

DBLAVARE STREET

#200 - now Witt's Bakery
(See Photo No. 43)

Summary: This house, or a **house** on the site, may have been here as **early** as 1724, when Joseph Hill and Isaac Janvier divided the plot they bought from the widow of Thomas Allet in 1722. Isaac Janvier, **who** took the western part, acquired the **Penn** house (**#206**) in which he lived, and the site of the Delaware house which may have had a house on it then. Joseph Hill's eastern part was comprised of the sites of **#200**, the **New Century Club** site and the **Chase** house site. According to the deeds, his plot **was** 85 feet wide and **Janvier's** was 59 feet wide along Delaware Street.

But as Hill paid Janvier 50 pounds to even the bargain, **Joseph Hill's** part must have had at least one good house on it, for the difference in front feet would not cost 50 pounds in 1724, especially when the smaller plot had the one or more houses on it; and subsequent deeds indicate that the site of the **Hill** house **was** **#200**.

Joseph Hill, wheelwright, doubtless lived in the house until his death in 1762, with his **shops** on the back of the lot near the **Battery**. His wife owned the house until 1776, when she left it, (then in the tenure of Alexander Montgomery, **lawyer**), by will to her niece, Ann **Griffith**, who married Col. John Stockton. The **Stockton heirs** owned the property until 1809, when **they sold this** house on a plot of 61 feet front including the site of the **New Century Club**, to Dr. Henry **Colesberry** for \$1,800. **It** had been **leased** previously to members of the **Colesberry family**.

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(#200 Delaware Street, **continued**)

Dr. Colesberry left the house to his daughter **Elizabeth** in 1826. She and her husband, Lorenzo Thomas, sold the undivided property to Howell J. Terry in 1851. Terry sold #200 to Maria R. Booth in 1865. In all these changes, there is no indication that the house was other than a residence, with doctors' or lawyers' **offices** at times, Commercial use of the **front** room evidently came late in the **1900's** or perhaps not until after 1910. The **date** of **its** first commercial use has, as yet, not been determined. Alexander Cooper, in his history (**1908**) does not mention #200 in his list of commercial establishments along Delaware Street.

An examination of this building on the east or river side shows a front ring about 25 feet deep, which is the existing **building with** the rather commonplace front on Delaware Street. Connecting directly to this and set back about one foot to the west is a two-story wing with the roof running perpendicular to Delaware Street. In this wing **wall** facing the alley are window openings and a door which are nicely detailed and much earlier than any of the existing front. The **wood sills** are moulded and the **sash** divided into small lights, This wing is again approximately 25 feet deep and a later shed wing **has** been built behind it,

-----Detailed history on file-----