

PHELPS STOKES COLLECTION  
AMERICAN HISTORICAL PRINTS  
EARLY VIEWS OF AMERICAN CITIES, ETC.

1810 - E-17b

Plate 43-a

Corner of Greenwich Street

Janvier 1810

Water-color drawing. Size: 12.12 x 6.12. Date depicted:  
January, 1810. Artist: Baroness Hyde de Neuville.

The view depicts the corners of Greenwich and Dey Streets, the latter being the street in the foreground. The fine three-story residence at the extreme right of the view was built by Isaac Stoutenburgh about 1786, and at this time was owned by his son, John Stoutenburgh. Later, it was occupied by the North River Bank, which acquired it May 1, 1829, under foreclosure of mortgage. At the present time the site is occupied by a taxpayer, the corner store being used as an orangeade stand! The two adjoining houses on Greenwich Street were owned by Robert Campbell and Leonard De Klyn, respectively. The large house in the center foreground stood at the northwest corner of Dey Street and belonged at this time to John Dey, who sold it March 26, 1810, to John Wood, a tin-plate worker, who also owned the adjoining house. The house at the extreme left, only a small section of which appears in the view, was owned by Robert Hyslop, merchant, who had purchased it in 1785. Both the Dey and the Wood houses lay in the present bed of Greenwich Street, which was widened in May, 1894. The spire at the extreme right of the view is that of St. Paul's Chapel.

The view was at first believed to represent the corresponding corners of Greenwich and Jay Streets, and the spire to be that of St. John's Chapel, on Varick Street; but a careful examination of the insurance and property maps revealed the fact that this neighborhood was not developed at so early a date. For this examination, and for most of the topographical information here given the authors are indebted to Miss Jennie F. Macarthy, of the Title Guarantee and Trust Company.

This watercolor drawing and several more by the baroness were acquired by Mr. Stokes in Paris in 1928. The artist of these watercolors was the wife of Baron Hyde de Neuville, French minister to this country.

Baron Hyde de Neuville and his wife arrived in New York June 20, 1807, the former having been banished on an accusation of being involved in royalist conspiracies against Napoleon. They remained in this country until the summer of 1814, when they returned to France on the restoration of Louis XVIII. They resided for a time in New York City, participating actively in the varied activities of the French colony, the Baron being

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one of the founders of the Economical School, an institution for educating the children of the French emigrés. Later, they bought a farm near New Brunswick, N.J. After his restoration, Louis XVIII appointed the Baron French minister to this country, and he served in that capacity from June, 1816, to May, 1820, and again from February, 1821, to July, 1822. During their residence in this country Baron and Baroness Hyde de Neuville travelled extensively, especially in the northern states, and the Baroness Hyde de Neuville left many pictorial records of their wanderings. See Baron Hyde de Neuville, Mémoires et Souvenirs, Paris, 1890-92, 3 v., which contains an account of their American experiences.