

Transcription by Dennis Sullivan in unpublished ms.: The van Bael Patent: a century-long thorn in the side of the Patroonship - exploratory notes (2019)

Deed from the Indians to Jan Hendrickse van Baal of land on the Normans Kill

Be it known to every one that we, the undersigned Mohawk Indians, Canaghko, Schaenwies, Conhowadadin, Sagoderiechta, lawful proprietors and owners, acknowledge in the presence of the honorable commissaries of this court that we have sold to and for the behoof of Jan Hendrickse van Baal, merchant, residing here, a certain parcel of low land, situated on both sides of the Normans Kill, with the woods, woodland, timber, mountains, mines, hills, kills, lakes, marches, and everything appertaining thereto, as the same lies in its square, beginning at the Sant Berg, where the burghers of Schagnegtadie, alias, Albanie, daily haul their sand from, one hundred and thirty paces northeast of a round swamp, to the west of the city; thence running north-westerly to and including the Otgagtenonde, alias the Uithoek (Out-hook or Look-out); thence south-westerly the same distance; thence south-easterly equally far, and thence to the aforesaid Santberg, or place of beginning, without our having any further claim thereto in the least, we, the grantors acknowledging that to our satisfaction we have been paid and satisfied therefor in full, from the first penny to the last; giving therefore plenam actionem cessam and full power to the above named Jan Henderik van Baal, his heirs, his successors, or those who hereafter may obtain his right and title, to do with and dispose of the aforesaid land and its appurtenances as he might do with his own patrimonial property and effects; promising further that we shall nevermore do or allow anything to be done contrary hereto in any manner, under binding obligation by law. Done in Albany, the 18th of July 1672, old style.

The second page of the deed continues:

After the signing of the above deed, we, together with the vendors and the purchaser, went to the above mentioned Santberg, just behind the city, one hundred and thirty paces northeast of the above mentioned swamp, and saw the vendors make delivery to the purchaser, Van Baal, by giving him a sod and a live currant twig; this being done because there are several santbergen (sand hills), large and small; thence we went along the Makwas Pat (Mohawk trail), in order definitely to locate the place of beginning, as maybe be seen on the map on the other side, which was explained to the grantors in our presence by the interpreter; whereupon, in addition to the payment, a gun, one fathom of black and one fathom of while wampum were presented to each of them by the said purchaser and which were received by them with many thanks, the 18th of July 1672.

Albert Ryckman, Jan Jacobsee Gardenir

source reference given in ms.: 19. Albany Institute of History and Art Manuscript files # 823 and # 925.

