

30, 1685, Robert Sanders<sup>1</sup> and Myndert Harmanse, residing in the city of Albany, obtained a "deed of sale" from a number of native Indians for a tract of twelve thousand acres of land in Dutchess County, "bordering upon the Hudson, called *Minnisink*," being "north of the land of Savereyn, *alias* called the Baker, with the arable and woodland, [and] marshes, with the creeke called *Wynachkee*, with trees, stones, and further range, or outdrift for cattle, and the fall of watters called *Pondanickrien*, and another marsh, lyeing to the north of the fall of watters, called *Wareskeechen*."<sup>2</sup> Right and title to this manor was granted them in letters-patent by Governor Thomas Dongan, on October 24, 1686, with the provision that it should not encroach upon that confirmed to Stephanus van Cortlandt, François Rombout, and their associates.

Peter Schuyler, mayor of the city of Albany, on June 2, 1688, acquired by letters-patent from Governor Thomas Dongan a tract of land bounded on the north by that of Robert Sanders and Myndert Harmanse, and described as lying "att a certaine place called the Long Reach, bounded on the south and east by a certaine creek [later known as Jan Casper's Kill], that runs into Hudson's river, on the north side of a certaine house now in the possession and occupation of one Peter, the Brewer, the said creek being called by the Indians where it runs into the river, *Thanackkonek*, and where it runs further up into the woods, *Pietawicktquassetch*."<sup>3</sup> Eleven years later, on August 30, 1699, Peter Schuyler conveyed this tract of land to Robert Sanders and Myndert Harmanse. Shortly afterward the extensive manor of the two proprietors began to be designated by a name which after many corruptions is now written Poughkeepsie.<sup>4</sup> Myndert Harmanse seated himself and his family upon a part of it, where, prior to the year 1799, he built a saw-mill. His partner, Robert Sanders, died in the city of New York, probably in 1706, as is indicated in a conveyance, dated June 17, 1707, in which are named, "Myndert Harmeen of Pogkeepsink," yeoman, and Helena, his wife; Elsje, widow of Robert Sanders, "late of the city of New Yorke, deceased."

Among the number of yeomen cultivating farms, in 1712, lying within the bounds of the manor of Poughkeepsie, was Thomas, the eldest son of Robert

<sup>1</sup>Baptized in New Amsterdam, November 10, 1641. He married Elsje Barents, of Albany. He was the son of Thomas Sanders, a smith, from Amsterdam, Holland, who married, in New Amsterdam, September 16, 1640, Sara van Gorcum, where he obtained a patent for a lot, July 13, 1643. He was among the first settlers of Gravesend, Long Island. In 1654, he owned a house and lot in Beverswijk. Later he returned to New Amsterdam, where he was living in 1664, when New Netherland was surrendered to the English.

<sup>2</sup>Book of patents, 5, pp. 575-577. *Wareskeech*, or the mouth of the stream called *Wareskeck*, flowing into the Hudson, is about one and two-fifths miles north of the mouth of the Fall Kill or *Wynachkee*, otherwise written *Wynogkee* and *Winnikee*.

<sup>3</sup>Book of patents, 6, pp. 325-327.

<sup>4</sup>In different deeds it has been found written: Pokeepsink, Pogkeepsink, Poghkeepsen, Pokkeepsen, Pochkeepsie, Pockeepsing, Pockepsink, Pakcepson, Poghkeepsie, Pochkeepsy, Poeghkeepsink, Pochkeepsy, Poghkeepsie, Poghkeepsinck, Pochkeepsen, Poeghkeepsing, and Poughkeepsie.