



# A History of the Occupants of 187 Keizersgracht

1617

Cornelia Bruijnsteele, widow of Rijnier Verspreet, buys the parcel of land and has a house with a rear annex built on the site.<sup>1</sup>

1714

Christiaan Beuning (1666-1716) buys the house for 16,415 guilders from the heirs of Cornelia Bruijnsteele, widow of Rijnier Verspreet. Alterations are made to the front of the house by Christiaan Beuning or after his death by his widow Geertruid van den Bosch (1689-1744).

1716

Geertruid van den Bosch inherits the house. In her will (1740) and the division of her estate (1744) it is valued at 35,000 guilders. In 1740, she pays 9,300 guilders to purchase the neighbouring house adjacent to the rear annex. She has it converted into a stable and coach house.

1744

Matthijs Beuning (1707-1755), son of Christiaan Beuning and Geertruid van den Bosch, inherits the house and coach house. The rear annex, containing the 'mahogany room' and the smaller adjoining room, is extended and renovated.

1753

Jacob de Clercq (1710-1777) buys the house and coach house from Matthijs Beuning for 66,537 guilders at a public

Fig. 1

ANONYMOUS,  
*Jacob de Clercq*  
(1710-1777),  
19th century, after  
a lost 18th century  
portrait.  
Lithograph.  
Whereabouts  
unknown.



auction. An observatory is constructed on the roof of 187 Keizersgracht, which can be seen on the reverse painting on glass made by Zeuner in 1780.

1777

The house and coach house pass to Jacob de Clercq's heirs, who let it to Jan de Groot (1733-1801).

1778

Nicolaas Gefken (1732-1805) buys the house for 55,000 guilders from the heirs of Jacob de Clercq. The house is let to Jan de Groot.

1781

Jan de Groot buys the house and coach house for 60,000 guilders from Nicolaas Gefken. In 1786, De Groot commissions Jurriaan Andriessen (1742-1819) to decorate the mahogany room with

Fig. 2

HENDRIK  
POTHOVEN,  
*Jan de Groot*  
(1733-1801) and  
*his Family*, 1777.  
Oil on canvas,  
62 x 56.5 cm.  
Amsterdam,  
Amsterdam Museum,  
inv. no. SA 36693.



Fig. 3a

ADRIAAN DE LELIE,  
*Diederik Casper  
de Groot Jamin*  
(1759-1814), 1789.  
Oil on canvas,  
79 x 64 cm.  
Tilburg, Stadmuseum  
Tilburg, inv. no. 2-01.

Fig. 3b

ADRIAAN DE LELIE,  
*Margaretha  
Elisabeth de Groot*  
(1768-1814), 1789.  
Oil on canvas,  
79 x 64 cm.  
Tilburg, Stadmuseum  
Tilburg, inv. no. 2-02.



painted wall hangings. He has the coach house converted into a dwelling.

1801

Margaretha Elisabeth de Groot (1768-1814), daughter of Jan de Groot and Aletta Steenberg (d. 1772), married to Diederik Caspar Jamin (1759-1814), inherit both houses. The couple let both buildings to tenants. From 1813, Nicolaas Lublink rents the large house for 1,250 guilders a year.



Fig. 4

COENRAAD  
HAMBURGER,  
*Abraham Fock*  
(1793-1858), 1825-49.  
Pen, 34 x 28 cm.  
Private collection.  
Photo: The Hague,  
RKD, IB-no. 00115605.

1814

The two houses are inherited by the four children of Diederik and Margaretha de Groot Jamin.

1818

Jacob Fock (1770-1835), president of the Netherlands' central bank (Nederlandsche Bank), buys the two houses for 38,566 guilders from the heirs of Diederik and Margaretha de Groot Jamin. In 1829 a servant named W. Swierink rents the former coach house for 200 guilders a year and in 1841 it is in use as an office.

1835

Abraham Fock (1793-1858), son of Jacob Fock and Cornelia Johanna Bondt (1769-1821), inherits the two houses.

1850

Theodorus Schuurman (1800-1853), director of the Netherlands Trading Company (Nederlandsche Handel-Maatschappij), buys the two houses for 21,330 guilders from Abraham Fock.

1853

Louis Keijzer (1807-1857), lawyer and journalist, buys the two houses in 1853 for 23,300 guilders from Theodorus Schuurman.



Fig. 5

ROBERT SEVERIN,  
Portrait after a  
Portrait by Theodorus  
Schuurman (1800-  
1853) by Christiaan  
Kramm, 1823.

Oil on canvas.  
Photo: The Hague,  
RKD, IB.NO. 01009038.

1857

Rachel Lippmann (1816-1881), the widow of Louis Keijzer, inherits the two houses. In 1858 she marries Alexander Mendel, director of the General Society for Trade and Industry (Algemene Maatschappij voor Handel en Nijverheid).

1864

Rachel Lippmann sells a number of small parcels of land belonging to 187 Keizersgracht to the General Society for Trade and Industry in order to finance alterations to the main house at 187 Keizersgracht and the adjacent buildings (later 189 Keizersgracht), which are joined behind a single façade nine bays wide, designed by G.B. Salm. The main house at the front of 187 Keizersgracht is also widened. The original corridor is incorporated into the rooms, and the new corridor runs alongside the original main house. The rear annex with the mahogany room remains intact. 189 Keizersgracht is used as an office.

1865

The General Society for Trade and Industry, directed by Pierre Antide Martin (president) and François Antoine Muller (secretary), owner of the newly developed office

building 189 Keizersgracht, buys the next-door building 187 Keizersgracht from Rachel Lippmann for 35,000 guilders.

1871

Abraham van Vloten (1828-1888) buys the residence at 187 Keizersgracht for 37,500 guilders from P.A. Martin and F.A. Muller, the directors of the General Society for Trade and Industry, which has now been dissolved. Franga Pieter Michel de Gijsselaar (1821-1894) buys 189 Keizersgracht for 32,500 guilders. (Van Vloten and De Gijsselaar together headed the eponymous banking firm.)

Fig. 6

WEGNER & MOTTU,  
Abraham van Vloten  
(1823-1888), 1864.

Photograph,  
10.5 x 6.5 cm.  
The Hague,  
RKD, IB.NO. 01010602.



1878

The physician Anton Wilhelm Cornelis Berns (1837-1911) buys 187 Keizersgracht for 52,500 guilders from Van Vloten. He lets the building to the Citizens' Hospital Association (Vereeniging Het Burgerziekenhuis), which opens later that year. In 1882,





Fig. 7  
ANONYMOUS,  
*Anton Wilhelm Berns*  
(1837-1911), from  
'Dr. A. W. C. BERNs',  
*Eigen Haard II* (1891),  
pp. 168-71.

Berns also buys Keizersgracht 185, part of which is used as an extension to the hospital.

1891

Due to lack of space, the hospital moves to Linnaeusstraat. From this point on, Berns lets 185 and 187 Keizersgracht to private tenants.

Fig. 8  
E.A. TILLY,  
*Interior of the*  
*Citizens' Hospital,*  
1879-91. Amsterdam  
City Archives,  
image no.  
010194000820.

1883

The Society for the Management of the Administrative Office of American Funds (*Maatschappij tot beheer van het administratiekantoor van Amerikaanse fondsen*) buys 189 Keizersgracht from De Gijselaar for 70,000 guilders.

1895

The City of Amsterdam compulsorily purchases the properties, so they can be demolished to make way for a new street, the Raadhuisstraat. 185 Keizersgracht is valued at 34,000 guilders, 187 Keizersgracht at 50,000 guilders. The final compensation paid is 87,820 guilders.

1896

The mahogany room and the marble staircase are transferred to the Stedelijk Museum.



> Fig. 9  
J.M.A. RIEKE,  
*De huizen aan*  
*de Keizersgracht*  
*tegenover de*  
*Westermarkt,*  
detail, 1875.  
Drawing,  
330 x 420 mm.  
Amsterdam  
City Archives,  
image no.  
010094001544.





























