

The Whereabouts of Peter David Hansell

Ann Hansell Lane Scollay's 1895-1913 work on the Hansell Family was sent to me by Ed Bradford. Ed Bradford's own work presents all the known bits and pieces concerning Peter David Hansell. I have arranged them in a Timeline (see Timeline Chart for Peter David Hansell) and will try to figure out where PDH was during his life. (See End Notes for most of my sources.)

Scollay outlined what is known about the history of the Hansell family on the other side of the ocean. I'll pick up with Peter David Hansell's (PDH) arrival in Philadelphia.

How PDH got from wherever to Philadelphia is probably unknown. Howard Barclay French in his *Genealogy of the Descendants of Thomas French* (1913) simply reports "Peter David and Ann Dorethea (Hench) Hansell came to Philadelphia about 1754..."

Various family trees on the internet say PDH came from/born in Holland or Norfolk, England. Scollay reports family history says PDH came from Holland.

The 1908 WH Hansell application to the PA Genealogical Society reports that Peter David Hansell arrived in Philadelphia September 27, 1752 on the Ship Anderson, Captain Campbell at the helm. This is a pretty specific statement.

PHILADELPHIA, September 28.
The LECTURES on ELECTRICITY at the State House, are intended to be continued from Day to Day, till Thursday next, the Weather being suitable. The first LECTURE to begin this Afternoon at 3 a Clock.
Captain Budden spoke with the Ship Polly, Captain Rogers, in the Thames, going up to London from this Place.
Captain Dewar, in the Ship Dolphin, was to sail from London for this Port a few Days after Captain Budden; and the Captains Leak and Stirling were both up for this Place.
Since our last the Captains Abercrombie, Muir, Moore, Dunlap, Kenneway, Ewing, and Campbell, are arriv'd here from Holland with Palatines. Captain Campbell, about three Weeks ago, spoke with the Lark, Capt. Morrison, from London for this Port; he was there 150 Leagues to the Eastward of our Capes.
Sunday Night last the Store of Mr. Moses Standley, on Carpenter's Wharff, was broke open, and robb'd of some Sugar-loaves.
From Minifink there is Advice, that on the 21st ult. three Children were burnt to Death there. The Mother of them had Occasion to go to a Neighbour's House, and left them shut up for fear of their getting out; but while she was gone her House took Fire, and before any Help could be got, the Children perish'd in the Flames.
* * * In our last in the Advertisement relating to the late John Faris's Estate, John Frazer was by Mistake inserted instead of John Faris.

This September 28, 1752 Philadelphia news article in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* announces the arrival of Capt. Campbell as well as some current events. Ben Franklin, editor of the *Gazette*, is probably the lecturer on electricity.

Captain Budden, noted in the second paragraph, was a famous sea captain for whom Budden's Alley in Philadelphia was named. In 1833, Peter David Hansell's grandson, Thomas Hansell, would build a house and shop at Budden's Alley.

Pre 1800 immigration ship documentation is scant.

My local library contains a copy of *Pennsylvania German Pioneers: A Publication of the Original Lists of Arrivals in the Port of Philadelphia from 1727 to 1808* by Ralph Beaver Strassburger and William John Hinke. Hinke has a sense of humor and a clear method for presenting this mass of material, the bulk of which is lists of foreign males who signed oaths upon arrival in Philadelphia, the vast majority of whom were Germans from the Palatine. Ship captains were supposed to make a list of all those aboard, but these are far and few between for this time period, either never completed or in the dumpsters of history.

Hinke presents a description of the journey that would take the Palatines from Germany down the Rhine to board ships at Rotterdam. After a layover in Cowe or some other port in England, the passengers, "packed densely like herrings," endured a seven to twelve week voyage across the Atlantic. The entire trip might last six months.

An excerpt from *Life in Mid-Eighteenth Century Pennsylvania* by John T. Humphrey describes the scene at dockside in Philadelphia:

When a ship finally arrived in Philadelphia, people usually gathered on the wharf. The narrator of another journal noted as they approached the dock, "...a crowd of persons was seen gathering on shore in expectation the newly arrived immigrants were to be exposed for sale." [8] Merchants looking for servants soon boarded. Frequently, those merchants were the proprietors of the ship or were in the employ of the owner. An official account was taken to determine the passengers who could be sold as indentured servants. The merchant then placed an advertisement in one of the Philadelphia newspapers, "German Servants For Sale." [9] Sometimes, those advertisements noted the wharf where the ship docked—information that can be especially useful for any family historian whose ancestors may have arrived on a ship so advertised.

Frequently, a representative of the government accompanied the merchants. The official was not looking for servants, but wanted to make certain that all fit males sixteen and older who were aliens disembarked and proceeded to the courthouse where the required oath was given. [10] Immigrants, whose origins were not in the British Isles, made their way to the courthouse located at second and High Streets. As they proceeded to the courthouse they climbed the steep riverbank to the city on some very wobbly legs. After an extended period of time at sea they were used to the rocking motion of the ship, and they did not have their "land" legs. Most probably looked like a pack of drunken sailors as they proceeded to the courthouse.

The captain of the vessel usually led the way. When the alien immigrants entered the courthouse, a representative of the government—namely the Mayor, President of the Assembly, or a Justice of the Court—was waiting. He told them they were now in a country that belonged to the King of England; a fact that required them to take an oath of allegiance to that King and his successors. [11] The oath was then explained to the immigrants. Given the numbers of Germans arriving in Philadelphia, one presumes that someone was available who could translate. The immigrants had to promise they would conduct themselves as good and faithful subjects, that they would not revolt against his Majesty, nor would they settle on lands that were not their own. They were also required to abjure or renounce allegiance to the Pope. In the words of another narrator, "After we took the oath, we signed our names to two different papers, one belonged to the King and the other to the government of Pennsylvania." [12]

The signers of the Oath of Abjuration who arrived September 27, 1752 on the Ship Anderson (Straussburger & Hinke, p. 489) include one Peter (X) Ansel. His name was written by a clerk. (That PDH did not write is confirmed by two documents he signed with a mark which are presented in the Timeline.)

Just to be the devil's advocate, there was a Peter Ansell/Ansel living in Braknock Township in Lancaster County where land was surveyed for him and where he paid taxes during the 1770s. (PA Archives).

Moving on to page 507 of Straussburger & Hinke, one finds a Peter (X) Antel, arrived November 22, 1752, Ship Phoenix, Captain Ruben Honor. I think this name could as likely be PDH as the preceding Peter Anssel.

Between 1751 and 1754 there are other Peters who signed with a mark: Hommer Pfeill, Haller, Gunkel and Keytel.

There are a few Peters who wrote their own names: Peter Hentzel listed on the August 21, 1750 voyage of the Ship Anderson with Capt. Hugh Campbell; Petter (Peter) Hensell, age 22, arrived in 1741; and Adam Hansel and Michel Hansel in 1741.

As noted above, if PDH were an English subject, he would not be obligated take the oaths and therefore would not be on these lists.



For L O N D O N,
The SHIP
MYRTILLA,
RICHARD BUDDEN,
Commander;
Will sail by the 4th of July next. For freight or passage, apply to said commander, or Levy and Franks.
N. B. To be sold by Levy and Franks, a parcel of English cordage, sail duck, twine, and a great variety of European and India goods.

Advertisement placed in the 6/6/1751 issue of the *Pennsylvania Gazette*

Well, based on **absolutely nothing but a romantic notion**, I vote for PDH sailing to Philadelphia on the Ship Myrtilla (250 tons, 10 guns and 20 men, freight or passage) with Capt. Richard Budden at the helm.

So one way or another, PDH arrived in Philadelphia to start a new life. Did he arrive with his own money or become indentured to pay for the trip? Did he have letters of introduction or was someone expecting him? Did some form of a Colonial old boy network provide him with an opportunity in the new world?

Capt. Richard Budden...“so well known for many years by the frequency and safety of his voyages between London and Philadelphia, that his ship was called the bridge between those two ports.” *The Pennsylvania Magazine of History & Biography by Historical Society of Pa.*, Vol. 39, Page 380

Howard Barclay French in his *Genealogy of the Descendants of Thomas French* (1913) reports "Peter David and Ann Dorethea (Hencht) Hansell came to Philadelphia about 1754 and settled in Kingsessing township. He constructed and operated for many years a tannery, and built a homestead 1759-60 on the present site of the Presbyterian Orphanage, 58th and Kingsessing Avenue."

I think there were a few other stops before PDH and his family lived in Kingsessing. A timeline for PDH might go like this:

1750 to 1754 - Arrival in Pennsylvania
1754 to 1772 - Upper Darby
1772 to 1779 - Blockley
1779 to 1786 - Kingsessing

1754-1772 – Upper Darby

Through a combination of tax records and a lost horse newspaper clipping, I think I have made a moderately credible case for PDH living in Upper Darby from 1754 through 1772. See attached Timeline for a table of this material.

The Upper Darby tax records for 1754 list a Peter David, Freeman, tax 6. The Upper Darby tax records define Freeman as: "Single, free man at least 21 years of age; had to be out of servitude or apprenticeship at least 6 months at time of tax." An implication of the Freeman designation is that Peter David was not married at the time of assessment.

The name Peter David continues through the 1770 tax records. In 1771, Delaware County PA History tax records list the name Peter David and the word Hansley in the comments column. For the same year, Chester County Archives records list Peter David a/k/a Peter David Hansley. In 1772 the name is transcribed as Peter David Hamset in the Delaware County PA History records and the name Peter David Hansel is entered in the Chester County Archives records.

After 1772 there are no more entries in Upper Darby for Peter David (whatever).

Pennsylvania taxed the occupant of a property, whether he held the land by lease or deed. (Chester County Archives have deed indexes but no variation of PDH's name shows up). Reportedly, the assessor would take down the names phonetically and then there was a further transcription back at the town office. If PDH did not write he probably did not read. His name seems to have righted itself about 1772, perhaps because his two oldest boys, David and William, were 16 and 15, old enough to be aware of family finances.

The 1908 Hansell Genealogical Application states Peter David Hansell was a constable of Darby in 1769. So far I haven't found the source for this statement.

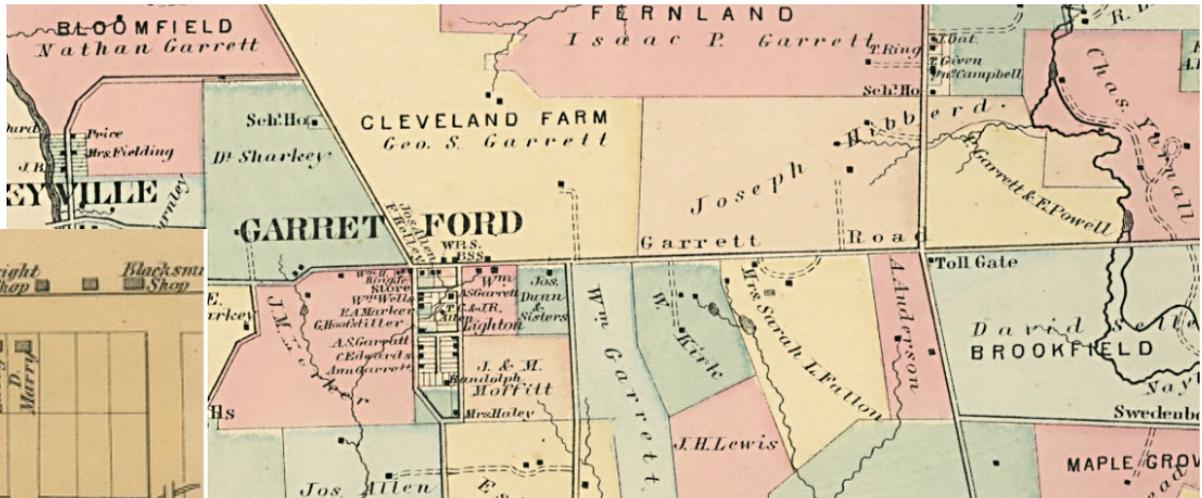
The missing horse advertisement in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* places Peter David Hansell living at the William Garrett Plantation in Upper Darby on November 1, 1770. Throw in the reference to a tannery mentioned in the French Genealogy and this is what turns up:

Cobbled together from Ashmead's *History of Delaware County*, Page 543, and Smith's (who has a sense of humor and is apparently channeling William Penn) newspaper column *Garrettford History* (2010):

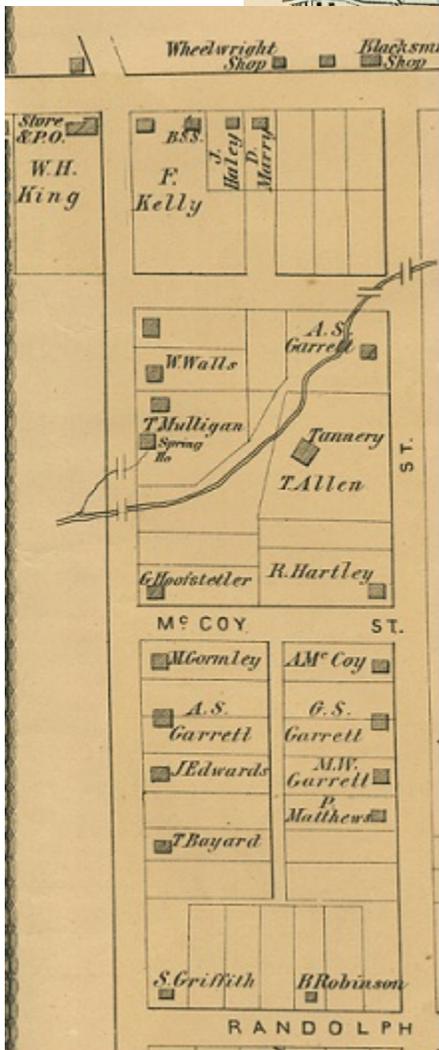
Ashmead: "William Garrett emigrated to the province of Pennsylvania in 1683." Smith: "William Garrett was by trade a maker of thick brew, a maker of malt. Friend (ie Garrett) and fellow malt-maker Samuel Levis were Old World friends. To Pennsylvania they sailed with their families. Each had bought a Penn-Proprietary tract before leaving, which is to say, they bought their tracts sight-unseen. When the men landed the pair asked where their tracts lay; this query caused mirth. The tracts were in the boonies near the Brandywine River."

To solve this apparent problem the men bought additional tracts, Garrett in Upper Darby. Ashmead continues: "It was a long tract, which extended nearly across the township, with the south end resting on Darby Creek...William Garrett* was assessed in 1766 on a leather-mill and a blade-mill, in 1774 on a fulling-mill and blade-mill...In 1848, just below Garrettsford, on the Thornfield estate, belonging to William Garrett, on Dr. Ash's map a tannery is located. Possibly this may have been the leather or bark-mill for which William Garrett, in 1766, was assessed."

*this is the William Garrett, descendant of the original William Garrett, living in Upper Darby at the time of PDH



Above – 1870 map by Harry W. Hopkins (using Ash's 1848 map).



Left - 1875 Map shows details of Garrettsford. The tannery is marked. Note wheelwright and blacksmith shops--perhaps apprenticeship opportunities for the Hansell boys.

I have gathered Peter David Hansell, William Garrett, a tannery and Upper Darby all in one place in the right time frame. A bit tenuous but it seems to fall in place. One can't help but speculate about these two young men. The Garretts have left their mark on Upper Darby so maybe further research will turn up something.

If a fellow had an inclination for milling, there were unlimited opportunities in Upper Darby in the 1700s. Darby and Cobb Creeks ran fulling, grist, paper, cotton, woolen, blade, flouring and saw mills along with bark mills for the extraction of the tannin necessary for tanneries.

1772-1779 – Blockley

Tax records, a missing cow advertisement and an indentured servant place PDH in Blockley Township during these years.

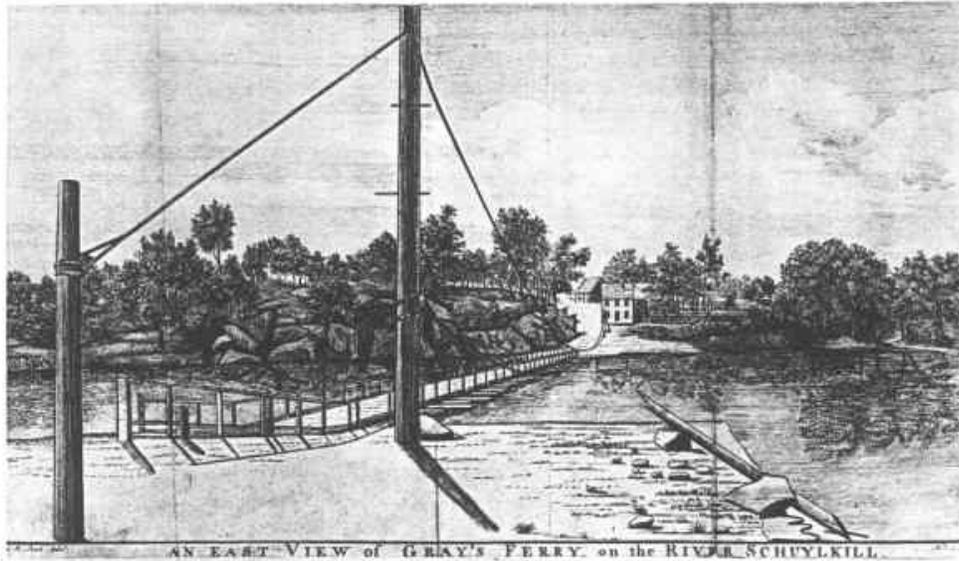
The last appearance of PDH on the tax records in Upper Darby is 1772. On July 20, 1772, an entry in the *Record of Indentures, etc.* lists Elizabeth Weyen from Holland, indentured to Peter David Hansell of Blockley Township for 4 years, three months. How interesting is this and we'll never know anything about it!

The Philadelphia County tax records are spotty, but in 1774 in Blockley a Peter David is taxed on unknown acreage, 5 horses, 16 cattle and 1 servant.

The *Philadelphia Gazette* for July 13, 1773 has the lost cow advertisement, directing the owner to contact Peter David Hansell, 1.5 miles from Gray's Ferry in Blockley.

The 1779 tax records for Blockley list Peter David Hansell.

While living in Blockley, PDH must have had a first-hand view of the Revolutionary War. PDH is listed in *Assessment of Damages Done by the British 1777-1778*. The assessment was authorized by the legislature in 1782 at which time PDH was living in Kingsessing. He reported 192 pounds 13 shillings. I don't know if anyone was actually reimbursed.



"An East View of Gray's Ferry"

The wide Schuylkill River presented a major obstacle separating the western portion on Philadelphia County from the eastern. Shown here is the main southern crossing point with a rope line for the ferry boats as well as a floating pontoon bridge. Pontoon bridges were first used on the Schuylkill for military operations during the American Revolution and could be swung open for boat traffic.

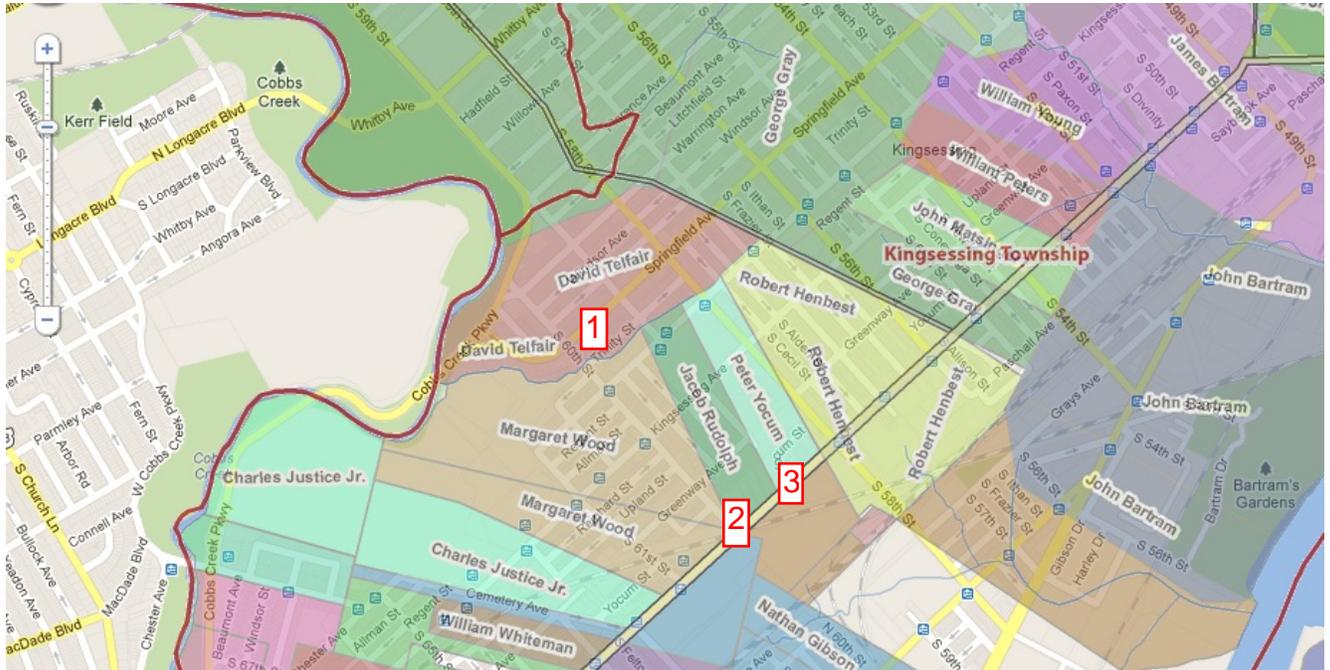
Wood cut attributed to Charles Wilson Peale

Columbian Magazine August 1787. (reprint from Vieira, 1902).

<http://www.archives.upenn.edu/histy/features/wphila/exhbts/grubel/21early.html>

I haven't found any clues to help locate PDH at a specific place in Blockley, so it's on to Kingsessing where the trail becomes more concrete.

To my astonishment, one J.M. Duffin has been very busy plotting individual land parcels in Philadelphia County as of October 1777 for the University of Pennsylvania Archives. By serendipitous good luck, the map includes the three parcels Peter David Hansell would purchase in Kingsessing.



West Philadelphia Community History Center
<http://www.archives.upenn.edu/histy/features/wphila/index.html>

Acquisitions of Kingsessing Land

This Indenture Made the 5th day of January in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and seventy nine Between the Reverend David Telfier of the City of Philadelphia in the County of Philadelphia in the State of Pennsylvania Clerk and Elizabeth Kinnel of the one part and Peter David Hansell of Blockley Township in the said County of Philadelphia of the other part Witnesseth That the said David Telfier

The first deed is dated July 5, 1779: Rev. David Telfier, clerk, of the City of Philadelphia to Peter David Hansell, yeoman of Blockley Township. 45 A and nine perches for 300

pounds (Book 39, Page 330) This transaction included all messuage or tenement plantation and tract of land, so presumably there was a structure on the land. Telfier had purchased the parcel in 1772 for 350 pounds. The above map spells the name Telfair and Reverend David Telfair was pastor of the Scots Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia from 1766 to 1789.

*This Indenture made the Eighteenth Day of May
 in the Year of our Lord one thousand Seven hundred and Eighty
 two. Between Jacob Rudolph of the Township of Darby in the
 County of Chester in Pennsylvania Yeoman, and Judith his Wife of
 the one part. And Peter David Hansell of the Township of Kingsessing
 in the County of Philadelphia in Pennsylvania aforesaid Yeoman*

*Jacob Rudolph
 Peter David Hansell*

The second transaction occurred on May 18, 1782: Jacob Rudolph of Darby to Peter David Hansell yeoman of Kingsessing, 17 A and 3/4s and 16 perches for 145 pounds, 16 schillings (Book 62, Page 19). The tract of land had frontage on the Great Road from Darby to Philadelphia. Peter David Hansell's son William was a witness to this deed.

man of Kingsessing, 17 A and 3/4s and 16 perches for 145 pounds, 16 schillings (Book 62, Page 19). The tract of land had frontage on the Great Road from Darby to Philadelphia. Peter David Hansell's son William was a witness to this deed.

*And
 Peter Yocum
 to
 Peter D. Hansell*

*This Indenture made the twenty fourth Day of February in the year one
 thousand seven hundred and eighty three Between Peter Yocum of the
 City of Philadelphia in Pennsylvania of the one part and Peter David Hansell
 of the Township of Kingsessing in the County of Philadelphia in Pennsylvania*

The third transfer occurred on February 24, 1783: Peter Yocum, taylor of the City of Philadelphia to Peter David Hansell yeoman of Kingsessing, 17 A and 3/4s and 16 perches, 150 pounds (Book 6, Page 340). This is also a tract of land with frontage on the Great Road.

The total acreage of the above deeds is about 80. Mrs. Scollay reported 150 acres. So far I haven't found any other deeds.

Peter David Hansell Dies and 15 years later 10 lots are created

Peter David Hansell didn't have long to enjoy his homestead. He died in 1786 at age 62, two years after purchasing the third parcel. Maybe the land was an insurance policy or legacy for his children. By some means (leasing, farming?) it must have provided income to Dorothy and the minor children. At the time of PDH's death his children ranged in age from 8 to 30.

Fifteen years after PDH's death, on March 14, 1800, there was a flurry of paperwork. A deed recorded in EF Book 7, Page 439, outlines the provisions of Peter David Hansell's will dated September 1, 1784 and establishes agreement by the living children to inherit. Some excerpts follow:

"...I do order that my just debts and funeral expenses be in the first place duly discharged by my Executors herein after named and secondly I do will and direct unto my loving wife Dorothy all my estate both real and personal with the rents issues and profits arising there from to hold she my said wife during her natural life or unmarried state whichever shall first be terminated she my said wife to maintain and support and give schooling to my minor children until of an age to be put to trades and further my wife is and I do order at the decease or intermarriage of my said wife that all my estate both real and personal shall be equally divided among my eleven children viz David Hansell, William Hansell, George Hansell, Barnet Hansell, Jacob Hansell, John Hansell, Mary Hansell, Elizabeth Hansell, Charles Hansell, Peter Hansell, Andrew Hansell, equally share and share alike.

And for as much as doubts have or may arise whether in case of the death of any or either of said eleven children the lawful issue of such decedent can take and inherit the part and share intended for such decedent in the Real Estate of the said Testator Peter David Hansell, deceased, and we the children and representatives of the said testator Peter David Hansell deceased, convinced in our minds that it was his real intention that all his eleven children in his said will named should take and inherit...”

Note that schooling did not extend to the girls. Mary and Elizabeth signed deeds with their marks.

Also on March 14, 1800, ten deeds were executed to provide for ten lots along the Highway to Philadelphia. The lots, parallelogram in shape and about three-quarters acre each with about 82 feet of road frontage, were created from the entire road frontage of the former Rudolph and Yocum properties. The lots with their odd angles are clearly delineated on an 1895 map and are still evident today on Google maps. By 1800, John had died without issue and David had died leaving heirs. Basically, the group as a whole deeded one lot to one party for the sum of \$40. Who actually ended up with the \$400 is not clear to me. The remaining acreage (70± acres) was referred to as Dorothy Hansell's land. An agreement of “even date” was made to lease the land to the children during Dorothy's lifetime or widowhood.

The widow, Dorothy Hansell, died in 1812.

Charles died intestate in 1813. An estate document is recorded in Orphans Court Records, March Term 1815, Book 35, Page 97. See the Timeline for more on this document. The deed for Charles' lot (which has faded to near illegibility), executed by Samuel Gibson, administrator of Charles' estate, conveys Charles' original lot to Peter plus a lot which Peter had previously sold to Jacob, which was sold to Charles after Jacob's death and is now being sold back to Peter – or something like that!

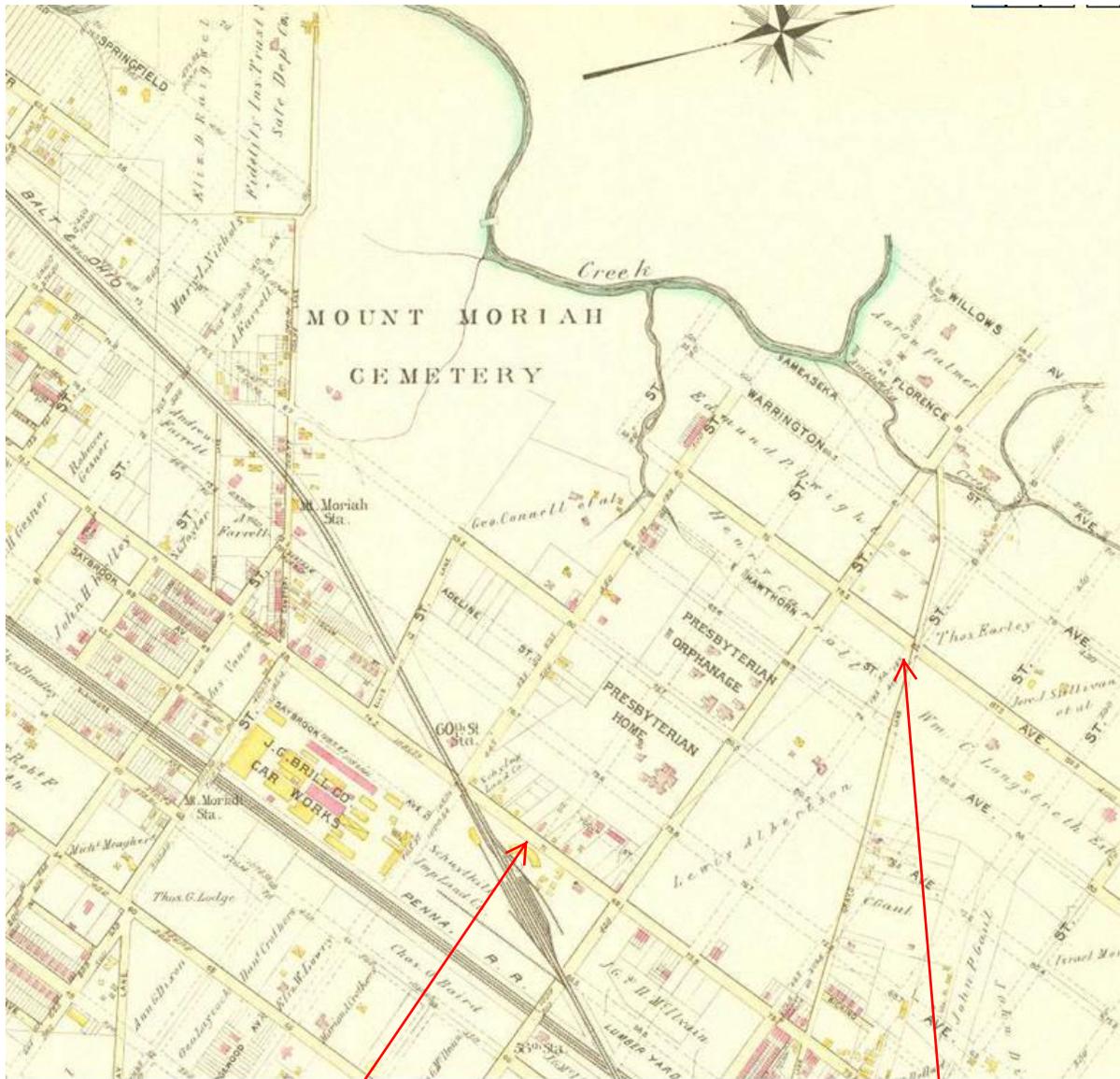
Sale of the Bulk of the Property in 1818

Obviously, the time had come to do something with the bulk of the property. A lawsuit entitled George Hansell versus Daniel Kinzie, et al. (Kinzie being Mary's husband and the et al. all the other Hansell heirs) was resolved by the District Court for the City and County of Philadelphia issuing a writ of partition dated December 7, 1816. A sheriff's deed dated April 19, 1817 (Book B, Page 32) conveyed the land to Daniel Kinzie subject to a lien in favor of the parties of the first part (all the Hansell heirs) to secure their share of the total valuation which was estimated at \$8,800. The warranty deed transferring the land from all the living adult children of PDH and their wives along with the widows and their children to Daniel Kinzie per the court order is dated March 24, 1818 (Book 19, Page 398). One presumes the \$8,800 was divided into nine units (John and Charles deceased with no issue).

Then on April 1, 1818, Daniel Kinzie yeoman of Radnor transferred the property to Evan W. Thomas, yeoman of Blockley, for the sum of \$10,000 (Book 19, Page 407). The deed does not give a total acreage but the outside perimeter description apparently follows the bounds of the three lots originally purchased by Peter David Hansell, excluding the lots created along the road frontage, with the exception of Mary's lot which was sold in this transaction. Looks like Daniel made a little profit for himself.

As Mrs. Scollay reported, the bulk of the property descended from Evan (not Ivan) W. Thomas to Ann Gray Thomas who donated land to the Presbyterian Church. This 1895 map represents the area at the time of Mrs. Scollay's research. The Presbyterian Orphanage is evident and the Hansell lots with their odd angles show up clearly. Gray's Lane is still pretty continuous; today only remnants of this lane exist.

Atlas of the City of Philadelphia, 1895
George W. & Walter S. Bromley, Civil Engineers, Plate 25



10 lots along
Woodland Avenue

Intersection of
Springfield, 57th &
Gray's Lane

The Ten Lots on Darby Road (today Woodland Avenue)

I didn't follow the trail for all ten lots, but I did note a few things:

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. I wonder what Mary and Elizabeth would think of the McDonalds restaurant plunked down on their lots.

In 1800, William Hansell died three months after the lot deeds were executed. His wife Sarah Morris Hansell petitioned the Courts to sell William's lot to help cover his outstanding debts and provide money for the children. The lot was auctioned on September 16, 1803 for \$140 to John Conchy, merchant of Southwark. (Conchy sold a majority of the lot 19 months later for \$270).

Jacob died in 1810 and his lot was sold to Charles. Charles died in 1813 and his lots were sold to Peter.

As noted before, Mary's lot was sold with the bulk of the property.

The deed for Elizabeth's lot wasn't recorded until 1848, which was 48 years after the fact and a year after her death.

This 1853 map shows a schoolhouse (SH) which I presume is on one of the lots.



Map of the Vicinity of Philadelphia from actual surveys, R.P. Smith Publishers, 1853

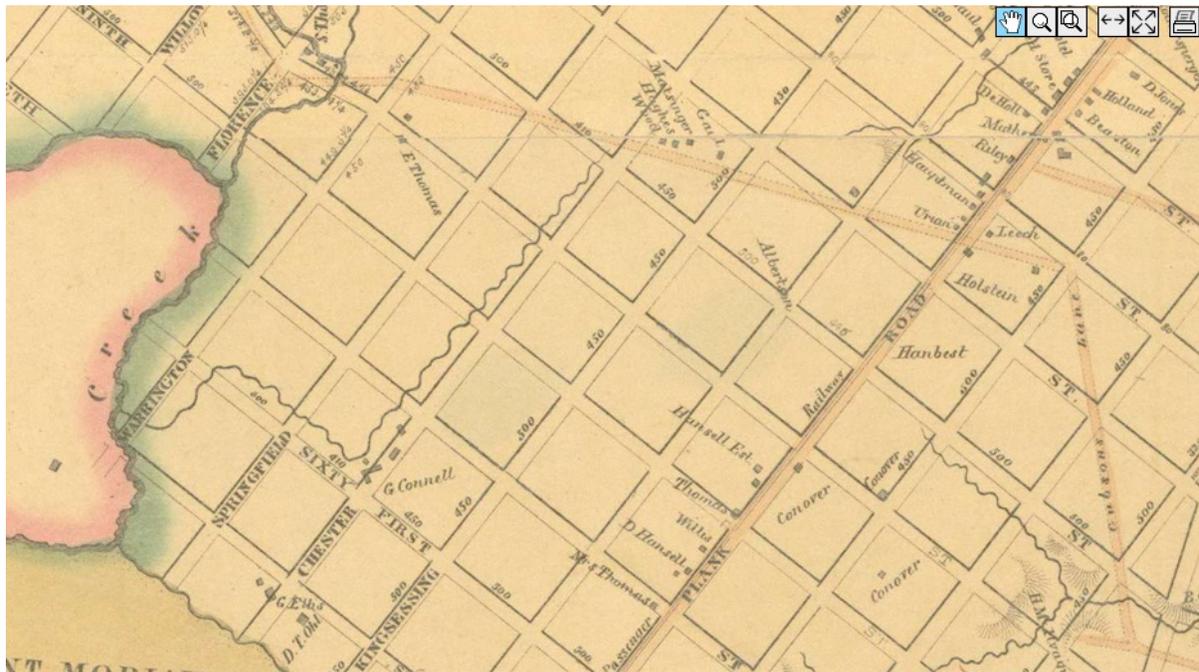
When Peter Hansell, Jr. died in 1845 at age 73, his death notice invited people to attend his funeral at his home on Darby Road in Kingsessing.

When Andrew died in 1854, the newspaper notice said he lived on the Darby Road near the five mile-stone, which is marked on this 1808 map.

The red oval marks a structure which is probably near 57th & Springfield noted by Scollay. Gray's Lane ran through this intersection. Perhaps homestead of PDH?



Plan of the City of Philadelphia and Environs, Surveyed and published by John Hills, 1808



Atlas of the City of Philadelphia Samuel L. Smedley, 1862

This 1862 map shows a few Hansell names.

The Final Plot for Peter David Hansell

Peter David Hansell died November 19, 1786. Just a mile or so down the road from his home, and still standing today, is St. James Church, 58th and Woodland Avenue in Kingsessing, where PDH occupies Lot 27 in Section A. Peter D. Hansell was the original owner of this lot.

Interments.		
Date.	Name.	Age.
Nov. 19. 1786.	Peter David Hansell	62
Dec. 22. 1812.	Anna Dorothy Hansell	80

Thanks, Ed!



Submitted to ancestry.com by Shary Hansell for the Hansell & Owens Family Tree, photo taken 2005

Anna Dorothy Hansell

?

Similar names found in Pennsylvania German Pioneers: Johannes Henche 9/2/1799, Simon Henche 9/1/1749, Jonas Hecht 1748, Jacob Hecht.

END NOTES

I have not provided footnotes. This is not intended for publication. On the other hand, I haven't plucked this information from thin air; there is a source for all this material. My interpretations and attributions may be incorrect. If anyone wants to know where specific information came from, just let me know!

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Hansell Family Book by Ed Bradford – includes Ann Hansell Lane Scollay Compilation (<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~edbradford/ed/books/hansell.pdf>)

Genealogy of the Descendants of Thomas French, by Howard Barclay French, (1913), Vol. II, page 273, Ancestry of Catharine Ann Hansell

History of Delaware County, Pennsylvania by Henry Graham Ashmead, 1884

History and Development of Upper Darby Township, Second Edition, by Thomas J. DiFilippo, Chapter 5 available at <http://www.udhistory.org/udhistory-ch5.html>

The Ghost of William Penn: Some Garrett and Garrettford History, August 18, 2010, by Thomas R. Smith, aka William Penn, Times Guest Columnist of the *Daily Times* (newspaper for Delaware County, PA). Apparently Thomas Smith is a Garrett/Upper Darby expert – maybe he has more clues about PDH

Pennsylvania German Pioneers: A Publication of the Original Lists of Arrivals in the Port of Philadelphia from 1727 to 1808 by Ralph Beaver Strassburger and William John Hinke.

Life in Mid-Eighteenth Century Pennsylvania by John T. Humphrey (http://books.google.com/books/about/Mid_eighteenth_century_life_of_rural_Pen.html?id=UBv4SAAACAAJ) Humphrey is a genealogist has published many works relating to early Pennsylvania vital statistics

Assessment of Damages Done by the British 1777-1778 (PA Magazine of History & Biography, Vol 25, No. 2, page 333).

GenealogyBank.com – *Pennsylvania Gazette*, B. Franklin, ed. In the October 19, 1752 issue, Ben Franklin gives a complete description of his famous kite experiment, explained in detail, and with no warnings not to try this experiment at home!

West Philadelphia Community History Center
<http://www.archives.upenn.edu/histy/features/wphila/index.html>
1777 J.M. Duffin Maps, histories and much more about West Philadelphia.

Greater Philadelphia GeoHistory Network (<http://www.philageohistory.org/geohistory/>)
Most of the maps I have used are at this website

Delaware County PA History (<http://delawarecountyhistory.com/>)
Created by historian Keith Lockhart. Tax records, maps and much more. Keith has a private collection of history books for Chester and Delaware

Delaware County PA Government Archives (<http://www.co.delaware.pa.us/depts/archives.html>)
I found the estate records for William Hansell (d. 1800) at this site.

Chester County Archives and Record Services (<http://dsf.chesco.org/archives/site/default.asp>)
Deed indexes, tax records and more. Darby and Upper Darby were originally in Chester County until 1789 when Chester was split and these towns were included in Delaware County.

Philadelphia County and City taxes and other information at Pennsylvania Archives – free to search at Fold3.com

Philadelphia County Deed Indexes and Deeds

Plats (<http://www.phillyhistory.org/PhotoArchive/>)

Deed and Plat Indexes (<http://philadox.phila.gov/phillyhistoricalindex/>)

Deeds (<http://phila-records.com/historic-records/web/>)