

- THE HISTORY OF -

3349 HADLEY ROAD

HADLEY, MICHIGAN

written and compiled by allie seibert

RICHARDS & CO. A HOUSEHOLD HISTORY PRODUCTION

4
9

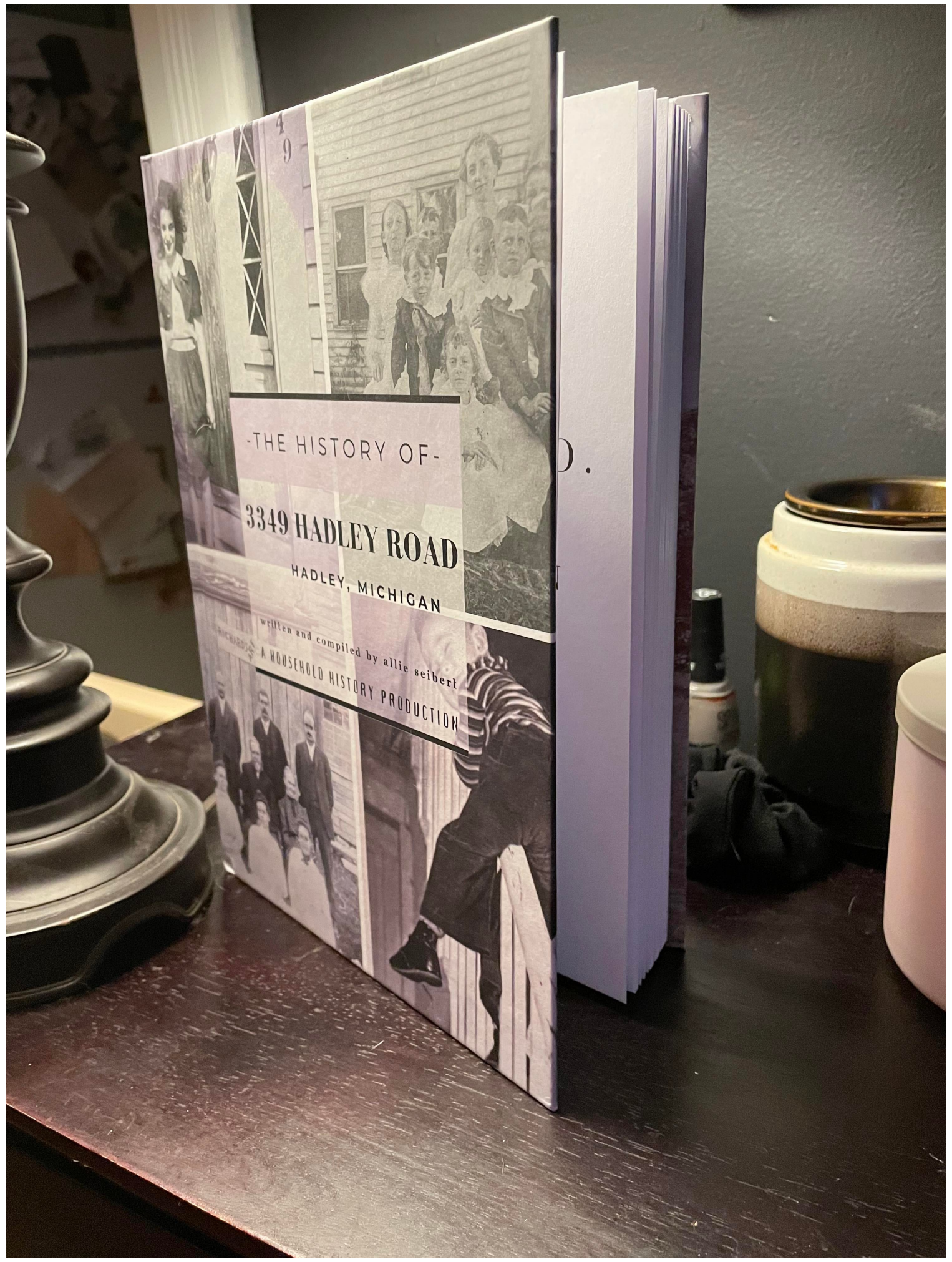
49
-THE HISTORY OF-

3349 HADLEY ROAD

HADLEY, MICHIGAN

written and compiled by allie seibert

RICHARDS
A HOUSEHOLD HISTORY PRODUCTION

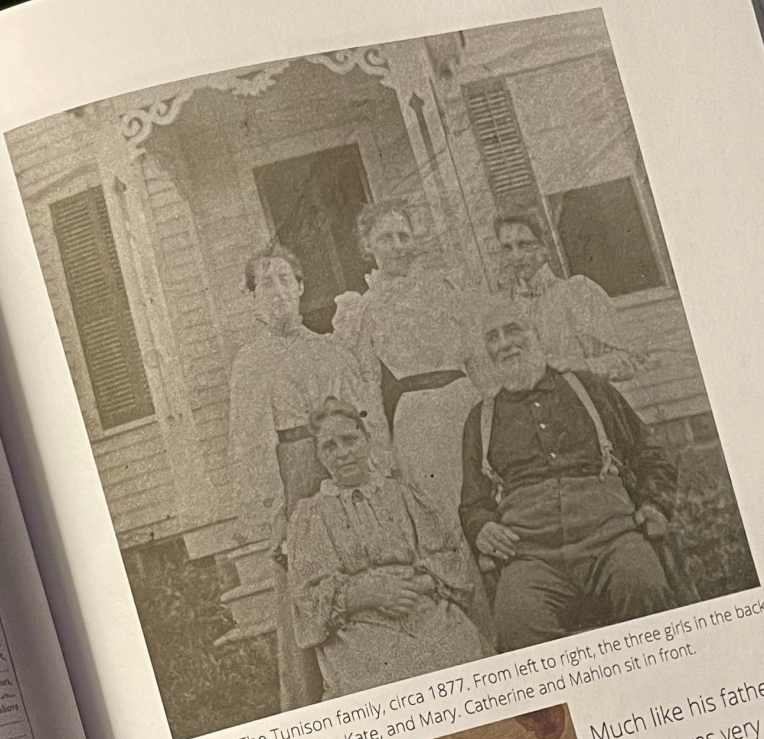


577
For Record the 16th day of July A.D. 1877
S. H. Harrison, J.P.

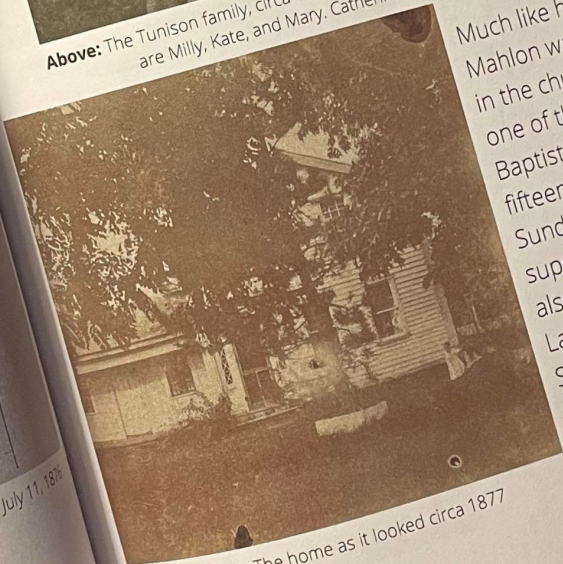
Indenture, Made this Eleventh day of July
a year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and Seventy seven
between the Town of Lapeer in Lapeer County and
Commissioner of the same place
of the second part,
the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of Dollars Hundred
of the second part, the receipt whereof is hereby confessed and acknowledged, do hereby
convey, alien and confirm unto the said part 1st of the second part, and his heirs and assigns,
parcel of land situate and being in the Township of Lapeer
and described as follows, to wit:
The West corner of the East half of the South
Quarter in Township six North of Range Six
in East One Hundred and Two North Range South
a Township West One Hundred and Two North Range
and to the place of Beginning containing Twenty
square feet or less

with the hereditaments and appurtenances thereto belonging, or in anywise appertaining:
described, with the appurtenances, unto the said part 1st of the second part,
and assigns forever. And the said part 1st of the second part, his heirs, executors,
administrators, do covenant, grant, bargain and agree to and with the said part 1st of the second part, his
heirs, executors, administrators, shall WARRANT AND DEFEND
at the time of the entailing and delivery of these presents, that they are free from all incumbrances whatever
will, and his heirs, executors, and administrators, shall WARRANT AND DEFEND
all lawful claims whatsoever, his hand and seal, the day and year first above written
The said part 1st of the first part has hereunto set his hand and seal, the day and year first above written
and Delivered in Presence of
Morton
S. H. Harrison, J.P.
On this Eleventh day of July
eight hundred and Seventy seven, before me, Justice of the Peace,
of the County in and for said County, personally appeared, Mahlon Tunison
acknowledged the same
to be the same person described in and who executed the within instrument, who
free act and deed.
Justice of the Peace

Property deed between Mahlon Tunison and Catherine Tunison, his wife-- July 11, 1877



Above: The Tunison family, circa 1877. From left to right, the three girls in the back are Milly, Kate, and Mary. Catherine and Mahlon sit in front.



Above: The home as it looked circa 1877

Much like his father, Mahlon was very involved in the church. He acted as one of the deacons for the Baptist Church and spent fifteen years as the Sunday School superintendent. He was also the historian of the Lapeer County Pioneer Society.

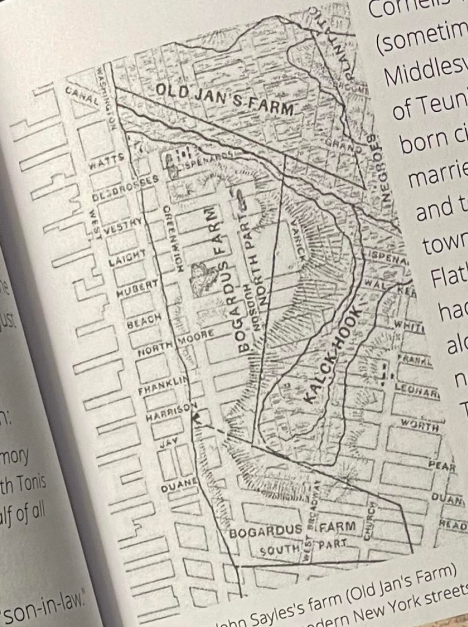
and together they settled on a farm in Manhattan, in what is present-day Soho. John Sayles's crime did not stop after the move to New Amsterdam. Between 1638 and 1643 he was convicted of numerous offenses including damaging hogs and chasing and mauling cattle. When John Sayles died in 1645, he left part of his farm to Teunis. The tract of land was referred to as "Old Jan's Farm" and was located just above present-day Canal Street.

According to Sayles's will, written just months before his death: *Jan Celes, who, being wounded and lying sick abed, but of sound memory and understanding... he declares it to be his last will that after his death Tonis Nysen, his brother-in-law shall first take out of the estate the just half of all the goods and effects which he shall leave behind.*

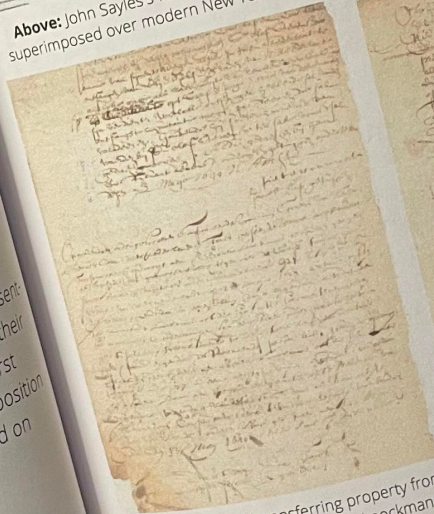
At the time, "brother-in-law" held the same meaning as "son-in-law". On April 3, 1647, the land was officially given to Nyssen. According to the 1647 Land Patent:

We, Willem Kieft, etc... have given and granted to Tonis Nysen a certain plantation located on the island of Manhattan formerly cultivated by Jan Celes, deceased; extending on the south side of the land and marsh... further along the Negroes' plantation until the marsh of Bogardus... Done at Fort Amsterdam in New Netherland, 3 April 1647.

By 1652, the Nyssen family moved to Gowanus— what is now present-day Brooklyn. He and Phoebe had at least nine children during their marriage. Teunis became the magistrate of Brueckelen— the first Dutch community in New Amsterdam— in 1658 and held the position until 1661. He died before June 7, 1663, and Phoebe followed on December 13, 1666.

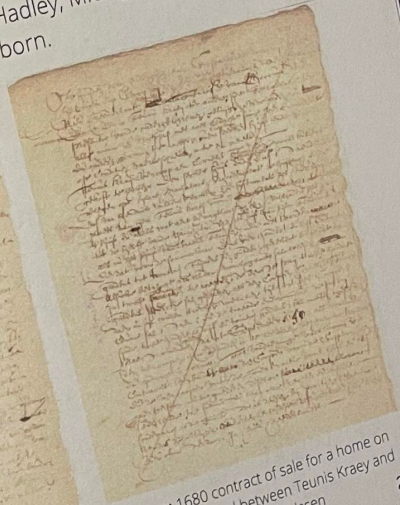


Above: John Sayles's farm (Old Jan's Farm) superimposed over modern New York streets



Above: 1649 deed transferring property from Nyssen to a man named Govert Loockmans

Cornelis Teunissen Denyse (sometimes referred to as Cor van Middleswart) was the sixth child of Teunis and Phoebe and was born circa 1650. In 1687 he married Neeltje Tunise Bogaert and together they settled in the town of Midwout, which is now Flatbush, New York. By 1690 they had purchased a thousand acres along the Raritan River in what is now Raritan, New Jersey. Together, Cornelis and Neeltje had twelve children. Cornelis Tunison— the direct ancestor to those who built the home in Hadley, Michigan, was their third-born.

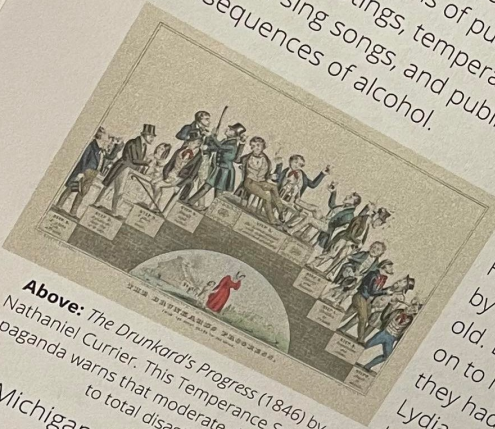


Above: 1680 contract of sale for a home on Manhattan Island between Teunis Kraey and Cornelis Teunissen

After settling here, Abraham devoted most of his life to the church. The very first meeting of the Baptist church was held at Abraham's home, and they continued to meet there until the congregation was ready to put up a building. Abraham was one of the two first deacons at the Baptist society in Hadley and held that office until his death.

Abraham was also heavily involved with the Hadley Temperance Society. It was organized on November 3, 1836 with 21 members and Abraham was elected as the director. Eventually, the entire population of Hadley was enrolled. In 1842 the society encouraged the entire town to sign pledges promising to abstain from all intoxicating beverages. They also petitioned the manufacturing and sale of alcohol in town.

Temperance societies were extremely popular during this time in history. By 1830, the average American over the age of 15 consumed nearly seven gallons of pure alcohol per year, three times as much today. At meetings, temperance society members would give lectures, sing songs, and publish tracts detailing the destructive consequences of alcohol.



Above: The Drunkard's Progress (1846) by Nathaniel Currier. This Temperance Society propaganda warns that moderate drinking leads to total disaster
Elba, Michigan in the late 1870s.

Abraham's oldest son, Bergun, died shortly after arriving in Hadley due a fever brought on by malaria. He was only 20 years old. Lydia, the second born, went to marry Cook Cramton and they had eight children together. Lydia and Cook remained in the Hadley area for their entire lives. Mary Christine married Andrew Geer. They had three children together and eventually moved

Handwritten text in a cursive script, likely a letter or journal entry, discussing local events and community matters.

Above: