

[DEPOSITION OF GOVERT LOOCKERMANS AS TO THE OWNERSHIP
OF A PARCEL OF LAND ON MANHATTAN]

Summary

Govert Loockermans, free merchant in New Netherland, about to depart thence, acknowledges that Gillis Verbrugge and his son Seth Verbrugge, merchants here, are owners of a quarter each of a certain parcel of land located in New Netherland on Manhattan, on the Fresh Water, which includes Bestevaers' thicket, which was purchased by him about ten years ago from the West India Company, under the directorship of Willem Kieft.

Translation

[*Marginal note:*] Copy to Govert Loockermans, 20 March 1651

Today, the 18th of March anno 1651, appeared before me Hendrick Schaeff, notary etc., and subscribed witnesses, the honorable Govert Loockermans, free merchant in New Netherland, at the moment ready to depart thence. Very well known to me, notary. And declared and acknowledged for himself, his heirs and descendants, that to the honorable Gillis Verbrugge and Seth Verbrugge, father and son, merchants here well and truly appertains together the just half, each a just fourth part, in certain parcel of land, situated in New Netherland aforesaid, on the Manhatans, adjacent to the *Varsche Water*,¹ which comprises *Bestevaers creupelbosch*,² purchased by him, appearer, from the West India Company under the directorship of director Kieft, about ten years ago, as appears amply from the purchase [document] or letter patent thereof, residing with him, appearer, in New Netherland, of which he will at the first opportunity send them an authentic copy. He, appearer, acknowledges that the just half of the purchase sum of the same land has been paid in full by them to him, and that they are therefore jointly rightful owners for half or each for a just fourth part as above. And that the other or opposite half belongs to him, appearer, alone, which is also agreed to by the aforesaid Gilles and Seth Verbrugge, also appearers. And his, Loockermans', aforesaid declaration at their request is hereby accepted. All of which they, appearers have also agreed to declare by life or death, and has been put down *ad notam* by me, notary, to provide them with a record thereof subsequently to serve as and when will be required. Everything in good faith. Done in Amsterdam in the presence of the honorable Isaac van de Water, merchant here, and Johannes Hendricksz, clerk, requested hereto as witnesses.

Govert Loockermans
Gillis Verbrugge
Seth Verbrugge
Isaack van de Water

H Schaef N.P.

¹ The 'Fresh Water' on lower Manhattan, later called Collect Pond.

² 'Bestevaer's cripplebush'. See Arnold J.F. van Laer (trans. and ed.), *Register of the Provincial Secretary, 1638-1642*. New York Historical Manuscripts: Dutch, vol. 1. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1974, p. 311, n1, and Arnold J.F. van Laer (trans. & ed.), *Register of the Provincial Secretary, 1642-1647*. New York Historical Manuscripts: Dutch, vol. 2. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1974, p. 328.

J: Henricxsen

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Transcription

[*Marginal note:*] Copie aen Govert Loockermans den 20. Martij 1651

Op huyden den 18^e Martij @ 1651 compareerde voor mij henrick Schaeff Nots. etc. ende ondergeschr. getuijgen, d'eursame Govert Loockemans, vrij coopman in Nieunederlandt; staende althans op sijn v.treck derwaerts. Mij notarie seer wel bekendt.
Ende verclaerde ende bekende voor hem, sijnen erven ende naekomelingen, dat d'eursame Gillis Verbrugge ende Seth Verbrugge, vader en zoon <coopluyden alhier> wel ende deuchdel. te samen de gerechte helftenisse elck een gerecht vierde part, is competerende in seecker parceel Landts, gelegen in Nieunederlandt voorss, op de Manhattans, aent Varsch Water, waer onder Bestevaers creupelbosch begrepen is, bij hem Comp^t vande Westjnde Compe onder de directie van den directeur Kiefft gekoft, over ontrent Thien Jaren geleden, als breeder volgens de coop of grondt brieff daervan seijnde, onder hem Comp^t þe in Nieunederlandt berustende; daervan hij de authentijcque copie mette eerste gelegenth^{ed} aen hunl. sal over senden. Bekennende hij Comp^t dat de gerechte helfte vande cooppennen van tselve landt, bij hunl aen hem sijn voldaen ende betaelt, ende syl^{en} mitsdesen daervan tesamen sijn eijgenaers voor de helft, ofte elck voor een gerecht vierde part <als vooren> Ende dat de andre ofte wederhelft hem Comp^t alleen is toebehoorende; het welck oock by de voorss. Gillis ende Setth Verbruggen, medecomparerenden alsoo wert toegestaen. Ende syn loockemans <voorss> v.claringe tharen behoeve bij desen geaccepteerd. Alle twelck syl^{en} Comp^{ten} alsoo by leven ende sterven goedt gevonden hebben te verclaren, ende door my notario *ad notam* te doen neemen <ende haerlijden daervan te leveren acte> om naemaels te trekken, daer ende soo behooren sal.
Alles oprecht. Gedaen tAmst. ter presentie van d'eursame Isaac vande Water coopman alhier ende Johannes henricxen Clercq, als getuijgen hiertoe versocht.

Govert Loockermans
Gillis Verbrugge
Seth Verbrugge
Isaack van de Water

H Schaef N.P.

J: Henricxsen

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