

The Stadt Huys and "de Hall in de Hoogh Straet achter het Stadthuijs," as the List, of 1660, calls it.

The Stadt Huys grounds were somewhat more than 100 feet wide at the Strand, and somewhat less than 100 feet wide on the Hoogh Straet. No record of the size of the plot has been found, but later conveyances prove its dimensions, exactly. Curiously, the block between the Graft and the Stadt Huys Lane (Coenties Alley) is at least 25 feet too short on the Plan. The shortage is all in the Stadt Huys plot, which measures only about 75 feet. From this error, results an apparent disarrangement of the houses on the north side of the High Street, in their relation to Coenties Alley. Thus, De Meyer's three houses (Block N, Nos. 8, 9 and 10), seem to be too far east of the lane. His most westerly house, on the site of the present No. 41 Stone Street, should be exactly opposite Coenties Alley, which it was, in fact. Its attribution in Block N is correct. The lane is about 25 feet too far west on the Plan.

The history of the Stadt Huys will be found at length in the Chronology.

The existence on the Plan of the "hall," on the Hoogh Straet end of the City Hall plot, apparently clears up the hitherto obscure meaning of several passages in the records. Very likely, it was this small building which Harmen van Hoboocken, the schoolmaster, proposed to use for a school, if permitted, when, on November 7, 1656, he

respectfully requests that your Honours would be pleased to grant him the hall and the side room for the use of the school and as a dwelling, inasmuch as he, the petitioner, does not know how to manage for the proper accommodation of the children during winter, for they much require a place adapted for fire and to be warmed.

The burgomasters answered:

Whereas the City Hall of this City, the hall and little room whereof the petitioner now requests for a school and dwelling, are not at present in repair and are, moreover, required for other purposes the same cannot be allowed him.—*Rec. N. Am.*, II: 219-20.

It seems obvious that the building in the rear of the Stadt Huys, which may well have been divided into a hall for assembly and a side-room, was "a place adapted for fire," a condition which could scarcely have applied to an entrance hall or passage-way. The schoolmaster can hardly have asked for the use of the main hall, or assembly room, in the Stadt Huys itself. What "other purposes" the little building was required for, has not transpired. The ground on which it stood—40 feet on the High Street and 20 feet on the "Hall Lane formerly called the State House Lane"—was sold to Jan Smedes, a public carman, by the city, October 10, 1667.—*Recitals in Liber Deeds*, XIII: 39.