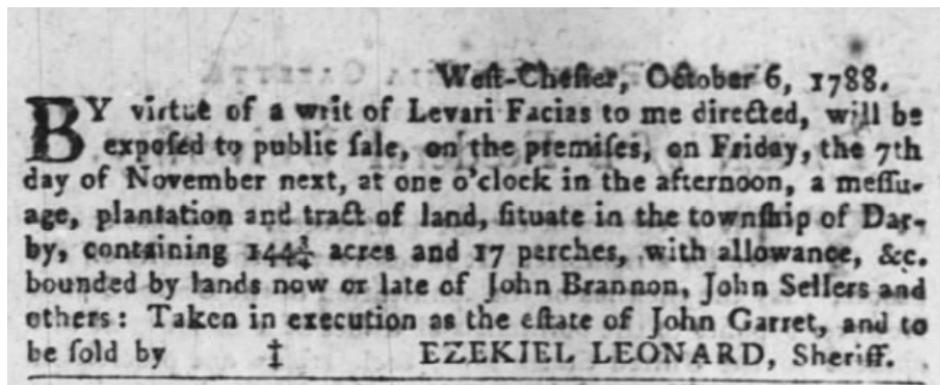
In 1761 William Garrett's next door neighbor Lewis Thomas died. William witnessed his will, appraised his personal effects, and purchased his real estate--house and 144 acres (Chester Co D2:225). No conflict of interest here! This is the property PDH rented from William Garrett until 1772.

William Garrett died in 1779. He left a handsome estate and his will generously provided for his wife, daughter and sons. The eldest son Oborn inherited the 62 acre parcel William has purchased from Abraham Musgrove. The house and 144 acres he had purchased from the estate of Lewis Thomas went to the son John.

John, a grazier, moved into Philadelphia and used his inheritance as collateral for three loans. In 1781, John borrowed money from James Budden 1744-1788, merchant of Philadelphia (son of the famous Richard Budden, captain of the *Myrtilla*). John paid back this loan, then turned around and borrowed again. Here things went sideways.

In 1784, John borrowed money from his brother Oborn Garrett. In the mortgage book, the deed is not marked as discharged. Oborn's 1804 will forgave all debts owed by his brother and furthermore set aside money, the interest on which was to keep John "decently clothed." It came to Oborn's attention that John's wife might be in line for an inheritance and Oborn quickly changed his will to make the bequest contingent on the expected money.

John's second unpaid loan was with Edward Hicks, gentleman of Chester County. Mr. Hicks wasn't so forgiving and took the matter to court.



Pennsylvania Gazette 10-29-1788

John's father must have been twirling in his grave when this property went on the auction block. Fortunately, the brothers Nathan and David Sellers were the highest bidders and thus added this parcel to their ever-growing inventory of Upper Darby properties (Delaware Co M:427).

Chester Co. Mortgage Records 1774-1852 - Budden A:470, Oborn Garrett C:37, Hicks C:31.

James Budden's estate papers include a payment to Barnet Hansell, taylor.

Oborn Garrett left his house and mills on the 62 acres inherited from his father to his nephews Samuel Levis and Oborn Levis, sons of his sister Elizabeth Levis. In 1865, David Sellers 1816-1887 bought the property and called in "Brookfield." See photo of the house in Sarah Pennock Sellers' memoir.

The Property Where PDH Lived in Upper Darby

There is a good amount of information about Lewis Thomas and the Sellers family, the bookends, if you will, of Peter David Hansell's tenure of the Garrett property. Thomas left behind a survey and an inventory; the Sellers left behind memories and photographs.

Lewis Thomas was born in Upper Darby in 1690s. He married Mary Ball in 1732. In 1734 when Lewis Thomas came into possession of this property, he had it surveyed (PA State Archives, Copied Surveys Book A74:196). Neighbors noted on the survey are John Marshall, Samuel Sellers, and John Garrett, descendants of the original settlers.

Lewis and Mary had five children. Mary died in 1760; Lewis died the following year. Witnesses to his will were John Sellers (next door neighbor), William Garrett (next door neighbor) and John Hayes (the miller next door at Marshall's Mills). Lewis also owned a house in Newport, New Castle County, Delaware.

After Lewis Thomas died, his property was advertised in the March 12, 1761 *Pennsylvania Gazette*:

To be sold, by Way of publick Vendue, on the 26th instant March, A valuable Plantation, situate in Darby Township, Chester County, about 6 Miles from Philadelphia, containing 140 odd Acres, about 70 whereof cleared, 12 Acres of meadow, and more may be made, the Remainder well timbered; a good and convenient Brick House and Kitchen, with a Cellar under the Whole, and a Well of good Water near the Door; a good barn, and other Out-houses; also a good bearing Orchard, within Half a Mile of a Merchant Mill, a Stream of Water running through the same; together with the Stock, Household Furniture, and Implements of Husbandry, being the Estate of Lewis Thomas.

The 1761 inventory of Lewis Thomas's estate reveals more about the property.

The barn contained hay, sheaves of rye and oats, and farm implements. Thomas had an array of horses, cattle, swine and sheep. A field was planted in wheat. The main house had two floors and a garret.

Room downstairs	Clock; looking glass; couch; six chairs; pine table; andirons, shovel & tongs; closet; featherbed and furniture; linens and curtains; bible; box of scale and weights for money; pair of stillyards.
Chamber	Walnut dressing table; tea table; looking glass; seven chairs; goods left to daughter Mary.
Garret	Salt beef and bacon; bedstead; casks; wool.
Back Room	Shoemakers tools; hammer, saw, drawing knife; two chests; sheets, towels, tablecloths.
Little Room	Old saddles and bridles; a feather bed and furniture; a chaff bed and furniture.
Kitchen	A large array of kitchen equipment; four old chaff bedsteads.
Kitchen Loft	Flour cask and four bags; spinning wheel; a chaff bed and bolster.
Cellar	Hogshead, fat.

Of interest are the shoemaker's tools in the back room. Was Lewis Thomas a cord-wainer as well as a farmer?

William Garrett bought this property and leased it to Peter David Hansell, tenant farmer.

After PDH moved to Blockley and the Garrett son lost his inheritance, the Sellers acquired the property and called it "Springton."

Gilbert Cope in *Historic Homes and Institutions*, Vol. 1 (1904) describes the home of James Sellers 1783-1857:

The Springton house....was a quaint building of irregular construction having undergone numerous alterations and additions. The original house was probably built by Robert Naylor (c1652-1717), who took up the land in 1683, living at first, tradition says, in a cave in the lull side, near the stream of water flowing through the place bearing his name. Lewis Thomas was an early and subsequent owner of the property.

The 1798 U.S. Direct Tax for Upper Darby describes the property, now owned by David and Nathan Sellers and containing 152 acres. William Moore was leasing the farm while the millwright Richard Hayes lived in a small dwelling on the property.

William Moore, farmer
45' x 20' two-story brick and stone dwelling, 19 windows with 227 lights
10 x 11' one-story stone springhouse
frame barn

Two sons of John Sellers 1728-1804, Nathan 1751-1830 and David 1757-1813, jointly bought this property in 1789 when John Garrett lost his inheritance at the sheriff's sale. When David died, Nathan conveyed the property to his brother's heirs. David's son James Sellers 1783-1857 lived at "Springton."

James Sellers did not leave a will; he thought the intestate laws of Pennsylvania would suffice. The "Springton" property was divided into 12 portions, the house and 12 acres going to James' son Cyrus Cadwalader Sellers 1826-1905. By 1875 the property was sold out of the family and the bulldozers arrived by 1927.

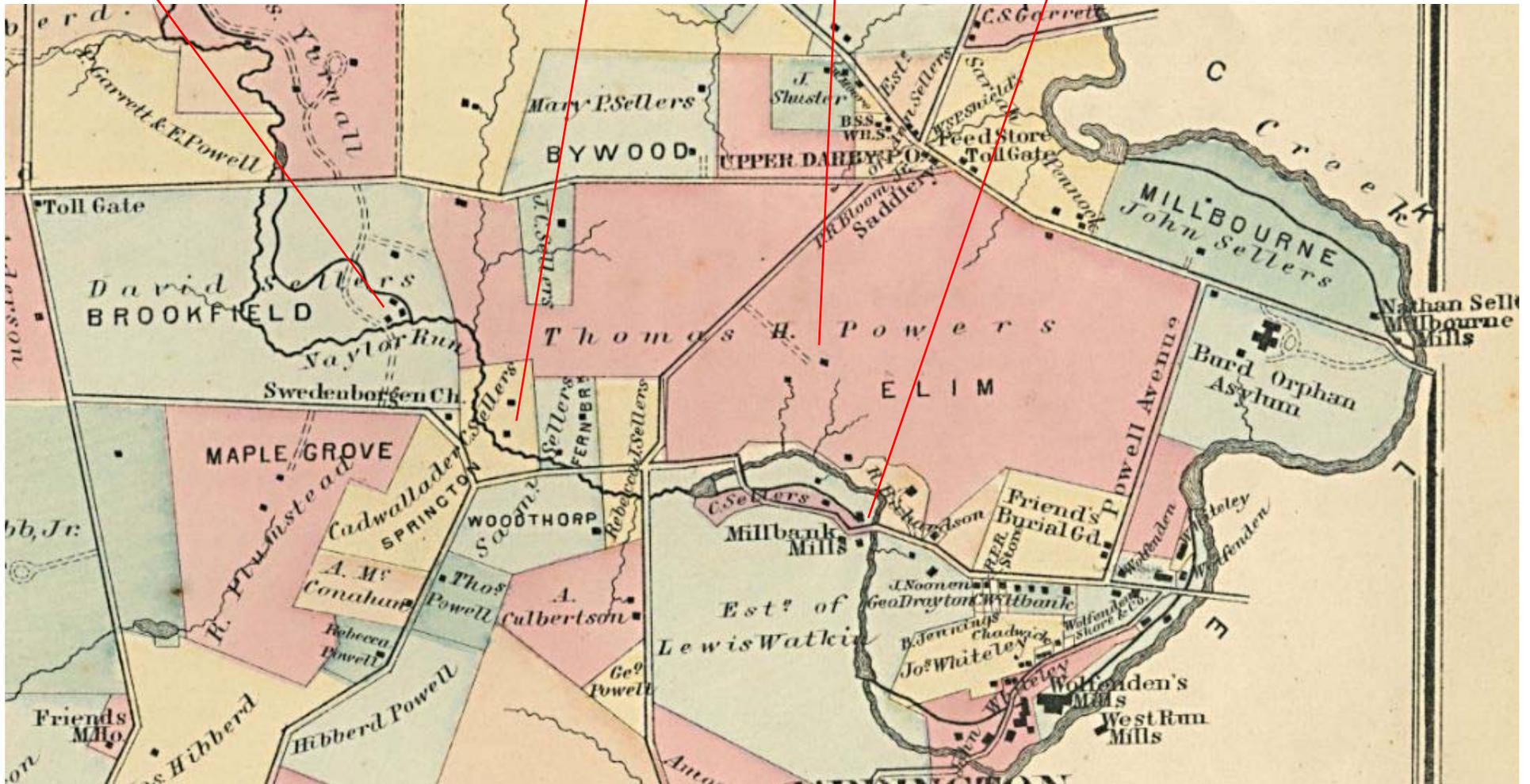
1870 Upper Darby - 100 years after PDH lived here
 (Atlas of Delaware County, Pennsylvania, 1870)

William Garrett 62 A
 the solid line is the mill race

Peter David Hansell 144 A
 leased from W. Garrett
 dwelling just above Naylor's Run

Sellers Hall

Mr. Marshall's grist mill
 on a race next to
 Marshall's Road



Peter David Hansell's Tenancy of William Garrett's 144 A Plantation

I wonder if Peter David Hansell was already working on this farm when Lewis Thomas died in 1761? Tax records show PDH was living in Upper Darby in 1754. Not until the 1764 assessment is there confirmation PDH is leasing from William Garrett.

Though we lack specific details of PDH's tenancy in Upper Darby, his working life is described to a T by historian Lucy Simler's *Tenancy in Colonial Pennsylvania: The Case of Chester County*. This is an amazing resource (at least to me, never having had a clear understanding of old assessment records), tucked away at Jstor.com.

William Garrett needed someone to manage his new investment. PDH used his tenancy as a vehicle to support his growing family and to save enough capital to buy his own property, which in turn gave his children a boost up the economic ladder. Lucy Simler explains:

Farm tenants renting established farms could be expected to be experienced farmers of some substance. They had to be capable of delivering up the farm at the end of the lease in good tenantable order in all parts, allowing only for reasonable decay by age and wear of the buildings. The owner had to assess a tenant's ability to provide farm implements, money for seed and lime, and cows and horses to manure the fields and work the land. The tenant had to figure that, in addition to providing for his family, he must earn enough to pay rent and taxes, maintain his capital investment in stock and farm implements, and buy the necessities he could not produced himself.

For the landowner, the renting of land to a tenant was a way to hold, to improve and to earn a return on land until it was needed for the use of the family or for sale to raise capital.

From the tenants' viewpoint, farm tenancy offered opportunities of several kinds. Such tenants gained possession of land without moving to the frontier. By staying in Chester County, they could participate in the export market, in the Philadelphia market, and in the developing market of the county itself. Further, they could accumulate capital for entry into the land-owning class while retaining the use of capital for investments other than land.

The terms were spelled out in the lease. Leases were generally kept short (five to seven years) in order to facilitate recovery of the land by its owner, and they required tenants to maintain or improve the quality of the farm. Rights and obligations of tenants were carefully specified regarding land to be planted, water usage, and timber for firewood and fencing.

Tenancy in Colonial Pennsylvania: The Case of Chester County, by Lucy Simler, *The William and Mary Quarterly*, Oct 1986, V. 43, No. 4, pp 542-569
Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.com/stable/1923682>

After 25 years of being a tenant farmer, PDH accumulated enough capital to purchase a house and parcels of land totaling 80 acres in Kingsessing (with prime frontage on the Darby Road). The property passed on to his children, who carefully managed their inheritance. His children's occupations: four blacksmiths, one tailor, one wheelwright, two farmers (one perhaps a shoemaker), proprietor of the Rising Sun Tavern in Blockley.

Here are two photographs of "Springton." PDH must have lived in some portion of the house, which surely was enlarged and renovated after he left in 1772. A third photo is found in *Upper Darby* by Rorer & Marinelli for the Upper Darby Historical Society, 2011.



Rural Pennsylvania in the Vicinity of Philadelphia by Samuel Fitch Hotchkin, 1897

Photo page 345



David Sellers, Mary Pennock Sellers by Sarah Pennock Sellers, 1928

Sarah Pennock Sellers 1848-1933 compiled memories of the Sellers family. Of "Springton" she wrote:
The house had a charming southern outlook over a broad sloping meadow to a picturesque dam on Naylor's Run.

View at FamilySearch books.

Blockley 1772-1779 - Revisited

In my 2012 research into the whereabouts of Peter David Hansell, two Blockley tax records, a missing cow advertisement and an indentured servant record placed him in Blockley Township during the years 1772 to 1779. From these we could infer that PDH lived in Blockley, kept an above average amount of horses and cattle, his household needed extra help and he lived 1.5 miles from Gray's Ferry. Not many clues to figure out exactly where he hung his hat.

After Ed Bradford had success in grouping together the German vital statistics for Peter David Hansell, he continued reviewing records closer to home and came up with this gem. This tax record opened the spigot of information to pinpoint PDH's whereabouts during his Blockley years.

*Kingsessing,
Matthew Jones Assessor*

389	George Gray Esq: Prop		
5	43 acres Land Dwelling and Ferry . . .	L. 100	100
	1 Servant	1	10
	4 Negroes	16	
	6 Horses 1 Cow	4	6. 8.
	<u>L20. of Joseph Sellers</u>	12	
	14 acres Meadow	10	
	<u>L120. of Peter David . . . Blockley</u>	72	
	Dwelling 420 acres Land } 65	39	
	Pajjunkt	2	
	6 Cows	18	
	GR. of Reily's Estate	18	
	of James Stuart	14	12.
	of Joanna Anthony	15	3. 1.
	of Elizabeth Weyman	1	10
	of Sarah Green	1	16
	L55. of Hercules Courtney	33	
	L28. of James Dickinton	16	16
	L26. of Thomas Kendal	15	12
	L42.10. of John Sherman	25	10
			L 406. 15. 9.
	GR. to Matthew Ingram	6	
	annuity to Thomas Samu	12	18
			L 388. 15. 9.

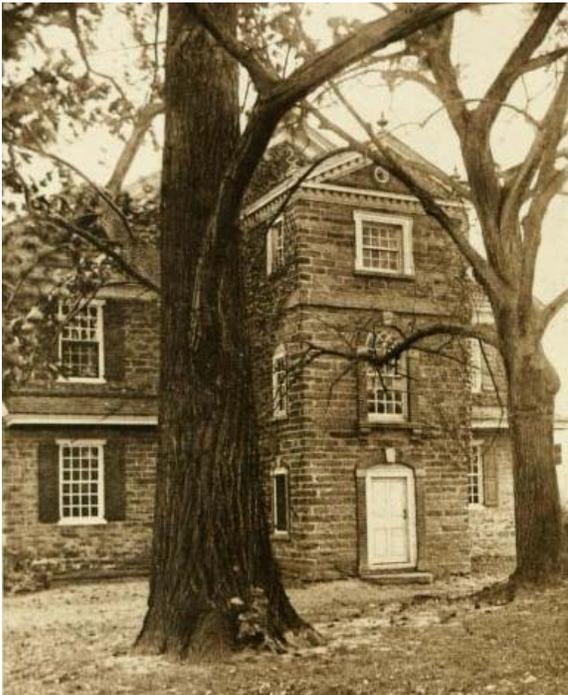
1774 Kingsessing Assessment Record - George Gray 1725-1800, operator of Gray's Ferry in Kingsessing, is taxed on money received from the misnamed "Peter David" of Blockley. Peter David is Peter David Hansell.

During his years in Blockley, PDH was the tenant farmer for the Whitby Hall property. This 300 acre plantation, recently owned by James Coultas, was now under ownership of George Gray.

Note Joseph Sellers.

In 1748, James Coultas, mariner, purchased 296 acres and buildings from Stephen Paschall, cutler of Philadelphia, and his wife Martha (Philadelphia Co. Deed H 5/229). Stephen's grandfather Thomas Paschall had acquired the land from William Penn in 1684. The property was located predominately in Blockley on either side of Coultas's Lane/Gray's Lane. Part bordered Cobb's Creek and a bit of land crossed the line into Kingsessing township and abutted the land and dwelling PDH will purchase in 1779.

James Coultas 1710-1768 was born in Whitby, England. He is described in slightly larger-than-life terms--a gregarious Yorkshireman, "an enthusiastic promoter of all philanthropic and public enterprises." He earned his living sailing ships and eventually settled in Philadelphia. He operated a sawmill on Cobbs Creek and the Middle Ferry over the Schuylkill. He served for a time as High Sheriff of Philadelphia County, Justice of the Peace and a court judge. Coultas married George Gray's half sister Elizabeth Ewen.



On his newly-acquired Blockley property, James Coultas built a mansion he named "Whitby Hall" after his birthplace. Native stone was used for the exterior. Woodwork and marble were imported from overseas. The casement for the bull's-eye window at the top of the stair tower was fashioned from the frame of a porthole from one of James Coultas's favorite ships. Or the window itself came from his ship, depending on which version you read.

Stair tower at rear of Whitby Hall
The Colonial Homes of Philadelphia and Its Neighbourhood

Two ledgers kept by Coultas dated 1760 to 1770 are archived in the Winterthur Library in Delaware (Folio 235). Their content points toward a thriving farm enterprise at Whitby Hall.

Both volumes consist primarily of general farm accounts and document wages paid to rural workers in the pre-Revolutionary War period. Entries list such items as loads of bricks, poultry, livestock, beef, skins, wool, wheat, pine boards, and farm produce. Additional entries record the buying and selling of cows, bulls, and horses. Coultas hired laborers to perform such activities as hauling, plowing, planting, building roads, and making objects.

James Coultas was a founding member of St. James Church in Kingsessing. Before the church was built, Coultas installed benches and a pulpit in Whitby Hall for services. In 1762 Coultas donated to the building fund and supervised the construction of St. James. It is said he was killed by a fall from his horse in 1768 while riding to church.

Coultas willed all his property to his wife Elizabeth. She died a year after her husband, intestate, and the property descended to her half brother George Gray. A deed tells the story of a slight hitch in the transfer of Coultas's property.

Before his death, Coultas apparently got into some financial difficulties. In 1766, Coultas and his wife Elizabeth transferred all real estate and personal property to George Gray, Elizabeth's half brother (Phila. Co. Deed I 3/380). Coultas owed Gray £1,100 and "considerable sums of money" to other, unnamed people. George Gray was to sell off whatever he needed to satisfy Coultas's debts. George managed to satisfy the debts without selling the core Whitby Hall property.



George Gray of Whitby Hall and Gray's Ferry

With his wife, Martha (Ibbetson) Gray, he devoted himself to the cause of American Freedom. He was a member of the Colonial Assembly, the Committee of Safety, the Board of War of Pennsylvania, the Constitutional Convention, and was Speaker of the House of Representatives of the State.

Journal of American History

George Gray 1725-1800 was Peter David Hansell's landlord.

George Gray was a busy man, operating his ferry and ramping up for the Revolutionary War. He didn't have time to take on maintenance of a large plantation. He needed an experienced farm manager. Presumably he went over to Upper Darby and made Peter David Hansell an offer he couldn't refuse.

What are the clues that suggest PDH lived on the Whitby Hall plantation? As usual, the clues are slim.

- 1766 - advertisement for a sale at James Coultas in Blockley, 1.5 miles from the Lower Ferry (i.e. Gray's Ferry)
- 1772 - PDH is last taxed in Upper Darby
- 1772 - *Record of Indentures, etc.* lists Elizabeth Weyen from Holland, indentured to Peter David Hansell of Blockley Township
- 1774 - advertisement for a lost cow came to the plantation of Peter David Hansell in Blockley, 1.5 miles from Mr. George Gray's Ferry

- 1774 - Blockley tax list - Peter David (taxed on 1 servant, 5 horses, 16 cows, 25 sheep)
- 1774 - Kingsessing tax list - George Gray pays tax on “£120 of Peter David, Blockley”
- 1779 - PDH buys house and land and moves to Kingsessing and George Gray moves from Kingsessing to Whitby Hall in Blockley
- 1784 - George Gray witness to PDH’s will (Phila. Wills T:421)
- Tax lists are spotty but they group together neighbors--owners and tenants surrounding the James Coultas/Whitby Hall property. It is clear there is a transition from Coultas to PDH to George Gray while the surrounding neighbors stay relatively stable - see the table on the next page.

The 1767, 1769, 1774 taxes are mostly in order of property owners/occupants. The 1798 Direct Tax identifies neighbors. The 1779 tax shows the transition of Peter David Hansell to Kingsessing and George Gray to Blockley.



1777 Mapping West Philadelphia shows the property owners as of 1777. Red line denotes town line Blockley/Kingsessing

Gray's Lane, formerly Coultas Lane

Whitby Hall, Gray's Lane, Blockley, owned by George Gray

PDH will purchase David Telfair's property in 1779. House located off Gray's Lane in Kingsessing

1777 Mapping West Philadelphia by J.M. Duffin

1767 Philadelphia County Tax

(http://dla.library.upenn.edu/dla/medren/pageturn.html?id=MEDREN_9915456013503681)

1769, 1774, 1779 Pennsylvania Tax and Exoneration (ancestry.com)

1777 Mapping West Philadelphia (<https://maps.archives.upenn.edu/WestPhila1777/map.php>)

1798 U.S. Direct Tax List (ancestry.com)

<p>1767 Blockley tax Aaron Hibbard, 73 A & dwelling James Coultas, 283 A & dwelling William Afflick Edward Robinson Thomas Morris, 20 A & dwelling Michael Hall Aaron Hall William Simons Joseph Lees 73 A & dwelling</p> <hr/>	<p>1766 - James Coultas deeds his property to George Gray</p> <p>James Coultas died Jan. 1768</p> <p>Aaron Hall's father has purchased land 1737-1745 from Aaron Hibbard</p> <hr/>
<p>1769 Philadelphia tax Eliza Coultas - dwelling Aaron Hall - 60 A & dwelling Joseph Lees, 75 A & dwelling</p> <p>1769 Blockley tax Aaron Hibbard - 100A & dwelling Edward Robinson William Afflick Thomas Morris Estate 60A & dwelling</p> <hr/>	<p>3 pages of Blockley taxes are inserted in the Philadelphia book.</p> <p>Elizabeth Coultas died Nov. 1769.</p> <p>George Gray inherited in 1769.</p> <hr/>
<p>1774 Blockley tax Samuel Pearson Aaron Hibbert, 100 A & dwelling Peter David Aaron Hall, 50 A & dwelling Jonas Supplee, 100 A & dwelling Joseph Lees, 20 A & dwelling</p> <hr/>	<p>1772 Weyen indenture PDH in Blockley. 1774 lost cow advert PDH in Blockley. George Gray in Kingsessing pays tax on "£ 120 of Peter David, Blockley"</p> <p>1772 Joseph Lees sold 100A & dwelling to Jonas Supplee</p> <hr/>
<p>1777 Mapping West Philadelphia - N to S Joseph Lees Samuel Pearson Aaron Hibbert Jonas Supplee Jonathan Evans George Gray Town Line (Blockley/Kingsessing)</p> <hr/>	<p>5-1777 Aaron Hall sold to Jonathan Evans</p> <p>Samuel Pearson acquired 1A in 1775</p> <hr/>
<p>1779 Blockley tax George Gray Peter David Hansell (pd in Kingsess) Joseph Lees, Sr.</p> <p>1779 Kingsessing Peter David Hentzel</p> <hr/>	<p>Peter David Hansell buys land in Kingsessing, deed dated 7-5-1779</p> <p>5-6-1779 missing horse advert PDH in Kingsessing</p> <hr/>
<p>1798 Blockley tax Adjoining property owners, N to S Joseph Lees Widow Elizabeth Hibbert George Gray Town Line (Blockley/Kingsessing)</p> <hr/>	<p>1798 direct tax Schedules A & B identify the location of the owner by his adjoining neighbors This is Joseph Lees, Jr. Aaron Hibbert died 1783.</p>

When PDH took on the job of tenant farmer for the Whitby Hall plantation, there were two adjacent, or perhaps connected, sections of the dwelling--the original house, built by the Paschall family from whom Coultas bought the plantation, and the stone structure built by James Coultas circa 1754. By the 1840s, the original wood house had become derelict and was replaced with a two-story stone wing built in the style of the 1754 structure.



This water color, entitled "Whitby Hall," attributed to Martha Gray Thomas 1771-1868, is held by the Detroit Institute of Arts. Martha is a daughter of George Gray. She married Evan W. Thomas 1769-1840 at Whitby Hall in 1792. Martha was certainly on hand to capture the likeness of the property as it was before the demolition of the old house and construction of the new wing. In 1818, Evan W. Thomas purchased from Peter David Hansell's heirs the property in Kingsessing (located adjacent to the Whitby Hall land) and called it "Greenwood Farm."

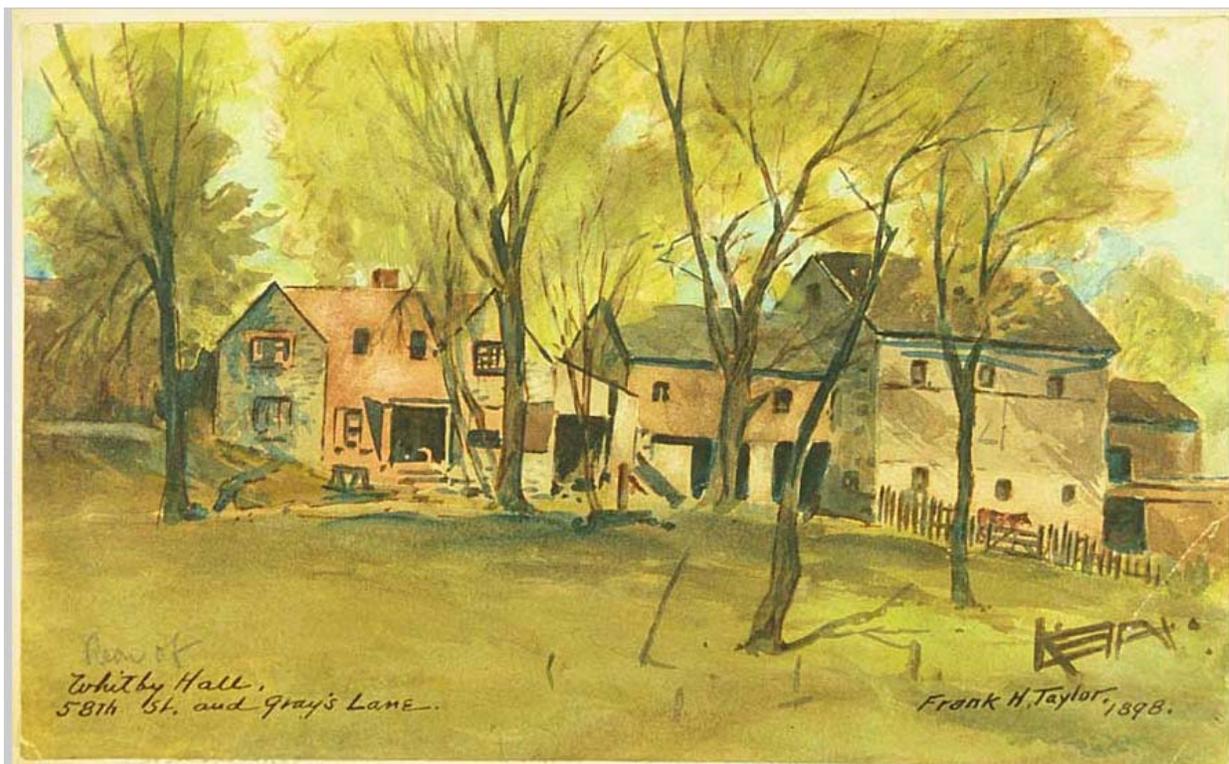
Apparently this is where PDH hung his hat during his Blockley years. Did PDH and his family live in the mansion or take up residence in the original dwelling? Reinberger & McLean in *The Philadelphia Country House* surmise "the farmhouse became the service wing" after the 1754 addition. When PDH moved from Upper Darby to Blockley, he and Dorothy had nine children, ages one to 16. The last two children arrived in 1773 and 1778. What roll did the indentured servant Elizabeth Weyen have in this enterprise? Was it her job to tidy the mansion for visits from the Gray family? There is a lot left to the imagination.

The 1798 US Direct Tax for George Gray's property (Whitby Hall) in Blockley lists one dwelling comprised of a 50'x20' two-story stone structure, a 12'x15' stone staircase, and a 50'x14' one-story log structure. Stone accessory buildings were a 18'x20' kitchen, 18'x12' wash house, 18'x12' greenhouse, 14'x27' shed, 10' diameter smoke house, 10'x27' shop & shed and a 17'x27' wood frame and stone carriage house and corn cribs. Also a 60'x21' frame barn, two 10'x21' frame cow stables and a 72'x12' frame shed.

Colonial Homes explains the doorway in the bank:

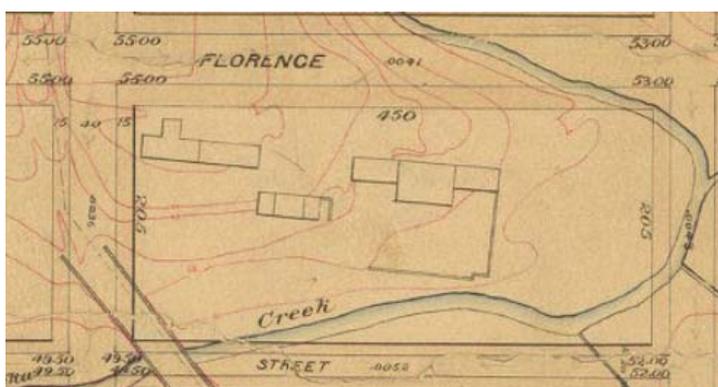
On the south front, on the side of a steep terrace, a doorway opens into a cavernous tunnel that connects with the cellar of the house. Through this tunnel firewood and supplies were taken in. Once, in the old days, the slaves all became hilarious and continued in that happy state of undue exhilaration so long that an explanation was sought. An investigation showed that a cask of wine had been waylaid in its passage through the tunnel to the cellar and that the blacks were taking toll of it each time they went by. East of the house are the barns and slave quarters that were there in 1741 and earlier.

Artist Frank H. Taylor stopped by Whitby Hall in 1898 and painted this watercolor of the outbuildings.



Rear of Whitby Hall, 58th St. and Gray's Lane, 1898 by Frank H. Taylor
http://www.phillyh2o.org/backpages/Cas_HTML/Cas31_20.html

This detail is from an 1884 Philadelphia Street Department map. Whitby Hall with outcropping stair tower to the left. Outbuildings middle and right.



https://www.philageohistory.org/rdic-images/view-image.cfm/151-02_MTD



Colonial Architecture for Those about to Build, photograph circa 1912
Whitby Hall (south front) - showing eastern wing that replaced original house

By the early 1900s, urban pressures had whittled the land down to a city lot, 1601 South 58th Street, Philadelphia. Around 1922, sections of the interior of Whitby Hall were sold to the Detroit Institute of Arts. The remainder of the building was dismantled (each stone was marked) and hauled to Tunbridge Road in Haverford where Whitby Hall was reincarnated.

Getting Off Track

Finding Joseph Sellers 1726-1798 Which Led to Finding Rose & Sellers, Surgical Instrument Makers, New York City Which Led to Peter Rose and Hannah Hansell

Back on Page 24 is an image of the 1774 Kingsessing assessment record for George Gray which provided the clue to Peter David Hansell's whereabouts in Blockley. George Gray also collected rent (£20) from one Joseph Sellers. Joseph Sellers turns up in two previous tax records: 1767 paying rent to James Coultas (£20) and 1769 paying rent to James' widow Elizabeth Coultas (£15).

During the years PDH was the tenant farmer for William Garrett in Upper Darby, his next door neighbors were the Sellers family of "Sellers Hall." Next, PDH was the tenant farmer for Whitby Hall, built by James Coultas and inherited by George Gray. Undoubtedly PDH and this Joseph Sellers knew of each other. Same age, same neck of the woods. So who is this Joseph Sellers?

The first thing you run across searching the internet for Joseph Sellers in Kingsessing is an article written in 2016 by Ann de Forest.



Ann wrote a loving tribute to a 250 year old stone dwelling at 1817 So. Vogdes Street in West Philadelphia. The chain of title took her back to the 1700s and pointed her toward the 1774 Kingsessing tax record for George Gray collecting rent from Joseph Sellers and PDH. Here's an uncanny convergence of research!

The Vogdes Street dwelling has a commemorative stone just above the porch roof marked "IS 1764." Ann concluded the initials could very well be JS,

perhaps Joseph Sellers who rented property from James Coultas and George Gray. Read Ann's article here: <https://hiddencityphila.org/2016/05/in-kingsessing-a-colonial-cottage-keeps-history-in-place/>

* * * * *

Finding Joseph Sellers

Joseph Sellers 1726-1798 is of the "Sellers Hall" family of Upper Darby. His father, Samuel Sellers, Jr. 1690-1773, inventive cloth weaver, and his younger brother, John 1728-1804, inventive wire weaver among other accomplishments, were the newsmakers in the family. Genealogy compilations have little to say about Joseph beyond the fact he married Hannah Paschall and "settled away from the homestead."

James Coultas purchased his Whitby Hall property in 1748 from Hannah Paschall's uncle.

In deeds and tax records Joseph's occupation is a cutler and a blacksmith. In 1748 he is found in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. After Joseph and Hannah married in 1751, the couple moved down to Wilmington, Delaware. By 1763, Joseph and Hannah came home and settled in Kingsessing and here we find him renting property from James Coultas and then George Gray. By 1780 Joseph and Hannah moved to Blockley township and then into Philadelphia.

Generally speaking, Quaker admittance and removal records pin-point Joseph Sellers' whereabouts. Quaker marriage records reveal family relationships. Deeds, tax and probate records tell all kinds of stories.

Joseph Sellers in Lancaster, PA

Joseph's birth date, 15th of the fourth month 1726, is recorded in the Darby Monthly Meeting. At age 21, Joseph was admitted to the Sadsbury Monthly Meeting. Four deeds for a property located on King and Duke Streets in Lancaster are recorded in the Lancaster County land records.

1. George Gray cooper of Kingsessing and wife Mary to James Coultas, mariner of Philadelphia - 8-11-1746, 160 pounds, building and lot, 64' East King St. & 252' Duke St. (GG 574).

This is George Gray 1693-1748 and Mary, parents of George Gray 1725-1800 who will rent his Kingsessing property to Joseph Sellers. Mary Gray's daughter from her first marriage, Elizabeth Ewen, married James Coultas in 1735.

2. James Coultas mariner of Philadelphia and wife Elizabeth to Samuel Sellers, weaver of Darby - 11-8-1746, 200 pounds, building and lot same as previous (GG 576).

Samuel Sellers is the father of Joseph Sellers. Mr. Coultas certainly made a nice profit in three months.

3. Samuel Sellers weaver and wife Sarah to their son Joseph Sellers, cutler of Lancaster, 8-20-1751, 5 shillings and love and affection, building and lot, 64' East King St. & 126' Duke St. (QQ 96).

On the 13th day of the fifth month, 1751, Joseph Sellers of Lancaster married Hannah Paschall of Darby. Was the property deeded to Joseph as a wedding present?

4. Joseph Sellers cutler of Lancaster and wife Hannah to William Bowsman, 5-20-1752, 170 pounds, same as previous (DD 132).

1752 was a year of transition. Joseph Sellers sold his Lancaster property. Hannah and her siblings sold Paschall family land in Whiteland (Chester Co. Deed K 254). Retaining a life estate, Samuel Sellers deeded the "Sellers Hall" property in Upper Darby to his youngest son John. Joseph and Hannah moved to Wilmington, Delaware.

Wilmington, New Castle County, Delaware

What drew Joseph to Wilmington? Probably Henry Troth who married Hannah's sister.

On the 25th day of the second month 1751 in Wilmington, Henry Troth married Hannah Paschall's sister Sarah. Three months later, Henry was a witness to Joseph and Hannah's marriage in Darby. Henry, of course, was a party to the deed when the Paschall siblings sold land in Whiteland in 1752. In the deed, Henry was described as a joiner of Wilmington, New Castle Co., Delaware, husband of Sarah (Paschall).

Henry Troth 1728-1785 was born in Maryland, learned the cabinetmaking trade and set up shop in Wilmington. In 1749, Henry Troth, joiner, purchased a building and land on Shipley/Broad/Market Streets (New Castle County Deed Book Q1 444).

Money in hand from the sale of their Pennsylvania real estate, Joseph and Hannah moved to Wilmington, presumably to join Hannah's sister and her husband. The only paper trail to the Sellers' Delaware years is recorded in the Wilmington MM records: their 1752 admittance; the births of two children, Paschall 7-12-1753 and Hannah 7-2-1758; mention of a third child, Sarah; and their removal certificate to Darby MM.

Back to Pennsylvania

These entries in the December 1761 and January 1762 Sadsbury MM records indicate the Sellers family had returned to Lancaster:

Lampeter Preparative Meeting informs this that a gravestone is fixed at the grave of Joseph Seller's child in Lancaster which might be as decent without. (Two men were sent to visit Joseph Sellers.) The Friends appointed report they visited Joseph Sellers; that he was willing Friends should do as they thought proper only requested some mark might be left that he might know where the Grave was...

In Blockley, on January 24, 1763, James Coultas opened his Ledger and started an account for Joseph Sellers.

In 1764, Joseph's membership was transferred from Wilmington MM to Darby MM.

1764 Wilmington MM Removals

Page 76: June 13, 1764, Joseph Sellers, having located in Darby MM, requests a certificate from Wilmington.

Page 79: November 14, 1764, Henry Troth and family having moved to Maryland request a certificate from Wilmington.

1764 Darby MM Admittance

November 11, 1764, Joseph Sellers delivers certificate to Darby MM from Wilmington MM whereon himself and wife Hannah and two children Hannah and Sarah are recommended to the care of this meeting.

Kingsessing, Pennsylvania

When Joseph came home in 1763, his parents were still living in "Sellers Hall" in Upper Darby. His younger brother John was busy with his wire works and building mills in Upper Darby. James Coultas was living at Whitby Hall in Blockley and had just supervised the construction of St. James Church in Kingsessing. George Gray was busy with his ferry.

In November 1767, Joseph Sellers was a witness to James Coultas's will (Phila. Wills O:200).

Tax records show Joseph Sellers renting from James Coultas, then George Gray, and neighbors.

Kingsessing Tax Assessment	Blockley Tax Assessment
1767 - Joseph Sellers, smith, 1 cow	1767 - James Coultas £20 Jos. Sellers of Kingsessing
1769 - Joseph Sellers, smith, 2 cows Joseph is listed next to his brother-in-law David Gibson who married Mary Sellers. (Also Joseph's brother John had married David Gibson's sister Ann.)	1769 - Eliz. Coultas £15 Joseph Sellers of Kingsessing (misfiled in Philadelphia tax)
1774 - George Gray - £20 of Joseph Sellers 1774 - Joseph Sellers, 1 servant, 1 cow	
1779 & 1780 - Joseph Sellers	

His Father's Will

Joseph's father wrote his will in 1772 (Chester Co. E 5/413). At his death, the June 9, 1773 *Pennsylvania Gazette* made note of his passing: *Samuel Sellers, aged 83 years and 11 days; he left behind him a mournful Widow, older than himself, with whom he lived in a married State upwards of 60 Years....He was a kind Husband, a tender Parent, good Neighbour and above all an honest man.*

Father Sellers was especially solicitous of his son Joseph. The oldest son Samuel seems to have made his way in West Bradford, Chester County, leaving acreage and a house to his heirs at his death in 1785. The youngest son John was prosperous with his wire works and building dams and mills in Upper Darby. The daughters married well. It appears that Joseph needed some assistance along the way.

Samuel Sellers directed that money from his estate reimburse his son John and his sons-in-law money they had advanced "some years past on behalf of my said son Joseph." Son-in-law Lewis Davis, 5 pounds; son John Sellers, 5 pounds; son-in-law John Hunt, 10 pounds; and son-in-law David Gibson, 10 pounds.

Samuel left Joseph 20 pounds and "all wearing apparel and my gun or firelock." Additionally, after the death of his mother, Joseph was to inherit a "Clock and Cloaths-press."

The Unwitting Postman

FIFTY POUNDS Reward.
WHEREAS on the 4th of this instant, in the evening, a letter was delivered to Joseph Sellers, black-smith, living near the Five Mile Stone on the road from Philadelphia to Chester, by a person unknown, who was in company with two or three others travelling towards Darby, with a request that he would send it to the subscriber: It is wrote in a hand attempted to be disguised, by a person accustomed to use stops or points in his writing, though in some instances they are improperly placed with design. A copy of the letter follows.
" To Mr. JOSEPH GALLOWAY, Esqr.
" I stand in need of 50 pounds & Desier you would, not fail to let me have it against the ro. of this month, by leaving it close behind the 5-mile stone between Philadelphia & Darby and I shall pay you in a year with intrest.
" Sir—I shall pay you to a day—
" NB If you dont leave it you shall sorely repent it in a few; days and wish you had left it; you shall be sure of it again.
from a Chester Countyman."

In 1772, Joseph was cast into the role of postman in an extortion scheme.

There's a lot of politics behind this letter, but the gem of information is Joseph Sellers' address: near the Five Mile Stone on the Darby Road.

Hill's 1808 map shows the Five Mile Stone at the intersection of Darby Road and Gray's Lane in Kingsessing.

4-16-1772 *Pennsylvania Journal*

Five Mile Stone, Corner of Darby Road and Gray's Lane aka 1817 South Vogdes Street



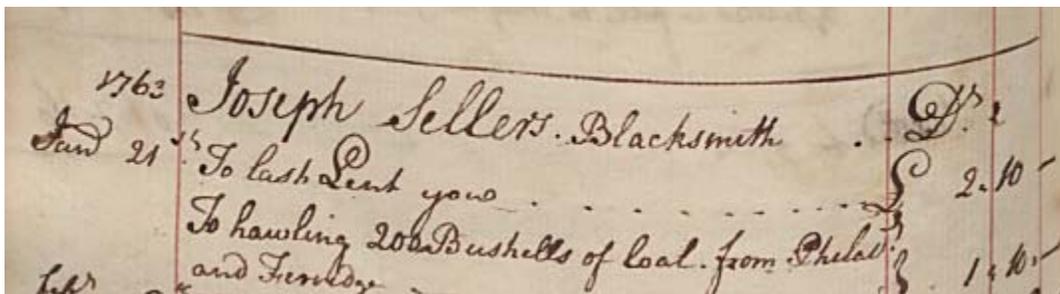
The Joseph Sellers Ann de Forest connected to the stone house on South Vogdes Street and the cutler/blacksmith Joseph Sellers 1726-1798 are surely one and the same.

There is an intriguing intersection of Joseph's return to the neighborhood of his Upper Darby birthplace and the 1764 date and initials on the stone of the Vogdes Street house. Was Joseph involved in the construction of this building? In a moment of homecoming exuberance, did he incise his initials and the date on the stone? (There's half a chance Joseph's son, Joseph Jr., was born in 1764.) It makes for a pleasing symmetry that Joseph had something to do with this building. After all, his grandfather built "Sellers Hall" in the 1680s and it, too, stands today.

In 1764 James Coultas owned the property on which this stone dwelling and a blacksmith shop were constructed. When Coultas purchased the property in 1760 it contained 25 acres of vacant land (I can't find the deed; the transaction is mentioned without book/page in the Gray to Able deed). Interestingly, in 1762 James Coultas supervised the construction of St. James Church (just beyond the Six Mile Stone on the Darby Road) which used the galleting technique of placing chips of stone in the mortar, same as the Vogdes Street house.

Maybe the Ledger of James Coultas will shed some light on the Vogdes Street property.

Ledger of James Coultas - Joseph Sellers, Blacksmith



Joseph Sellers, Blacksmith, appears on pages 51, 76 and 87 of James Coultas's Ledger.

The first entry for Joseph's account is dated January 24, 1763. During this year, James Coultas debited Joseph's account for "cash lent to you," hauling bushels of coal from Philadelphia (price included ferrriage), loads of wood from Robert Henbest's Place, iron from Samuel Potts, 150 shad, a barrel of syder, one bushel of turnips and a good amount of beef.

The year 1764 shows debits of iron from Samuel Potts, firewood, and an anvil from Hugh Roberts. A quarter acre of flax was planted on Coultas's land for Joseph. On the credit side of the ledger are two entries dated April 13, 1764:

By your account of work done for St. James Church	£15.9.1
By your account of work done for the Island	£1.15.41

Clearly Joseph Sellers did something for St. James Church. It is known that James Coultas owned marsh meadow on Boon's Island, or this could be some other island.

Continuing on for the year 1764--starting in July and running through the end of the year are numerous debits for quantities of mutton, beef and wheat. Was Joseph running a restaurant? It seems so, as the credit side of the account has this list entered October 17, 1764, with this explanation: *By sundry dyet of men whilst at the house and shop.*

Wm. Oldfield	234 meals	11 weeks & 1 meal	£ 5.0.3
J. Levis Sr.	112 meals	5 weeks & 7 meals	2.8.0
T. Levis Jr.	193 meals	9 weeks & 6 meals	4.3.6½
Edward Hughes	130 meals	6 weeks & 4 meals	2.15.8
John Palmer	177 meals	8 weeks & 9 meals	3.15.9
Lewis Scothorn	17 meals	1 week & 14 meals	0.15.0
Major Broom	18 meals = 35 meals		
Samuel Levis	369 meals	(not calculated - 17 weeks & 12 meals)	7.18.1
Simon Warner	165 meals	5 weeks & 10 meals	2.11.3
Samuel Moon	32 meals	1 week and 11 meals	0.13.8½
		Total Credit to Joseph Sellers	£30.1.3

Who are all these guys and what were they doing in connection with Joseph?

The thought that immediately leaps to mind is these men comprised the work crew that built the stone dwelling and blacksmith shop on Vogdes Street during the summer of 1764. Is this what was going on, or was it something else? Was Joseph the supervisor, cook and bottle washer for this construction project? More likely Hannah did the cooking and bottle washing, but this entry in James Coultas's Ledger in Joseph's account in the year 1764 leads to a lot of speculation. What was the dynamic between James Coultas and Joseph Sellers that this dwelling and blacksmith shop would be built at this time and that Joseph would be a long-time tenant?

On this list of hearty eaters, the only person I can positively identify is Lewis Scothorn 1731-1795, house carpenter of Lower Merion. Lewis has an account in the Coultas Ledger (page 34; also page 4 which I don't have). James Coultas paid Scothorn cash for his work. The Trustees of St. James Church paid cash for his carpentry work at the church (page 28). Major Broom appears to be associated with Scothorn. The carpenter's assistant? Major (also Mahor, Mager, and Mejer) Broom appears in Chester Township tax records.

The Coultas Ledger has an account for William Oldfield (pages 50, 54, 69, 82). Oldfield was paid cash for work done for Coultas and for St. James Church. What exactly he did is not revealed except for one credit for "the two wells," which isn't quite good enough a clue to call him a well digger.

Also found in the Coultas Ledger is John Palmer (page 2). The debits to Palmer's account include cash, mutton, beef & tallow, and 150 shad. Palmer receives credit for work that is identified in only one instance: "work at the slaughter house."

Levis men by the names Samuel, John and Thomas live in Springfield (presumably descendants of the pioneer settler Samuel Levis who came from England with William Garrett). There is an Edward Hughes in Marple who is a carpenter. Simon Warner and Samuel Moon couldn't be pinned down.

Moving on, debit entries in Joseph Sellers' account for January 1765 include loads of wood, rent for two years at £6 per year, seven bushels of wheat, an anvil of Hugh Roberts, sundry smith tools of Buffington, and "your note to James Darby."

Joseph's account was totted up on March 11, 1765 and includes a credit of £71.6.10 for Joseph's smith work. Joseph acknowledged that he still owed James Coultas £81.11.2. The account was carried over into another ledger now archived in the dumpster of history.

George Gray had some control over the Vogdes Street property (before James Coultas died) via a 1766 deed (I 3/380). Coultas was in financial difficulties and with this deed transferred all his property, real and personal, to Gray who was to sell off whatever he needed to satisfy Coultas's debts (which explains the notation of "encumbered" on the 1767 and 1769 Coultas tax assessments). Though Sheriff Redman attached a good part of Coultas's real estate, including the Vogdes Street parcel, Gray "bought" it back at auction in 1770 (Sheriff Deeds, Common Pleas, B-3.93). On April 15, 1779 George Gray sold the stone mesuage and stone smith's shop with six acres to Abel Lodge (EF 5/576). It is said Abel Lodge died in 1780 from injuries after a fall from his horse.

Blockley Years with the Rose Family

After George Gray sold the Kingsessing property Joseph had been renting, Joseph and Hannah moved to Blockley.

1782 through 1787 Blockley tax records find Joseph Sellers listed next to his daughter Hannah and her husband William Rose. Joseph, Jr. is in this 1786 assessment list.

A handwritten tax assessment list from 1786. It is divided into three sections by horizontal lines. The first section is for William Rose, a lawyer, with a total value of £215. The second section is for Joseph Sellers, with a total value of £50. The third section is for Joseph Sellers, Jr., with a value of 15 1/2.

William Rose — Lawyer.	
5 Acres & Dwelling	25.
1 Horse	7.
2 Cows	8.
1 Saw Mill	100.
Occupation	75.
	£ 215.
Joseph Sellers	
Occupation	£ 50.
Joseph Sellers, Junr.	
Yhead	15 1/2

The Rose property was located on Mill Creek in Blockley. William Rose and his sons, all cutlers, left a lasting legacy as sword makers.

In 1781, under a government contract, Rose delivered 165 bayonets to the Philadelphia Arsenal. Surely Joseph, metal to the grindstone, helped process this order.

To Philadelphia

By February 1790, Joseph and Hannah transferred their membership from the Darby Monthly Meeting to the Philadelphia Monthly Meeting. Hannah died in 1791. A burial permit dated May 16, 1791 is recorded in the Philadelphia MM Minutes 1785-1804. This would indicate she was buried in the Friends Burial Ground at 4th and Arch in Philadelphia. Findagrave has a memorial for Hannah at Darby Friends Cemetery in Darby, Delaware County.

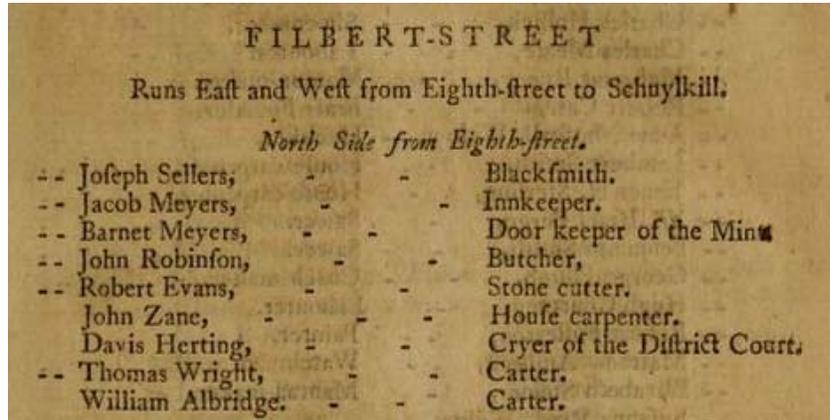
1793 Septennial Census, Philadelphia South Ward: Joseph, his son Joseph Jr. and Isaac Kite. Joseph's sister Sarah married Isaac Kite in 1785. This is on South 8th Street between Chestnut and Walnut.

A handwritten list of three addresses and names, numbered 111, 112, and 113. The entries are: 111 Joseph Sellers, Smith; 112 Joseph Sellers, Junr Smith; 113 Isaac Kite, Carpenter.

111	Joseph Sellers, Smith
112	Joseph Sellers, Junr Smith
113	Isaac Kite, Carpenter

On May 9, 1793 Joseph Sellers, blacksmith of Philadelphia, bought a lot on the north side of Filbert Street between 8th and 9th in Philadelphia (D 68/612). I think this is Joseph Jr. because the same property was sold in 1798 by Joseph and his wife Sarah (D 68/615). A wood frame dwelling was built on this lot; the structure is long gone.

The seller of this 18' x 135' lot was Thomas Leiper, tobacconist of Philadelphia. This brings things back around to the family of George Gray who rented the Vogdes Street dwelling to Joseph Sr. George Gray's daughter, Elizabeth Coultas Gray, married Thomas Leiper. Leiper was a very wealthy man (see his Wikipedia page). He acquired the patent to this square of downtown Philadelphia and was selling off lots. (Filbert Street was formerly called Peach Street in case anyone is interested in this bit of minutia.)



1795 Philadelphia City Directory - Joseph Sr./ Joseph Jr.

The Darby MM Minutes 1784-1898, a compilation of deaths in chronological order, has this entry: "Joseph Sellers departed this life 12 mo 1st 1798."

The Children of Joseph Sellers and Hannah Paschall

The Wilmington, Delaware MM has birth records for two children, Paschall born July 12, 1753 and Hannah born July 2, 1758. The 1764 admittance to the Darby MM mentions children Hannah and Sarah. Jordan's *Colonial Families of Philadelphia* cites two children, Sarah and Joseph, Jr. A Sellers Family Association compilation published in 1962 lists these children with a question mark that denotes uncertainty: Joseph Jr, Samuel, George, Hannah and Sarah.

When the children Sarah and Hannah married they were quickly disowned by the Quakers for marrying out. Fortunately, their husbands' families kept track of their ancestors, and the sisters have been documented. I think Paschall is the child buried 1761 in Lancaster. Around Philadelphia, a slim paper trail can be found for Joseph Jr. which indicates he is a child of Joseph and Hannah; more about him later. I found no trace of a Samuel. There are two Georges associated with Joseph and Hannah who are of an unrelated family (read about the Georges--one was stolen as a child--here <http://ancestorsandothers.net/index.htm>). For now, I am interested in these four children:

- Paschall Sellers 1753-? (child buried in Lancaster burial ground?)
- Hannah Sellers 1758-1812 married 1777 William Rose 1754-1810
- Sarah Sellers 1760-1837 married 1784 Isaac Kite, Jr. 1754-1823
- Joseph Sellers, Jr. ?-1808 married abt 1790 Sarah

The Rose Family

The children of Hannah Sellers 1758-1812 (daughter of Joseph Sellers and Hannah Paschall) and William Rose 1754-1810 are recorded in a family bible.

- Joseph Rose 1778-1819
- Mary Rose 1780-1847
- William Rose 1783-1854
- Benjamin F. Rose 1785-1828
- John Rose 1788-1828
- Hannah Rose 1790-1880 +Jacob Hoffman
- Peter Rose 1794-died early
- Elizabeth Rose 1796-1866 +Griffith Holgate
- Peter Rose 1800-1845 + 1st Harriet Ann Beebe nee Edwards, 2nd Eliza Horton

The story of William Rose and his sons Joseph, William, Benjamin, and John, manufacturers of bayonets, swords and sabers, is best told by Mark Stansbury at his Trowel Collector blog found here: <http://trowelcollector.blogspot.com/2016/06/william-rose-and-early-history-of-w-rose.html>

The 1798 Direct Tax for William Rose lists a barn, tilt mill, blade mill, saw mill and blacksmith shop; 28 acres; one dwelling and one out building.

At William's death in 1810, his inventory included a large quantity of unfinished horseman's swords valued at \$250 along with sword blades, ramrods, mason trowels, bayonets, 332 pounds of ebony wood, and more (Philadelphia, 1810, Case 67).



W. Rose & Sons 1807-1810

http://armscollectors.com/mgs/four_big_black_swords.htm

Benjamin F. Rose, surgeon's instrument maker, is listed in Philadelphia city directories from 1813 to his death in 1828. For the years 1819 through 1822 there is a listing for Joseph & Wm. Rose, surgeon's instrument makers, Hamilton Village.

"Bible Records with Family Names Rose to Shepard" viewed at FamilySearch books.

It is said the Rose family came from England with William Penn; or maybe they were Welsh, depending on what you read. They owned land above 42nd Street (formerly Rose Street) in Blockley/West Philadelphia.

Hamilton Village - It is unusual to find Blockley/West Philadelphia listings in early Philadelphia city directories.

The last child, Peter, was 10 when his father died and 12 when his mother died.

Peter's father died intestate in 1810. For estate purposes, Nathan Jones was appointed Peter's guardian. In 1816, by court order, the father's real estate (three parcels totaling roughly 32 acres) was partitioned and lots were assigned to the eight children. The mill complex with 14 acres (which ran westerly from Mill Creek/43rd Street between Walnut and Chestnut Streets) was devised to Joseph, William, Benjamin, and Peter, each owning an undivided quarter share.

Peter's brother Joseph, the eldest child, died in 1819 and the court granted permission for his undivided quarter share to be sold to cover his debts. On June 29, 1822, Nathan Jones, Peter's guardian, purchased the share for \$1,400 (Deed IH 4/284). On May 16, 1823, Nathan Jones, gentleman of Blockley and wife Mary, and Peter Rose, Surgeon's Instrument Maker of New York City, sold the quarter undivided share to Jacob Mayland, tobacconist of Philadelphia, for \$3,400 (Deed GWR 5/426). And this is how Peter received his inheritance.

In 1822, Peter Rose, age 22, and his cousin Paschall Sellers, about 26, set up shop in New York City. The 1822/1823 Longworth's City Directory reads: *Rose & Sellers, cutlers 116 William.*



1855 Philadelphia City

Joseph Rose's estate file (Philadelphia, 1819, Case 225) provides a window into Joseph's family (debts owed/collected, names of siblings) and his workshop (piles of interesting stuff like sword blades and scabbards, bayonets, ebonny and metal working tools).

In 1821, Benjamin F. Rose, 309 Market St., surgeon's instrument maker, was declared insolvent. He owed \$2,400 to John Sisty, manufacturer of pocket books and surgical instrument cases. Sheriff Caleb North advertised the sale of Benjamin's cutlery, cutler's tools, household and kitchen furniture. Benjamin's inheritance from his father, the undivided quarter share in the Sword Mill with 14 acres and an undivided third share in 5 acres in Blockley, was sold off in 1822 (Sheriff Deeds C/573 and D/10). 1821 was a time of change, especially with the 1819 death of the eldest brother Joseph. Benjamin weathered his bankruptcy and continued on with his surgical instrument business in Philadelphia; Peter moved to New York City with his cousin Paschall; William and John remained in West Philadelphia. William and his sons carried on with the Rose cutlery business, specializing in trowels and heavy-duty, industrial type knives. Today you can go to Home Depot for a W. Rose trowel.

Rose & Sellers, Surgical Instrument Makers, New York City

In 1827, Rose & Sellers ran this ad for three months in *The Evening Post*.



ROSE & SELLERS, No. 72 William st. New York, Surgical Instrument makers, inform the medical gentleman, of the city and country, & druggists, that they manufacture all kinds of Surgical Instruments on the most reasonable terms, wholesale and retail, and of the most approved patterns, and warranted equal in quality to any others purchased in the city.

NE. All kinds of cutlery made and repaired, damaged cutlery polished to look equal to new.— Surgical instruments, razors, shears, scissors, knives, and all kinds of edge tools, &c. put in complete order for use.

m26 3m*

*Rose's work combined a sure, competent handling of materials with a degree of precision and finish seldom before seen in the work of American instrument makers. This accolade was bestowed on Peter Rose by James M. Edmonson in his *American Surgical Instruments: An Illustrated History of Their Manufacture and a Directory of Instrument Makers to 1990*. The is a fascinating, richly illustrated book. Photos include about seven different sets of instruments made by Rose & Sellers and Peter Rose.*

A Trephining Kit from the Cushing/Whitney Medical Library digital collection.



Two trephines with single handle; trephining brush; two Hey's skull saws without handle; two circular saws with single handle; trepanning scalpel stamped "ROSE & SELLERS". Also contains three very fine instruments, perhaps tenotomes. All handles are bone; blades steel; shafts of trephines are brass. Flat bone surfaces knurled. Wooden case with brass-capped corners. Lined with green velvet and dark blue satin. Flap in lid.

Paschall Sellers 1795±-1830±

DISSOLUTION OF COPARTNERSHIP.—Notice is hereby given, that the copartnership heretofore existing between Peter Rose and Paschall Sellers, of the city of New York, cutlers and surgical instrument makers, is this day dissolved by mutual consent. All persons indebted to the said firm, or having demands against the same, will settle with the said Peter Rose, No. 72 William street. New York, 26th April, 1828.
**PETER ROSE.
PASCHALL SELLERS.**
N.B. The business will be continued by Peter Rose, at the old stand, 72 William st. a29 4t

May 2, 1828 *Evening Post*, New York, NY

After the dissolution of the Rose & Sellers partnership, Paschall Sellers moved back to Philadelphia.

Paschall's will is filed in Administration Book O, Page 90.

April 17, 1830

P. Sellers this is my will and my wish that my sister Hannah shall have all that I possess. Peeter Rose if I do not live this money must be paid to my sister. The amount is one hundred and eighty four dollars and fifty cents. This money you was to pay in the beginning of May.

Signed pronounced and declared by the said P Sellers as his will and testament in the presence of us who in his presence and in the presence of each other have hereto subscribed our names.

Witnesses: Benjamin Plum, Adam Painter, Sarah Ann Plum

In Philadelphia on October 12, 1832, Benjamin Plum and Sarah Ann Plum affirmed they were witnesses to the will. On August 13, 1833 administration was granted to John Childs. Childs declared Paschall Sellers' estate did not exceed \$300.

Paschall Sellers died in probably 1830, probably December (month and day is blank), of consumption, and is buried (under the name Pascal Sellers) in Lot A 7 of the Asbury Methodist Church, Blockley. Paschall was the 14th person to be buried in the new churchyard.

Real more about Paschall Sellers in the End Notes.

Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church records viewed at Ancestry.com tell this story. William Rose 1783-1854 was a founding member of the Asbury Methodist Church. Located on Chestnut St. above 33rd, the church was dedicated in 1830. In October of 1830, John Childs purchased Lots A7 and A8 and William Rose purchased Lot A9.

The name John Childs turns up in the probate records of Joseph Rose died 1819.

At first glance, I thought this Paschall Sellers was the son of Joseph Sellers and Hannah Paschall, whose 1753 birth is recorded in the Wilmington MM records. But this Paschall's sister Hannah married William Rose and she died in 1812. I have come to the conclusion Paschall is a son of Joseph Sellers Jr.

Joseph Sellers Jr. is listed next to his father Joseph in the 1787 Blockley tax assessment and the 1793 Septennial Census in Philadelphia. He must be the Joseph Sellers whose estate papers are found in Philadelphia Administrative Index No. 201, year 1808. Joseph Sellers, blacksmith of Blockley, died intestate. Sarah Sellers, widow, and William Rose and Joseph Rose, cutlers, all of Blockley, posted a bond October 13, 1808. His inventory included household goods and blacksmith tools as well as a clock and gun--the same clock and gun his father inherited at his own father's death?

In any event, when Joseph Jr. and his wife Sarah sold their property on Filbert Street they moved to Blockley and the 1800 census finds Joseph Jr. and his sister Hannah Sellers Rose living side by side.

1800 Census - Blockley

Joseph Sellers (indexed Tellers)	William Rose
3 males under 10 - Paschall Sellers 1 male 26-44 - Joseph Sellers, Jr. 1 female 26-44 - Sarah	1 M under 10 - Peter Rose 3 M 10-15, 5 M 16-25 1 M over 45 - William Rose 1 F under 10, 1 F 10-15, 1 F 16-25 1 F 26-44 - Hannah Sellers Rose

Paschall and Peter grew up together, learned their trade in the family workshop under the tutelage of master cutlers, took their skills to New York City and left a lasting legacy in the medical instruments trade.

Sarah Ann Plum, witness to Paschall Sellers' will, is a relative. Sarah Sellers, daughter of Joseph Sellers and Hannah Paschall, married Isaac Kite in 1784. Their child Hannah married Benjamin Hobson in 1807. A daughter Sarah Ann Hobson 1808-1860 married Benjamin Plum 1800-1869 in about 1829.

Joseph Sellers, Jr. is probably the Joseph Sellers, Jr., who, being a birth-right Quaker, was disowned in 1790 from the Darby MM for military training. When confronted, he justified his actions and was not disposed to apologize.

Proposed family of Joseph Sellers, Jr. and Sarah:

- Paschall Sellers b. 1790-1800, died 1830
- Joseph Sellers 1800-1834
- Hannah Sellers (mentioned in Paschall's will), born after 1800

12-29-1834 Joseph Sellers, 34, died of bronchitis and was buried in Asbury Church Lot 7A with Paschall.

US Army Register of Enlistments 1798-1814: July 1828, enlisted in New York City, Joseph Sellers, 28, blue eyes, sandy hair, light complexion, 5'6", instrument maker, born 1800 in Philadelphia. Discharged July 16, 1833 at Fort Dearborn.

Peter Rose, Cutler and Manufacturer of Surgical and Dental Instruments

1828 was not a good year for Peter Rose. His cousin and partner went back to Philadelphia. His brother John died January 10th in Blockley. The New York and Philadelphia newspapers carried the death notice of his brother Benjamin F. Rose, age 44, who died August 25th at Peter's home in New York City.

This advertisement celebrates 20 years in business.

ESTABLISHED 1822.—PETER ROSE, Cutler and Manufacturer of Surgical and Dental Instruments, No 129 William street, New York, has on hand a general assortment of Surgical and Dental Instruments of the most approved patterns, and warranted of the best quality and workmanship; and also manufactures to order, every variety of Instruments and other cutlery.
P. R. trusts that his long and practical experience in business will be a sufficient guarantee to purchasers that all orders will be faithfully and promptly attended to. He would respectfully invite Students to call and examine his large supply of Dissecting Instruments, which he is confident cannot be surpassed, for cheapness and quality, by any made in this country or imported. Any instruments sold by P. R. if not as represented, may at any time be returned and changed until satisfactory.
Surgical instruments and other cutlery repaired with the greatest care. oil

10-11-1842 *Evening Post*

Other advertisements offer tools for tailors, hatters, sail makers and gaugers; fine razors and penknives; lace, pocket, family and lamp scissors; erasers; desk knives; and corkscrews. Today, P. Rose Bowie knives can be found at auctions.

In 1827, Peter advertised to purchase “a second hand wheel such as used by Cutlers.” In 1836, Peter's store was robbed, but the culprit was quickly apprehended.

In 1834, P. Rose Cutler and Surgical Instrument Manufacturer, No. 78 William, corner of Liberty Street, New York, informed the public that “he has hired the privilege of a steam power, where he will be able to grind, polish and repair all kinds of damaged Cutlery and Hardware.”

PETER ROSE,

Surgical Instrument Maker, New-York,

Has invented an improved Stomach-Pump and Exhausting Syringe, for Cupping and drawing Nipples. Also, a Scarifier, and a convenience for giving *enemas* by the patient himself, without the assistance of a second person. The whole apparatus is complete, and neatly put up in one box, for safe transportation.

This improvement is offered as worthy the attention of the profession and the public. A specimen may be seen at the Apothecary Store, No. 316 Broadway, where all orders will be received and attended to.

New York Medical Inquirer, Jan. 1830

February 1845 Peter placed an ad for two surgical instrument makers and a “boy from 15 to 16 years of age, who can come well recommended, to learn the trade.”

In 1845, after 22 years at various addresses on William Street, Peter moved his business to 412 Broadway near Canal Street.

The Death of Peter Rose

Wednesday, Aug. 6, 1845 *New York Herald*
City Intelligence - Melancholy Suicide at Hoboken.

We are pained to be obliged to record the untimely death of one of our respectable citizens, Mr. Peter Rose, of Broadway, surgical instrument manufacturer, who terminated his existence yesterday afternoon by shooting himself through the heart with a pistol.

The particulars are as follows: Deceased was seen through an early part of the day in several of the avenues in the Elysian Fields, sometimes sitting looking downwards, and again would suddenly rise from his seat, walk a few yards and sit again on the next bench he came to. About half past two o'clock he walked as far as Stevens' old Mansion House, immediately behind the Sybil's Cave, and seated himself on a bench, and in a few minutes a lady who had been sitting near him reading, turned around in the direction she heard the report of a pistol, and saw a man which afterwards turned out to be deceased, writhing in the agonies of death. She at once gave the alarm.

Mr. Rose left a card on the bench directed to his family, stating that his eye sight was greatly impaired, and also that pecuniary difficulties had caused him much grief, which was the cause of the rash act, and he hoped that the Almighty would forgive him for what he had done to offend Him. The Coroner, Mr. Perry, of Hoboken, held an inquest on the body shortly afterwards, who found a verdict in accordance with the above facts. The deceased who was about fifty years of age, was conveyed by his family and friends to his late residence in Broadway.

Another newspaper article reports a "near relative" said Peter Rose has recently returned from Washington "disappointed about a patent for an invention connected with his art...and that he had been very melancholy since."

Peter Rose's death certificate indicated he was buried in the West Presbyterian Churchyard at the corner of Carmine Street and 7th Avenue. This burial ground no longer exists. Peter's obituary.

On Tuesday, 5th inst, suddenly, Peter Rose, in the 46th years of his age. His friends, and those of the family, also the members of New York Division No. 1 Sons of Temperance, are respectfully invited to attend the funeral this afternoon, at 5 o'clock, from his late residence, 312 Broadway.

Peter Rose signed his will November 18, 1842. It was proved September 13, 1845 (New York Wills, Vol 091, 1844-1845). He left his estate to his wife Ann Eliza Rose and she was appointed executrix. Witnesses were Smith Barker and L. Arnold Lockwood of New York City. Four sons are named in the estate papers (Proceedings, 1845). William C. Freeman was appointed their guardian.

The Wives and Children of Peter Rose

Three children died early. Peter Rose's first wife probably died in childbirth and her infant three months later.

There whereabouts of Peter's second wife after his death is unknown. Four children made it to adulthood and are listed in Peter Rose's probate records: William Edwards Rose, Albert Jones Rose, Benjamin Sellers Rose and Peter Horton Rose. After their father's death, the three youngest children were taken in by their Rose aunts in Philadelphia.

6-3-1824 NY - *Evening Post*

On Sunday evening, the 30th inst. by the Rev. Dr. Milnor, Mr. Peter Rose of Philadelphia to Harriet Ann Beebe, daughter of the late Mr. John Edwards of this city.

9-4-1827 NY - *Evening Post*

This morning, Hannah, youngest child of Peter Rose. The funeral will take place at 5 o'clock this afternoon from the house of her father, 72 William Street.

7-22-1833 NY - *Commercial Advertiser*

On Sunday in the 6th year of his age, Peter Sellers, son of Peter Rose.

3-15-1834 NY - *Evening Post*

This morning Harriet Ann, daughter of Peter Rose, aged 16 months. Her funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon at 5 o'clock from No. 19 Liberty St. The friends and acquaintances of the family are respectfully invited to attend.

8-27-1834 NY - *Commercial Advertiser*

On Tuesday afternoon, Mrs. Harriet A. Rose, wife of Peter Rose, aged 35 years.

12-19-1834 NY - *Evening Post/American*

This morning, Harriet Ann, infant daughter of Peter Rose. The relations and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral this afternoon (Friday) at 3 o'clock at No. 51 Clinton Street.

12-23-1834 - Church of the Epiphany, Manhattan - Marriages

Mr. Peter Rose to Miss Eliza Horton.

Who does this young lad belong to?

11-30-1831 NY - *Evening Post*

This morning after a short but severe illness, Peter Rose, aged 15 years and 2 months. His friends and those of Peter Rose are requested to attend the funeral tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock, from the house of Peter Rose, No. 19 Liberty St.

Possibly this is a son of the deceased Benjamin F. Rose, serving an apprenticeship with his Uncle Peter Rose. Benjamin F. Rose married Ann S. Kinsey in 1812. Children I know of are: Anna Eliza Rose b. 1812 married George P. Worrell, Henrietta L. Rose b. 1814 married Francis Slaughter, and Benjamin F. Rose b. 1820 married Maria Mann. After Benjamin's death, his widow Ann ran a boarding house for a few years then married Isaac Hennis.

William Edwards Rose 1824-1850s

On June 22, 1846, William married Catharine J. Morrison in New York City.

After his father's death, William tried to keep the firm going. In 1846 he opened a branch in Cleveland but that did not work out. An advertisement for William E. Rose, son of Peter Rose, 412 Broadway ran in 1848. Then he relocated to 8 Reade Street where he advertised "gutta percha bougies, catheters, etc." In 1851, William was involved with the Mutual Hook and Ladder Fire Department in New York City.

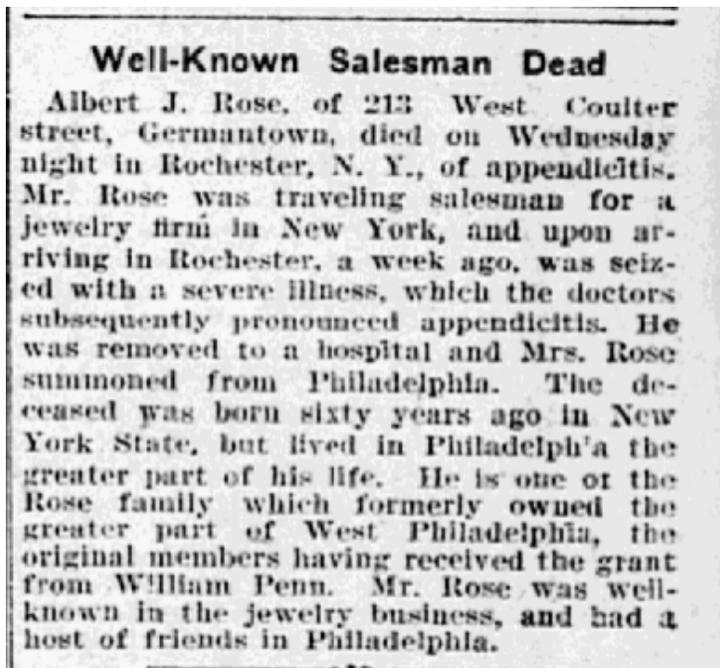
1850 Census, New York Ward 6: William E. Rose, 26, cutler; Catharine J., 23; and daughter Harriet, 3, are living with Catharine's parents John and Ellen Morrison.

An April 16, 1851 advertisement in the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal* informs the public he had located at 180 Centre Street, New York, where he will commence the manufacture of medical and dental instruments.

William died in the 1850s, date and place unknown. In 1860, William's widow Catharine and their two children, Harriet Ellen Rose and William Albert Rose, are found in St. Louis, Missouri, along with Catharine's siblings Joseph J. and Margaret E. Morrison. The siblings are operating a dress trimmings store. Catharine married second William Gumersell.

Catharine and her Rose children are buried in the Bellefontaine Cemetery in St. Louis. Her son William died at age 11 of typhoid and the daughter "Hattie" lived until 1920.

Albert Jones Rose 1829-1901



11-15-1901 *Philadelphia Inquirer*

It was a delight to find 20 year old Albert in the 1850 Philadelphia census living with Peter David Hansell's grandson James Hansell 1791-1865, a clock/watchmaker of some note.

In 1850 James Hansell lived at 76 North 11th. His shop was on Market Street near 7th where he sold watches, jewelry and spectacles. This must be where Albert acquired his skills as a jewelry salesman.

Until his marriage to Caroline McCormick in 1887, Albert lived with his cousin Hannah Hoffman Lee, daughter of Albert's aunt Hannah Rose Hoffman.

Albert and his wife are buried in Woodlands, Section F, Lot 263-267 by Albert's brother Benjamin.

Benjamin Sellers Rose 1835-1855

1850 Census, Blockley, Pennsylvania: 14 year old Benjamin Rose is living with his aunt Hannah Rose Hoffman.

Fatal Result — Benjamin Rose, the young man whose leg was shattered on Saturday, by the accidental discharge of a fowling piece, in the hands of a friend, died on Sunday night at the Pennsylvania Hospital. The deceased was employed in the fancy store of Mr. Smith, in Market street, below Fourth, and was highly esteemed by a large circle of friends.

Coroner Delavan held an inquest yesterday afternoon. The deceased made a statement to the physician, prior to his death, in which he exonerated Robert N. Moore, his friend, from any censure. The weapon belonged to Moore, and the right barrel was loaded, and having capped it, he had placed it on the half-cock, and was in the act of capping the other barrel, when the load in the right barrel was discharged. The unfortunate young man was standing nearly in front of him a short distance off, and received the entire load in his right leg.

Other witnesses were examined, proving that the best of feelings subsisted between the deceased and his friend. The latter made a statement also corroborating that given by the deceased. They had driven to Tinicum from Blockley, and had commenced their sport when the sad accident occurred.

In consequence of the absence of another witness of the transaction, the jury postponed the conclusion of the inquest until this afternoon. The deceased and his friend were each about twenty years of age.

9-25-1855 *Public Ledger*

Here is a tragic end to a short life.

Benjamin's death certificate said he was living on Almond Street in Philadelphia.

Benjamin is buried in Woodlands, Section F, Lot 263-267, by his brother Albert.

Peter Horton Rose 1837-1894

1850 Census, Upper Darby, Pennsylvania: 12 year old Peter is living with his aunt Elizabeth Rose Holgate.

Peter married Julia Cheshire in 1868 in Trenton, NJ. The 1880 census finds Peter, Julia and children Alice and Gertrude living in Upper Darby. Peter works in a cotton mill.

Peter and Julia are buried in the Friends Southwestern Burial Ground, Upper Darby, in a plot owned by Peter's aunt Hannah Rose Hoffman.

Hannah Hansell & Peter Rose

This diversion into the Sellers and Rose family has finally come back around the corner to the Hansell family--a Hansell married a Rose.

Hannah Hansell 1817-1894 is a granddaughter of Peter David Hansell. She is a child of Peter David Hansell, Jr. and Ann Walters.

Peter Rose 1816-1893 is related to William Rose the sword maker who married Hannah Sellers. William had a twin brother Peter Gardner Rose. Peter Gardner Rose married Maria Rup/Roop and they had six children, one of whom was William Rose. This William married Elizabeth Wynne, daughter of Thomas Wynne and Elizabeth Rees. Thomas Wynne had inherited the family pile "Wynnestay." Like "Sellers Hall" and the 1764 Kingsessing stone house, "Wynnestay," built in 1689, stands today. Peter Rose 1816-1893 is a child of William Rose and Elizabeth Wynne.

The obituary for Mrs. Ann Hansell, widow of the late Peter D. Hansell, Jr. of Kingsessing was published in the 11-13-1852 *Public Ledger*. Relatives and friends were invited to her funeral at the residence of her son-in-law Peter Rose. Here was the clue.

Peter and Hannah's marriage was announced in the 2-24-1844 *Public Ledger*. On the 22nd Peter Rose and Hannah H. Hansell of Blockley were married by Rev. C.C. Williams. The couple lived at the corner of Spruce or Pine and 47th or 48th Street in West Philadelphia. The property was originally part of the early Rose family landholdings. By the 1870s, land speculators Eli K. Price and Anthony J. Drexel had bought up land in this area, the result being a large open space (still evident on Bromley's 1895 map) surrounded by developed city lots. Peter and Hannah and others engaged in agricultural pursuits occupied this space.

Like most farmers, Peter joined the local agricultural society and participated in exhibitions. At one fair he was mentioned for his potatoes, turnips, sweet potatoes, carrots and sugar beets. Peter won a prize for his Chester boar and an Alderney cow.

In 1853, Hannah and Peter won a prize of \$20, thanks to their cow "Milk Maid" who produced 228 quarts of milk in ten days.

To the President of the Pennsylvania State Agricultural Society :

The Committee, No. 10, on Milch Cows, beg leave to report that they have performed the duty assigned them, and find that Peter Rose, of the 24th ward, of the city of Philadelphia, is entitled to a premium of twenty dollars, for the best grade cow, "Milk Maid," seven years old; said cow having yielded or produced two hundred and twenty-eight quarts of milk in ten days, viz: from the 12th to the 22d of Sept., 1854, inclusive; that the weight thereof was five hundred and forty-seven lbs., and that it took eighteen quarts of said milk to make one pound of butter. Said cow calved on the 22d of August last. These facts are attested by depositions of Peter Rose and Hannah Rose, his wife.

GEO. WALKER,
STEWART TURTILL,
JACOB PAINTER,
Committee.

Report of the Transactions of the Pennsylvania State Agricultural Society 1855

In 1860 Peter exhibited poultry at an agricultural fair: "Bremen Geese, Turkeys, Guineas, Aylesbury Ducks, Shanghais, Golden Spangled Hamburgs, Silver Pencilled Hamburgs, or Creoles, Black Spanish, etc."

In 1866, Hannah and Peter attended an American Poultry Fair at the corner of Market & 16th Street in Philadelphia. The 12-9-1866 *Press* reported.

Three geese, a male and two females, the largest ever presented in this country, of the Bremen species, were also exhibited by Mr. Peter Rose, of West Philadelphia. These birds are twenty-five years old, during all which time they have been pets of their owner. Mrs. Rose also exhibits three Poland ducks, which are a great curiosity, together with a number of fowls of exquisite beauty, known as the Creles and the golden pheasants. Mr. Rose has...several famous Cochin Chinas, from stock imported in 1851, from the Queen's poultry-yard, London.

Seemingly, the Bremen geese were part of the package when Hannah married Peter.

In the 1880 census, sons George and Robert worked on the farm, William was a dairyman and Edwin drove a milk wagon. John was in the milk business and three milk wagon drivers boarded in his home.

In 1891, the newspapers reported a large frame barn belonging to the estate of Eli K. Price on 49th and Spruce was struck by lightning. The barn contained 18 horses, 11 cows and 20 tons of new mown hay. One cow was killed and all the hay burned. The farm was occupied by Peter Rose.



1895 Philadelphia Atlas

Peter served on the School Board and Highway Commission.

Hannah and Peter are buried in Fernwood Cemetery, Lansdowne, Delaware Co., along with most of their children. It is likely William and Ann are twins.

Hannah Hansell b: Jan 19, 1817 d: Jun 14, 1894
+Peter Rose b: abt 1816 d: May 29, 1893

William W. Rose b: Nov 22, 1846 d: Jul 25, 1922
+ 1st Annie R. Benckert
+ 2nd Elizabeth B. Benckert

Ann Hansell Rose b: 1847 d: Sep 9, 1897 (Mt. Zion Cem, Collingdale, Delaware Co.)
+Edwin M. Schofield

John H. Rose b: May 21, 1849 d: Mar 21, 1921
+Mary Hays

George W. Rose b: 1852 d: Jan 2, 1916
+Elizabeth S. Ulrick

Edwin B. Rose b: Jan 21, 1856 d: Jan 22, 1939
+Adelaide Sherwood

Robert H. Rose b: May 8, 1862 d: Jul 7, 1932
+Catherine Mumford

Hannah Hansell and her siblings, children of Peter David Hansell, Jr. 1773-1845 and Ann Walters 1782-1852, are recorded in the Gloria Dei Baptism Records 1804-1878, all baptized in Kingsessing. These dates are their birth dates. I added spouses for identification purposes.

David Hansell b. 6-12-1799 (Mary Rothwell)

Ann Hansell b. 6-1-1802 (Henry Smith)

George W. Hansell b. 10-8-1804 (Sarah Ann Morris)

Peter W. Hansell b. 6-21-1807 (probably died early)

John Hansell b. 9-8-1809 (Mary Thompson)

Robert W. Hansell b. 10-8-1813 (Sarah Pugh)

Hannah Hansell b. 1-19-1817 (Peter Rose)

* * *

Peter Rose and his siblings, children of William Rose and Elizabeth Wynne, are named in Philadelphia Deed JAH 29/226, Roll 803, 681.tif, dated 8-24-1862, heirs of William Rose to James Miller, property on north side of West Chester Road near Hamilton, Ward 24. [William Rose & Elizabeth Wynne married 9-21-1815 in Philadelphia. William Rose died 9-21-1842 in Blockley (abstract of Elizabeth Rose pension application #55-120-28006, *Rose Family Bulletin* Vols 9-13)]

William Rose died intestate and left wife Elizabeth and five children.

Peter Rose +Hannah (Hansell)

Elizabeth Rose +Jacob Sloan

Henrietta Rose +George W. Smith

Ann D. Rose +Thomas Garrett

George W. Rose +Mary. George b. 1819 d. 7-17-1851, daughter Martha Rose
(Mary married 2nd George Gilton)

Kingsessing 1779-1786 - Revisited

Peter David Hansell purchased three parcels in Kingsessing. The first was a house and 45 acres from Rev. David Telfair, deed dated January 1, 1779 (Deed D 59/330). This property was located about a quarter mile down Gray's Lane from Whitby Hall and is marked "Richard" on the 1750 Scull & Heap map.

Richards sold the property to James Hall (Deed D 58/385) in 1759. When Telfair purchased the property from Hall (Deed D 62/21) in 1772, he may have read this advertisement in the April 6, 1772 *Pennsylvania Packet*.

The house was two stories high, two rooms on each floor with fireplaces in each, a good cellar underneath (the 1798 Direct Tax gives dimensions for the house of 16' x 22') and a barn, stables and a good spring house near the dwelling. Forty-five acres included meadow, woodland and three to four acres of fruit trees. George Gray's ferry was only a mile away.

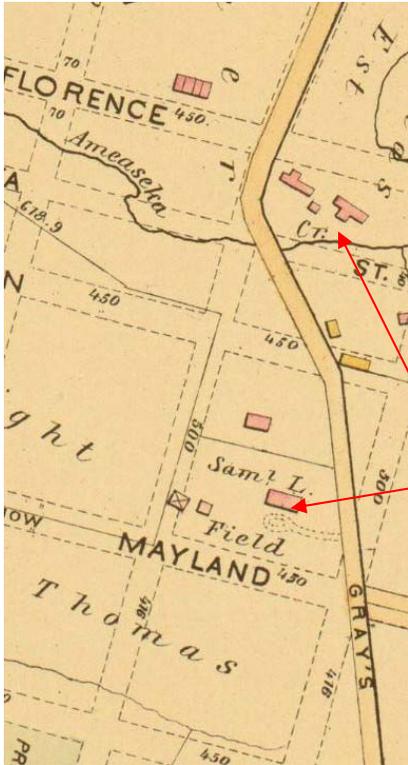
This is the house PDH bought from Rev. Telfair in 1779.

TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC VENDUE,
On THURSDAY the 23d of APRIL instant,
A VALUABLE PLANTATION,
in the township of Kingsess, Philadelphia
county, containing forty-five acres, whereon is a good
dwelling-house of two stories high, two rooms on a floor,
with fire places in each, and a good cellar underneath,
with barn, stables, and a good spring-house near the
dwelling-house, which is supplied by a never-failing
spring of excellent water. On said Plantation there is
four acres of meadow, and more may be made, fifteen
acres of woodland, and an excellent bearing orchard of
good fruit trees, containing between three and four acres.
Any person inclinable to purchase the same, by applying
to the subscriber on the premises, one mile from Mr.
George Gray's ferry, may be satisfied of the terms and
title; where due attendance will be given by
JAMES HALL.

In 1818, the heirs of Peter David Hansell sold the house and 70 acres to Evan W. Thomas (a lawyer and a gentleman) and his wife Martha Gray, daughter of George Gray of Whitby Hall. The Thomas family called the property "Greenwood Farm."

Evan Thomas willed the property to his son, George Gray Thomas and it was passed on to George's widow Ann Gray Leiper Thomas. Ann Thomas generously gave away most of the land to the Presbyterian Church and her relatives.

Ann Gray Leiper Thomas 1798-1881 is the daughter of Thomas Leiper and Elizabeth Coultas Gray.



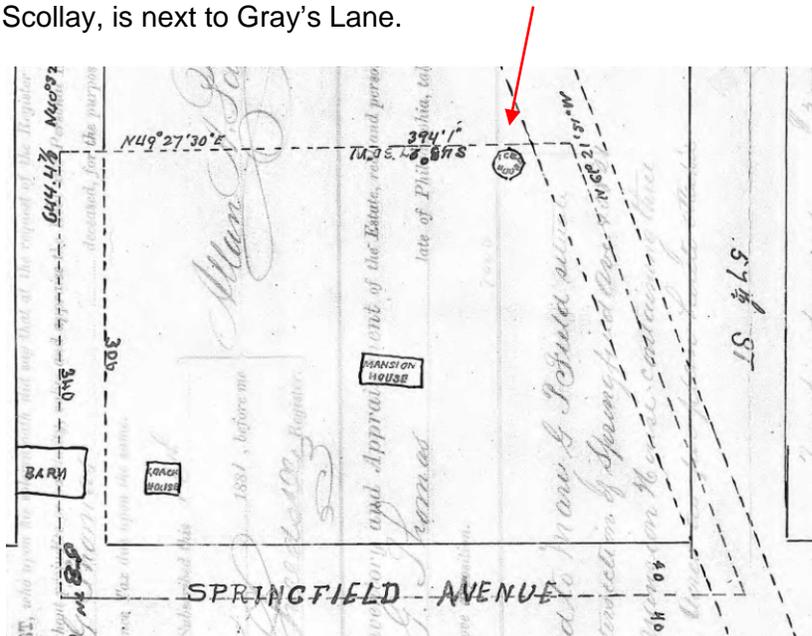
Ann Thomas left the Hansell homestead site on Springfield (called Mayland on this map) and 57th to her niece Mary Field, wife of Samuel L. Field.

In 1901, when Ann Lane Scollay went out to Kingsessing to find the Hansells, she reported seeing the original spring house for the Hansell homestead near Gray's Lane. She noted the house at the corner of 57th and Springfield. I assume by 1901, the existing dwelling was no longer the original house the Hansells lived in.

Whitby Hall
Hansell homestead site

Atlas of West Philadelphia, 24th and 27th Wards, 1886, Page 28

The plan below is from Ann Gray Thomas's probate records. It shows the portion of Greenwood Farm left to her niece Mary Field. The Ice House, which must be the spring house noted by Mrs. Scollay, is next to Gray's Lane.



Volumes 1-4 of the *Hansell and Ford Pedigree* compiled by Ann Hansell Lane Scollay can be read online at FamilySearch.

One Last Thing - 5835 Woodland Avenue, West Philadelphia, PA

Ann Hansell Lane Scollay pasted this newspaper clipping into the back pages of Vol. 4 of the *Hansell and Ford Pedigree*. Undoubtedly, Mrs. Scollay saw this house when she went out to Kingsessing looking for Peter David Hansell's property.



4-17-1901 *The Times* (Philadelphia)

One of the old landmarks of the 27th ward which has stood for more than a century is doomed to destruction to make way for the opening of 59th street from Woodland avenue. The old frame house, now occupied by an Italian family, stands in the centre of the proposed street. This house is thought to be the first erected in the 27th ward. When put up it had 600 acres of land around it. It now stands on a plot not 100 feet square. The original grant of the land was made by William Penn to the Claypoole family. The price paid for the grant was 20 bushels of wheat every year. This payment at that time was considered large. The country at that time was surrounded by raiding bands of Lenape Indians. In the front and back windows are small holes for muskets. The property afterwards descended to the Hansell family and was divided among them into six shares. The old frame building is still in a good state of preservation.



SWEDISH TYPE OF LOG FARMHOUSE

A photo of the same building appears on Page 30 of *Byways and Boulevards In and About Historic Philadelphia* by Brandt and Gummere, published 1925.

The authors write: *At Fifty-ninth Street and Woodland Avenue...still stands (No. 5835 Woodland Avenue) a low two-story white-washed wooden house, the type of farmhouse of an early Swedish settler, described by Acrelius, the Swedish annalist. Acrelius speaks of "Chinsessing, a place upon the Schuylkill, where five families of freemen dwelt together in houses two stories high, built of white-nut tree (hickory), which was at that time regarded as the best material for building houses, but in later times was altogether disapproved for such purposes.*

I put on my fact-checking hat. The 1901 newspaper article is filled with misinformation. *Byways and Boulevards* correctly lends a Swedish element to the story.



1687 Map by Thomas Holme, First Purchasers
(Library of Congress)

To make the long story a bit shorter, the original 1670 patent holder of the 1,150 acre tract of land on which this little house was situated was Hans Mansson.

In the autumn of 1640, a young trooper called Hans Månsson from Hanaskede, Skaraborg län, Sweden, entered the Crown's garden at the monastery in Varnhem "and there ruined six of the best apple trees and two of the best cherry trees in order to obtain material for some mane combs."

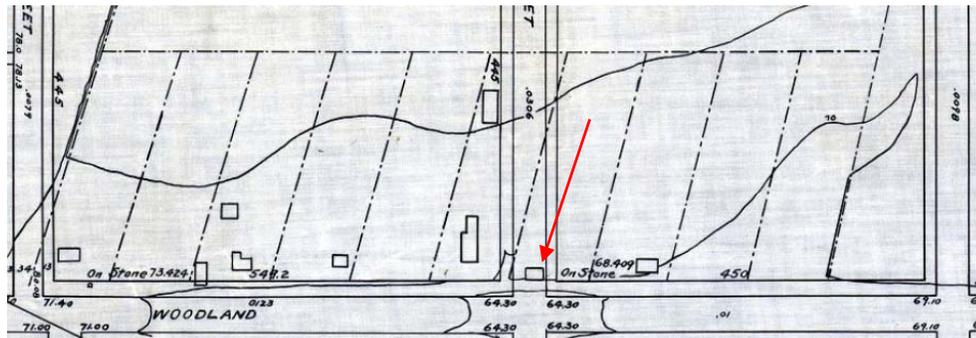
Swedish Colonial News, Vol. 1, No. 10, Fall 1994

Hans Mansson's punishment for this transgression was death or deportation. He chose the latter and eventually ended up in Kingsessing. He transferred his patent to his step-son Peter Yocum (see 1687 Holme Map). Fast forward a few generations and the subdivided Yocum land provided two contiguous 17.5 acre parcels with Darby Road frontage which were purchased by Peter David Hansell in 1782 (D 62/19) and 1783 (D 6/340).

In March 1800, the heirs of Peter David Hansell divided the Darby Road/Woodland Avenue road frontage into ten three-quarter acre lots, one for each living child and the heirs of the deceased sibling David. Two of the lots remained in the Hansell family into the 1860s. The following 1884 Philadelphia Street Department map shows the subdivision lines and the little house in the path of the proposed 59th Street.

Philadelphia Deed I 11/554, George Yocum to Jacob Randolph, 1773, recites the chain of title starting with the 1670 patent. The step-son Peter Yocum's survey is found in Pennsylvania State Archives Copied Surveys B22/68.

The original owners of the lots, from left to right (or 60th to 58th Street along Woodland Avenue) are Mary, Elizabeth, Peter, George, Charles, Children of David, William, Andrew, Jacob and Barnet. The little house was on William's lot.



https://www.philageohistory.org/rdic-images/view-image.cfm/151-02_MTD_tracing

William Hansell, PDH's second child, died in Darby in July of 1800. His widow Sarah Morris sold the lot in 1803 to John Conchy (EF 19/270). In 1805, Conchy sold to Joseph Leech, wheelwright of Kingsessing (EF 19/281).

According to William B. Fetters, Joseph Leech's mother is Christiana Young Leech who is well known for her diary of family life in Kingsessing and Blockley and is a daughter of William Young who went around his neighborhood in 1765 encouraging his fellow Germans to vote.

Fetters extracted what was known about Joseph Leech from Christiana's diary and added: *...Joseph sold to Jacob Lincoln Sr. of Kingsessing property on Darby Road adj. land of Andrew Hansell.*" Fetters found this information in an abstract of the 1822 will of Jacob Lincoln.

Apparently Mr. Lincoln did not get on his horse and trot his deed into Philadelphia to be recorded. But Mr. Lincoln's 1822 will is available (Chester Co. 7:534).

I give unto my daughter Mary a small house and lot of land situated on the Darby road adjoining land of Andrew Hansell, which I purchased of Joseph Leech (my son Jacob now resides on it)...

Sure enough, the 1820 Census for Kingsessing shows Jacob Lincoln near Peter Hansell, Jr.

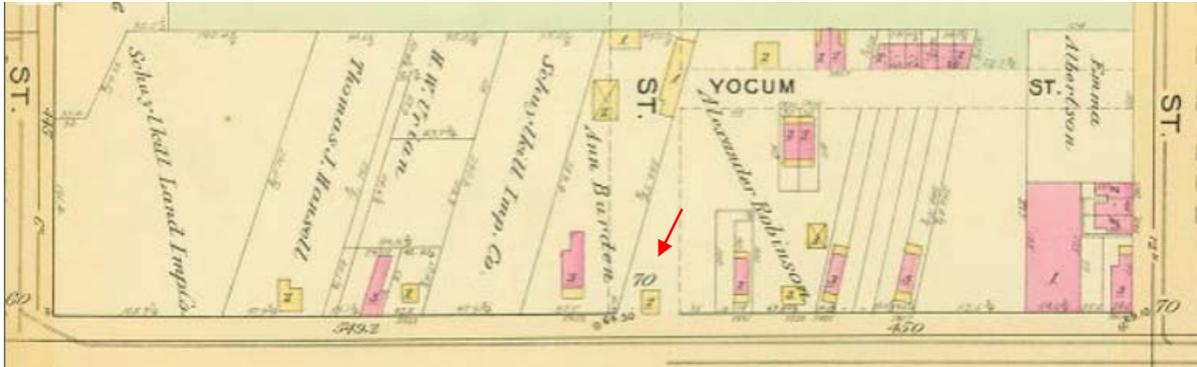
Jacob Lincoln's daughter Mary married John Davis. In 184?, John and Mary Davis sold the lot to William Robinson (AWM 64/205 - unfortunately this deed is too faded to read).

William B. Fetters, *Six Columbiana County, Ohio, Pioneer families; supplement: Maximilian Leech (1763-1815) of Blockley and Kingsessing* - view at FamilySearch books

Who built this little house that lasted into the 20th century? Which family can appropriate this ancestral claim to fame?

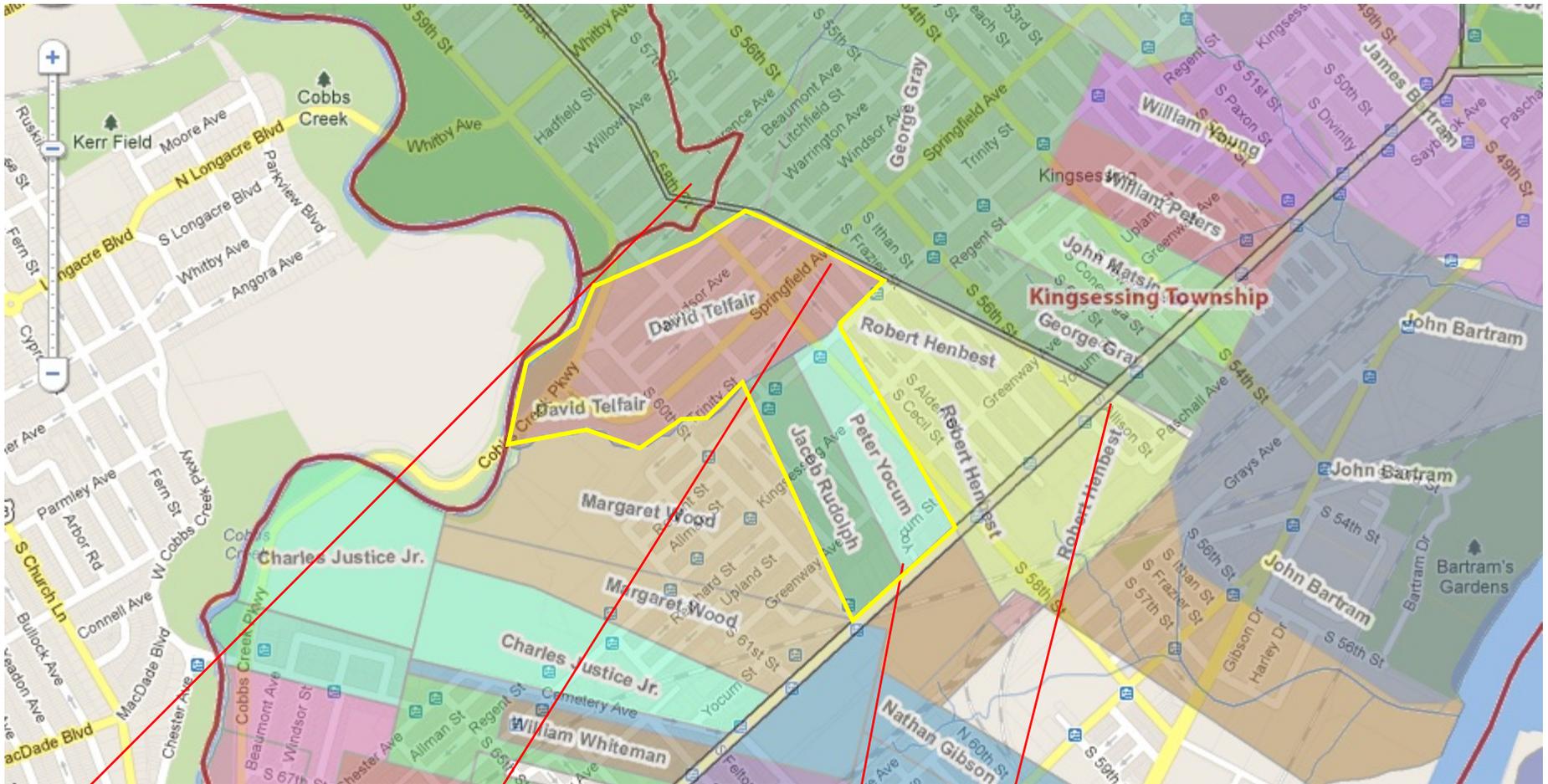
The lot was vacant when Sarah Hansell sold. It apparently was vacant when Conchy sold. Mr. Lincoln's will indicates he purchased the house and land, so that leaves Joseph Leech. Is this Joseph Leech the son of John Leech and Christiana Young? Probably, but I'll leave it to a Leech descendant to work this out!

The two-story frame dwelling at 5835 Woodland Avenue makes its last appearance on this 1910 map.



Atlas of the 40th Ward of the City of Philadelphia, 1910, Plate 12

1777 Mapping West Philadelphia by J.M. Duffin



Whitby Hall
58th and Florence
Blockley

Hansell dwelling site
57th and Springfield
Kingsessing
Yellow - 3 parcels purchased by
Peter David Hansell

Joseph Sellers
Five Mile Stone, corner Darby Rd and Gray's Lane
1817 South Vogdes St, Kingsessing
Old Frame House
59th and Woodland, Kingsessing

END NOTES

The Basic Tools

Chester County PA Archives and Records
Keith Lockhart's Delaware County History .com
FamilySearch & Ancestry.com

U.S., Quaker Meeting Records, 1681-1935 at Ancestry.com
Membership Lists, Birth/Death/Burial Records, Minutes, Marriage Certificates.

Deeds

Philadelphia Deeds (\$) <http://phila-records.com/historic-records/web/>
Pennsylvania Counties - FamilySearch

Philadelphia City Directories at Archive.org

Philadelphia street maps and more - <https://www.philageohistory.org/geohistory/>

Wills and Probate Records

Philadelphia Counties - most available at Ancestry.com & FamilySearch

Philadelphia County (PA) Registry of Wills 1682-1924 at FamilySearch

Ed Bradford found the German vital records and the 1774 Kingsessing tax record--both great finds and the fruits of which kept me occupied for the first year of COVID 19 (March 2020 to March 2021)

Ed Bradford's Hansell work at Ancestry.com

<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/167229420/person/222171583280/facts>

1849 Map of Blockley Township, 1849

<https://digital.librarycompany.org/islandora/object/Islandora%3A6171>

This map pinpoints the locations of people I have investigated:

J. Rose Mills, homeplace of Peter Rose and Paschall Sellers

Home of Peter Rose and Hannah Hansell next to C. Gamber

Rising Sun Tavern - formerly owned by PDH's son George Hansell

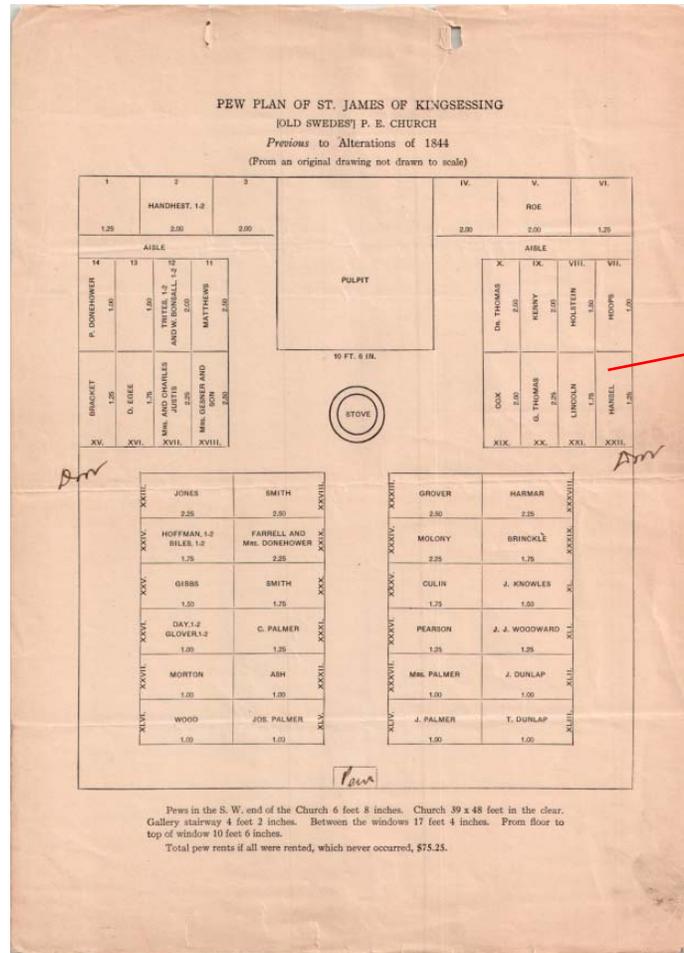
Inclined Plane Tavern - formerly owned by George Hansell, Jr.

Country Line Inn - formerly owned by John Saunders and his Hansell wife

Summer home of Thomas Savery and Rebecca Scattergood

Whitby Hall now owned by Samuel Thomas

Sellers Hall and Naylor's Run



<https://philadelphiastudies.org/category/st-james-church-kingsessing/page/12/>

This *Pew Plan of St. James of Kingsessing Prior to 1844* includes a pew designated Hansel. Reportedly, pews were inherited by family members. The families of PDH's two youngest children Peter David Hansell, Jr. 1773-1845 and Andrew Hansell 1778-1854 are found in Gloria Dei/St. James Church records.



<https://tehistory.org/hqda/html/v02/v02n3p075.html>



"Sellers Hall" late 19th century

Joseph Sellers' birth family:

Samuel Sellers, Jr 1690-1773 + Sarah Smith
Samuel Sellers 1715-1785 + Jane Wood
Hannah Sellers 1716-1810 + 1st Richard Lloyd
2nd Lewis Davis
Elizabeth Sellers 1719-1794 + John Hunt
Mary Sellers 1723-1777 + David Gibson
Joseph Sellers 1726-1798 + Hannah Paschall
John Sellers 1728-1804 + Anna Gibson

Colonel James Coultas, High Sheriff of Philadelphia, 1755-1758 by Robert Patterson Roberts, 1887 - view at Jstor.org

About the Coultas and Gray families: *The Hon. George Gray, 4th of Philadelphia : His Ancestors & Descendants* by Mary Stanley Field Liddell, 1940 - view at FamilySearch books

<http://uch.s.net/Rosenthal/king.html> - Kingsessing and Maylandville - James Coultas: *He was killed by a fall from his horse in 1768 while riding to church.* I wonder where this statement came from. Coultas was buried in Christ Church Burial Yard, Philadelphia, on February 1, 1768 (Christ Church Burial Records 1763-1831)



The Colonial Homes of Philadelphia and Its Neighbourhood by Eberlein and Lippincott, 1912, Whitby Hall pgs 98-107. Cover photo is the Whitby Hall stair tower.

Year Book of the 27th Annual Architectural Exhibition of Philadelphia by American Institute of Architects, 1924, Whitby Hall page 169 followed by numerous photographs
<https://books.google.com/books?id=PWnsAAAMAAJ>

Whitby Hall, AF Simms, watercolor, 1885

Paschall Sellers 1795±-1830±

In 2013 I put together a narrative "The History of 49 North Seventh Street." This Philadelphia building was rented to commercial tenants and school teachers in the first half of the 1800s.

Among the commercial tenants were surgical instrument makers Philip Browne and Wiegand & Snowden. Here were some interesting fellows, so one interlibrary loan later I was reading James M. Edmonson's *American Surgical Instruments: An Illustrated History of Their Manufacture and a Directory of Instrument Makers to 1990*, published 1997. The unidentified David Rodgers and his striking mahogany case were intriguing and I mentally filed him away in case I stumbled across his whereabouts in my explorations of Philadelphians. Instead I ran into Rose & Sellers.

Paschall Sellers would have remained anonymous but for Newspapers.com providing the 1828 partnership dissolution newspaper article. And thanks to the folks at the Register of Wills in Philadelphia City Hall for digging out Paschall Sellers' will.

A newspaper search turned up a Paschall Sellers in 1819, included on a list of letters held at the post office in Baltimore, Maryland.



This advertisement is in the first issue of the first volume of the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, dated February 19, 1828. With no previous issues and the lack of other information, you can't tell how long Sellers & Rose had a presence in Boston. Note Sellers has first billing. Maybe Paschall ran the Boston branch of their company.

By May, 1828 Paschall left the Rose & Sellers partnership and moved back to Philadelphia. Likely he was terminally ill with tuberculosis. Paschall's niece and her husband were ideally suited to care for Paschall and his grandniece Sarah Ann Plum was on hand to witness his will.

Hobson Benj boarding-house 25 Combs's al.
Hobson Hannah, layer out of the dead 25
Combs's alley

The paper trail for Paschall Sellers' family disappears after 1819.

4-18-1803, Deed EF 13/575, William Hamilton of Woodlands to Joseph Sellers, blacksmith of Blockley. Lot 44 on the north side of Washington St. (now Market) in Hamiltonville. This sale was one of the first lots of Hamiltonville.

1810 Census, Blockley: Sarah Sellers, 2 M 10-15, 1 M 16-25, 1 F 16-25, 1 F over 45

1819 - October & December payments from the estate of Joseph Rose to Sarah Sellers for nursing services.