

New York County Lawyers' Association

100th Anniversary Year

Advocating Equality...Creating Opportunities

14 Vesey Street: Genealogy of an Address Part 1

by K. Jacob Ruppert, J.D.

The NYCLA Home of Law began as two buildings on three 25x100-foot lots in 1926: 12-14-16 Vesey Street. Together, the lots formed a patch of Manhattan that witnessed much of the history of young New York as its deeds passed from one notable New Yorker to another. Many buildings, both homes and businesses, have come and gone since Henry Hudson came to town, but buried deeply beneath their ethereal ruins are the accrued memories of the events of an emerging Gotham that continue to whisper their secrets over the din of foot-falls above. We listen - not only in celebration of NYCLA's Centennial milestone - but to remind us of the milestones of others that precede the place the Association now calls home.

Ownership

At the time William Nelson Cromwell purchased the property in 1926, he bought something that looked quite different from the neo-Georgian façade here today: two warehouse/loft-like buildings dating back to the early 1840s. Built considerably more for function

than form, the buildings were five stories high with the 12 Vesey building having a 25-foot frontage. Fourteen-Sixteen Vesey were part of the contiguous building encompassing 14, 16 and 18 Vesey that had a 75-foot frontage. The firewall between 16 and 18 Vesey enabled the latter to remain when 14 and 16 Vesey were demolished to make way for NYCLA. The façade of 18 Vesey remains to this day, providing contemporary urban archeologists a glimpse at what the thrice-wider original building looked like at the time of the purchase. Furthermore, this façade makes it one of the few lower Manhattan buildings that dates as far back as the rebuilding of New York after the Great Fire of 1835.

Streets of 18th-century Manhattan were loosely planned by the early Dutch settlers, unnumbered and muddy paths barely wide enough for passing carriages. Many properties at the time were described by their looks or in feet using popular reference points. An early newspaper advertisement listed a home for sale that was "next to the house in which Cornelius Roosevelt, deceased, lived, opposite the tea water pump." Vesey Street was

no exception - a street named after the Reverend William Vesey (1674-1746), the first rector of Trinity Church and the first to offer a catechism to Negro and Native American slaves.

The Hosack Years to 1836

According to the 1823 tax lists, one of the earliest recorded owners of one of three Vesey Street lots was Henry McFarlan, then a director of the Fulton Fire Insurance Company, who owned the 12 Vesey Street building that stood where the eastern third of the Association's present building now stands. Early history of 14 Vesey reaches back as far as 1834, when it was the private home of Dr. David Hosack (1769-1835). Hosack was a leading physician of his day and an eminent botanist and mineralogist. He was considered one of New York's first citizens influential in social and civic affairs, as well as in his profession. He was a founder of the New-York Historical Society, American Academy of Fine Arts and Bellevue Hospital. Early in his career in New York, he was a professor at King's College (later Columbia University), conveniently located on Murray Street, which likely necessitated a neighborhood residence on

Vesey Street.

Dr. Hosack was the son of a New York wine merchant who had come to America to serve under Lord Jeffery Amherst in the French and Indian War. He attended Columbia and Princeton, receiving a bachelor's degree from the latter in 1789. He studied medicine in New York and Philadelphia and later studied medicine and botany in the United Kingdom, ultimately becoming, successively, professor of botany and material medica at Columbia



Dr. David Hosack

College, professor of the theory and practice of physics at the College of Physicians and Surgeons and president of the short-lived Rutgers Medical College, of which he was co-founder. He was also the founder and first president of the New York Horticultural Society, America's first horticultural society.

Most notably, Hosack was close friends with both Aaron Burr Jr. and Alexander Hamilton. As such, he served as the surgeon in attendance at their 1804 duel, treating the mortally wounded Hamilton. He was one of Hamilton's pallbearers (but not before submitting his bill of \$50). Three years later, after Burr was tried for treason and acquitted, Hosack lent him cash to go

See 14 VESEY STREET, Page 13

Remembrance of Things Past

In recognition of NYCLA's Centennial Celebration, members are invited to share their memorable NYCLA experiences. Catherine A. Christian, who assumes NYCLA's presidency on May 24, reminisces about an event presented by the Minorities and the Law Committee in 1998, when she was its chair.

The Minorities and the Law Committee launched the Summer Minority Judicial Internship Program in 1989. Created by NYCLA Board member and former president, Hon. Harold Baer Jr., then Justice, Supreme Court, New York County, and his wife, Dr. Suzanne Baer, the program offers paid internships with federal and state judges to law students of color.

On September 22, 1998, the Minorities and the Law Committee held a successful, standing-room-only reception attended by luminaries from the bench and bar. We honored two committee members - Judge Harold Baer Jr., U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York, and his wife, Dr. Suzanne Baer - for their demonstrated commitment to diversity in the legal profession as founders of the Summer Minority Judicial Internship Program. We also hosted a book signing with Ellis Cose, an African-American award-winning journalist, who read from his recently published novel, *The Best Defense*. In addition, many of the law students and judges who had participated in the internship program over the past nine years were also in attendance.

Two guest speakers gave inspirational talks about their personal tri-

umphs and struggles - Hon. Robert Johnson, Bronx District Attorney, and, at the time, the first African-American District Attorney in the history of New York State, introduced Mr. Cose, and Hon. Sonia Sotomayor, then Judge, U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York, also spoke.



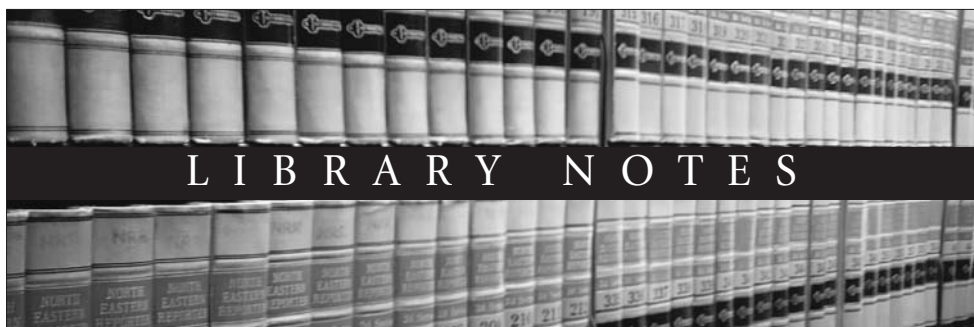
Catherine Christian

Editor's Note: In 2005, Mr. Johnson became the longest-serving District Attorney in Bronx history and he continues to serve in that position. Judge Sotomayor is currently a judge in the U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit. And Mr. Cose is still a writer; his most recent book is *Killing Affirmative Action: Would Ending It Really Result in a Better, More Perfect, Union* (2006), published by the Institute for Justice and Journalism at the University of Southern California's Annenberg School for Communication. Judge Baer will once again be recognized by NYCLA for his outstanding commitment and judicial service. On May 11, he will receive the Capozzoli Gavel Award at the Association's annual Law Day Luncheon. Finally, NYCLA's Summer Minority Judicial Internship Program is thriving; it has served more than 150 law students of color since its inception.

ACHIEVEMENTS

NYCLA has achieved many notable successes in the almost 100 years since its founding in 1908. It is a leader in every facet of the profession from pioneering continuing legal education to issuing reports calling for reform of the courts to advocating civil rights for minorities, women and other groups whose opportunities have been limited by legal and social barriers. The highlights below provide a glimpse of the contributions NYCLA has made and continues to make to the profession and the public.

- 2006—NYCLA establishes a Special Committee on Diversity in the Legal Profession, chaired by Hon. Juanita Bing Newton, to improve diversity and promote equal opportunity.
- 2005—NYCLA adopts a resolution calling for a right to counsel for all residential tenants in Housing Court who cannot afford legal representation.
- 2004—NYCLA's report calling for the videotaping of all custodial interrogations of criminal suspects is adopted by the American Bar Association as an important measure to reduce false confessions.
- 2003—NYCLA prevails in its lawsuit over New York State's continuing failure to address the compensation rates for assigned counsel in Criminal and Family Courts, with the judge declaring the statutes setting compensation rates unconstitutional. The Legislature then enacts the first rate increase in 18 years.
- 2001—NYCLA provides *pro bono* services to the families of the victims of the World Trade Center attacks despite its inability to occupy the Home of Law, located half a block from the Trade Center, for almost two months after the attacks.
- 1993—NYCLA establishes a Speakers Bureau to help the public understand the legal system.
- 1989—NYCLA establishes a Summer Minority Judicial Internship Program, which provides a stipend for minority law students placed with federal and state court judges.
- 1972—NYCLA establishes a Committee on Women's Rights, which spearheads changes in tax law, insurance benefits, exclusionary private clubs and matrimonial and family law matters.
- 1962—NYCLA wages a successful campaign to create a unified criminal and civil court system in New York City.
- 1949—NYCLA sponsors a conference on civil rights in the post-World War II era.
- 1943—NYCLA confronts the American Bar Association over its refusal to admit black lawyers, which leads to the opening of that Association to minority attorneys and judges.
- 1938—In response to the desperate need of The Legal Aid Society, NYCLA members join the Voluntary Defenders Committee.
- 1915—NYCLA proposes legislation to "radically revise all the laws" pertaining to the Municipal Court.
- 1908—NYCLA is established with a membership policy that welcomes all lawyers, regardless of race, religion, ethnicity or gender.



LIBRARY NOTES

To make suggestions about book purchases, please contact Library Director Nuchine Nobari by email at nnobari@nycla.org or by phone at 212-267-6646, ext. 201.

FEATURED INTERNET SITE

LION
(www.nycourts.gov/lawlibraries/lion/index.shtml). A service of the Unified Court System, this index provides the fiche card numbers needed to access the NYCLA Library's collection of Appellate Division records and briefs on microfiche. Each record and brief fiche is assigned a seven-digit number, with the first number indicating the department and the second two numbers indicating the year of the case. The final four numbers are assigned based on the order in which the cases were argued in a given year. The **LION** index can be searched by plaintiff or defendant keyword, the official *Appellate Division Reports* citation, case number or the date of decision. Database coverage begins with 1984.

FEATURED TITLE

New York Judge Reviews and Court Directory, published annually by James Publishing, Inc., has listings for over 500 justices, acting justices, county and city judges, some judicial hearing officers, and federal district court and bankruptcy court judges. Biographical information categories include: appointment/election, honors and memberships, admission to the bar, education, recent and/or notable decisions and date of birth. Where personal information is provided, it may include date of birth, religion, marital status, interests and hobbies. The unique feature of *New York Judge Reviews* is the critical commentary that has been written by attorneys about the judges. These reviews are provided for approximately 82 percent of the judges listed in the profiles section. Categories here include: Temperament/Demeanor, On the Bench, On Trial; Settlements, Adjournments/Continuances, Proclivities and Suggestions. The profiles on each judge are derived from the comments obtained from five to eight attorneys. They have been chosen randomly and have no affiliation with the publisher.

NEW EDITIONS

Employment Law Yearbook 2007 (PLI). **Legal Malpractice, 2007 Edition** (Thomson West).

NEW UPDATES

American Law of Product Liability, 3rd edition(Thomson West). Dec. 2006 supplement.
Attorneys' Dictionary of Medicine (LexisNexis). Feb. 2007 release.
Civil Actions Against State and Local Government (Thomson West). Spring 2007 cumulative supplement.
Cross-Examination Science and Techniques (LexisNexis). 2007 supplement.
Entertainment Law, 2nd edition (Thomson West). Nov. 2006 update.
Federal Civil Rights Act 3rd edition

(Thomson West). Feb. 2007 supplement.
Handling Consumer Credit Cases, 3rd edition (Thomson West). 2007 supplement.
Handling Drug and Narcotic Cases (Thomson West). 2007 cumulative supplement.
Legal Opinion Letters Formbook, 2nd edition (Aspen). 2007 cumulative supplement.
Manual on Employment Discrimination and Civil Rights Actions in Federal Court (Thomson West). 2007 update.
Recovery of Damages for Bad Faith, 5th edition (Lawpress). Feb. 2007 cumulative supplements.
Sexual Orientation and the Law (Thomson West). Feb. 2007 update.

PERIODICALS

Client Relations, *GP Solo*, vol. 24, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 2007).
Danger on the Road, *Trial*, vol. 43, no. 2 (Feb. 2007).
Developments in the Law – The Law of Media, *Harvard Law Review*, vol. 120, no. 4 (Feb. 2007).
Employee Benefits & Pensions: Current Developments, *The Tax Advisor* (Feb. 2007).
Fighting Preemption, *Trial*, vol. 43, no. 3 (Mar. 2007).
Immigration News, *Bender's Immigration Bulletin*, vol. 12, no. 3 (Feb. 1, 2007).
Secrets and Lies, *Litigation*, vol. 33, no. 2 (Winter 2007).
Survey: Cyberspace Law, *The Business Lawyer*, vol. 62, no. 1 (Nov. 2006).
Symposium, Fraud and Federalism: Overlapping Jurisdictions, Overlapping Crimes, *Cardozo Law Review*, vol. 28, no. 4 (Feb. 2007).
United States: The Fifty-Ninth Year of Administration of the Lanham Trademark Act of 1946, *The Trademark Reporter*, vol. 97, no. 1 (Jan.–Feb. 2007).

CLE PROGRAMS AT THE NYCLA LIBRARY

NYCLA ELECTRONIC RESEARCH CENTER CLE PROGRAMS: APRIL AND MAY

MAY

Monday, May 14
11:00–12:00 PM
GSI/LIVEDGAR: MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS
1 MCLE Credit; 1 Skills;
Transitional
Member: \$65
Non-Member: \$85
Non-Legal Staff: \$35

Tuesday, May 15
10:30–11:45 PM
BLOOMBERG PROFESSIONAL
1.5 MCLE Credits; 1 Skills; .5 Law Practice Management;
Transitional
Member: FREE
Non-Member: FREE

Wednesday, May 16
10:00–12:30 PM

BANKRUPTCY COURT ELECTRONIC CASE FILING SYSTEM

2.5 MCLE Credits; 2.5 Skills;
Transitional
Member: \$65
Non-Member: \$85
Non-Legal Staff: \$35

Wednesday, May 16
6:00–7:30 PM
INTERNET LEGAL RESOURCES: IMMIGRATION

1.5 MCLE Credits; 1.5 Skills;
Transitional
Member: \$65
Non-Member: \$85
Non-Legal Staff: \$35

Thursday, May 17
10:00–11:00 PM
WESTLAW: INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RESEARCH

1 MCLE Credit; 1 Skills;

Transitional
Member: FREE
Non-Member: FREE

Thursday, May 17
6:00–7:30 PM
INTERNET LEGAL RESOURCES: AN OVERVIEW

1.5 MCLE Credits; 1.5 Skills;
Transitional
Member: \$65
Non-Member: \$85
Non-Legal Staff: \$35

Tuesday, May 22
10:00–11:30 PM
WESTLAW: NEW YORK MATERIALS RESEARCH
1 MCLE Credit; 1 Skills;
Transitional
Member: FREE
Non-Member: FREE

14 Vesey Street

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abroad in order to escape the notoriety resulting from the trial.

Later in life, Hosack rarely used his 14 Vesey Street home and sold it in January of 1834 for \$26,437.50 to the New York Athenaeum, a literary organization founded in 1824. He was one of the founding members of the Athenaeum, along with Henry Brevoort, James Fenimore Cooper, William Gracie, Washington Irving and Rufus King.

The New York Athenaeum, once dear to the hearts of many well-heeled New Yorkers, had considerable cash from its small but wealthy membership but was running at an annual deficit and needed alternative income. It was considering the Vesey Street property as a permanent home for the Athenaeum, then ten years old. Hosack had other residences in Manhattan (actually, they belonged to his third wife, Magdalena Coster), including at 85 Chambers Street and in Kips Bay and probably offered a vacant 14 Vesey to the New York Athenaeum. Athenaeum members may have already been familiar with the house, given that Hosack had hosted literary and artistic salons as men-

tioned by William Cullen Bryant. The New York Athenaeum ultimately decided to simply rent the property.

Next month: Part II - The Meeks, Astor and Cromwell-NYCLA Years

K. Jacob Ruppert, Esq. is the Judicial Law Clerk to Hon. Stephen B. Beasley of the 11th Judicial District Court of the State of Louisiana and served as Senior Program Attorney for the New York County Lawyers' Association's CLE Institute from 2001-2004. Born in New Orleans, he comes from a deeply-rooted New York family and is an ardent historian of lower Manhattan and Yorkville. His current writing projects include articles on the late Justice Fred J. Cassibry of Louisiana and the forgotten estates of Point View in Rumson, NJ and Linwood in Rhinebeck, NY. Mr. Ruppert can be reached at jacob@jacobruppert.com.



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100th Anniversary Year

Advocating Equality...Creating Opportunities

14 Vesey Street: Genealogy of an Address - Part II

The Meeks, Astor and Cromwell-NYCLA Years

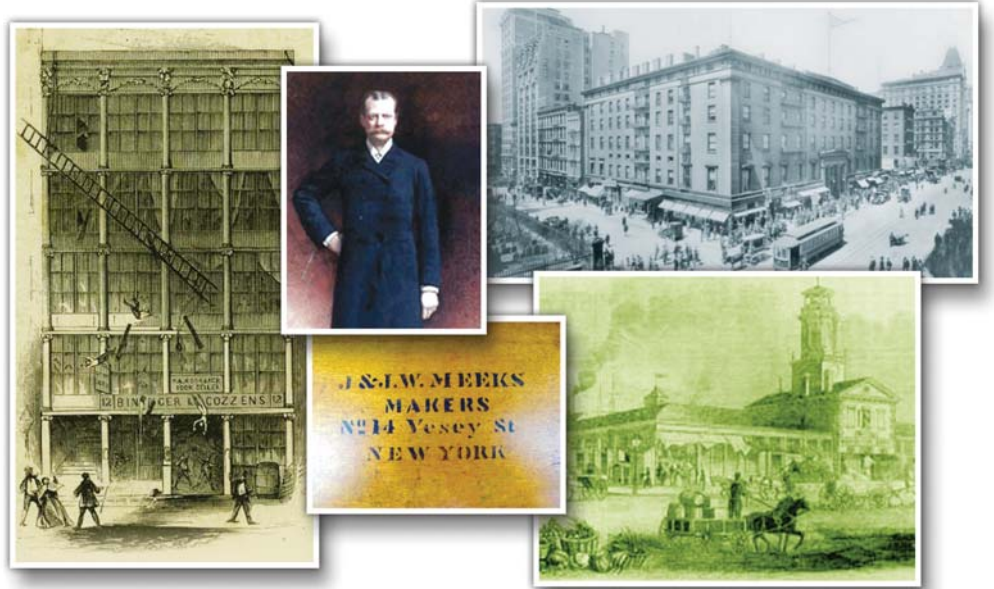
by K. Jacob Ruppert, J.D.

The Meeks Years, 1836-1908

The rental income from Dr. David Hosack's Vesey Street home did not last long as it perished in the Great Fire of 1835 along with Hosack's three other downtown properties. In a sense, Hosack perished too as he died of a stroke five days later. The scorched and snow-covered lot was sold in January of 1836 for \$35,000. Recorded occupancy of the later building picks up in 1836 when laureate furniture master-craftsman, Joseph Meeks (1771-1868) moves in at 14-16 Vesey Street, replacing his factory at 43 Broad Street, which had burned. Meeks, a first-generation American born to Welsh and French Huguenot parents, unwittingly witnessed American history as a child. His *New York Herald* obituary records that his mother was the interpreter for General George Washington and the French generals under Rochambeau. As a boy, he often saw Washington, Lafayette, Wayne, Schuyler, von

Steuben, Kosciusko, Polaski and Rochambeau at his parents' home. On November 25, 1783, when the British forever sailed out of New York harbor, Meeks, at the age of 12, was at the Battery amidst the mob toppling the Statue of St. George and sawing off the Royalist finials atop the fencing surrounding it. As one of the founders of Tammany Hall, he was deeply political. Aged 90 at the beginning of the Civil War, Meeks announced he would volunteer if necessary to defeat "the descendants of the Tories of the Revolution."

Meeks prospered as Vesey Street was becoming the epicenter for such household staples as furniture, dry goods and groceries. As one walked west along Vesey Street, there were docks and the Washington Market, the latter of which, by 1900, was the largest food market in North America. This access to foot traffic and shipping played an indispensable role in Meeks's success. Dating back to its rustic beginnings in the 1770s, Washington Market, originally called Bear Market, started on farmland



Moving clockwise from the left: 12 Vesey Street in 1853, William Waldorf Astor, Astor House (on the corner of Broadway and Vesey Street), the Washington Market in 1853 and the engraving that appeared on the furniture made by cabinet-maker J. & J.W. Meeks.

Honoring NYCLA's past, celebrating its future

Hon., Caroline Klein Simon, a pioneer in fighting discrimination

Hon. Caroline K. Simon, a native New Yorker, was born on November 12, 1900 and graduated from New York University School of Law in 1925. Unable to find a law firm that would hire her after she graduated, Ms. Simon found her true calling – advocating for a wide range of issues. She promoted the placing of women on juries, as well as reform of the 'New York City Women's Court,' a specialized criminal court established in 1910 at the behest of vocal anti-prostitution crusaders. Plagued by decades of controversy, in 1967 the New York City Women's Court closed its doors.

Ms. Simon was also an advocate for education and birth control. Active in local and state government, she served in various New York state government posts during World War II. Ahead of her time, Ms. Simon worked to end racial, religious and sex discrimination early in her career. In the 1940s, she helped draft the nation's first state law banning bias based on religion, race or nationality in employment, and was a founding member of the New York State Commission Against Discrimination. She was also a member of the American Jewish Committee.

Ms. Simon was a longtime NYCLA member. She joined in 1940 and remained a member until her

death in 1993. She served on the NYCLA Board in the early 1960s, in addition to serving on several NYCLA committees – Practical Legal Education (1973-1979), Professional Ethics (1974-1985), Judiciary (1981-1985) and Surrogate Court (1985) Committees.

In 1958, Ms. Simon served as legal advisor to the U.S. delegation to the U.N. Human Rights Commission on Civil Rights. And in January 1959, Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller appointed her Secretary of the State of New York. Four years later, she was appointed to the New York Court of Claims and remained on the bench until 1971. Thereafter, Judge Simon continued her public interest activities and published articles on a variety of issues, among them, discrimination, jury service, youthful offenders and the problems of women in society. Judge Simon was also associated with the firm of Decker, Hubbard and Welden (a predecessor of Decker, Hubbard, Welden & Sweeney).

Judge Simon remained active into her 90s, outliving her husband, Leopold King Simon, who was also an attorney. Dedicated, steadfast and determined, Judge Simon led the nation in imposing regulations against racial 'blockbusting' by real estate brokers and championed laws against discrimination in jobs and housing. She was a true pioneer in fighting discrimination and overcame the obstacles that women faced in the legal profession.

donated by Trinity Church. The market grew substantially and after the opening of the Erie Canal in the 1820s, its growth expanded to encompass the area of Washington, West, Partition (now Fulton) and Vesey Streets. Hundreds of independent vendors sold fruits, vegetables, specialty foods, wild game and livestock, unofficially extending the market as far north as the current meatpacking district, which can trace its roots to Washington Market. In 1915, annual trade for the market was estimated at \$5 million (over \$100 million in current dollars) and the trade to hotels and restaurants alone fed an estimated one million people per day. The Vesey Street Ferry, connecting Manhattan with Hoboken, was an additional commercial artery (and provided access to cheaper residential rents for shop owners and dealers) to support the trade of not only Washington Market, but also the businesses of Vesey Street. Washington Market closed on December 31, 1956 and was demolished the following year. My family mourned its end because for decades, we had purchased Westphalian ham and German cheeses from Henry W. Rieger, a stall owner since 1896. The Washington Market area was condemned in the 1960s, ultimately paving the way for the erection of the World Trade Center.

In these environs, the Meeks firm flourished. Not only was the bustling Vesey Street providing him customers, suppliers and transportation, but throughout the first half of the 19th century, New York City was the center for the manufacture of high-end furniture in the U.S. The firm, run by three generations of Meeks - from 1797 until 1869 - was one of the city's principal furniture establishments. Although Meeks produced a quality and style that was competitive with his distinguished contemporaries (Duncan Phyfe, Honore Lannuier and Alexander Roux), he did not achieve commensurate fame.

However, his firm provides an excellent case study in the 19th century move from master craftsman to manufacturer.

Likely apprenticing with his father, Joseph Meeks established his cabinet-making shop on Broad Street in 1797. Economic troubles began for his small business soon after the passage of the Non-Importation Act in 1806 and the Embargo Act a year later. By 1819, business had picked up and he began to develop markets for his work in the South. The South found itself cut off from European imports due to protectionist policies passed by Congress, as well as the fallout of the War of 1812. Meeting this demand for northern goods, Meeks established connections in Savannah and New Orleans, eventually expanding his product line by selling "sideboards and bureaus, elegant armoires, ladies' dressing tables, writing desks and tables...mahogany bedsteads, clocks and cases...first quality Windsor chairs..." By 1833, Joseph Meeks & Sons had become one of the largest furniture firms in New York City with a specialty in rococo revival.

It is uncertain as to when Joseph Meeks retired from the firm, but upon its move to 14 Vesey Street, the name changed to J. & J.W. Meeks, named after two of his eight children. It is by this name (always in large black stenciling on the underbelly of its furniture) that collectors, museums and auction houses place and date a piece as being made at the Vesey Street factory. Joseph Meeks died on July 21, 1868 at his estate in Islip, Long Island at the age of 97. *The New York Times* reported that "[h]e was the oldest resident of New York who was born in the City." Meeks, his sons and their families are all buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn.

The Astor Years, 1908-1926

Although the J. & J.W. Meeks firm prospered throughout its 33 years at 14

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NYCLA EXTENDS ITS CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING LAW STUDENT MEMBERS ON THEIR GRADUATION

Albany Law School, Union University
Kimberly Christine Petillo
Fei-Lu Qian

American University - Washington College of Law
Miki Kamijyo

Boston College Law School
David J. Cohen
Peter D. Rahaghi
Alexander Rheaume

Boston University School of Law
Sean Chao

Maris Jade Katz
Helen Lok
Jocelyn Debra Ram
Scott Roe
Kimberly J. Seluga
Angela C. Tordesillas
Davida Michelle Walsh

Brooklyn Law School
Keith Billotti
Eric S. Chafetz
David Herbert Faux
Gregory Fox
Alexander Charles Gross
Virpi H. Kanervo

Myles Phillip McKenna
Ryan C. Micallet
Siddhya Mishra
Cassandra M. Porter
Nicholas S. Ratush
Erica Razook
Kate Rohrer
Robert Peter Sheridan

**Cardozo School of Law,
Yeshiva University**
Jason Berman
David Allen Bernstein
Brianna Biggiani
Jacob Birnbaum
Liv Mills-Carlisle
Rachel Blumenthal Epstein
Adam Joseph Friedl
Darius Adam Marzec
Svetlana Mirkis
Peter M. Nurnberg
Catherine Flores Silie

Kelly L. Wines

Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law
Andrew N. Stein

College of William & Mary School of Law
Sandhya Ganapathy

Columbia University School of Law
Jorge Avitia
Katie Beauregard
Bryan A. Brooks
Zvi Gabbay
David Mark Hutchins
Meera Malhotra
Alaine M. Morgan
Neil T. Reddy
Avani M. Shah
Erica Carolyn Smilevski
Whitney D. Soderholm

See LAW STUDENTS, Page 14

ELECTRONIC RESEARCH CENTER

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WESTLAW: INTERNATIONAL LAW RESEARCH

1 MCLE Credit: 1 Skills;
Transitional
Member: FREE
Non-Member: FREE

Friday, June 15

3:00-4:00 PM

WESTLAW: CRIMINAL LAW RESEARCH

1 MCLE Credit: 1 Skills;
Transitional
Member: FREE
Non-Member: FREE

Tuesday, June 19

10:30-11:45 PM

BLOOMBERG PROFESSIONAL: INTRODUCTORY CLASS

1.5 MCLE Credits: 1 Skills; .5 Law Practice
Transitional
Member: FREE
Non-Member: FREE

Tuesday, June 19

6:00-7:30 PM

INTERNET LEGAL RESOURCES: AN OVERVIEW

1.5 MCLE Credits: 1.5 Skills;
Transitional
Member: \$65
Non-Member: \$85
Non-Legal Staff: \$35

Wednesday, June 20

10:00-12:30 PM

BANKRUPTCY COURT ELECTRONIC CASE FILING SYSTEM

2.5 MCLE Credits: 2.5 Skills;
Transitional
Member: \$65
Non-Member: \$85
Non-Legal Staff: \$35

Wednesday, June 20

6:00-7:30 PM

INTERNET LEGAL RESOURCES: IMMIGRATION

1.5 MCLE Credits: 1.5 Skills;
Transitional
Member: \$65
Non-Member: \$85
Non-Legal Staff: \$35

Thursday, June 21

10:00-11:00AM

WESTLAW: ADVANCED

1 MCLE Credit: 1 Skills;
Transitional
Member: FREE
Non-Member: FREE

Tuesday, June 26

10:00-11:00AM

WESTLAW: EMPLOYMENT LAW RESEARCH

1 MCLE Credit: 1 Skills;
Transitional
Member: FREE
Non-Member: FREE

CLE PROGRAMS

From Page 7

6 MCLE Credits: 2 Ethics; 2 Skills; 2 Professional Practice; Transitional and Non-Transitional

Early Registration (on or before 6/9)

Member: \$145 Non-Member: \$185
Registration Fee (6/10 - 6/11)
Member: \$170 Non-Member: \$210

Tuesday, June 12

6:00 - 9:00 PM

TERRORISM AND THE PATRIOT ACT - NSA LETTERS, GOING POSTAL! OUR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS UNDER SIEGE

3 MCLE Credits: 3 Professional Practice; Transitional and Non-Transitional

Early Registration (on or before 6/10)

Member: \$125 Non-Member: \$165
Registration Fee (6/11 - 6/12)
Member: \$150 Non-Member: \$190

Tuesday, June 19

8:30 - 11:00 AM

BREAKFAST WITH NYCLA - VIDEO REPLAY: ETHICAL

BOUNDS OF AGGRESSIVE LITIGATION - 2007 UPDATE

3 MCLE Credits: 3 Ethics;
Non-Transitional

Early Registration (on or before 6/17)

Member: \$95 Non-Member: \$120
Registration Fee (6/18 - 6/19)
Member: \$120 Non-Member: \$145

Wednesday, June 27

5:30 - 8:30 PM

VIDEO REPLAY: ANATOMY OF A DEPOSITION

3 MCLE Credits: 3 Skills;
Non-Transitional

Early Registration (on or before 6/25)

Member: \$95 Non-Member: \$120
Registration Fee (6/26 - 6/27)
Member: \$120 Non-Member: \$145

Please Note: Transitional courses are appropriate for newly admitted attorneys. Non-transitional courses are not acceptable for newly admitted attorneys. Transitional and non-transitional courses are appropriate for both newly admitted attorneys and experienced attorneys.

14 Vesey Street

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Vesey Street, it did not last a year after the death of its patriarch in 1868. By the following year, Meeks's sons permanently retired from the furniture business and, by the end of that year, they had auctioned off their inventory and concentrated on the management of their father's estate, which held considerable commercial and residential real estate. By 1878, sons John and Joseph W. had died and their collective estates held not only the 14 Vesey Street address but also 18, 26, 28 and 30 Vesey. On March 19, 1909, after ten years of litigation over the estate of Joseph W. Meeks, his heirs auctioned off the properties, with all Vesey Street parcels going to William Waldorf Astor, 1st Viscount Astor (1848-1919), the "English House" of Astor, on behalf of the estate of his father, John Jacob Astor III (1822-1890), for \$507,500. The estate already owned the Barclay Street half of the infamous Astor House hotel located on the corner. William's first cousin, John Jacob Astor IV (1864-1912), the "American House," owned the Vesey Street half. Befitting of their notorious intra-familial rivalry, William purchased Nos. 8 and 10 Barclay Street, (the lots making up two thirds of NYCLA's backyard), thus surrounding his cousin's holdings in the ancestral Astor family property.

Astor House was demolished in 1915, a year after John Jacob Astor IV perished on the Titanic. In 1925, the son of William Waldorf Astor, John Jacob Astor, 2nd Viscount Astor and 1st Baron Astor of Hever (1886-1971), sold his father's half to the developers of the Transportation Building that exists today at 225 Broadway. In 1917, the son of John Jacob Astor IV, William Vincent Astor (1891-1959), completed an office building reminiscent of the old hotel that remains to this day at 217 Broadway (with Staples as its anchor tenant) only to sell it in 1955, ending 155 years of Astor family ownership of this one block on Broadway.

The Cromwell-NYCLA Years

William Vincent Astor was now in control of his late father's Vesey Street holdings. William Nelson Cromwell (1854-1948) was surely no stranger to the Astor family throughout his phenomenal career as an attorney, entrepreneur, diplomat and philanthropist. Both men were active members of the Pilgrims Society and certainly Cromwell knew a

few generations of Astors during his lifetime. In 1926, John Jacob Astor 2nd put up for sale 12-14-16 Vesey Street/6-8-10 Barclay Street, which he had inherited from his father in 1919.

Beginning in 1923, Cromwell looked for a permanent home for the New York County Lawyers' Association, which had been established 15 years earlier. In August of 1926, Cromwell closed his purchase of the 75-by-200-foot Vesey Street properties for \$1 million and offered NYCLA an option to purchase 14 Vesey Street by December 31, 1926. By March 1927, the Association's building fund was sufficient to exercise the option and NYCLA bought the parcel for number 14 Vesey Street from Cromwell at his cost. Reaching as far into the future as possible in order to protect his intent to ensure the future of NYCLA, he placed a restrictive covenant on the deed, vowing that the land never be used for "commercial, residential, restaurant or business purposes." He contributed another \$500,000 to the cost of construction and was instrumental in landing Cass Gilbert as its architect. NYCLA opened the doors of its new home on May 27, 1930. NYCLA's expansion eventually led to its purchase of what Cromwell had kept for himself back in 1926 - Nos. 6-8-10 Barclay Street. At some point prior to his death, Cromwell divested himself of these Barclay Street properties with one of the subsequent owners being the Mutual Life Insurance Company, which sold them in 1947. In May of 1961, NYCLA purchased these lots from another owner for \$440,000 and owned them until the mid 1980s.

Next month: Part III - Ancestral tenants of present day 14 Vesey Street

K. Jacob Ruppert, Esq. is the Judicial Law Clerk to Hon. Stephen B. Beasley of the 11th Judicial District Court of the State of Louisiana and served as Senior Program Attorney for the New York County Lawyers' Association's CLE Institute from 2001-2004. Born in New Orleans, he comes from a deeply rooted New York family and is an ardent historian of lower Manhattan and Yorkville. His current writing projects include articles on the late Justice Fred J. Cassibry of Louisiana and the forgotten estates of Point View in Rumson, NJ and Linwood in Rhinebeck, NY. Mr. Ruppert can be reached at jacob@jacobruppert.com.

New York County Lawyers' Association

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14 Vesey Street: Genealogy of an Address Part 3

Ancestral tenants of present day 14 Vesey Street

by K. Jacob Ruppert, J.D.

12 Vesey Street

One of the earliest tenants of what is now the eastern third of NYCLA's building was Binger & Cozzens, which, according to advertisements in the early 1850s, was a wine and mineral water distributor and the sole agent in the eastern U. S. for Longworth's Ohio Wines. Another tenant was Moulton, Plimpton, Williams & Co., importers and jobbers of dry goods. Formerly at 47 Broadway, it had moved in on May 15, 1853 and occupied the ground and second floors of 12 Vesey all the way through to 6 Barclay Street. It boasted stock numbers and price tags on all items and a sales slogan – "one man's dollar is as good as another's." It was perhaps the largest dry goods store in the downtown area with 10,000 square feet and eight departments: print and gingham, dress goods, woolen goods and menswear, domestic goods, carpet and oil cloth, white goods and embroidery, hosiery and gloves, and Yankee notions. The store signed a six-year lease but within a year it found itself advertising for subtenants to help pay the rent. By October of 1854, it had vacated the building and subsequently advertised frantically for lessees. The space still lent itself to dry goods as the Cooperative Dry Goods Store began advertising at that address in the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* by March of 1869.

12 Vesey Street also had its share of woes. Fire had badly damaged part of it in June of 1890 when the top floor, in the offices of cane makers, Schlichting & Rendsburg, caught fire. The fire had burst through the skylight and ignited the tar on the roof of the Astor House Hotel, sending top-floor guests into a panic. Other tenants of 12 Vesey who suffered damage were Isaac Somers & Company, an international wine and liquor merchant, and E. B. Benjamin & Company, a

chemical supply dealer and owner of 12 Vesey and 6 Barclay Streets. Isaac Somers & Company was founded by its namesake in 1866 after he arrived from his native Germany in about 1848. Edmund Burke Benjamin (1828-1894) was a Canadian who had moved to San Francisco in 1854 in the wake of the Gold Rush and developed a successful business in wholesale merchandise. He returned to New York City in 1857, where he quite successfully engaged in the retail sale of specialty chemicals under the name of E. B. Benjamin & Company. The German Electric Agency moved in on May 1, 1892 selling "electric belts and appliances" that claimed to cure dyspepsia, kidney disease, constipation, rheumatism, sciatica, "falling of the womb" and "suppressed menses," to name a few.

More dramatic stories of 12 Vesey include "The Vesey Street Catastrophe," which occurred at 5:00 p.m. on April 23, 1853. Stephen Kennedy, a 20-year-old Irish immigrant who had arrived in America two months earlier, was painting the façade of the building from a scaffold when a rope failed. Mr. Kennedy and two of his co-workers fell 50 feet. The young Irish immigrant died upon impact; his co-workers died shortly after. The event was covered by *The New York Times* and the *New York Illustrated News*.

14-16 Vesey Street

This address, encompassing the western two thirds of the present building, was primarily a retail space for dry goods and foods during the mid-19th century. Besides the Washington Market, the anchor store on the block was the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company, now known as A&P, the world's largest grocer. Perkins, Stern & Company, a large distributor of California wines (and a subsidiary of Kohler & Frohling & Company), was a tenant at this time. "[T]ake the pure juices of the native grape," it urged, "and you will promote the truest temperance!" By the 1880s, the first block of Vesey Street turned toward the printing and bookbinding industries that supported the

growing publishing empires of Park Place. Vesey Street was dominated by this industry until 1900. A few of the publisher-tenants that called 14-16 Vesey Street home during the Gilded Age were Grogan & Murtha, Thitchner & Glastaeter, S.T. Miis, Rogers & Sherwood, Central Press & Publishing (at 12 Vesey) and the Architectural Record Company, whose monthly *Architectural Record*, later bought by McGraw-Hill, is still published today.

Started in 1862, Thitchner & Glastaeter was a printing company whose co-owner and artist, James Glastaeter, was known for making improvements in roller boxes and job presses in the industry. He apprenticed with Thomas E. Sutton in Morrisania and, like many other Vesey Street merchants, lived in Rutherford Park, New Jersey. While rushing to catch the midnight elevated train at "Bleecker-street and South Fifth-avenue," he fell to his death. The bookbinding firm of S. T. Miis had a comparable employee mishap when, in August of 1883, 23-year-old Henry Grace was loading books onto the dumbwaiter (surely not physically far from the one now within the walls of NYCLA). He climbed into it to better arrange the cargo and the cable broke, whereupon he fell and dislocated his left hip and broke several ribs.

As in 1873, the great economic depression of 1893 caused many tenants of 12-14-16 Vesey Street to fail. Canda & Kane, dealers in building materials, folded in October of 1893, as did many of the smaller publishing operations in the area. One example was the notable publisher J. W. Lovell. Born in Montreal, John Wurtele Lovell (1853-1932) came to Manhattan in 1878 to open his publishing firm and moved to 14 Vesey Street in 1882. In an effort to make classic literature affordable, he created Lovell's Library, a literary classics series in paperback that he sold for 10 to 30 cents each. Lovell was the first American publisher of Rudyard Kipling and J.M. Barrie. At the crest of his business in the 1880s, he was selling 7,000,000 books annually and his 14 Vesey Street store had 4,000 titles on hand. Gradually, his interests expanded and he founded many subsidiary firms that were absorbed into the U.S. Book Company, for which he served as president. The U.S. Book Company failed in the panic of 1893 and thereafter he devoted himself to his real estate interests. A new tenant of a completely different character moved into the former Lovell space in the summer of 1895. The Vesey Street Cycle Company offered a retail bicycle shop and riding school to complement its "uptown" location at Lexington Avenue and 43rd Street.

Kindly vacate the premises...

William Nelson Cromwell Purchases 12, 14 and 16 Vesey Streets

In February 1924, William Nelson Cromwell, who was a NYCLA Vice President (1921-1927), told the NYCLA Board that he would contribute \$125,000 to the building fund. In December 1924, Cromwell modified his pledge and said he would increase it by \$5,000 if the Board agreed to the condition that the building the Association purchased would never be used for "business, restaurant, ... or commercial purposes." At the December meeting, NYCLA's Immediate Past President, Charles Strauss (1921-1923), said that he would contribute \$100,000 to the building fund in four annual installments of \$25,000. Subsequently, at the May 1926 Board

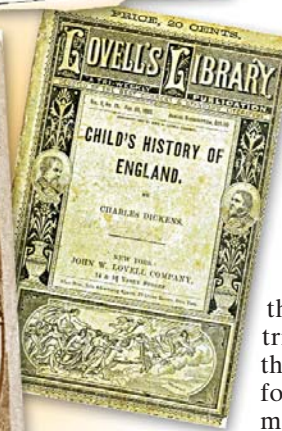
meeting, directors read a letter from Cromwell, who announced that he was purchasing 12, 14 and 16 Vesey Streets for \$450,000 and offered to sell 14 Vesey Street to the Association at his cost, provided that the NYCLA Board agreed to the condition that "the plans, design, architect and the like respecting the law building, if erected on this site, be subject to my approval." The Board accepted Cromwell's proposal and in August 1926, Cromwell closed on his purchase of the Vesey Street properties. He selected Cass Gilbert, one of the most prominent architects in the world at that time, to be the architect for the Home of Law. Then, in February 1927, the Board exercised its option to purchase 14 Vesey Street. In May 1927, Cromwell became NYCLA's 12th president.

Meanwhile, in 1926, tenants had been given their walking papers and were starting to look for other addresses. Goodenough & Woglom (G&W), dealers in history learning aids and Sunday school supplies, moved from 14 Vesey to 296 Broadway. G&W had been doing business in lower Manhattan for nearly 80 years. Progenitor Edward Goodenough at the time of his death was the oldest bookseller in New York, having begun his apprenticeship in 1823 with the Methodist Book Concern (still in operation at 150 Fifth Avenue). He worked for the Methodists until he partnered with H. Frank Woglom in 1850 and opened Goodenough & Woglom at 122 Nassau Street. The firm focused primarily on religious publications but branched out in the early 1880s when Goodenough's son-in-law, William Harris, joined the firm and started a monthly magazine called *Woman*. The firm continued until the 1940s.

Another notable ousted tenant was Keeler's Art Gallery and Auction Rooms, which occupied the first floor and basement of 12 Vesey. For more than 50 years, it had been a resort for the business class, who were interested in art and antiques of all kinds – from cigar-store

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Remembering Gladys Glickman, longtime NYCLA member

In 1939, Gladys Glickman graduated from college; 20 years later, she graduated from law school and subsequently joined NYCLA. She was a Sustaining Member, solo practitioner and author of *Franchising* (published by Matthew Bender), first published in 1969 and updated three times a year. Ms. Glickman died recently and, in her will, made a generous bequest to NYCLA. A former vice president in the legal department of Gruner & Jahr U.S.A. Publishing, Ms. Glickman had also previously served as general counsel to *Parent's Magazine Enterprises* before starting her own law practice.

An expert on franchising law, Ms. Glickman researched and wrote much of her franchising law treatise in NYCLA's Library. Among the NYCLA committees and sections to which she belonged were the Cyberspace Law and Foreign and International Law Committees and the

Entertainment, Media, Intellectual Property and Sports Law (EMIPS) Section. Ms. Glickman was an active member of NYCLA's Trade Regulation Committee, participating in forums and researching reports issued by the Committee. She was also a member of the American Bar Association's Business Law and Intellectual Property Sections and its Subcommittee on Franchising.

In 2004, as a member of the Illinois State Bar Association's Standing Committee on Women and the Law, Ms. Glickman wrote (in the Standing Committee's newsletter): "The greatest challenge to women today appears to be balancing career ambitions and the desire to raise a family. This was easier to do in the 30s and 40s when law was more of an entrepreneurial calling. Women were able to keep their hands in by helping the neighbors and communities with their legal problems and gradually building a new practice."

14 Vesey Street

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wooden Indians and marble statues to oil paintings of the greater and lesser masters. George W. Keeler began and ended the business at this address and was 85-years-old when the building went up for sale. The gallery had many important patrons, including publishers William Cullen Bryant, James Gordon Bennett and Henry J. Raymond. Horace Greeley, who established the *New York Tribune* in 1841, used to inspect the stock of old books and fall asleep in a chair while reading. The regulars of the gallery grew to know one another and formed "The Nut Club," a salon of sorts of collectors and armchair antiquarians.

Mitchell-Rand Manufacturing Company, manufacturer of electrical insulation and part of a triumvirate of local Mitchell-Rand companies, bought the building at 51 Murray Street in 1929 when demolition of the Vesey Street building was imminent. The business remained on Murray Street until 1955 and, ultimately, the building was sold in 1963.

Without doubt, the most popular tenant of 14-16 Vesey was the Real Estate Exchange, the heart of the commercial auction profession of the day. Owned by the Auctioneers' Association, nearly all real estate auctions, both private and public, were conducted here. Formerly located in the "stuffy" quarters at 161 Broadway between Liberty and Cortlandt Streets, the Exchange moved to 14-16 Vesey Street in 1905, lured by bigger and brighter auction rooms. The move nearly five blocks north was a gamble as the real estate market was concentrated farther down Broadway. As hoped, the real estate market followed and the building quickly became known as the Vesey Street Salesroom. Of course, when 14-16 Vesey was bought by Cromwell, the Exchange

had to begin its search for quarters anew. However, fortune smiled again as the Exchange found space on the next block at 56 Vesey, on land now occupied by the U.S. Post Office. The Exchange had moved out by September 1, 1926 (about three months after the sale to Cromwell) and remained down the street until May of 1931, when its building was bought by the federal government to build the post office, a WPA project. Its later successive addresses were 18 Vesey (1931) and 20 Vesey (1941). The Exchange remained on Vesey Street until the mid 1950s.

Of course, the rich history of 12-14-16 Vesey Street did not end in 1926. On May 26, 1930, the Home of Law was formally dedicated, with President Cromwell presiding over the ceremony. NYCLA has contributed exponentially to the glory and history of New York City for nearly 100 years and will certainly continue to be the nucleus of the legal profession in lower Manhattan and beyond. I am honored to have served the Association and, in a small way, to have contributed to the anthology of memories of these three patient and plain plots of property.

K. Jacob Ruppert, Esq. is the judicial law clerk to Hon. Stephen B. Beasley of the 11th Judicial District Court of the State of Louisiana and served as senior program attorney for the New York County Lawyers' Association's CLE Institute from 2001-2004. Born in New Orleans, he comes from a deeply rooted New York family and is an ardent historian of lower Manhattan and Yorkville. His current writing projects include articles on the late Justice Fred J. Cassibry of Louisiana and the forgotten estates of Point View in Rumson, NJ and Linwood in Rhinebeck, NY. Mr. Ruppert can be reached at jacob@jacobruppert.com.

Petition filed on behalf of Danish workers

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plane wreckage for shipment to the U.S. Danish civilian workers at Thule were invited to volunteer for "clean up" operations but were not supplied with protective clothing or warned of possible radiation hazards.

Subsequently the U.S. monitored the health of all U.S. personnel involved in the "clean-up" task for radiation exposure. Denmark did nothing.

By the 1980s these Danish workers started to contract radiation-related cancers and illnesses. Many died but Denmark still did nothing to ensure the health of the Thule survivors. As a result, the former workers formed an association and sued the Danish government in Copenhagen using Danish counsel. During discovery proceedings, however, Denmark refused to hand over records of radiation levels at Thule taken at the time of crash, citing national security. Since these records were essential to establishing the evidentiary link between the health injuries and radiation from the Thule crash, the case was withdrawn.

In 1996 the EU updated its radiation/protection policy in a complex directive of the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM), which was established by the 1957 EURATOM Treaty. In Directive 96/29, which became effective in 2000, member states were required to identify population groups potentially exposed to radiation in the past and initiate continuous medical monitoring for the early detection and treatment of radiation-linked conditions. The directive also required the monitoring physicians to have access to records of radiation levels to which the population group(s) were exposed.

Denmark refused to comply with the directive. Accordingly, I moved to enforce the directive against Denmark before the EU Parliament in Brussels. Under the rules of the EU Parliament, any EU citizen or resident can bring member state violations of EU law to the attention of the Parliament by petition procedures.

In 2002 the petition was filed with the EU Parliament's Petition Committee. Thereafter a complex legal argument ensued on Denmark's EURATOM Treaty liability for



Greenland in the 1960s

the 1968 incident. The issue was whether Denmark was liable under Directive 96/29 for a radiological incident that occurred before its accession to the EURATOM Treaty. I argued for the petitioners that Denmark was liable under the directive to monitor the current effects of past radiological incidents, irrespective of when they had arisen. The Petitions Committee referred this to the EU Parliament's Legal Service. The Legal Service lawyers offered two opinions, both of which supported the petitioners' argument.

In an unusual move, the Petitions Committee appointed an investigative rapporteur to compile a report. This report and a resolution calling for Denmark to comply with the directive were subsequently referred by the Petitions Committee to the EU Parliament in a plenary session for a vote on Denmark's liability. Following the resounding victory on May 10, 2007 finding Denmark liable for not implementing medical monitoring of former Danish workers, the report and resolution were sent to the Danish government for a formal response. Seasoned political commentators in Brussels have suggested that if Denmark fails to comply with the EU Parliament's resolution, a supranational political solution may be imposed on it where before only legal issues were involved.

Mr. Anderson is a former co-chair of NYCLA's Foreign and International Law Committee.

NYCLA issues three reports on Housing Court Reform

From Page 1

Resources Report

The Resources Report contains recommendations in three targeted areas: establishing guidelines when Guardians *Ad Litem* are assigned to

cases of people with diminished capacity, improving coordination between various governmental agencies and the Housing Court and expanding use of computer technology and resources in the Housing Court.

The Report also makes recommendations for improved coordination among various governmental agencies and the Housing Court and expands the use of computer technology in the Court.

Guidelines for Guardians *Ad Litem* (GAL)

Under the leadership of Hon. Fern A. Fisher, Administrative Judge of the Civil Court of the City of New York, the Housing Court has made a significant commitment towards developing and monitoring the Guardians *Ad Litem* (GAL) program. Among the Report's recommendations is "increasing the number of competent, well-trained GALs and providing adequate support, training and supervision to ensure that they perform their services in an appropriate manner." Another recommendation is that "Court procedures should be standardized to ensure the preservation of due process rights of litigants with diminished capacity." The Report further recommends specific procedures to be followed by the GALs and the Housing Court judges.

NYCLA intends to maintain its leadership role by pursuing the implementation of recommended reforms and initiatives in the Housing Court.

Copies of the reports are available on NYCLA's homepage (www.nycla.org) and can be downloaded.

Protecting Judicial Independence

From Page 1

When drafting the United States Constitution, our founding fathers created an independent judiciary to specifically uphold the values upon which our country was founded. In his keynote address, Hon. George Bundy Smith, Chair of NYCLA's Justice Center, NYCLA Board member and partner at Chadbourne & Parke LLP, stressed the significance of an independent judiciary in this nation's history and the need to protect it in the future. He said, "Make no mistake, the judiciary is threatened today as it has never been.... The independence of the judiciary is in your hands

and in mine."

Hon. Francis T. Murphy, Of Counsel for Kelley Drye & Warren LLP, the luncheon speaker, expanded on the conference theme, saying "One truth never changes: You, the independent judiciary, represent the hidden soul—the conscience of America."

More than two centuries after our forefathers created separate branches of government, changing times and technology have presented new obstacles to judicial independence. Throughout the conference, attacks on the character and decisions of the judiciary were discussed, along with misrep-

resentation by the media and a growing lack of respect for the institution of the judiciary. The NYCLA Task Force will review recommendations made for ways NYCLA can preserve and protect judicial independence and report to the NYCLA Board on possible projects and activities. The speeches of Judge Murphy and Judge Bundy Smith appear on page 8 and are also available on NYCLA's website, in the News & Publications section, under Speeches.

Ms. Siegel is the Communications Assistant at the New York County Lawyers' Association.