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RESEARCH OUTLINE

The Netherlands

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INTRODUCTION

This outline introduces you to the records you can use to discover your Dutch ancestors. It describes the content, use, and availability of major genealogical records. Use this outline to set meaningful research goals and to select the records that will help you achieve your goals.

You will need a basic understanding of genealogical research procedures before you begin to look for your ancestors. You may want to read the booklet *Guide to Research*, which is available at the Family History Library and at Family History Centers. *Guide to Research* is also available in Dutch.

Generally, you must know a specific *town* where a Dutch relative was born or married before beginning your research because most records were kept locally.

Opportunities for genealogical research in the Netherlands are very good because many valuable records have been preserved. Genealogical information is available through the Family History Library or by correspondence directly with the Netherlands.

Using This Outline

The “Dutch Search Strategies” section of this outline explains how to research your family history effectively. This section is particularly valuable if you are just beginning your research.

The “Records Selection Table” on page 8 helps you select records to search. The section “Records at the Family History Library” describes the library’s collection of Dutch records. The “Family History Library Catalog” section explains how to use the library’s catalog to find specific records in the collection.

Beginning on page 10, the outline discusses the major records used for Dutch research, such as church records and civil registrations. These sections are listed alphabetically, and the section headings are the same as the subject headings used in the “Locality Search” section of the Family History Library Catalog.

Related records and concepts are grouped together under the same heading. For example, information about the history of emigration from the Netherlands, passenger lists, and emigration indexes are discussed under “Emigration and Immigration.”

In this outline, Dutch-language terms are frequently given in brackets and italics after the English terms, such as “Marriages [*Huwelijken*].” English translations in parentheses follow Dutch-language book, microfilm, or microfiche titles. Dutch spellings are used for Dutch place names. For example, Noord-Holland is used instead of North Holland, and ’s-Gravenhage is used instead of The Hague.

This outline does not mention all possible genealogical record sources. At the end of the outline you will find a brief list of additional subject headings under “Other Records” and a short bibliography of sources under “For Further Reading.” For help tracing Dutch emigrants, use the research outlines for the country of arrival and the publication *Tracing Immigrant Origins Research Outline* (34111).

DUTCH SEARCH STRATEGIES

Step 1. Identify What You Know about Your Family

Begin your family history research with family and home sources. Look for names, dates, and places in certificates, family Bibles, obituaries, diaries, photographs, and similar sources. Ask your relatives for any information they may have. It is very likely that your second cousin, great-aunt, or other relative already has some family information. Organize the information you find, and record it on pedigree charts and family group record forms.

Step 2. Decide What You Want to Learn

First, select a specific relative or ancestor, born in the Netherlands, *for whom you know at least a name, the town where he or she lived, and an approximate date of birth or marriage*. It is also very helpful to know the names of other family members born in the same area. For records prior to 1811 it also helps to know a person’s religion.

If you do not have enough information on a Dutch relative, review the sources mentioned in step one. The “Emigration and Immigration” section of this outline gives more suggestions for finding an emigrant ancestor’s birthplace. *Tracing Immigrant Origins Research Outline* may also help.

Next, decide what you want to learn about your ancestor, such as a marriage date and place or parents’ names. You may want to ask an experienced researcher or a librarian to help you select a specific research goal that you can achieve.

It is usually best to begin by verifying information about the ancestor for whom you know the most, and then continue searching from there. It is often hard to find an ancestor’s records when you know only a name and country of birth. With so little information, your research is limited to a few general indexes like the International Genealogical Index and Ancestral File.

Step 3. Select a Record to Search

Effective researchers begin by obtaining background information about their ancestor. Then they survey previous research in compiled records. Finally, they search original documents.

Background Information Sources. You may need some geographical and historical information, which can save you time and effort by focusing your research in the correct place and time period.

- *Locate the town or place of residence.* Examine maps, gazetteers, and other place-finding aids to learn about each of the places where your ancestor lived. Identify the major migration routes, nearby cities, county boundaries, geographical features, and government or ecclesiastical jurisdictions. Place-finding aids are described in the “Gazetteers,” “History,” and “Maps” sections of this outline.
- *Review history.* Understanding the history of the Netherlands will help your search because historical events affected the development of records. If possible, study a history of the areas where your ancestor lived. Look for clues about the people, places, religions, and events that may have affected his or her life and the records about him or her. Records with information about settlement patterns, government and ecclesiastical jurisdictions, and historical events are described in the “Church History,” “Gazetteers,” “Historical Geography,” and “History” sections of this outline.
- *Learn about Dutch jurisdictions.* Knowing about past and present Dutch political subdivisions will help your search. The “Church Records” section tells you how to determine which parish a village was in, and the “Gazetteers” section explains how to find the civil registration office for each town.
- *Use language helps.* Dutch records and histories are usually written in Dutch or Latin. You do not need to speak or read Dutch or Latin to search the records, but you will need to recognize some key words and phrases. Helpful

language aids are described in the “Language and Languages” section of this outline.

Previous Research Sources. Most genealogists survey research previously done by others because such surveying can save time and give valuable information. You may want to look for your ancestor in these sources:

- Printed family histories and genealogies
- Biographies
- Local histories
- International Genealogical Index
- Ancestral File
- Family Group Records Collection

Records containing previous research are described in the “Biography,” “Genealogy,” “History,” “Periodicals,” and “Societies” sections of this outline. Remember that previous research may contain inaccuracies, so you should verify the information whenever possible.

Original Records. After surveying previous research, you will be ready to begin research in original documents, which are usually handwritten in the native language and are often available on microfilm or microfiche. These documents can provide primary information about your ancestor because they were usually created at or near the time of an event by a reliable witness. To do thorough research, search records of:

- Each *place* where your ancestor lived.
- Each religious *parish* or *congregation* your ancestor lived in.
- The *time period* when your ancestor lived there.
- All *jurisdictions* (parish, town, municipality, district, province, and country) that may have kept records about your ancestor.

Many types of original documents are described in this outline. In Dutch genealogical research most family information is found in the records described under the “Church Records,” “Civil Registration,” and “Population” sections of this outline.

Step 4. Find and Search the Record

Suggestions for Obtaining Records. You may obtain the records you need from the following sources:

- *Family History Library.* You are welcome to use the records at the Family History Library. The library is open to the public, and there are no fees for using the records. If you would like more information about the library and its services, write to:

Family History Library
35 North West Temple Street
Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3400
USA

- *Family History Centers.* Copies of most of the records on microfilm at the Family History Library can be loaned to Family History Centers. There are small duplication and postage fees for this service. The library cannot loan its books to the centers, but copies of many books not protected by copyright are available on microfilm or microfiche. For a list of the Family History Centers near you, write to the Family History Library.
- *Archives and local churches.* Nearly all of the church records and civil registration documents you will need are available on microfilm at the Family History Library. Those not available are in the Netherlands at provincial, regional, or municipal archives or in local parish offices. See the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline for more information.

You may write to archives and local parishes to request information, but be careful not to ask for too much. An archive can briefly answer questions about records in its collection. If a parish or archive is reluctant to do research, ask for a referral or a list of local researchers you could hire to search the records.

- *Libraries and interlibrary loan.* Public, academic, and other research libraries may have some published sources for Dutch research. Your local public library may provide interlibrary loan services that allow you to borrow records from other libraries. The Family History Library does not participate in the interlibrary loan system.
- *Professional researchers.* You can hire a private researcher to search records for you. Lists of qualified professional researchers and *Hiring a Professional Genealogist* (34548), a

four-page guide, are available from the Family History Library and Family History Centers. Archives in the Netherlands may provide names of individuals who can search their records for you.

- *Photocopies.* The Family History Library and some other libraries offer limited photocopy services for a small fee. You must specify the exact pages you need copied. Books protected by copyright cannot be copied in their entirety. However, a few pages can usually be copied for personal research. The library does not copy large portions of microfilm. The archives that have the original records usually do not offer this service either.

Correspondence. When requesting information by mail from archives or professional researchers, your request will most likely be answered if your letter is brief and very specific. Cite the record; person; event date; and, if possible, page number you want. Do not ask for too much at once. Enclose a self-addressed, stamped, legal-size envelope when writing *within your own country*. When you correspond internationally, enclose at least three international reply coupons (available from post offices).

Suggestions for Searching the Records. Follow these principles as you search the records for your ancestor:

- *Search for one generation at a time.* Do not try to connect your family to others with the same surname who lived more than one generation before your proven ancestor. It is much easier to prove parentage than descent.
- *Search for the ancestor's entire family.* When you find information about an ancestor, the record may include clues for identifying other family members. In most families, children were born at regular intervals. If there appears to be a long period between some children, reexamine the records for a child you may have overlooked. Consider looking at other records and in other places to find a missing family member.
- *Examine a copy of the original record.* In some cases, transcripts of the original records are available. These may be easier to read, but they may be less accurate and less complete than the original records.
- *Search each source thoroughly.* A minor detail in a record may be the clue you need to find an ancestor or trace a family further. Note your ancestor's occupation and address and the names of witnesses, godparents, neighbors, relatives, guardians, and others. Also note the places of origin of these additional people.
- *Search a broad time period.* Dates obtained from some sources may not be accurate. Search records from several years before and after the date you think an event took place.
- *Look for indexes.* Many records have indexes that may help you find an ancestor quickly. However, many indexes are incomplete. They may include only the name of the specific person the record is about. They may not include parents, witnesses, or other incidental persons. Also be aware that the original records may have been misinterpreted or names may have been omitted during indexing. Some indexes are alphabetical, others are arranged phonetically, while yet others are a combination of both types. Marriage indexes frequently only index grooms' names. Married women are listed by their maiden name.
- *Search for information about prior residences.* Information about previous residences is crucial to successfully continuing research into earlier generations.
- *Watch for spelling variations.* Look for the many ways a name could have been spelled. Spelling was not standardized when most early records were made, and names were often written phonetically. You may find a name spelled differently than it is today.
- *Record your searches and findings.* Make copies of the information you find, and keep detailed notes about each record you search. These notes should include the author, title, location, call number, and description of each record and results of your search (even if you find nothing). Many researchers use a research log for this purpose.

Step 5. Use the Information

Evaluate the Information You Find. Carefully evaluate whether the information you find is complete and accurate. Ask yourself these questions:

- Who provided the information? Did that person witness the event?
- Was the information recorded near the time of the event or at a later date?
- Is the information consistent and logical?

- Does the new information verify the information found in other sources? Does it differ from information in other sources?
- Does the information suggest other places, time periods, or records to search?

Share Your Information with Others. Your family's history can become a source of enjoyment and education for yourself and your family. Contributing your information to Ancestral File is a good way to share your information (see page 6). In addition, you may want to compile your findings into a family history and share it with family members, the Family History Library, and other archives.

If you are a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, be sure to submit information about your ancestors so that temple ordinances can be done for them. Your ward family history consultant or a staff member at the Family History Library or your Family History Center can help you. You can also use the booklet *A Member's Guide to Temple and Family History Work* (34697), available through Church distribution.

RECORDS AT THE FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

Microform Records

The Family History Library has tens of thousands of microfilms and microfiche containing information about people who lived in the Netherlands. Most of the library's records have been obtained through an extensive and ongoing acquisition program. The library has copies of records found in government archives, church archives, and private collections. These records include:

- Church and civil birth, marriage, and death records.
- Emigration records.
- Indexes prepared by archives and local societies.
- Population and census records.
- Court and notarial records.
- Family histories and genealogical collections.

Printed Records

The library has thousands of books and other printed materials that are helpful for Dutch research. Copies of some of these books are also available in microform. The library's collection includes such books as:

- Archival inventories.
- Atlases and maps.
- Family histories.
- Gazetteers.
- Handbooks and manuals.
- Histories (national, regional, and local).
- Indexes prepared by archives and local societies.
- Periodicals.

FAMILYSEARCH™

FamilySearch™ is a powerful computer system that simplifies family history work. The FamilySearch system includes:

- *Computer programs* designed for personal computers.
- *Computer files* of information drawn from family history records gathered by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The main FamilySearch computer program helps a user search for ancestors in FamilySearch files. When the name of an ancestor is typed at the keyboard, FamilySearch quickly searches through millions of names and finds any that match. It matches last names that are spelled differently but sound the same. It can guide users from the matches they find to full screens of information such as dates and places of births, marriages, and deaths and names of parents, children, and spouses.

FamilySearch is available at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City; at hundreds of Family History Centers; and at some public and private libraries in the United States, Canada, and other countries.

These FamilySearch files are useful for Dutch research:

- **Ancestral File.** This file contains family history information linked in family groups and pedigrees that has been contributed since 1979. The file contains the names of millions of persons. You are invited to contribute your family history information to Ancestral File. For details, see the publication *Contributing Information to Ancestral File* (34029), available at the Family History Library and at Family History Centers.
- *Family History Library Catalog.* This is an automated edition of the Family History Library's catalog. By using the catalog on FamilySearch, patrons may easily find information about the library's holdings and call numbers.
- *International Genealogical Index.* This file provides names and vital information for deceased persons who lived in the Netherlands. This valuable research tool lists birth, baptism, or marriage dates. The index includes names extracted by volunteers from parish registers and civil registration and names submitted by other researchers.
- *Social Security Death Index.* The Social Security Death Index lists people in the United States who had social security numbers, who died between 1962 and 1997, and whose family received a death benefit. The index can lead to other social security records that may provide your ancestor's birthplace in the Netherlands.

Other files will be added to FamilySearch as they become available.

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY CATALOG

The key to finding a record in the Family History Library's collection is the Family History Library Catalog. The catalog describes each of the library's records and provides the call numbers. The catalog is available on compact disc as part of FamilySearch and also on microfiche at the Family History Library and at each Family History Center. It is also available on the Internet.

Catalog entries for Dutch records are usually written in Dutch. The description of each record includes a brief English summary of the record's content. The key Dutch words used in the catalog are found in the Family History Library publication *Dutch Genealogical Word List* (31030).

The Family History Library Catalog on compact disc has five types of searches:

- Locality Search
- Locality Browse
- Surname Search
- Film Number Search
- Computer Number Search

The Family History Library Catalog on microfiche has four major divisions:

- Locality
- Subject
- Surname
- Author/Title

The Family History Library Catalog on the Internet has eight types of searches:

- Place Search
- Keyword Search
- Title Search
- Author Search
- Call Number Search
- Film Number Search
- Subject Search
- Surname Search

To find the records described in this outline, you will most often use the "Locality Search" ("Place Search") section, which organizes entries on geographic levels. Records relating to the entire country are listed under:

NETHERLANDS

Most records are listed under a specific town. You may need to look at each geographic level (area, country, province, and town) to find all the records that apply to the locality you are interested in. Look in the "Locality Search" section for the following:

- The *place* where an ancestor lived, such as:

EUROPE (area)
 NETHERLANDS (country)
 NETHERLANDS,
 ZUID-HOLLAND (country, province)
 NETHERLANDS, ZUID-HOLLAND,
 GOUDRIAAN (country, province, town)

- The *record type* you want, such as:

EUROPE – NOBILITY
 NETHERLANDS – GAZETTEERS
 NETHERLANDS, ZUID-HOLLAND – HISTORY
 NETHERLANDS, ZUID-HOLLAND,
 GOUDRIAAN – CHURCH RECORDS

The record types (or topics) used in the catalog are the same as the subject headings used later in this outline, such as "Church Records."

Places Now Outside the Netherlands

Be aware that the country of Belgium was part of the Netherlands until 1830. For more information about jurisdictions, see the “Gazetteers,” “Historical Geography,” “History,” and “Maps” sections of this outline.

This outline provides the library’s call numbers for some of the listed sources. These numbers are preceded by *FHL*, the abbreviation for the Family History Library. The outline also provides Family History Library Catalog computer numbers for some sources. These numbers are preceded by “computer number.”

If you need help with the Family History Library Catalog, the Family History Library and Family History Centers have a short videocassette program, written instructions, and staff members who can answer questions.

References to Other Family History Library Publications

The Family History Library has many other publications that may help your research. Some are referred to in this outline. Their titles are in italics, and their item numbers are in parentheses. They are available at the Family History Library and the Salt Lake Distribution Center.

RECORDS SELECTION TABLE: The Netherlands

The table below can help you decide which records to search.

In column 1 find the goal you selected.

In column 2 find the types of records that are most likely to have the information you need. Then turn to that section of this outline. (The terms used in columns 2 and 3 are the same as the topic headings used in this outline and in the “Locality Search” section of the Family History Library Catalog.)

Column 3 contains additional records that may also be useful.

Records containing previous research (genealogies, biographies, histories, periodicals, and societies) could provide information for nearly all of your research goals. These have only been listed if they are especially helpful for the goal.

1. If You Need	2. Look First In	3. Then Search
Age (Be aware that ages given in documents before 1850 are often incorrect.)	Civil Registration, Population, Church Records, Jewish Records	Census, Notarial Records, Court Records
Birth date and birthplace	Civil Registration, Population, Church Records, Jewish Records	Emigration and Immigration, Public Records, Military Records
Boundaries (parish, municipality, or province)	Gazetteers, Maps, History	Names, Geographical; Historical Geography
Death	Civil Registration, Church Records, Jewish Records, Public Records	Taxation, Cemeteries, Guardianship, Probate Records, Notarial Records, Court Records
Divorce	Civil Registration	Court Records
Emigration information	Emigration and Immigration, Population	(See the research outline for the country the ancestor immigrated to.)
Historical background	History, Church History	Minorities
Language helps	Language and Languages	Handwriting
Living relatives	Genealogy	Societies
Maiden name	Civil Registration, Church Records, Public Records	Taxation, Notarial Records, Court Records
Marriages	Civil Registration, Church Records	Public Records, Taxation
Naming customs	Names, Personal	Genealogy

Noble families	Nobility, Heraldry	Genealogy, Periodicals, Biography
Occupations	Civil Registration, Population, Census	Naturalization and Citizenship, Notarial Records, Court Records
Parents, children, and other family members	Civil Registration, Population, Church Records, Jewish Records	Guardianship, Census, Probate Records, Notarial Records, Court Records
Physical description	Military Records	Civil Registration
Place-finding aids	Gazetteers, Maps	Names, Geographical; Historical Geography
Places of residence	Civil Registration, Population, Church Records, Public Records	Census; Taxation; Land and Property; Names, Personal
Previous research (compiled genealogy)	Genealogy, Periodicals, Societies	History, Biography
Record-finding aids	Archives and Libraries, Genealogy	Societies
Religion	Population, Civil Registration, Church Records, Jewish Records	Minorities, Church History

elsewhere in this outline, return to this section to obtain the address.



ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES

Archives collect and preserve original documents of organizations such as churches or governments. Libraries generally collect published sources such as books, maps, and microfilm. This section describes the major repositories of genealogical and historical records and sources for the Netherlands. When one of these institutions is referred to

If you plan to visit one of these repositories, contact the organization and ask for information about its collection, hours, services, and fees.

Although the records you need may be in an archive or library in the Netherlands, the Family History Library may have a microfilm copy of them. The

library has copies of many records from many Dutch archives as noted below.

In the Netherlands there are five major types of genealogical repositories:

- State (national and provincial) archives
- Regional and municipal archives
- Church archives
- Church parish offices
- Historical and genealogical societies

State (National and Provincial) Archives

The Dutch government collects records relating to Dutch history, culture, and people. The General State Archives (National Archives) is in 's-Gravenhage. It contains records of a national nature. The state archives (provincial archives) are located in the capital of each of the 12 provinces. Each archive collects records from its respective province. Records of genealogical value at these archives include:

- Church records.
- Civil registrations.
- Population registers.
- Censuses.
- Court records.
- Military records.
- Emigration lists.
- Notarial records.
- Land records.
- Tax records.

The Archives Law of 1962 allows free public access to any document found in government archives. There are fees for copies of the records. Records in other repositories such as municipal halls and church, business, and private archives are not open to the public.

The state archives of the Netherlands are open to the public. Microfilm copies of many of the records found at these archives are available at the Family History Library. All records containing

genealogical information housed in the state archives of Friesland have been filmed.

The address of the General State Archives (National Archives) is:

Algemeen Rijksarchief
Prins Willem-Alexanderhof 20
Postbus 90520
2509 LM 's-Gravenhage
The Netherlands

Telephone: 070-331-5400
Fax: 070-331 5499
E-mail: ara@rad.archief.nl

The General State Archives maintains an index to family and personal collections listed in the Central Register of Private Archives (Centraal Register van Particuliere Archieven). This register gives the location of materials not kept at government archives. Its address is:

Centraal Register van Particuliere Archieven
Prins Willem-Alexanderhof 30
2595 BE 's-Gravenhage
The Netherlands

Regional and Municipal Archives

Regional archives consist of the records from two or more municipalities. Municipal archives exist for most large towns. They contain the same type of genealogical records found in the state archives. The Family History Library has microfilmed many records from these archives.

Church Archives

There are archives for all of the major churches of the country. The largest are discussed below.

Roman Catholic Church. Archives exist for each of the dioceses of Breda, Haarlem, 's-Hertogenbosch, Roermond, Rotterdam, and Utrecht.

Dutch Reformed Church. The address for the Commission of Archives is:

Commissie voor de Archieven der Nederlandse Hervormde Kerk
Overgoo 11
Postbus 405
2260 AK Leidschendam
The Netherlands

See the "Church Records" section of this outline for more information.

Church Parish Offices

Church records after 1811 are usually kept by the local parish, which may also have earlier records. It is possible to write to local parishes and church archives for information. See the “Church Records” section of this outline for additional help.

Historical and Genealogical Societies

In the Netherlands there are many organized historical and genealogical societies. Many societies maintain libraries and/or archives that collect valuable records. For more information, including addresses of some societies, see the “Societies” section of this outline.

Archive Addresses

The following is a helpful directory of Dutch archive addresses:

Koninklijke Vereniging van Archivarissen in Nederland. *Almanak van het Nederlands Archiefwezen* (Almanac of Addresses and Personnel of Dutch Archives). 's-Gravenhage: De Vereniging, 1992. (FHL book Ref 949.2 J54k; computer number 683813.)

Information about archives may also be obtained online. The following web site gives addresses, opening times, and details about their holdings:

www.archiefnet.nl

Inventories, Registers, and Catalogs

Most archives have catalogs, inventories, guides, or periodicals that describe their records and how to use them. If possible, study these resources before you visit, or use them during your visit so you can use your time more effectively. A helpful survey of the holdings of the General State Archives and state archives is:

Pirenne, L. P. L., ed. *De Rijksarchieven in Nederland* (The State Archives in the Netherlands). 's-Gravenhage: Staatsuitgeverij, 1973. (FHL book 949.2 A3pi; computer number 371168.)

This guide is available at the Family History Library, at your public or university library, or through interlibrary loan.

The Family History Library has copies of many published inventories and other guides, catalogs, and directories from other archives and libraries.

These types of records are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS – ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] – ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES

BIOGRAPHY

A biography is a history of a person's life. In a biography you may find the individual's birth, marriage, and death information and the names of his or her parents, children, or other family members. Use the information carefully because there may be inaccuracies.

Thousands of brief biographies have been gathered and published in collective biographies, sometimes called biographical encyclopedias or dictionaries. Usually these only include biographies of prominent citizens of the Netherlands. Others feature biographies of specific groups of people such as artists or ministers.

A significant biographical dictionary is:

Molhuysen, P. C. and P. J. Blok (ed.) *Nieuw Nederlandsch Biografisch Woordenboek* (New Biographical Dictionary of the Netherlands). Leiden: A. W. Sijthoff, 1911–1924. (FHL book 949.2 D3m; film 1045431–1045433; fiche 6053511; computer number 369612.)

The following is a major collection of 122 biographical encyclopedias and dictionaries arranged in a single alphabet cumulation:

Biografisch Archief van de Benelux (Biographical Archive of the Benelux Countries). [München]: Saur, [1992–1994]. (FHL fiche 6132500–6133261; computer number 792572.)

Collective biographies at the Family History Library are generally listed in the “Locality Search” section of the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS – BIOGRAPHY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – BIOGRAPHY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] – BIOGRAPHY

CEMETERIES

There are valuable transcriptions available of cemetery records in the Netherlands. Those made before World War II mostly deal with the more wealthy classes of people. The records mainly consist of information recorded on gravestones [*grafstenen*] and monumental inscriptions [*gedenkwaardigheden*].

Many of the inscriptions on gravestones and monuments (both within the church and in the graveyard) have been transcribed and are found in manuscripts and printed books in libraries. These books also contain coats of arms found in church buildings. The Family History Library has copies of many of these books. Records of the province of Gelderland are mainly found in the following periodical:

De Wapenheraut (The Crest Herald), vol. 21–23 (1917–1919). (FHL book 949.2 B2w; computer number 367565.)

Several of the inscriptions pertain to Jewish cemeteries.

The society Werkgroep Grafschriftenproject Nederland (Workgroup Tombstones Project in the Netherlands) began in the early 1990s to inventory and transcribe all gravestones found at church and nonchurch cemeteries. They have published several books.

The books of gravestones and monumental inscriptions are listed in the “Locality Search” section of the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS – CEMETERIES
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] –
CEMETERIES
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN]–
CEMETERIES

CENSUS

A census is a count and description of the population. Censuses are taken by the national government of the Netherlands and also by local and provincial governments. The local censuses are taken primarily for taxation and military purposes.

Censuses in Dutch research may not be as helpful as censuses from other countries because better sources such as church records and civil registration are available in the Netherlands.

Where available, census records can provide family relationships, ages, years of birth, marital statuses, religions, and places of birth. They can provide information where all or portions of other records are missing. Generally, you will find more complete family information in more recent censuses. Use the information with caution, however; it may have been given to a census taker by any member of the family or a neighbor, and so some information may have been incorrect or deliberately falsified.

National censuses. The first census of a national nature were the civil lists [*listes civiques*] or civil registers [*registres civiques*] of the French government taken in 1811. These records are housed in the state and municipal archives; however, they contain many mistakes and little information.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands held its first national census in 1829, and from this time censuses were taken every 10 years until 1929. Censuses were again taken in 1947, 1960, and 1971. Although they are national in nature, these census records are kept locally, usually in the municipal offices. When they are in the municipal archives they are available to the public. Some are on film at the Family History Library.

Local censuses. Census records exist for the province of Friesland for 1689, 1714, 1744, and 1796. Provincial censuses are also available for Overijssel in 1748 and 1795. Similar records to censuses are lists of citizens (not every resident was a “citizen”) and of able-bodied men, or men able to bear arms, usually from ages 20 to 60.

Census Records at the Family History Library

The Family History Library has copies of many census records. These are listed in the “Locality Search” section of the catalog under:

NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – CENSUS
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN]–
CENSUS

An index of surnames for the 1947 national census has been published. There is a volume for each province and also one for the cities of Amsterdam, 's-Gravenhage, and Rotterdam. To find these books, look in the “Locality Search” section of the catalog under:

NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – CENSUS –
1947 – INDEXES
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] –
CENSUS – 1947 – INDEXES

In the Netherlands, population registers, which are records similar to census records, are available. See the "Population" section of this outline for more information.

CHURCH HISTORY

Effective research in church records requires some understanding of your ancestor's religion and of the events that led to the creation of church records.

Roman Catholic

The Roman Catholic faith was accepted in the Netherlands from the fifth century after Christ onward. It became the predominant faith until the 1500s, when the Reformation movements of Martin Luther, John Calvin, and Menno Simons began to take hold.

There was much conflict between Catholics and Protestants. In the 1550s the Catholic Church began a counter reformation movement. The Protestants united and fought the Eighty Years' War against the Spanish, who were Roman Catholics. The Dutch Reformed Church became the state church of the Dutch Republic.

Roman Catholics have remained more predominant in the southern provinces of Limburg and Noord-Brabant.

Dutch Reformed

Based on the doctrine of John Calvin, the Reformed Church was the state church from 1588 to 1795. In 1814 it became known as the Dutch Reformed Church. In 1834, dissenters left the Dutch Reformed Church and established a new church, called the Christian Reformed Church.

Those of the Dutch Reformed religion have remained predominant in all provinces except for Limburg and Noord-Brabant.

Huguenots (French Protestants or Walloons)

Natives of northern France and southern Belgium (known at that time as the Southern Netherlands) who accepted Calvinism were persecuted by Catholics, many of them fleeing to the Northern Netherlands. The oldest Walloon congregation, dating from 1571, is in Middelburg.

Because of their residence in the Netherlands, French immigrants began to adopt the language and customs of their new homeland, and through

intermarriage they became integrated into Dutch society. Since the doctrines and teachings of the French Reformed Church and the Dutch Reformed Church were so similar, it was not uncommon for French Protestants to have their children christened in either of these two churches.

Information about Huguenots has been extracted from the parish registers of the French Protestant and Dutch Reformed Churches and entered, in abbreviated form, on cards that now comprise the *Collection des Fiches*, a section of the Walloon Library now housed in the Central Office for Genealogy. Because it was formerly at Leiden, it is also referred to as the *Leiden Collection*.

Mennonites (Anabaptists)

Anabaptist doctrines were first preached in Zurich, Switzerland. They spread to southern Germany and then to the Netherlands, where, by 1543, the movement had gained a large following. They were called Mennonites after one of their most influential leaders, Menno Simons.

Mennonites believed that only adults should be baptized, so baptism records of infants do not exist. They did keep birth records of those in their congregations.

Originally, many Mennonites belonged to the social classes of small craftsmen, storekeepers, and farmers, but due to their industriousness and frugality they became people of means. Their religious doctrines did not allow them to hold government positions or bear arms. In time, however, the majority of the Mennonites became politically active and joined the Dutch Reformed Church.

Evangelical Lutheran

The first Lutheran congregations were founded in the late 1500s. They were, in large part, the result of substantial numbers of German and Scandinavian immigrants. While few people in the Netherlands accepted Luther's teachings, the doctrine of the Lutheran Church had considerable influence on the doctrines of the other Protestant churches.

Remonstrant

The Remonstrant religion grew out of intense ideological debates within the Dutch Reformed Church. The Remonstrant Church, or Brotherhood, was founded in 1619 in Belgium. The religion was slowly tolerated by the state church in the

Netherlands, and nearly 50 congregations were established by 1700.

Other Christian Groups

Episcopalians, Greek Catholics, Presbyterians, Puritans, and other groups have existed in the Netherlands since the 1600s.

For more information about the history of the Presbyterians and Puritans, see the following source:

Sprunger, Keith L. *Dutch Puritanism: A History of English and Scottish Churches of the Netherlands in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries*. Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1982. (FHL book 949.2 K2s; computer number 328896.)

Many books about church history of the Netherlands are available. Look in the “Locality Search” section of the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS – CHURCH HISTORY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – CHURCH HISTORY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] – CHURCH HISTORY

CHURCH RECORDS

Church records [*kerkelijke registers*] are excellent sources for accurate information on names as well as dates and places of births, marriages, and deaths. Most people who lived in the Netherlands were recorded in a church record.

Records of births, marriages, and deaths are commonly called “vital records” because critical events in a person’s life are recorded in them. Church records that contain vital records were made by ministers and priests. They are often called parish registers or church books. They include records of births, baptisms, marriages, deaths, and burials. In addition, church records may include account books (which record fees for tolling bells, fees for masses for the dead, and so forth), lists of confirmations, and lists of members.

Church records are crucial for pre-1811 Dutch research. Church records continued to be kept after the introduction of civil registration, but the Family History Library has not microfilmed many post-1811 church records. See the “Civil Registration” section of this outline for more information about post-1811 sources.

General Historical Background

The practice of keeping parish registers evolved slowly. The first surviving register is from 1542 at Deventer. Catholic churches in general began requiring baptism, marriage, and death records in 1563; Dutch Reformed churches after 1572. There are Dutch Reformed records for most places after 1650. Dutch church records are usually written in Dutch or Latin.

Note the following points about Dutch church records:

- Large cities have many churches, each serving part of the city. Rural churches often serve several villages and hamlets. Parish boundaries often changed, thus affecting where church records were kept.
- Military churches in garrison towns and cities often kept their own records separate from those of other parishes.
- In many parts of the Netherlands the death registers began later than the baptism and marriage registers.
- The registers of baptisms, marriages, and deaths from different geographic areas vary considerably in the amount of information they provide. Each jurisdiction had its own record-keeping rules, and each recorder had his own style.
- In some areas the records of people of other faiths were kept by the predominant church. The principal church in the Netherlands was the Dutch Reformed Church.

For more information, see the “Church History” and “History” sections of this outline.

Feast Dates. Each day of the year had several patron saints and was a feast day to honor those saints. Some vital events are recorded in church records only by the holy day (feast day) on the church calendar. For example, the feast day called All Saints Day [*Allerheiligendag*] is 1 November. To convert feast dates to days of the month for either the Julian (old style) or Gregorian (new style) calendar, use the following book:

Bukke, Inger M., et al. *The Comprehensive Genealogical Feast Day Calendar*. Bountiful, Utah: Thomson’s Genealogical Center, 1983. (FHL book 529.44 C738; fiche 6054630; computer number 255709.)

Duplicate Church Records

Unfortunately, some of the church records of the Netherlands were destroyed in wars or when parish houses burned. Because of concerns about such destruction, authorities in some areas began requiring copies of church books in the 1700s. Copies were either stored separately or sent to a central archive. These copies are called transcripts or duplicates [*afschriften* or *contra-boeken*], and most are housed in state archives or central church archives.

Use duplicates, where available, to supplement parish registers that are missing or illegible. Keep in mind that duplicates often differ slightly from the originals.

Information Recorded in Church Registers

The information recorded in church records varied over time. Later records usually give more complete information than earlier ones. The most important church records for genealogical research are baptism, marriage, and burial registers. Other helpful church records may include confirmation lists, lists of members, church council minutes, and account books.

Most Catholic records were written in Latin. Protestant records were generally written in Dutch. Local dialects may have affected the spelling of some names and other words in the church records.

There was no specific record-keeping style for church records. Early records were usually written in paragraph form. As record keeping improved, columns were often used in the entries. However, some places (especially Catholic parishes) used the paragraph format for a long time.

Baptisms [*Dopen*]

Children were usually baptized a few days after birth. Baptism registers usually give the infant's name, parents' names, status of legitimacy, witnesses or godparents, and baptism date. You may also find the child's birth date, the father's occupation, and the family's place of residence. Death information was sometimes added as a note or signified by a cross.

Earlier registers typically give less information, sometimes including only the child's and father's names and the baptism date. Until the end of the 1700s, ministers in some communities did not name the mother in the records, or they included only her given name. Sometimes only the baptism date was recorded, but in later years the birth date was given as well.

Because of social conditions in the Netherlands, the birth of illegitimate children was not uncommon.

Marriages [*Akten van trouw* or *Huwelijken*]

Marriage registers give the marriage date and the names of the bride and groom. The registers also indicate whether they were single or widowed before the marriage and where they were from (which may or may not be their birthplace). They often include other information about the bride and groom, such as their ages, residences, occupations, birthplaces, parents' names, and witnesses. In cases of second and later marriages, they may include the names of previous spouses.

The earliest marriage records may give only the names of the bride and groom and have little or no information about the couple's parents. Couples were usually married in the residence parish of the bride. Typically, women married for the first time between 18 and 25. Men typically married for the first time in their mid to late twenties.

Marriage entries for soldiers usually only give the name of the commander or company that the groom was in. To locate the groom's birthplace, consult the military service records. See the "Military Records" section of this outline for more information.

From 1588 to 1795 the Dutch Reformed Church was the state church. Nonconformists had to be married in that church or by civil authorities. You may also find their marriage recorded in their own church. For additional help, see the "Public Records" section of this outline.

In the province of Holland a tax on marriages was imposed from 1695 to 1805. If you do not locate your ancestor's marriage in any other source, look in the marriage tax records. See the "Taxation" section of this outline for more information.

Marriage Intentions [*Ondertrouw*]. In addition to the actual marriage registers, many churches in the Netherlands kept a separate book where other records of marriage were recorded. These records are called marriage intentions. Often the marriage intention date and marriage date are recorded in the same register.

Marriage registers sometimes give the three dates on which intended marriages were announced (either read out loud or posted in church). These announcements, called banns, gave other community members a chance to object to the marriage.

Burials [*Begravenissen*]

Burials were recorded in the parish where the person was buried. The burial usually took place within a few days of death.

Burial registers give the deceased's name, marital status, and date and place of death and/or burial. Sometimes the age, place of residence, cause of death, and names of survivors are given. Often the amount of money paid for ringing the bell or renting burial cloths is given.

Burial records may exist for individuals who were born before the earliest baptism and marriage records. In other places, burial records may start many years later than the baptism and marriage records of the same parish.

Church account books [*kerkrekeningen*] often give details about burials.

Confirmations [*Belijdenissen* or *Vormsel Registers*]

Catholics were usually confirmed around age 12, Protestants about age 15. Most confirmation registers merely list the names of those being confirmed and the confirmation date.

Membership Records [*Lidmaten*]

Most churches kept a record of their members, usually organized by village or street. The records contain members' names, dates of confessions of faith, and dates of arrival from other parishes. They may also contain death dates, dates members left the parish, communion lists, or names of those attending catechism school.

Membership records are usually in the archive of the church council [*kerkeraad*] of the parish. Sometimes they are part of the baptism or marriage register.

Church Council Minutes [*Kerkeraadshandelingen*]

Minutes of the church council can provide important information about your ancestor. They usually contain ministers' names and dates of service, appointments of elders and other parish officials, disciplinary actions, names of fathers of illegitimate children, and money paid for the poor.

Certificates of indemnity or surety [*akten van indemniteit*] were sometimes issued to church members moving to a new town. The certificates

guaranteed that the former parish would receive the people back in case they became poor.

Church Records Indexes

Most of the registers of baptisms, marriages, and burials for the Netherlands have been indexed by the archives and other interested genealogists.

An example of an important index is that for the city of Amsterdam. Hundreds of registers for several denominations are easily accessible by using a card index. See the following guide:

Church and Civil Records of Amsterdam, the Netherlands, before 1811. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1975. (FHL book 929.1 G286gs ser. C no. 25; fiche 6000355–6000356; computer number 327126.)

The Family History Library has collected many indexes to Dutch church records. These are listed in the "Locality Search" section of the catalog under:

NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – CHURCH RECORDS – INDEXES
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] – CHURCH RECORDS – INDEXES

Locating Church Records

Church records were kept at the local parish of the church. The term *parish* refers to the jurisdiction of a church minister. Parishes are local congregations that may have included many neighboring villages in their boundaries.

To use church records, you must know both your ancestor's religion and the town where he or she lived.

Some gazetteers indicate parish jurisdictions. For more information, see the "Gazetteers" section of this outline and the section below, which discusses church record inventories.

A small village that did not have its own church was usually assigned to a parish in a nearby larger town. Consequently, your ancestor may have lived in one village but belonged to a parish in another town. This is particularly true of Roman Catholic parishes. In predominant Dutch Reformed Church areas, Roman Catholic records include people for a wide area.

The Family History Library Catalog refers to parishes by the town in which the parish church was located, unless there was more than one church

in the town. In large cities there may be many parishes for each religion. Church buildings were often named for saints, so the catalog uses the church name such as St. John to distinguish between different parishes in the same city.

Church Record Inventories

Church record inventories are essential tools for finding Dutch records. They identify records that are available, their location, and the years they cover. The following source, prepared by the Central Office for Genealogy, lists all known church records of the Netherlands:

Wijnaendts van Resandt, Willem. *Repertorium DTB: Globaal Overzicht van de Nederlandse Doop-, Trouw- en Begraafregisters e.d. van voor de Invoering van de Burgerlijke Stand* (Concise Repertory of Dutch Parish Registers, etc.). 2nd ed. 's-Gravenhage: Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie, 1980. (FHL book Ref 949.2 K2w 1980; computer number 106653.) This inventory has explanations in Dutch, English, and German.

Church record inventories are also available for each province in the Netherlands. They are listed in the “Locality Search” section of the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS – CHURCH RECORDS –
INVENTORIES, REGISTERS, CATALOGS
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – CHURCH
RECORDS – INVENTORIES, REGISTERS,
CATALOGS

Records at the Family History Library

The Family History Library has filmed nearly all church records of the Netherlands. The library has church records to mostly 1811; some are later. The specific holdings of the Family History Library are listed in the Family History Library Catalog. You can determine whether the library has records for the locality your ancestor came from by checking the “Locality Search” section of the Family History Library Catalog. However, if a record has been destroyed, was never kept, or has not been microfilmed, the Family History Library *does not have a copy*.

In the Family History Library Catalog, look under the name of the town where the church was, not necessarily the town where your ancestor lived. Look under:

NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] –
CHURCH RECORDS

Locating Records Not at the Family History Library

Baptism, marriage, and burial records not at the Family History Library may be found by contacting or visiting local parishes or archives in the Netherlands.

The Netherlands has no single repository of church records. The present location of records depends on several factors of nationality, religion, and local history. Records are located in one or more of the following places:

- *Local parishes.* Recent registers of baptisms, marriages, and burials are at the parish; older ones are at the state and municipal archives. Other church records such as membership lists, church council minutes, and account books are usually still at the parishes.
- *State archives.* In 1929 the government ordered that all pre-1811 records be sent to the state archives. Most places complied. Some of the records have since been deposited in regional and municipal archives. Records at these archives have been microfilmed and are available at the Family History Library.
- *Church archives.* Some church records are collected in diocese or general church archives. Church archives are often unable to handle genealogical requests but can determine whether specific records are available.
- *The Central Office for Genealogy.* This office has copies of many parish registers. See the “Societies” section of this outline for more information.

Correspondence. You do not need to write in Dutch when corresponding with archives in the Netherlands. When writing for copies, send the following:

- Check or money order for the search fee (usually about \$10.00)
- Full name and the sex of the person sought
- Names of the parents, if known
- Approximate date and place of the event you want information about
- Your relationship to the person
- Reason for the request (family history, medical, etc.)

- Request for a photocopy of the complete original record
- Three international reply coupons, available from your local post office.

Search Strategies

Effective use of church records includes the following strategies in addition to the general strategies on page 2:

- Search for the ancestor you selected in step two. When you find his or her birth record, search for the births of the person's brothers and sisters.
- Search for the marriage record of his or her parents. The marriage record will often lead to the birth records of the parents. Marriage records usually give the birthplace or the place of residence and marital status. Some records like the Amsterdam marriage intentions are more informative.
- Estimate the ages of the parents, and search for their birth records.
- Use the above three strategies for both the father and the mother.
- If earlier generations are not in the record you are using, search neighboring towns and other denominations.
- Search the burial registers for all family members.

CIVIL REGISTRATION

Civil registers are the vital records made by the government. Records of births, marriages, and deaths are commonly referred to as "vital records" because they refer to critical events in a person's life. Dutch civil registration records are an excellent source for accurate information on names; dates; and places of births, marriages, deaths, and divorces.

Civil registration is crucial for research in the Netherlands. Civil authorities began registering births, marriages, and deaths on 1 March 1811 (earlier for some southern areas). After this date all individuals who lived in the Netherlands are recorded. Because they cover the entire population, are indexed, and are easily accessible, civil registration records are the most important source for genealogical research in the Netherlands.

For birth, marriage, and death records before 1811, see the "Church Records," "Public Records," and "Taxation" sections of this outline.

General Historical Background

The earliest vital records in the Netherlands were made by the churches. Civil authorities began recording marriages of nonconformists in 1575. France annexed the country between 1795 and 1811 and made civil officers responsible for keeping vital records. Civil registration was accomplished by requiring the people to report all births, marriages, and deaths to a civil registration office [*Burgerlijke Stand*], located in the municipality [*gemeente*]. After the Kingdom of the Netherlands became a country in 1814, the government continued the civil registration system.

Birth, marriage, and death registers are made in duplicate. One copy stays in the municipal hall [*gemeentehuis*], and the other copy is sent at the end of each year to the clerk of the district court. The clerk creates a yearly index and at the end of each decade creates a 10-year index. The indexes and the duplicate copy eventually end up in the state archives.

Regional Differences in Record Keeping

Limburg. Parts of the province of Limburg were annexed by France at different times, namely in 1795, 1798, and 1801.

Zeeuws-Vlaanderen. The area of Zeeuws-Vlaanderen, in the province of Zeeland, was annexed by France in 1795.

Because of these annexations, records for these areas begin earlier than the rest of the country.

Information Recorded in Civil Registers

The most important civil records for genealogical research are birth, marriage, and death registers and marriage supplements. Divorce records were originally recorded in the back of the marriage registers.

Each birth, marriage, and death entry includes witnesses' names, ages, occupations, residences, and relationships to the principal party. Large cities such as Amsterdam and Rotterdam have more than one book for a given time period. Sometimes even-numbered entries are kept in one register and odd-numbered ones are in another.

Civil registration records were often written in French until 1814. After this date the Dutch

language was used exclusively. Annual indexes are available, and beginning with the decade from 1813 to 1822, decennial (10-year) indexes were made. Each municipality (a town or group of towns) was its own civil registration district and included villages belonging to that municipality.

Births [Geboorten]

Birth records usually give the child's name; sex; date, time, and place of birth; and parents' names, including the mother's maiden surname. The occupations and ages of the parents are also given.

Births were usually registered within two or three days of the child's birth, usually by the father but sometimes by a relative or friend, especially if the father was absent. Corrections to a birth record may have been added as a marginal note.

Children whose records show they died very young were not necessarily stillborn [*levenloos* or *doodgeboren*] but probably died shortly after birth. Legally, information about children who were born "without life" was not to be reported to the civil registrar. Children who died at birth are only recorded in the death records.

Civil register births usually have yearly indexes in addition to the 10-year indexes. (For more specific index information see "Genealogical Collections" on page 27).

Marriages [Huwelijken]

Marriages during the 19th century were usually recorded where the bride resided. After 1795 a civil marriage ceremony was required by the Dutch government. This requirement continued when the country was under French rule and is still in force today.

If you believe a marriage took place but cannot find a record of the marriage, search records of intent to marry.

Records of Intention to Marry. You may find records that show a couple's "intent to marry" in addition to or instead of the records of the actual marriage. Various records have been created that show a couple's intent to marry.

- *Marriage Intentions [Huwelijksaangiften]* were made a few days before the first marriage proclamation. The couple were required to announce their intention to marry in the residence of both bride and groom. This allowed other community members the opportunity to raise any objections to the marriage. The intentions give the couple's names, ages, marital

statuses before the marriage, occupations, and residences. From 1811 to 1879 the records were combined with the marriage proclamations in one register. After 1879 they were placed in separate registers. They were not prepared in duplicate and are not indexed. Marriage intentions were discontinued in 1935.

- *Marriage Proclamations [Huwelijksaankondigingen]*, also called marriage banns, were published for two weeks in a row. They provide the couple's names, ages, marital statuses before the marriage, occupations, and residences. They also give the names of the parents and their occupations, residences, and marital statuses. Like the marriage intentions, the proclamations were not prepared in duplicate and are not indexed. They were kept in the same register as the intentions until 1879 and were discontinued in 1935.
- *Marriage Consents [Huwelijkstoestemmingen]*. Parents were normally present at the wedding and stated that they gave their consent for the couple to marry. If parents were absent, their written permission would be included with the marriage supplements. Beginning in 1913, separate registers were used to record the parents' permission for the bride and groom to marry.
- *Marriage Supplements [Huwelijksbijlagen]* were documents filed by the bride and groom in support of their application to be married. The documents formed a packet that had the same number as the marriage entry. The packets contained extracts of birth or baptism records of the bride and groom; death certificates of their parents if they were not living; and, until about 1850, death certificates of grandparents if both parents were dead. When no baptism or birth record exists, a notarized certificate of acquaintance [*akte van bekendheid*] is included. The certificate was signed by witnesses (usually relatives) who certified that they personally knew the bride or groom. A certificate from the National Militia (up to about 1860) stating that the groom had fulfilled his military duty is also included. This certificate usually gives his physical description, including height; color of hair, eyes, and eyebrows; and description of nose, chin, and other distinguishing features. Death certificates of any former spouse are also included. Finally, marriage consents are included.

Marriage Registers [Huwelijken]. Civil officials recorded the marriages they performed in registers, usually preprinted forms bound in a book and kept

in the civil office. In the Netherlands, marriages had to be performed by civil officials.

Marriage registers give the date of the marriage and the names of the bride and groom. They also indicate whether they were single or widowed before the marriage; give their ages, birthplaces, occupations, and residences; and list parents' names, residences, and occupations, if living. *Note the marriage entry number [aktenummer]; you will need this to locate the marriage supplements.*

Divorce Records [*Echtscheidingen*]

Divorce cases are handled by the district courts. A record of the divorce will be recorded at the back of the marriage register of the municipality where the couple lived at the time of their divorce. For large cities in later years they will be in separate registers. There is sometimes a note in the margin of the original marriage record. Divorces before the 20th century were uncommon.

Deaths [*Overlijdens*]

Death records are especially helpful because they may provide important information on a person's birth, spouse, and parents. Civil death records often exist for individuals whom there are no birth or marriage records for. Deaths were usually registered within a day or two of the death in the municipality where the person died.

The records give the deceased person's name, date and place of death, age, birthplace, occupation, spouse's name, and parents' names. Married women are recorded under their maiden surname. If the spouse and parents are living, their occupation and residence will be given; otherwise it will name the place of their death. The informant's name (often a relative) is also given. Information about parents, the birth date and birthplace of the deceased, and other information in a death record may be inaccurate since the person who gave the information may not have had complete information.

Children who died before the declaration of birth was made are recorded as stillborn and are found only in the death records.

Those people who were born without a fixed surname are probably recorded under a different name in the death records. See the "Names, Personal" section of this outline for more information.

The Central Office for Genealogy has records of everyone who has died since 1940. See the

discussion about person cards and lists in the "Population" section of this outline.

Locating Civil Registration Records

Civil registration records were kept at the local civil registration office [*Burgerlijke Stand*] in each municipality. Therefore, you must determine the municipality where your ancestor lived before you can find the records. For many places the municipality and town are the same. You may need to use gazetteers and other geographic reference aides to identify the place your ancestor lived and the civil registration office that served it. For additional help, see the "Gazetteers" section of this outline.

Some large cities such as Amsterdam, Rotterdam, and The Hague had more than one sequence of books for the registering process. For example, you may find even-numbered entries in one book and odd-numbered entries in another book.

Birth registers are open to the public and are available in the state archives after 100 years, marriage registers and marriage supplements after 75 years, and death registers after 50 years.

Indexes to Civil Registration Records

Births, marriages, and deaths were written in the civil registration records as they occurred and thus are arranged chronologically. Yearly indexes and 10-year indexes to the records can help you find your ancestor more easily.

Indexes are usually bound with each year's register. Ten-year indexes were kept in a separate register. You will sometimes find the 10-year indexes for several towns in the same district bound together in the same volume. A 10-year index is especially useful when you are not certain of the year of an event. There are 10-year indexes for each decade, commencing in 1813 and continuing until 1932. An 8-year index exists for 1933 to 1940, followed by 10-year indexes again for 1941 to 1950, and so on.

Yearly indexes and 10-year indexes have several characteristics in common. The clerk usually indexed births, marriages, and deaths separately. The indexes are alphabetical by surname, although those for the Groningen province are also arranged by given name up to 1842 because of the existence of patronymics. The indexes list the name, document number, and date of the civil register entry. In marriage indexes the groom's name is usually in alphabetical order, with the bride's maiden surname listed after the groom. Later marriage indexes are by bride's surname and

groom's surname. In some indexes only the first letter of the surname is in alphabetical order.

Children who died before their births were registered will be indexed either under their father's name, under the letter "D" for stillborn child [*doodgeboren kind*], or under the letter "L" for stillborn child [*levenloos kind*].

Marriage intentions, proclamations, and supplements are not indexed.

National Index. The state archives of the Netherlands are preparing a national online index of all civil registration records open to the public. Currently, entries from the provinces of Drenthe, Flevoland, Friesland, Noord-Brabant, and Utrecht have been added to the database. The web site is available in either Dutch or English. The address is:

www.archiefnet.nl/rad/genealogie/genlias.htm

Records at the Family History Library

The Family History Library has microfilmed the civil registration records of all municipalities throughout the Netherlands, normally for births to 1902, for marriages to 1922, and for deaths to 1932. Some death records are available until 1940.

The Family History Library has records from all municipalities. However, if a record has been destroyed, was never kept, was not available in the archive at the time of microfilming, was not microfilmed, or is restricted from public access by the laws of the country, the Family History Library *does not have a copy*. You may use the records at the library for your family research, but the library does not issue certificates for living or deceased individuals.

The specific holdings of the Family History Library are listed in the Family History Library Catalog. To find civil registration records in the Family History Library, look in the "Locality Search" section of the library's catalog under:

NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] –
CIVIL REGISTRATION
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN]–
CIVIL REGISTRATION

The library's collection continues to grow as new records are microfilmed and added to the collection from numerous sources. Do not give up if records are not available yet. The Family History Library Catalog is updated regularly. Check it periodically for the records you need.

Locating Records Not at the Family History Library

Birth, marriage, divorce, and death records may be found by contacting or visiting local civil registration offices or archives in the Netherlands. To protect the rights of privacy of living persons, most modern records have restrictions on their use and access.

The Netherlands has no single repository of civil registration records. They are available by writing to the municipal secretary. You do not need to write in Dutch. Your request may be forwarded if the records have been sent to the district court or state archives.

Search Strategies

Effective use of civil registers includes the following strategies, in addition to the general strategies on page 2:

- Search for the ancestor you selected in step two. When you find his or her birth record, search for the birth records of the person's brothers and sisters.
- Search for the death records of his or her parents, which records will tell you where the mother came from and where the marriage probably took place.
- Search for marriage records of all the children. Marriage records will tell you if the parents were deceased at the time and where and when they died.
- If you cannot find the person you want in the regular marriage records, search the marriage intentions and publications.
- Search for the marriage record of the parents. The marriage record will give you birth dates, birthplaces, and parents' names.
- Locate the marriage supplements for the parents' marriage. The supplements will take you back to the parish register period, giving you dates and places of births or baptisms.
- Repeat the process for both the father and the mother.
- Search the death registers for all family members. These are indexed and will also take you back to the parish register period, giving you ages and places of birth.

- Search the civil registers completely before you begin searching the parish registers.

COURT RECORDS

Court records are usually searched after other records have already been investigated, but they should not be overlooked. Court records can establish family relationships and places of residence. They often provide occupations and other excellent family history information.

Unfortunately, court records tend to be difficult to use. The records usually are not well indexed, there are many records, court jurisdictions may have changed, and the records use many legal terms. To interpret court records you may need to consult a legal dictionary in connection with a language dictionary. A useful legal dictionary is:

Black, Henry Campbell. *Black's Law Dictionary*. 6th ed. St. Paul, Minn.: West Publishing, 1990. (FHL book Ref 340.03 B564L; computer number 750209.)

There are three main types of legal cases you may find in Dutch court records:

- **Voluntary cases [vrijwillige rechtspraak].** These cases are the most important genealogically. Types of records include wills [*testamenten*], marriage contracts [*huwelijksvoorwaarden*], divisions of estates [*boedelscheidingen*], estate inventories [*boedelinventarissen*], land transfers [*akten van verkoop* or *transporten van onroerend goed*], mortgages [*hypotheken*, *rentebrieven*, or *plechten*], and powers of attorney [*volmachten*]. This group of records is sometimes collectively called *allerhande akten*. All of these records usually give family relationships. For example, land transfers often name all of the brothers and sisters of the seller, since all had an inherited interest in the land.
- **Civil cases [civiele rechtspraak].** These involve violation of laws when an individual (but not society) is harmed. Such violations include property damage, trespass, or libel. In these cases one or more individuals file suit against other individuals to enforce private rights or to receive compensation for violation of rights.
- **Criminal cases [criminele rechtspraak].** These involve the violation of laws in which society is or may be harmed. Such violations include theft or murder. In these cases the government files suit against the defendant.

Before the Netherlands was annexed by France in 1811, each province had its own laws and was administered somewhat differently than its neighboring provinces. Further, each town and rural district had separate laws. In the towns and districts, local government and court administration were in the hands of the same men. The court was composed of a group of aldermen [*schepenen*] in the towns and by the sheriff [*drost*, *schout* or *scholtis*] and his assistants in the rural areas. The courts handled land and probate transactions and civil and criminal cases. People could appeal civil and criminal cases to higher courts, the highest being the provincial court or, after 1798, the High Court of Justice [*Hof van Justitie*].

France annexed the country in 1811 and established a uniform legal system. There were district, circuit, and appellate courts, which continued after the Kingdom of the Netherlands became a nation in 1814. The court system was reorganized in 1838, with the district court becoming the peace court and the circuit court becoming the court of first instance (main trial court).

Reasons for Using Court Records

You will want to use court records:

- When church records do not exist. This is especially true for minority religious groups such as Mennonites.
- To distinguish between two or more people of the same name. Often people who are only listed by a patronymic name in church records will be recorded with a family name in court records.
- To learn the mother's name. Frequently, only the father's name is given in the church records.
- To learn the names of close relatives such as brothers, sisters, aunts, and uncles.
- To verify relationships.
- To learn your ancestor's occupation or the value of his or her property.

Locating Court Records

Court records are stored at state, regional, and municipal archives. Those created before 1811 are referred to as old judicial archives [*oud rechterlijk archief*]. Sometimes the archive will assign a particular name to a group of court records (for example, land records [*transportregisters*]).

However, more than land transfers will be included; the books will contain all kinds of voluntary cases.

Records at the Family History Library

The Family History Library has many Dutch court records on microfilm. The majority are pre-1811 voluntary cases for all provinces except Limburg and Noord-Brabant. Check the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] –
COURT RECORDS
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] –
COURT RECORDS

See also the “Guardianship,” “Notarial Records,” and “Probate” sections of this outline.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

Emigration and immigration sources list the names of people leaving (emigrating) or arriving (immigrating) in the Netherlands. These sources may be passenger lists, permissions to emigrate, or records of passports issued. The information in these records may include the emigrants’ names, ages, occupations, destinations, and places of origin or birthplaces. Sometimes they also show family groups.

If you cannot find your ancestor, you may be able to find emigration information on your ancestor’s neighbors. People who lived near each other in the Netherlands often settled together in the country they emigrated to.

Records were created when individuals emigrated from the Netherlands. Other records document their arrival in the destination country. This section discusses the following subjects:

- Finding the emigrant’s town of origin
- Emigration from the Netherlands, including the historical background of Dutch emigration
- Records of Dutch emigrants in their destination countries

Finding the Emigrant’s Town of Origin

Once you have traced your family back to a Dutch emigrant, you must find the town your ancestor came from if you wish to find earlier generations. The records you will need to continue your research, such as birth, marriage, and death

records, are kept in local areas. The Netherlands has no nationwide index to these records.

Several sources may reveal where your ancestor came from. You may learn of your ancestor’s place of origin by talking to older family members. Other relatives or a library may have documents that name the town, such as the following:

- Birth, marriage, and death certificates
- Obituaries
- Journals
- Photographs
- Letters
- Family Bibles
- Church certificates or records
- Naturalization applications and petitions
- Passenger lists
- Passports

The Family History Library publication *Tracing Immigrant Origins* (34111) gives more suggestions for finding your ancestor’s place of origin.

Emigration from the Netherlands

Significant numbers of Dutch emigrants can be found on every continent and in many countries around the world. Hundreds of thousands of people left the Netherlands in several waves of migration. Most emigrants left during the following periods:

- *1624 to 1820.* Emigrants left the Netherlands and migrated to North America, South America, Africa, India, Indonesia, and the West Indies.
- *1820 to 1940.* More than 250,000 emigrants left the Netherlands and migrated to North America, Indonesia, Africa, and the West Indies. Many of these emigrants were from the provinces of Friesland and Gelderland. Most settled in Iowa, Michigan, and Wisconsin.
- *1940 to 1970.* Thousands of people left after World War II and settled in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and the United States.

The Dutch emigrated for several reasons: 1) hunger, 2) suppression by religious and government leaders, 3) the search for new land, 4) emigration agents’

glowing accounts, and 5) letters of encouragement from relatives and friends who had gone before.

Emigrants from the Netherlands left records documenting their migration in the country they left as well as in the country they moved to.

Emigrant Lists

The Dutch government compiled lists of emigrants leaving the country from 1845 to 1877. These give each emigrant's name, age, occupation, religion, municipality of last residence, reason for leaving, and destination. They also list the number of women, children, and servants accompanying the emigrant. The lists are indexed. Only statistics were kept from 1831 to 1844.

These records are described in the Family History Library Catalog as follows:

Nederland. Ministerie van Buitenlandse Zaken.
Emigranten naar Amerika en Andere Landen, 1831–1877 (Emigrants to America and Other Countries, 1831–1877). (FHL film 1393230–1393231; computer number 58578.)

There are also lists of emigrants who left after 1877 for the provinces of Friesland, Groningen, Overijssel, Utrecht, Zeeland, and Zuid-Holland. The records are found in the state archives. Some of these have been acquired by the Family History Library.

For these and other emigration records, check the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS – EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] –
EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN]–
EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

Passenger Lists

Records of departures are called passenger lists. The information in these lists usually includes each emigrant's name, age, occupation, destination, relationship to traveling companions, and last residence. His or her birthplace may be given.

The Family History Library has microfilm copies of the Holland–America Line passenger lists from the port of Rotterdam for 1900 to 1940. The film numbers of these records are listed in the “Locality

Search” section of the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS, ZUID–HOLLAND,
ROTTERDAM – EMIGRATION AND
IMMIGRATION

Other Records

For the period before 1812, look at notarial records of Amsterdam, Rotterdam, and other harbor towns such as Dordrecht. There are comprehensive indexes for most of these places. Immigrants often obtained notarized documents before leaving the country. For more information, see the “Notarial Records” section of this outline.

The collection *Noord-Amerika Chronologie* (North America Chronology) contains 5,000 cards abstracted from Amsterdam notarial records. It covers 1598 to 1750 and gives places of origin of immigrants to New Netherland (modern day New York, New Jersey, and Delaware). The collection is available on microfilm at The New York State Library. The address is:

The New York State Library
Cultural Education Center
Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12230

Telephone: 1-518-474-5355
E-mail: circ@mail.nysed.gov
Internet: www.nysl.nysed.gov

Records of Dutch Emigrants in Their Destination Countries

Sometimes the best sources for information about your immigrant ancestor are found in the country he or she emigrated to. The records there may provide his or her place of origin and other information. To learn about these records, use available handbooks, manuals, and research outlines for that country.

Passenger Lists. Most Dutch immigrants to the United States arrived at the ports of New York and Quebec. The Family History Library has microfilm copies of the records and some indexes. See the *United States Research Outline* (30972) for more information about United States immigration records.

Important books on Dutch immigrants to the United States and Canada are:

Boyer, Carl, ed. *Ship Passenger Lists, New York and New Jersey, 1600–1825*. Newhall, Calif.:

C. Boyer, 1978. (FHL book 973 W3sa; fiche 6048671; computer number 4889.)

Lucas, Henry S. *Netherlanders in America: Dutch Immigration to the United States and Canada, 1789–1950*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1955. (FHL book 973 F2dL; computer number 267253.)

Swierenga, Robert P. *Dutch Immigrants in U.S. Ship Passenger Manifests, 1820–1880: An Alphabetical Listing by Household Heads and Independent Persons*. 2 vol. Wilmington, Del.: Scholarly Resources, 1983. (FHL book Ref 973 W3sr; computer number 121982.) A microfiche edition of this work is found on FHL fiche 6200012 to 6200035.

GAZETTEERS

A gazetteer is a dictionary of place names. Gazetteers describe towns and villages, municipalities and provinces, rivers and mountains, populations, and other geographical features. They usually include only the names of places that existed at the time the gazetteer was published. The place names are generally listed in alphabetical order, similar to a dictionary.

Gazetteers may also provide additional information about towns, such as:

- The population.
- The different religious denominations.
- The schools, colleges, and universities.
- Major manufacturing works, canals, docks, and railroad stations.

You can use a gazetteer to locate the places where your ancestor lived and to determine the civil and church jurisdictions over those places. For example, Vemde is a small village that belongs to the municipality of Epe in the province of Gelderland. You would need to look in the records of Epe to find information about people who came from Vemde.

Some places in the Netherlands have the same or similar names. You will need to use a gazetteer to identify the specific town where your ancestor lived, the province it was in, and the jurisdictions where records were kept.

Gazetteers are also helpful for determining municipality jurisdictions as used in the Family History Library Catalog.

Finding Place Names in the Family History Library Catalog

Place names in the Family History Library Catalog are listed under the names and provinces as they existed in 1968. To find the province that a town is filed under in the Family History Library Catalog, you can use the “see” references on the first *Family History Library Locality Catalog* microfiche of each country. If you are using the catalog on compact disc, use the “Locality Browse” search. The computer will find places with that name.

Dutch places are listed in the Family History Library Catalog by the name and province listed in:

Laan, Kornelis ter. *Van Goor's Aardrijkskundig Woordenboek van Nederland* (Van Goor's Geographic Dictionary of the Netherlands). Den Haag: Van Goor Zonen, 1968. (FHL book 949.2 E2tL; not on microfilm; computer number 375311.)

Modern Place Names

For some research purposes such as correspondence it is useful to learn modern jurisdictions for the area where your ancestor lived. This may also be helpful when finding the ancestral town on modern maps. The following listing of place names is kept current as changes are made to the boundaries and names of municipalities:

Lijst van Nederlandse Gemeenten (List of Dutch Municipalities). 2 vol. 's-Gravenhage: VUGA Uitgeverij, 1995–1999. (FHL book Ref 949.2 E5L; not on microfilm; computer number 736065.) This source will give the address and phone number of the municipal hall (municipal secretary), which keeps civil registration records and population registers not yet deposited in government archives. It is also valuable because it tells which municipality a place has belonged to since 1830.

Historical Place Names

Because names and boundaries of some places have changed or no longer exist, you may need to use sources that describe places as they were known earlier. Some of the historical national gazetteers that identify places in the Netherlands are:

Aa, Abraham Jacobus van der. *Aardrijkskundig Woordenboek der Nederlanden* (Geographical Dictionary of the Netherlands). 13 vol. Gorinchem: Jacobus Noorduyt, 1839–1851. (FHL book 949.2 E5a; film 496582–496590; computer number 247498.) This historical

dictionary also includes places in Belgium, Indonesia, Luxembourg, and Suriname, all of which were formerly part of the Netherlands.

Witkamp, P. H. *Aardrijkskundig Woordenboek van Nederland* (Geographical Dictionary of the Netherlands). Tiel: D. Mijs, 1877. (FHL book 949.2 E26w; film 1573201 item 1; computer number 26487.) This book gives less history than the preceding one but gives valuable information in a concise format.

These sources are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS – GAZETTEERS

See also the “Names, Geographical” section in this outline.

GENEALOGY

The term *genealogy* is used in this outline and in the Family History Library Catalog to describe a variety of records containing family information gathered by individuals, other researchers, societies, or archives. These records may include pedigree charts, compiled information on families, correspondence, ancestor lists, research exchange files, record abstracts, and collections of original or copied documents. These can be excellent sources of information that can save you valuable time. Because they are compiled from other sources of information, they must be carefully evaluated for accuracy.

Additional sources of genealogy for noble families in the Netherlands are described in the “Nobility” section of this outline.

Major Collections and Databases

The Family History Library has several sources that contain previous research or can lead you to others who are interested in sharing family information. These sources include:

- *International Genealogical Index*. The index provides names and vital information for millions of deceased persons who lived in the Netherlands. This valuable research tool lists birth, christening, or marriage dates as well as Latter-day Saint temple ordinance information. The index for the Netherlands includes names extracted from parish registers by volunteers and names submitted by other researchers.

The International Genealogical Index is available on microfiche and on compact disc as

part of FamilySearch™. For more information on FamilySearch, see page 5.

- **Ancestral File**. This file, which is part of FamilySearch (see page 5), contains family history information linked in family groups and pedigrees that has been contributed since 1979. As of 1992 the file contains the names of millions of persons, including thousands of Dutch families. Ancestral File can print pedigree charts, family group records, and individual summary sheets for any person in the file.
- **Family Group Records Collection**. More than eight million family group record forms have been microfilmed in the Family Group Records Collection. This includes many Dutch families. There are two major sections: the Archive Section and the Patrons Section. The film numbers for both sections are listed in the “Author/Title Search” section of the Family History Library Catalog under:

FAMILY GROUP RECORDS COLLECTION

Family Histories

Many Dutch families have produced histories or newsletters that may include genealogical information, biographies, photographs, and other excellent information. These usually include several generations of the family.

The Family History Library has thousands of published Dutch family histories and newsletters. Copies at the Family History Library are listed in the “Surname Search” section of the Family History Library Catalog. Not every name found in a family history will be listed in the catalog. Only the major surnames discussed in the family history are included.

Unpublished family histories are found at the Central Office for Genealogy, in 's-Gravenhage, and at other genealogical societies and archives in the Netherlands.

Many Dutch family histories are indexed in:

Beresteyn, E. A. van. *Genealogisch Repertorium* (Genealogical Repertory). 2 vol. and 3 supplements. Den Haag: Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie, 1972–1995. (FHL book Ref 949.2 D23b; computer number 370786.) This book indexes articles in genealogical periodicals as well as published genealogy books. It contains an explanatory introduction in Dutch, English, French, and German.

Many Dutch family histories are listed in this helpful bibliography of genealogical publications:

Warnawa, J. *Repertorium van Genealogische, Heraldische en Geschiedkundige Publikaties en Bronnen* (Bibliography of Genealogical, Heraldic and Historical Publications and Manuscript Sources). 22 vol. Nijmegen: Genealogische Documentatie Centrum Nijmegen, 1986–. (FHL book 949.2 D23w; computer number 478596.) The first three volumes deal with general topics beginning with the letters A through E. The remaining volumes are arranged by locality and then by subject (including family name). These volumes also include information about source materials and specific families.

Genealogical Collections

The Family History Library has many collections of genealogical material for Dutch families. These may include published and unpublished collections of family histories and lineages as well as the research files of prominent genealogists. Some of the major genealogical collections are:

Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie (Nederland). *Collectie Handschriften* (Genealogical Manuscripts Collection). Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1972–1978. (On 482 FHL films; computer number 48011.) The microfilming of the collection at the Central Office for Genealogy was completed by the Family History Library in 1978. The office's collection in 's-Gravenhage continues to grow every year. The films contain genealogies, copies of research reports, coats of arms, correspondence files, and other documents organized into surname files. An index to the surname files is:

Collectie Handschriften: Genealogical Manuscripts Collection. Salt Lake City: Family History Library, 1992. (FHL book Ref 949.2 D23c; computer number 645816.)

Lans, C. C. J. *Collectie Lans: Verschillende Kaartsystemen Krimpenerwaard en Zuid-Holland, 1329–1954* (Lans Collection: Different Card Systems for the Krimpenerwaard and South Holland, 1329–1954). Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1975–1990. (On 53 FHL films; computer number 65756.) This collection contains genealogies and card indexes from the Krimpenerwaard region of South Holland. It also contains transcripts and indexes of church,

court, and notarial records from the entire province.

Nederland's Patriciaat: Genealogieën van Bekende Geslachten (The Netherlands' Patriciate: Genealogies of Prominent Families). 80 vol. 's-Gravenhage: Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie, 1910–. (FHL book 949.2 D2n; computer number 52012.)

Genealogical collections are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS – GENEALOGY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – GENEALOGY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] – GENEALOGY

If you find your surname in any of the sources described in this section, determine whether the entry actually pertains to your family. All persons with the same surname are not necessarily related. Often you will have to do some original research before you can connect your ancestry to families listed in these sources.

GUARDIANSHIP

An Orphans' Chamber [*weeskamer*] was established by the civil authorities of a town to manage the affairs of orphans who inherited property from deceased parents or other relatives. An Orphans' Chamber is different from an orphanage [*weeshuis*]. The earliest records begin in the 1400s and usually begin 100 to 200 years before the parish registers. Often family surnames are listed in these records for persons who are only recorded with patronymics in the parish registers.

Orphans' Chambers were abolished in 1811, although it sometimes took an additional 40 years to settle all of the accounts.

Orphans were normally considered under age until they were 25 years old. Orphans' Chambers could be "excluded" from administering an estate by a will or notarized exclusion.

The records of Orphans' Chambers contain names and residences of parents and other relatives, names of children and their ages, guardians, wills, marriage contracts, estate inventories, and accounts. One guardian was usually from the father's side of the family and one from the mother's side.

For the most part, Orphans' Chambers only existed in the provinces of Noord-Holland, Zuid-Holland, and Zeeland and parts of Utrecht. In the other

provinces the function of overseeing inheritances of orphans was handled by the courts. See the “Court Records” section of this outline for more information.

Locating Guardianship Records

Orphans’ Chamber records are found in state, regional, and municipal archives in the Netherlands. Many of the records have been indexed.

Records at the Family History Library

The Family History Library has a large collection of guardianship records. Check the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] –
GUARDIANSHIP

Orphans’ Chamber records of Noord-Holland were often included with the regular court books. Therefore, also check the catalog under:

NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN]–
COURT RECORDS

HANDWRITING

Several guides exist to help you read old handwriting. The following books are available at the Family History Library:

Brouwer, H. *Geschreven Verleden: Genealogie en Oud Schrift* (The Written Past: Genealogy and Paleography). ‘s-Gravenzande: Europese Bibliotheek, 1963. (FHL book 949.2 G3b; computer number 346144.)

Gouw, J. L. van der. *Oud Schrift in Nederland: een Leerboek voor de Student* (Paleography in the Netherlands: A Student Handbook). 2nd ed. Alphen aan de Rijn: Canaletto, 1980. (FHL book Q 949.2 G3g; computer number 246826.)

Leverland, B. N. *Zo Schreven Onze Voorouders: Nederlands Schrift tussen 1450–1700* (So Wrote Our Ancestors: Dutch Handwriting Between 1450–1700). 2nd ed. ‘s-Gravenhage: Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie, 1984. (FHL book 949.2 G3L; computer number 441089.)

The following handbooks may be purchased from the Central Office for Genealogy. See the “Societies” section of this outline for the address.

Alkemade, W. R. C. *Oud Schrift, 1700–1825* (Old Handwriting, 1700–1825). Den Haag: Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie, 1995.

Bruggeman, T. M. and H. J. P. G. Kaajan. *Oud Schrift, 1600–1700* (Old Handwriting, 1600–1700). Den Haag: Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie, 1996.

Glopper-Zuiderland, C. C. de. *Oud Schrift, 1400–1600* (Old Handwriting, 1400–1600). Den Haag: Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie, 1997.

Some records from areas on the German border, and some Lutheran Church records, are written in German Gothic script. For help in using these records, see the “Handwriting” section in the *Germany Research Outline* (34061).

HERALDRY

Heraldry is the design, use, regulation, and recording of coats of arms [*wapens*]. Originally, coats of arms were granted to individuals, not families. However, sometimes the right to bear a coat of arms was inherited by the descendants of the person whom it was granted to.

Since 1581, when the Dutch people renounced Phillip II as their king, the Dutch have not had a monarch to grant coats of arms to deserving individuals. Coats of arms have been granted to Dutch nobles since 1815 by Royal Decree and registered by the High Court of Nobility. Since 1945 anyone may establish a coat of arms and have it registered with the Central Office for Genealogy, in ‘s-Gravenhage.

If one of your ancestors was a public official such as an alderman, sheriff, mayor, or notary there is a great chance that he used a seal of his family crest. Many of these can be found in the *Muschart Collection* (compiled by R. T. Muschart), available at the Central Office for Genealogy.

Various authors have prepared armorial, or heraldry, books. An armorial is a collection of descriptions of coats of arms and the families that bear them. It also briefly describes their entitlement to that coat of arms. It may note early bearers of the coat of arms and sometimes notes their relationships to one another, birth dates, and other genealogical information. Each armorial differs from the others and includes different names. Some minor noble families are not included in any books. The following sources are of particular interest in the Netherlands:

Rietstap, Johannes Baptist. *Armorial Général* (General Armory). 2 vol. Gouda: G. B. van Goor Zonen, 1887. Reprint. Berlin: J. S. Stargardt, 1934. Reprint. New York: Barnes

and Noble, 1965. (FHL book 940 D6r; films 1045393 items 2–4 and 1045394; computer number 261673.)

Vorsterman van Oyen, A. A. *Stam- en Wapenboek van Aanzienlijke Nederlandsche Familien met Genealogische en Heraldische Aanteekeningen* (Genealogical and Heraldic Book of Notable Families in the Netherlands). 3 vol. Groningen: J. B. Wolters, 1885–1890. (FHL book Q 949.2 D24o; films 1181546 and 1181547 item 1; computer number 321502.)

The Family History Library has collected many armorial and heraldry books. These are listed in the “Locality Search” section of the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS – HERALDRY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – HERALDRY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] –
HERALDRY

Sources with information about noble ancestors may also be listed under:

NETHERLANDS – NOBILITY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – NOBILITY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] –
NOBILITY

In addition, such families are often subjects of published genealogical books or articles. See the “Genealogy” and “Nobility” sections of this outline for more information.

HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY

Prior to 1543 the area now in the present provinces of the Netherlands consisted of the following jurisdictions:

1. The counties of Holland and Zeeland, with the islands of Vlieland and Terschelling, but excluding Zeeuws Flanders, which was part of the county of Flanders (Belgium)
2. The Bishopric of Utrecht, including Groningen City, Goorecht, and the present provinces of Overijssel and Drenthe
3. The Duchy of Gelre, including most of the present province of Limburg, except the southern part and the manors of Borculo, and Lechtenvoorden; some parishes in the eastern part of the county of Zutphen, which belonged to the Bishopric of Munster; and the enclave southeast of Arnhem, which was a part of Cleves

4. The Duchy of Brabant, including the southern part of the present province of Limburg
5. Friesland
6. Groningen, except Groningen City and Goorecht

These independent jurisdictions were united as states in 1543 under the reign of Charles V, emperor of Germany and king of Spain. In 1555, Charles V abdicated the throne, and his son, Philip II, became lord of the Netherlands states. Because of heavy taxation to support the wars with France, the centralization of the government, the restriction of ancient freedoms of the states, and the persecution of heretics (non-Catholics), rebellion developed into a war for independence. This war lasted 80 years.

The Dutch established their own central government from 1572 to 1588 by incorporating the liberated provinces, and from about 1588 to 1795 the area was known as the Republic of the Seven United Netherlands. It was a federation of states, each with a great deal of autonomous power. The following provinces were part of this union:

1. Holland, except Sommelsdijk, which belonged to Zeeland
2. Friesland
3. Zeeland, including Sommelsdijk and excluding most of Zeeuws Flanders
4. Gelderland
5. Utrecht
6. Groningen
7. Overijssel and Drenthe

Also included in this union were large parts of the present provinces of Noord-Brabant, Limburg, and Zeeuws Flanders, which were controlled directly by the central government (the States General). Further, the Republic at one time included all of the modern country of Belgium, the present-day departments of Nord and Pas-de-Calais in France, and the area of Ostfriesland in Germany.

Prior to about 1800 the smaller political units in each province or state were comprised of various types of manors [*heerlijkheden*], towns [*steden*], and liberties [*vrijheden*]. In the rural areas during the early Middle Ages there were high manors

[*hooge-heerlijkheden*] that owed their existence to the feudal estates (fiefs obtained from the dukes, counts, and bishops), which were controlled by their bailiffs [*baljuws*]. Titles to these manors became hereditary.

The manors [*schoutsheerlijkheden* or *ambtsheerlijkheden*] owed their existence to the land-lease registry offices of the dukes, counts, and bishops, which offices were controlled by bailiffs or sheriffs [*schouten*]. These manors also became hereditary and later became salable.

During the 13th century the towns and their liberties obtained their rights (charters) from the dukes, counts, or bishops. At first they were judicially controlled by the bailiffs and sheriffs, but soon they achieved independent jurisdiction. Some towns later bought one or more manors in their vicinity that contained several villages and hamlets.

During the 16th and 17th centuries, villages sometimes purchased their freedom by buying the manors in which they were located. In other instances the landholders in the villages, rather than the villages, bought the manorial rights.

During the French period, 1795 to 1813, the basis for the modern municipal boundaries was laid. These were created from the various town and manorial jurisdictions, following approximately the old manorial boundaries. Since that time the number of municipalities has decreased progressively because of annexations, especially by the larger towns.

Boundary changes took place in Gelderland from 1816 to 1820. Land was also exchanged at that time with Prussia and between Utrecht and the province of Holland.

The following books explain more about the Netherlands' historical geography. You can find these and similar materials at the Family History Library and many other research libraries.

The Columbia Lippincott Gazetteer of the World.
Morningside Heights, N.Y.: Columbia
University Press, 1962. (FHL book 910.3
C723g; computer number 260764.)

Dozy, G. J. *Historische Atlas ten Gebruike bij het Onderwijs in Algemeene en Vaderlandsche Geschiedenis* (Historical Atlas for Use in Teaching General and Dutch History). 2nd rev. ed. Zutphen: W. J. Thieme, 1902. (FHL book 949.2 E7d; film 1181864 item 1; computer number 229284.)

Smith, C. T. *An Historical Geography of Western Europe before 1880*. New York: Frederick A. Praeger, 1967. (FHL book 940 E3s; computer number 260787.)

Other sources containing information about boundary changes are found in the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS – HISTORICAL
GEOGRAPHY

NETHERLANDS – HISTORY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] –
HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY

NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – HISTORY

The historical atlases described in the “Maps” section of this outline contain maps depicting boundary changes, migration and settlement patterns, military actions, and ethnic and religious population distribution. Gazetteers and histories are also helpful sources of information about name and boundary changes. See the “Gazetteers” section of this outline for more information.

HISTORY

Effective family research requires some understanding of the historical events that may have affected your family and the records about them. Learning about wars, governments, laws, migrations, and religious trends may help you understand political boundaries, family movements, and settlement patterns. These events may have led to the creation of records such as land and military documents that mention your family.

Your ancestors will become more interesting to you if you also use histories to learn about the events they may have participated in. For example, by using a history you might learn about the events that occurred in the year your great-grandparents were married.

During the 15th century the Netherlands had a population of nearly 750,000 people, most of whom made their living by farming or fishing. Only about 7 percent of the people lived in towns. By the 17th century the picture had changed completely. The country had a population of about two million, with about 45 percent residing in the towns. In the provinces bordering the seacoast, many people were employed in industry and the trades while the people of the inland provinces were engaged primarily in agriculture.

In the 18th century there was a definite decline in the trades and industry. This, in turn, caused high unemployment, and public assistance became a

burden. Town governments sought to combat the problem through various statutes aimed at curtailing the movement of the poor.

Below are some key dates and events in the history of the Netherlands.

- 1576 The provinces of Holland and Zeeland were unified. The 17 provinces of the Netherlands (north and south) were also unified into what was called the Pacification of Ghent.
- 1579 The southern provinces broke with the Pacification of Ghent; the northern provinces formed the Union of Utrecht.
- 1588 Republic of the Seven United Netherlands was founded.
- 1648 The Peace of Munster ended the 80-year war for independence. The Dutch Republic was officially recognized as a nation.
- 1685 Edict of Nantes (a decree issued by Henry IV of France in 1598 that gave political equality to the Huguenots) was revoked. Consequently, there was a heavy influx of Huguenots into the Netherlands (by 1686 there were 75,000), resulting in the founding of many French Reformed Church congregations.
- 1795 The Republic of the Seven United Netherlands was overthrown, and the Batavian Republic, patterned after the French republic, was established. Zeeuws Flanders, Flanders, and Dutch areas in Limburg were annexed to France.
- 1805 The Batavian Republic was dissolved, and the Kingdom of Holland was established, with Louis Bonaparte, brother of Napoleon, as king.
- 1810 The Kingdom of Holland was dissolved, and the territory was annexed to the French Empire.
- 1814 French troops left the country. Prince Willem VI of Orange–Nassau became King Willem I, and a new constitution was adopted.
- 1815 The former Southern (or Austrian) Netherlands became part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.
- 1831 The people of the former Southern Netherlands rebelled and set up their own

government. This was the beginning of the Kingdom of Belgium.

- 1839 Belgium was recognized as an independent nation, and border disputes were resolved. Limburg became a province of the Netherlands.
- 1840 The province of Noord–Holland was created by a division of the province of Holland. The remaining part of the province of Holland later came to be known as Zuid–Holland.

The Family History Library has many published national, regional, provincial, and local histories for the Netherlands. You can find histories in the Family History Library Catalog under one of the following:

EUROPE – HISTORY
NETHERLANDS – HISTORY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] –
HISTORY NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE],
[TOWN] – HISTORY

The following are only a few of the many historical sources that are available. Books with film numbers can be ordered through local Family History Centers. Some may be found in major research libraries.

Grattan, Thomas. *Holland: The History of the Netherlands*. New York: Peter Fenelon Collier, 1899. (FHL film 1181862 item 5; computer number 355947.)

Historical Background Affecting Genealogical Research in the Netherlands. Salt Lake City, Utah: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1977. (FHL book 929.1 G286gs ser. C no. 32; fiche 6001722; computer number 723335.) This work emphasizes religious minorities and emigration.

Kurian, George Thomas. *The Benelux Countries*. New York: [s.n.], 1989. (FHL book 949.3 H2k; computer number 557579.)

Calendar Changes

The Gregorian calendar is the calendar commonly used in the world today. It is a correction of the Julian calendar, which had been in use since A.D. 46. Leap years had been miscalculated in the Julian calendar, so by 1582 the calendar was 10 days behind the solar year.

Brabant, Zeeland, and lands belonging to the States General (mostly Limburg) adopted the Gregorian calendar on 14 December 1582. The days 15 December through 24 December 1582 were dropped to correct the calendar error. Holland adopted the calendar on 1 January 1583 (omitting 2 January through 11 January).

The last areas adopted the Gregorian calendar in 1700 and 1701. In the province of Gelderland the Gregorian calendar was adopted 30 June 1700 (omitting 1 July through 11 July 1700), in Utrecht and Overijssel on 30 November 1700 (omitting 1 December through 11 December 1700), in Friesland and Groningen on 31 December 1700 (omitting 1 January through 11 January 1701), and in Drenthe on 30 April 1701 (omitting 1 May through 11 May 1701).

Double Dating. When an area changed from Julian to Gregorian calendars, the first day of the year changed to 1 January. Before the change the first day of the year was 25 March. Pre-change dates may be confusing. For example, *before* the change, 24 March 1565 was followed by 25 March 1566. Many researchers record dates between 1 January and 24 March with two years, using a technique called double dating. An example of a pre-change date using double dating is 16 February 1573/1574.

Alternative Month Names. Sometimes you will find these old Dutch names for the months of the year:

Louwmaand	January
Sprockelmaand	February
Lentemaand	March
Grasmaand	April
Bloeimaand	May
Zomermaand	June
Hooimaand	July
Oogstmaand	August
Herfstmaand	September
Wijnmaand	October
Slachtmaand	November
Wintermaand	December

French Republican Calendar. During 1793 to 1805, when the French Empire under Napoleon controlled parts of the Netherlands, another calendar was introduced. This calendar was based on the founding of the French Republic, and it used a system of months unrelated to the regular calendar. See the library publication *French Republican Calendar Research Outline* (34046) for more information.

JEWISH RECORDS

Jewish records [*joodse dokumenten*] include records about Jews or those created by Jewish congregations. The Family History Library has thousands of microfilms concerning Dutch Jews. Civil registration of births, marriages, and deaths, as well as census and population registers in the 19th and 20th centuries, include Jews since these records cover the entire population. Jewish people are found in tax records, and many (but not all) Jewish marriages will be included in the civil marriage records before 1811. In addition, there are records of name adoptions, many specific to Jewish people.

The Family History Library also has other types of Jewish records, including synagogue records, records of Holocaust victims, and cemetery records.

General Historical Background

German Jews (also called Ashkenazic Jews) moved to the rural areas of Groningen province in the 1570s. By 1672, German Jewish communities had been established in Rotterdam, Amersfoort, Leeuwarden, and Amsterdam. A community of Portuguese Jews (also called Sephardic Jews) began at Amsterdam in the late 1590s. One hundred years later Portuguese Jews were also found in the towns of Middelburg, Rotterdam, Naarden, Maarssen, Nijkerk, and 's-Gravenhage. Jews were not allowed to settle in many places until after 1700. Only German Jews moved into the country after 1700.

The national government was replaced in 1795 by the Batavian Republic. This new government gave Jews full rights of citizenship. In 1809 only 2 percent of the country was of the Jewish religion, and 40 percent of them lived in Amsterdam. A useful book for Amsterdam Jews is:

Verdooner, Dave and Harmen Snel. *Trouwen in Mokum* (Jewish Marriage in Amsterdam, 1598–1811). 2 vol. 's-Gravenhage: Warray, [1991?]. (FHL book 949.234/A2 F22v; computer number 651950.)

Understanding the history of the Jewish people in the Netherlands can help you in your research. The following are useful reference books:

Gans, Mozes Heiman. *Memorbook: History of Dutch Jewry from the Renaissance to 1940*. Baarn: Bosch & Keuning, 1977. (FHL book 949.2 F2g; computer number 106761.)

Geschiedenis van de Joden in Nederland (History of the Jews in the Netherlands). Amsterdam:

Uitgeverij Balans, 1995. (FHL book 949.2 F2gv; computer number 813955.)

Information Recorded in Synagogue Records

Synagogue records may include the following:

- *Circumcision registers* (“*Mohel*” books). These registers include the Hebrew given name for the male child, his date of circumcision (Hebrew calendar), the father’s given Hebrew name, and sometimes the father’s surname.
- *Marriage contracts*. These contractual agreements include the names of the bride and groom. They may also give the marriage date and the parents’ names. In cases of second or later marriages, names of previous spouses and their death dates may be included.
- *Lists of deceased persons*. These lists give the name of the deceased person and the death date.

Other Records

Taxes were collected on all marriages and burials for the provinces of Noord-Holland and Zuid-Holland from 1695 to 1805. A tax on burials was collected for the entire country from 1806 to 1811. These records contain entries for all religions, including Jews. See the “Taxation” section of this outline for more information.

Locating Jewish Records

Genealogical Societies. The society Nederlandse Kring voor Joodse Genealogie (Dutch Circle for Jewish Genealogy) has published many transcriptions of records relating to Dutch Jews. It also publishes a quarterly called *Misjpoge* (Family). Its address is:

Nederlandse Kring voor Joodse Genealogie
Abbringstraat 1
1447 PA Purmerend
The Netherlands

Telephone: 0299-644498
Internet: www.nljewgen.org

Holocaust Records. Most of the Jews in the Netherlands were killed during the atrocities of World War II. Following is a list of people who died in the Holocaust, their birth and death dates, their places of residence before deportation, and the camps they were sent to:

Nederland. Ministerie van Justitie. *Lijst van Nederlandse Joden, Gevangenen, en Vermiste Personen die Gestorven zijn in Concentratie Kampen Gedurende de Tweede Wereld Oorlog: Bijvoegsel tot de Nederlandse Staatscourant* (List of Dutch Jews, Prisoners and Missing Persons Who Died in Concentration Camps during World War II). 3 vol. 's-Gravenhage: Staatsdrukkerij en Uitgeverijbedrijf, 1949–1962. (FHL book Q 949.2 V23n; on 3 FHL films; computer number 321474.)

Family History Library Records. To determine whether the Family History Library has Jewish records for the locality your ancestor came from, look in the “Locality Search” section of the catalog under each of the following:

NETHERLANDS – JEWISH RECORDS
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – JEWISH RECORDS
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] – JEWISH RECORDS

Information about Jews may also be found in the “Locality Search” section under:

NETHERLANDS – JEWISH HISTORY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – JEWISH HISTORY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] – JEWISH HISTORY
NETHERLANDS – MINORITIES
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – MINORITIES
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] – MINORITIES

Additional information may be found in the “Subject Search” section under:

JEWS – NETHERLANDS

LAND AND PROPERTY

Land records can help you learn where an individual lived in a specific place and when he or she lived there. They can also help you establish patronymic family ties. Often the records will name entire family groups, since in many parts of the country each child (or grandchild) had an inherited right to the land or house.

Transfers of land [*akten van verkoop* or *transporten van onroerend goed*] from one party to another is the most common type of land record. Mortgages [*hypotheeken*] are also found. Land transfers and mortgages may be recorded in separate books but are frequently found with other

kinds of court records in the grouping known as voluntary jurisdiction.

Mortgages for Friesland are recorded separately and have been filmed in their entirety by the Family History Library. The records are indexed and found in the Family History Library Catalog on the district [*grietenij*] level.

Feudal land records [*leenregisters*] describe the use of land, houses, fishing waters, or other property granted to someone in return for a yearly payment, military duty, or sworn fealty. The entitlement was usually hereditary, and one can often trace several generations of ancestors. The records cover 1400 to 1796.

Locating Land and Property Records

Land transfer and mortgage records are housed in state, regional, and municipal archives. Feudal land records are found in government and church archives and also manor and castle archives. Feudal records of Gelderland and Overijssel are indexed, and those of South Holland are being published in the genealogical journal *Ons Voorgeslacht* (Our Ancestry).

Family History Library Records. Copies of many land records have been acquired by the Family History Library. To determine whether the library has land records for the locality your ancestor came from, look in the “Locality Search” section of the catalog under each of the following:

NETHERLANDS – LAND AND PROPERTY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] –
LAND AND PROPERTY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] –
LAND AND PROPERTY

Land records are also included in court and notarial records. For more information, see the “Court Records” and “Notarial Records” sections of this outline.

LANGUAGE AND LANGUAGES

Most materials used in Dutch research are written in Dutch, but you do not need to speak or read Dutch to do research in records of the Netherlands. However, you will need to know some key words and phrases to understand the records.

Because of the presence of several different religions, including Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Walloon (French Reformed) and Portuguese Jewish, you will find several other languages in

Dutch records. These include Latin, German, French, and Portuguese.

Dutch grammar and customs may affect the way names appear in genealogical records. For example, your ancestor’s name may vary between records in Dutch. For help in understanding name variations, see the “Names, Personal” section of this outline.

Language Aids

The Family History Library has genealogical word lists for Dutch, French, German, Latin, and Portuguese. The Dutch list is found in the “Author/Title Search” section of the Family History Library Catalog under:

Dutch: Genealogical Word List. Salt Lake City: Family History Library, 1989. (FHL book 929.1 F21wL LANG–DUT no. 1; fiche 6068526; computer number 708014.)

The Family History Library’s separate *Germany Research Outline* (34061) includes an example of the German (Gothic) alphabet in print and handwriting.

The following books and English–Dutch dictionaries can also aid your research. You can find these and similar material at many research libraries.

Cassell’s English–Dutch Dutch–English Dictionary. 36th ed. New York: Macmillan, 1981. (FHL book 439.31321 Ca272; computer number 150662.)

Stierp–Impink, A. C. *Practisijns Woordenboekje, of Verzameling van Meest alle de Woorden in de Rechtskunde Gebruikelijk* (Lawyer’s Dictionary, or List of Most Words Used in Legal Documents). Alkmaar: A. C. Stierp–Impink, 1985. (FHL book 949.2 P26s; computer 478633.) This legal dictionary, originally created in 1785, identifies words found in court, land, notarial, and guardianship records.

Verdam, J. ***Middelnederlandsch Handwoordenboek*** (Middle Dutch Dictionary). ’s-Gravenhage: Martinus Nijhoff, 1964. (FHL book 439.317 V582m; film 1045404 item 2; computer number 258844.) This dictionary will help with most archaic words found in documents before 1811.

Additional language aids, including dictionaries of various dialects and time periods, are listed in the “Locality Search” section of the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS – LANGUAGE AND
LANGUAGES
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – LANGUAGE
AND LANGUAGES

or in the “Subject Search” section under:

DUTCH LANGUAGE – DICTIONARIES

MAPS

Maps are an important source to locate the places where your ancestor lived. They help you see the neighboring towns and geographic features of the area your ancestor came from.

Maps locate towns, churches, geographical features, transportation routes, and proximities from town to town. Historical maps are especially useful for understanding boundary changes.

Maps are published individually or as an atlas. An atlas is a bound collection of maps. Maps may also be included in gazetteers, guidebooks, local histories, and history texts.

Different types of maps will help you in different ways. Historical atlases describe the growth and development of countries. They show boundaries, migration routes, settlement patterns, military campaigns, and other historical information. Road atlases provide details of highways, rivers, and town sizes. Street maps are extremely helpful when researching in large cities such as Amsterdam.

Using Maps

Maps must be used carefully for several reasons:

- Often several places have the same name. For example, there are currently 25 places called De Hoek in the Netherlands.
- The spelling and even names of some towns may have changed since your ancestor lived there. For example, Nieuwer-Amstel became Amstelveen in 1964.
- Place names are often misspelled in English-language sources. Difficult names may have been shortened and important diacritic marks omitted. For example, ’s-Gravenhage may be found as The Hague on some maps.
- Political boundaries are not clearly indicated on all maps.

Finding the Specific Town on the Map

To do successful research in the Netherlands, you must identify the town where your ancestor lived. Because many towns have the same name, you may need some additional information before you can locate the correct town on a map. You will be more successful if you have some information about the town. Before using a map, search gazetteers, histories, family records, and other sources to learn all you can about the following:

- The province your ancestor’s town was in
- The name of the town where your ancestor was baptized or married
- Towns where related ancestors lived
- The size of the town
- The occupation of your ancestor or his or her relatives (this may indicate the size or industries of the town) and nearby localities such as large cities
- Nearby features such as rivers and mountains
- Dates when the town was renamed
- Dates the town existed
- Other names the town was known by

Use gazetteers to identify the province your ancestor’s town was in. This will distinguish it from other towns of the same name and help you locate it on a map. See the “Gazetteers” section of this outline for more information.

Finding Maps and Atlases

Collections of maps and atlases are available at numerous historical societies and at public and university libraries.

The Family History Library has an excellent collection of atlases from the Netherlands. These are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS – MAPS

Helpful atlases at the Family History Library are:

Grote Topografische Atlas van Nederland (Large Topographical Atlas of the Netherlands). 4 vol. Groningen: Wolters-Noordhoff Atlasproducties, c1987. (FHL book Ref 949.2 E7w; computer number 425222.)

Kuyper, J. *Gemeente-atlas van Nederland: naar Officieele Bronnen Bewerkt* (Atlas of Municipal Jurisdictions of the Netherlands). 11 vol. Leeuwarden: Hugo Suringar, [186-?]. (FHL book Register Table 949.2 E3k; film 1181567; computer number 66161.)

See also the “Gazetteer” and “Historical Geography” sections of this outline.

You can purchase maps of the Netherlands from the following web site:

www.omnimap.com/catalog/int/nethlnds.htm

MILITARY RECORDS

Military records identify individuals who served in the military or who were eligible to serve. Young men after 1811 were required to serve in or register for military service in the Netherlands. Evidence that an ancestor actually served may be found in family records, biographies, photographs, censuses, population registers, civil registrations, and church records.

Types of Military Records

Military records begin about 1700 and give information about an ancestor’s military career, such as promotions, places served, pensions, and conduct. In addition, many of these records include information about his birth date and place, residence, occupation, physical description, and parents’ names.

The records you will find include:

- Muster rolls [*monsterrollen*].
- Conduct lists [*conduitelijsten*].
- Service records (personnel files) [*stamboeken*].
- Conscription lists [*conscriptielijsten*].
- Militia records [*militieregisters*].
- Draft records [*lotingsregisters*].
- Lists of officers [*officierslijsten*].

Records of military service in the Netherlands were kept by separate regiments of the army, navy, and militia and also by the municipal governments.

There are three main divisions of military records:

Army [Landmacht]

Officers [Officiëren], 1579–1795. Index to records mostly housed in the General State Archives. On FHL film 937950.

Military personnel [Manschappen], 1700–1795. Service records, conduct rolls, rank and recruiting lists. On 38 FHL films.

Officers, noncommissioned officers, and other personnel [Officiëren, onderofficiëren en minderen], 1795–1813. Index to service records on FHL films 486959 to 486961. Original records are at the General State Archives.

French military service [Franse krijgsdienst], 1795–1815. Conscription lists and service records for areas annexed by France. Records of those who died in French military service. Contain name, birth date and place, parents’ names, and marital status. On 6 FHL films.

Officers [Officiëren], 1813–1924. Service records on 89 FHL films. The records are indexed in:

Hendrikx, C. H. M. *Klapper op de Stamboeken van Officiëren van de Landmacht, 1813–1924* (Index to the Army Service Records of Officers, 1813–1924). 2 vol. ’s-Gravenhage: Algemeen Rijksarchief, 1967. (FHL book 949.2 M22h; fiche 6001522; computer number 129308.)

Noncommissioned officers and other personnel [Onderofficiëren en minderen], 1813–1924. Service records on 1,502 FHL films. To use this group of records, you will have to determine the specific regiment or division your ancestor served in. You can locate this in:

- The certificate from the National Militia included with the marriage supplements until 1912 (see the “Civil Registration” section of this outline).
- The militia registers or draft registers of the town where your ancestor was living (see the “National Militia” section below).
- The following book, which lists the places where regiments and divisions were stationed:

Ringoir, H. *Vredesgarnizoenen van 1715 tot 1795 en 1815 tot 1940* (Peacetime Garrisons, 1715–1795 and 1815–1940). ’s-Gravenhage: [Koninklijke Landmacht. Sectie Militaire Geschiedenis], 1980. (FHL book 949.2 M25r no. 8; computer number 212355.)

For records after 1924, contact the Ministry of Defense at the following address:

Ministerie van Defensie
Bureau Registratie en Informatie Ontslagen
Personeel
Kosterbeemden 45
Postbus 7000
6460 NC Kerkrade
The Netherlands

Navy [Marine]

Officers [Officieren]. Indexes are at the Central Office for Genealogy. Service records are at the General State Archives.

Sailors [Schepelingen], 1814–1906. Indexes and service records for 1839 to 1880 on FHL films 487373 to 487399. Indexes and records for 1814 to 1829 and 1904 to 1906 are available at the General State Archives.

Marines [Mariniers], 1814–1888. Indexes and service records on FHL films 487372 and 487400 to 487407.

National Militia [Nationale Militie]

The national militia was organized in 1816, generating militia registers and conscription lists. Young men were registered during their 18th year of age in the municipality they lived in. They began serving in their 20th year, either by volunteering or by being drafted. Some were exempt from serving, including those with bodily impairments and those who had a brother already serving. Until 1898, drafted men were allowed to find a replacement to serve for them.

Militia records give a person's name, birth date and place, parents' names, and marital status. They can be arranged by municipality or by district [*canton* or *arrondissement*]. Not all of the records still exist. Where preserved, they are usually kept in the municipal archives or by the municipal secretary; some are at the state archives. Records from the provinces of Friesland, Gelderland, Groningen, and Limburg have been filmed by the Family History Library.

Military Marriages

H. J. Wolters extracted marriages of soldiers from church and civil records for 1648 to 1811. His compilations cover the provinces of Drenthe, Friesland, Groningen, Overijssel, Zeeland, and Zuid-Holland and many large towns. Each compilation is indexed by name of bridegroom,

bride, former spouse (if applicable), and the commanding officer of the regiment that the groom belonged to. The records are available at the Central Office for Genealogy and have been filmed by the Family History Library.

During the war against the Spanish, many British troops were stationed in the Netherlands. The majority of these came from Scotland. The following book lists the marriages of Scottish (and Irish and English) soldiers:

MacLean, J. *De Huwelijksintekeningen van Schotse Militairen in Nederland, 1574–1665* (Marriages of Scottish Military Personnel in the Netherlands, 1574–1665). Zutphen: De Walburg Pers, 1976. (FHL book 949.2 M2m; film 1604579 item 34; computer number 215642.)

Dutch East India Company

Many soldiers were employed by the Dutch East India Company [*Oost-Indische Compagnie*]. Useful records are available at the General State Archives. These include:

Muster rolls [Monsterrollen], 1691–1791. The muster rolls contain names of all persons hired by the company on a year-by-year basis. The records also contain soldiers' names, stations assigned, ranks or occupations, monthly wages, birthplaces, years of arrival, and ships. There are records for Amsterdam and Zeeland Chambers.

Ship's logs or ship's payment logs [Scheepsboeken of scheepssoldijboeken], 1700–1795. Records exist for Amsterdam, Zeeland, Delft, Rotterdam, Hoorn, and Enkhuizen Chambers. Yearly indexes are included. The indexes will help you learn which year your ancestor was a soldier, thus enabling you to use the muster rolls described above.

Records at the Family History Library

The Family History Library has copies of many military records, primarily for 1795 to 1924. See the "Locality Search" section of the catalog under:

NETHERLANDS – MILITARY RECORDS
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – MILITARY RECORDS
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] – MILITARY RECORDS

Military History

The Dutch were involved in, among others, these military actions:

- 1568– *Eighty Years' War*. The Netherlands
1648 fought for its freedom from Spain.
- 1652– *Dutch–English War*. The Netherlands
1667 fought two wars with England.
- 1672– *Dutch–Franco–English War*. The
1678 Netherlands warred with France and
England.
- 1805– *Napoleonic Wars*. When the Netherlands
1815 was annexed to the French Empire in 1810,
a compulsory conscription plan was
introduced, under which all males 20 to 25
years of age were registered. Within a few
years, 170,000 men served. Of the 15,000
who participated in the invasion of Russia
in 1812, only a few survived.
- 1914– *World War I*. The Netherlands remained
1918 neutral.
- 1939– *World War II*. Germany occupied the
1945 Netherlands. Many records of Zeeland
were destroyed.

For more historical information about the
Netherlands military campaigns, see:

Dupuy, R. Ernest and Trevor N. Dupuy. *The
Encyclopedia of Military History: from 3500
B.C. to the Present*. Rev. ed. London: Jane's
Publishing, 1980. (FHL book 355.033 D929e
1980; computer number 115474.)

Additional military histories are listed in the Family
History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS – MILITARY HISTORY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE]– MILITARY
HISTORY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] –
MILITARY HISTORY

MINORITIES

Many minorities, including Germans, Huguenots,
Jews, Mennonites, and Scots, have settled in the
Netherlands. It is important to learn the history of
the ethnic, racial, and religious groups your
ancestor belonged to. For example, you might study
a history of the Jews in the Netherlands, Germans
in the Netherlands, or Mennonites in
Noord-Holland. This historical background can
help you identify where your ancestors lived and
when they lived there, where they migrated, the
types of records they might be listed in, and other

information that will help you understand your
family's history.

There are some unique records and resources
available for most minorities in the Netherlands.
These include histories, gazetteers, biographical
sources, records of settlement patterns, and
handbooks.

The Family History Library collects records of
these groups, especially published histories. These
are listed in the "Locality Search" section of the
Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS – MINORITIES
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – MINORITIES
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] –
MINORITIES

Other sources are also in the "Subject Search"
section of the Family History Library Catalog
under the name of the minority such as Jews or
Mennonites. These are listed under:

[MINORITY] – NETHERLANDS

Examples of these books are:

Blaupot ten Cate, S. *Geschiedenis der
Doopsgezinden in Holland, Zeeland, Utrecht en
Gelderland: van Dezelve Ontstaan tot op deze
Tijd, uit Oorsponkelijke Stukken en Echte
Berigten Opgemaakt* (History of the Mennonites
in Holland, Zeeland, Utrecht and Gelderland). 2
vols. Amsterdam: P. N. van Kampen, 1948.
(FHL film 1181871 items 3–4; computer number
360121.)

Michman, Jozeph, Hartog Beem and Dan Michman.
*Pinkas Geschiedenis van de Joodse
Gemeenschap in Nederland*. (History of the
Jewish Community in the Netherlands). Ede:
Kluwer Algemene Boeken, 1992. (FHL book
949.2 F2m; computer number 712251.)

The Family History Library also has several books
about the Dutch in other countries. These are listed
in the "Subject Search" section of the catalog
under:

DUTCH – [COUNTRY or STATE]

For a fuller account of Jews, see the "Jewish
Records" section of this outline.

NAMES, GEOGRAPHICAL

Knowing about farm names can be important
because in some regions, principally Eastern

Gelderland and Overijssel, people used the name of the farm as their surname. They changed their name to the name of the new farm when they moved.

A book that discusses farm names is:

Wijk, Vincentius van. *Boerderijnamen: over hun Oorsprong, Geschiedenis en Betekenis* (Farm Names: Their Origin, History and Meaning). Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1948. (FHL book 949.2 H2w; film 1183590 item 8; computer number 352859.)

This source is listed in the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS – NAMES, GEOGRAPHICAL

Other books that give details about place names are listed in the catalog under:

NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – NAMES, GEOGRAPHICAL
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] – NAMES, GEOGRAPHICAL

NAMES, PERSONAL

Understanding Dutch surnames and given names can help you find and identify your ancestor in the records.

Surnames

Before record keeping began, most people had only one name such as John. As the population increased it became necessary to distinguish between individuals with the same name. The problem was usually solved by adding descriptive information. John became John the smith, John the son of Matthew, John the short, or John from Maurik. At first, “surnames” applied only to one person, not to the whole family. After a few generations these names became hereditary and were passed on from generation to generation.

Surnames developed from four major sources:

- *Patronymic*, based on a parent’s name, such as Aarjen Hendrickszoon (son of Hendrick).
- *Occupational*, based on the person’s trade, such as Bernardus Schoenmaker (shoemaker).
- *Descriptive or nickname*, based on a unique quality of the person, such as Gerrit Zwarthoof (black head).

- *Geographical*, based on a person’s residence, such as Johannes van der Velde (from the field).

Surnames were first used by the nobility and wealthy land owners. Later the custom was followed by merchants and townspeople and eventually by the rural population. This process took two or three centuries. For the most part the practice was well established in the Netherlands by the 1700s.

In the provinces of Friesland and Groningen and in part of the Betuwe region of Gelderland it was customary to take a mother’s surname or a mother’s mother’s surname instead of a father’s. Foreign surnames were often translated. Most ministers had their surnames Latinized.

Patronymics. The use of patronymic names was prevalent in the provinces of Drenthe, Friesland, Gelderland, Groningen, and Overijssel before 1811. It was also common in the other provinces, especially before 1700. Patronymic names changed with each generation. For example, Jan Pieters was the son of a man named Pieter. If Jan had a son Cornelis, the son was known as Cornelis Jans (son of Jan). The use of patronymics continued until decrees were passed that required persons to adopt permanent hereditary family names. People were often reluctant to comply, so several decrees were needed. These decrees were passed in 1811, 1813, and again in 1825.

This requirement produced the name adoption registers [*naamsaannemingregisters*] that cover the time period of 1811 to 1813 and 1825 to 1826. Many of the records no longer exist. A listing of those that do is found in the journal *Gens Nostra* volume 28 (1973), pages 346 to 347, and volume 29 (1974), page 76 (FHL book 949.2 D25g; computer number 245440).

The name adoption registers contain the name of the family head (usually the father); his or her village of residence; the new surname that his or her descendants would be known by; and children’s names, ages, and residences (if different from parent’s). Sometimes the registers contain the person’s age and grandchildren’s names and ages. Occasionally, birth dates and places of all these people are recorded.

The original records are at the state or municipal archives. Some are on film at the Family History Library. In addition, many of the records have been published. Check the catalog under:

NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] –
NAMES, PERSONAL

NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] – NAMES, PERSONAL

Jewish Naming Customs. Before the 1800s the use of a family name by Jews was left to the discretion of the individual. Jews in the Netherlands followed the custom of using only a given name and the name of the father, such as Isaac, son of Abraham. Most Jews did not adopt hereditary family names until required to do so by law. In 1808 Napoleon issued a decree for all the Jews of his empire, including the province of Limburg, to adopt surnames. Compulsory surname laws were enacted in the other provinces in 1811, 1813, and again in 1825. The records resulting from these decrees are called name adoption registers. The Jewish surnames from these registers have been extracted and published in:

Nederlands Joods Familiearchief (Dutch Jewish Family Archive). 3 vol. Amsterdam: Scheltema en Holkema, 1967. (FHL book 949.2 D4nj; computer number 3371534.)

See also the discussion of name adoption registers above.

Given Names

Dutch given names are usually derived from Biblical names such as Abraham, the names of saints such as Maria (Mary), or Old Dutch names such as Gerhard.

In the Netherlands a particular naming pattern was very common until about 1950. The following pattern may be helpful in researching family groups and determining the parents of the mother and father:

- The first male child was named for the father's father.
- The second boy was named for the mother's father.
- The first female child was named for the mother's mother.
- The second girl was named for the father's mother.
- Additional children were often named for the parent's brothers and sisters and for the parents themselves.

There were regional differences to this pattern, such as naming the oldest boy after the mother's father and the oldest girl after the father's mother or

naming the oldest boy after the maternal grandfather.

If an older child died young, the parents frequently reused the deceased child's name on the next born child of the same gender.

Names in Foreign Languages

Genealogical records of the Netherlands may be in various languages: Dutch, Latin, or French. Your ancestor's name could be in Latin in his or her birth record, in French in his or her marriage record, and in Dutch in his or her death record. Given names are often very different when translated into different languages, as the following names show:

Dutch	Latin	French
Elisabeth	Elisabetha	Isabelle
Jan	Joannes	Jean
Willem	Guilielmus	Guillaume
Jacob	Jacobus	Jacques

Given names are translated into 23 different European languages, including English, in this book:

Janowowa, Wanda, et al. *Słownik Imion* (Dictionary of Names). Wrocław: Ossoliński, 1975. (FHL book Ref 940 D4sj; film 1181578 item 2; fiche 6000839; computer number 26595.)

Variations on Given Names

Many given names have variants and dialectical forms. Maria, for example, can appear as Marie, Marretje, Mieke, Mietje, Merchje, Maek, or even Rita and Rieke. Many books are available that give variant forms of given names. There are also many books that discuss Dutch names and their meanings. Some indicate the cities or regions where some surnames are most common. One such source is:

Schaar, J. van der. *Woordenboek van Voornamen: Inventarisatie van de Doop- en Roepnamen met hun Etymologie* (Dictionary of Dutch Given Names: Inventory of Baptismal Names and Nicknames with Their Etymology). Utrecht: Het Spectrum, 1970. (FHL book 949.2 D4s; computer number 53815.)

Additional books are listed in the "Locality Search" section of the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS – NAMES, PERSONAL
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – NAMES,
PERSONAL

Name Changes

The way a name was written in the civil registration records is how it came to be spelled, even though first written incorrectly. A mistake in the civil registration records can be corrected by a judgment from the district court. Name changes are only allowed by the king or queen.

NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP

In the Netherlands, citizenship was a valuable privilege that included:

- Rights to engage in business in a town.
- Protection under the law.
- Permission to reside in a town without being expelled.

Naturalization is the process of granting citizenship privileges and responsibilities to residents. Citizenship was usually extended by individual towns to certain of their inhabitants and did not pertain to the country as a whole. National citizenship was rare until the formation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in 1815.

Those who received the rights to citizenship were recorded in citizenship books [*burgerboeken* or *poorterboeken*]. Although some Dutch citizenship books date from medieval times, most are for later centuries. They include information about the citizen, including name, former residence, occupation and training, number of family members, name of witnesses or sureties, and sometimes birthplaces and relationships. Only males of the middle or upper classes, usually merchants and craftsmen, were granted citizenship.

Citizenship was granted in one of three ways:

- By legitimate birth to a burger
- By marrying the daughter of a burger
- By paying a fixed sum of money, usually after residing in the town for a year and a day

Genealogical use of citizenship books is usually limited to the time period before church records are available. They may also be used to trace migrations not found in other records. The Family History Library has obtained copies of some citizenship books for the Netherlands. These are usually listed under the specific town in the Family History Library Catalog, such as:

NETHERLANDS, GELDERLAND, ARNHEM – NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP

The original citizenship books are usually kept by the town (now municipality) and may be found in municipal archives or municipal halls.

Naturalization records in the United States may be an excellent source for determining the specific town or city where your ancestor was born (especially records after 1906). See the “Naturalization and Citizenship” section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972).

NOBILITY

The nobility is a class of people who had special political and social status. Members of this class had titles such as Baron [*Baron*], Duke [*Hertog*], Count [*Graaf*], and Knight (Sir) [*Ridder*]. Noble status was usually inherited. It originated with people who had power, influence, and land in ancient times or who received a grant of nobility from a king.

Most family traditions of a noble ancestor turn out, on investigation, to have little foundation in fact. Most members of the noble class did not emigrate to the United States. In addition, contrary to prevailing opinion, it was *not* customary to disown members of noble families for unacceptable behavior. Thus, traditions of an ancestor being “erased” or eliminated from “all records” are unfounded. Illegitimate children, while not entitled to noble status, were often recorded (although the father may not have been named) and can be found in the records.

The noble class formed only a small percentage of the population of the Netherlands, and the growth of the noble class was limited. Laws specified which children of the nobility inherited their parents’ status.

Although some original records such as grants of nobility still exist, you can adequately accomplish most nobility research by using compiled sources. These include published or manuscript genealogies of noble families. The noble class has been anxious to preserve its identity. This has led to the publication of most noble lines of the Netherlands. If your ancestor was of the noble class, the following books may help you in your research:

Hoge Raad van Adel (Nederland). *De Nederlandse Adel: Besluiten en Wapenbeschrijvingen* (The Dutch Nobility: Royal Grants and Description of Coats-of-Arms). 's-Gravenhage: SDU, 1989. (FHL book 949.2 D5h; computer number

581105.) This book was prepared by the High Court of Nobility.

Nederland's Adelsboek (The Netherlands' Nobility Book). 86 vol. 's-Gravenhage: W. P. van Stockum & Zoon, 1903–1997. (FHL book 949.2 D55na; some volumes on film; computer number 15775.) This periodical contains genealogies of Dutch royalty and nobility.

See also the “Heraldry” and “Genealogy” sections of this outline. The Family History Library has collected many records of noble families. These records are listed in the “Locality Search” section of the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS – NOBILITY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – NOBILITY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] – NOBILITY

NOTARIAL RECORDS

Notarial records [*notariële akten*] are records prepared by a notary public [*notaris*]. Notary publics were quasigovernment officials who received their appointment by the provincial court upon recommendation of the officials of the town where they planned on practicing. The notarial system is based on Roman law and was established in the Netherlands by Charles V in the 1500s. With a few exceptions, there were no notaries in the provinces of Drenthe, Friesland, Gelderland, Groningen, Limburg (some parts), and Overijssel. Notaries became government employees in 1811 and were appointed in the provinces where formerly there were none.

Notarial records often do not contain their own indexes. Fortunately, the Dutch archives are indexing the notarial records. Always check for the existence of indexes before using the records. Large towns had several notaries at one time. Cumulative indexes for these places will save you an enormous amount of time. For example, such indexes have been created for Amsterdam, Breda, Dordrecht, Haarlem, 's-Gravenhage, Rotterdam, and Utrecht.

While you will find all kinds of legal documents in notarial records, the most useful for genealogical research include:

- Wills [*testamenten*].
- Marriage contracts [*huwelijksvoorwaarden*].
- Divisions of estates [*boedelscheidingen* or *akten van scheiding en deling*].

- Appointments of guardians [*benoemingen van voogden* or *voogdij*].
- Land transfers [*transporten van onroerend goed, akten van verkoop, vestbrieven* or *recognitieën*].
- Mortgages [*hypotheken*].

A very useful handbook for notarial records is:

Gehlen, A. Fl. *Notariële Akten uit de 17e en 18e Eeuw: Handleiding voor Gebruikers* (Notarial Documents from the 17th and 18th Centuries: Handbook for Users). Zutphen: De Walburg Pers, 1986. (FHL book 949.2 N37g; computer number 457040.)

Locating Notarial Records

While some notarial records have been destroyed, many still survive. They are found in the state, regional, and municipal archives. The following book describes the whereabouts of all known notarial records; it is arranged by locality and by the name of the notary:

Hartong, F. L. *Register der Protocollen van Notarissen in Nederland: Samengesteld in Opdracht van de Broederschap der Notarissen in Nederland van [circa] 1550 tot Heden* (Register of Notarial Records in the Netherlands from about 1550 to Today). [Rotterdam]: De Broederschap, 1916. (FHL book 949.2 N24h; film 599146 item 1; computer number 345703.)

If you do not find records for your ancestor's town of residence, try searching the records of nearby towns. Most notaries had clients from a wide geographical area. Furthermore, families often continued using the same notary even though they had moved elsewhere.

Records at the Family History Library

The Family History Library has many Dutch notarial records on microfilm. Most are from the provinces of Noord-Holland, Zuid-Holland, Utrecht, and Zeeland and are pre-1811 records. Check the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE]– NOTARIAL RECORDS
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN]– NOTARIAL RECORDS

In many ways, notarial records are simply a subset of court records. Both contain the same kinds of documents. For that reason you should use this

section of the outline in connection with the “Court Records” section. Also see the “Guardianship” section of this outline.

PERIODICALS

A periodical is a regularly published magazine, newsletter, or journal. Several valuable periodicals concerning Dutch genealogical research exist. Most genealogical and historical societies in North America and in the Netherlands publish magazines and newsletters. The articles in these periodicals often include:

- Family genealogies and pedigrees.
- Transcripts of church records, migration lists, and cemetery records.
- Helpful articles on research methodology.
- Indexes to genealogical sources
- Information about records, archives, and services.
- Book advertisements and book reviews.
- Advertisements of professional researchers.
- Queries or requests for information about specific ancestors that can help you contact other interested researchers.

North American Periodicals

Some historical and genealogical societies publish periodicals focusing on Dutch immigrants to North America. These periodicals are often published quarterly and may focus on the immigrants to a particular region or state. Some major examples are:

Quarterly. 1987–. Published by the Dutch Family Heritage Society, 2463 Ledgewood Dr., West Jordan UT 84084–5738, USA. (FHL book 973 D25df; computer number 494287.) This periodical focuses on Dutch people for all time periods and places.

The focus of these next two periodicals is on Dutch immigrants to North America before 1675 and their descendants:

De Halve Maen. [1925?]–. Published by the Holland Society of New York, 122 East 58th Street, New York NY 10022, USA. (FHL book 974.7 B2h; some issues on fiche 6050867–6050877; computer number 209502.)

The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record. 1870–. Published by the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, 122 East 58th Street, New York NY 10022–1939, USA. (FHL book 974.7 B2n; some issues on 26 FHL films; computer number 240178.)

Dutch Periodicals

Nationwide. Many societies and organizations in the Netherlands publish genealogical periodicals. These are in Dutch. Much of their content is devoted to compiled genealogies of native families. They also are an excellent place to publish queries or advertisements for a lost ancestor from the Netherlands. Some major examples are:

Genealogie: Kwartaalblad van het Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie (Genealogy: Quarterly of the Central Office for Genealogy). 1995–. Published by the Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie, Postbus 11755, 2502 AT 's-Gravenhage, The Netherlands. (FHL book 949.2 D25cm; computer number 750357.)

Gens Nostra: Maandblad van de Nederlandsche Genealogische Vereeniging (Our Ancestry: Monthly Journal of the Netherlands Genealogical Society). 1945–. Published by the Nederlandse Genealogische Vereniging, Postbus 976, 1000 AZ Amsterdam, The Netherlands. (FHL book 949.2 D25g; computer number 245440.)

De Nederlandsche Leeuw: Maandblad van het Koninklijk Nederlandsch Genootschap voor Geslacht- en Wapenkunde (The Dutch Lion: Journal of the Royal Dutch Society for Genealogy and Heraldry). 1883–. Published by the Koninklijk Nederlands Genootschap voor Geslacht- en Wapenkunde, Postbus 85630, 2508 CH Den Haag, The Netherlands. (FHL book 949.2 B2ned; some issues on 4 FHL films; computer number 363120.)

Regional. In addition to the national periodicals, excellent regional publications are also available. Most articles in these periodicals are about families from the area covered by the periodicals. Examples of regional periodicals are:

- *Genealogisch Tijdschrift voor Midden- en West-Brabant* (Genealogical Journal for Middle and Western Noord-Brabant)
- *Genealogysk Jierboekje* (Genealogical Yearbook). An annual publication of the Frisian Academy, Society for Language, Genealogical and Cultural Studies of Friesland.

- *Ons Voorgeslacht* (Our Ancestry). A journal of the South Holland chapter of the Dutch Genealogical Society
- *Ons Waardeel* (Our Valuable Volume). A journal for genealogy in Drenthe and Groningen
- *Van Zeeuwse Stam* (Of Zeeland Origin). A journal of the Zeeland chapter of the Dutch Genealogical Society
- *Veluwe Geslachten* (Families from the Veluwe). A regional journal for Gelderland

Indexes

Most magazines have annual or cumulative indexes. A major composite index to nearly all Dutch periodicals is:

Beresteyn, E. A. van. *Genealogisch Repertorium* (Genealogical Repertory). 2 vol. and 3 supplements. Den Haag: Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie, 1972–1995. (FHL book Ref 949.2 D23b; computer number 370786.) Surnames are indexed when at least three generations are included. This work indexes genealogy books in addition to periodicals. It contains an explanatory introduction in Dutch, English, French, and German.

The following index should be consulted for Dutch families that immigrated to the United States and Canada:

Periodical Source Index (PERSI), 1847–1985 17 vol. Fort Wayne, Ind.: Allen County Public Library Foundation, 1988–1998. (FHL book 973 D25per; vol. 1–16 on fiche 6016863; computer number 444407.) There are annual volumes of *PERSI* for the years beginning 1986 (FHL book 973 D25per; computer number 658308). The entire index is also available on CD-ROM (FHL call number compact disc no. 61; computer number 808087). See further the publication *PERiodical Source Index (PERSI) Guide* (34119).

Obtaining Periodicals

Copies of periodicals are available from the individuals or societies that publish them. The Central Office for Genealogy, in 's-Gravenhage, and the Dutch Genealogical Society, in Naarden, will have copies of nearly all of the periodicals. Major archives and libraries with genealogical collections often have copies of many periodicals, particularly those that represent the area they serve.

Some libraries collect certain periodicals as part of a special collection about an area or topic.

The Family History Library subscribes to numerous periodicals. These are listed in the Family History Library Catalog in several ways. If you know the title of a periodical, look in the “Author/Title Search” section of the catalog. To find periodicals in the “Locality Search” section of the catalog, use the following approaches:

NETHERLANDS – GENEALOGY–
PERIODICALS
NETHERLANDS – HISTORY – PERIODICALS
NETHERLANDS – SOCIETIES –
PERIODICALS
NETHERLANDS – PERIODICALS
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE]–
PERIODICALS
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN]–
PERIODICALS

POPULATION

Population registers [*bevolkingsregisters*] in the Netherlands are a very important source of genealogical information. They track the movement of people from one residence to another. Officially, population registers began for each municipality on 1 January 1850 and were based on the 3rd National Census, taken 19 November 1849. Some places started using these kind of records earlier (for example, the province of South Holland in 1845).

Information from 1850 to 1920 is kept in a book or register. The records list each member of the household and his or her birth date and place, relationship to the head of the household, marital status, occupation, religion, arrival date and where he or she moved from, removal date and where he or she moved to, and death date. The records also include notes, which contain emigration information. Earlier books are organized by neighborhood, street, and house number. Later books are alphabetical by the surname of the head of the household. Frequently the books are fully indexed.

Most municipalities started using cards instead of books in 1920. Called family cards [*gezinskaarten*], these were used until 1940, when a new system came into effect.

The size and movement of the population after 1940 was recorded using person cards [*persoonskaarten*]. These exist from 1940 to 1 October 1994. Some cards exist for 1938 and 1939. Information about each person was entered onto an individual card instead of being listed as

part of a family group. The cards were maintained by the municipal administration. When someone moved, the card was forwarded to the new municipality. When the person died, the card was sent to the Central Office for Statistics [*Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek*], then forwarded onto the Central Office for Genealogy for safekeeping.

The cards contain a person's name, birth date and place, nationality, occupation, parents' names, parents' birth date and place, marriage date and place, spouse's name, spouse's birth date and place, spouse's death date and place, address of each residence and date moved, and death date and place. The cards also give the children's names, birth dates and places, spouses, and marriage dates. Earlier cards give religion and cause of death.

Person lists [*persoonslijsten*] replaced the person cards on 1 October 1994. As of that date the information is now kept in electronic form. When a person dies, a printout is made and sent to the Central Office for Statistics and then on to the Central Office for Genealogy.

Locating Population Registers

Registers 1850–1939. These records are kept either in the municipal archives [*gemeentearchieven*] or in the municipal hall [*gemeentesecretarie*]. If they are in the archive they are open to the public, usually until 1900 or 1920, depending on the archive. Records in the town hall are, by rule, not open to the public, but population registers are generally available for inspection to about 1900. If the population registers you are seeking are not public, you may obtain an extract for a small fee. Write to the municipal administration as outlined below:

Gemeentesecretarie
[Town]
THE NETHERLANDS

Cards and Lists 1940–Present. You may receive an extract of person cards [*persoonskaarten*] and person lists [*persoonslijsten*] of deceased individuals by contacting the Central Office for Genealogy. Extracts are provided for genealogical purposes at a cost of 5.65 guilders per extract (4.10 guilders if you are a Friend of the Society). It is possible to receive a yearly subscription of person lists for individuals with the same surname. Person lists of living people are unavailable.

Records at the Family History Library

Many of the population registers to about 1920 have been filmed by the Family History Library.

Check the “Locality Search” section of the catalog under:

NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] –
POPULATION

PROBATE RECORDS

Probate records are court records that deal with the distribution of a person's estate after death. Information in probate records may include the deceased person's death date, occupation, relationships, residences, heirs, and guardians; an inventory of the estate; and names of witnesses.

Wills [*testamenten*] are one kind of probate record. Anyone of legal age and a sound mind had the right to leave a will. Wills were made primarily by the upper and middle classes. It was popular for a man and his wife to make a mutual will soon after they married. Each one appointed the surviving spouse as the executor of the estate, and sometimes guardians were named for any future born children. Mutual wills made later in life or wills of single people are more informative because they name heirs. Wills were drawn up before either a notary public or before the court of aldermen of the town. In Noord-Holland, Zuid-Holland, and Zeeland it became popular in the 1700s to “seclude” the Orphans' Chamber Court in the will.

Divisions of estates [*boedelscheidingen*] are the other most common kind of probate record. These records are also made before either the court of aldermen or a notary public. The records describe the real and personal property of the person that died, name heirs and what they are to inherit, and include accounts for settling the estate.

While probate records are one of the most accurate sources of genealogical evidence, they must be used with some caution. For example, they may omit the names of deceased family members or those who have previously received an inheritance, the spouse mentioned in a will may not be the parent of the children mentioned, or relationships noted in the records may not have the same meaning today.

Availability of Probate Records

While some separate collections of wills and divisions of estates exist, most are found with other documents of court and notarial records. These records are located in state, regional, and municipal archives in the Netherlands. Many of the records are on film at the Family History Library.

Check the “Locality Search” section of the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – PROBATE RECORDS
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] – PROBATE RECORDS
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] – COURT RECORDS
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] – NOTARIAL RECORDS

Central Will Register [Centraal Testamentenregister]. There is a countrywide card index available at the Ministry of Justice for those who died after 1890 and left a will. The index is arranged by birth year, so you need to know when your ancestor was born. A less detailed copy of the index is at the General State Archives, in 's-Gravenhage. The archive's copy was filmed by the Family History Library on 1,100 rolls of film and contains information for those who died from 1890 to 1973. The index gives the name of the testator and spouse; the person's birth date and place, occupation, and residence; the date of the will; and the name and residence of the notary public.

This collection is listed in the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS – PROBATE RECORDS – INDEXES

See also the “Court Records,” “Guardianship,” and “Notarial Records” sections of this outline.

PUBLIC RECORDS

Civil Marriages before 1811

After the Dutch Reformed Church became the state church in 1575, intentions of marriage had to take place either before the civil authorities or in the Dutch Reformed Church. The marriage itself could take place in any church, but the ceremony cost less in the Dutch Reformed Church. Civil marriages of non-Calvinists were instituted in Delft in 1575. Within a few years they were allowed in all towns of Holland. They began to be permitted in Gelderland in 1604.

When the Batavian Republic was established in 1795, only civil marriages were legal. A civil marriage could receive the blessing of the church, but only after the civil ceremony took place.

Civil marriages [*schepenhuwelijken* or *stadstrouwen*] are also called court marriages [*gerechtstrouwen*] because these marriages were recorded by the court of aldermen. The records contain the bride's and groom's name, marital status before this marriage, birthplace or residence, earlier spouses, date of intention, date of marriage, and dates of publication of marriage banns. Sometimes the records contain the couple's ages, the parents' names, and witnesses. All religions will be included, but especially those who were not Dutch Reformed, including Catholics and Jews.

Civil Births and Deaths before 1811

Death records made by civil authorities exist for some places before 1811. Because of the inheritance tax law of 1805, there are records of deaths for 1806 to 1811 (see the “Taxation” section of this outline). Some towns registered births as well.

Certificates of Indemnity

Certificates of indemnity or surety [*akten van indemniteit, borgbrieven* or *onlastbrieven*] were issued by town officials to those families or individuals who moved elsewhere. The documents

were evidence that the former town of residence guaranteed that the people would not pose a financial burden on the new town. If the migrants became poor, they would be received back to the former town. Local church parishes also created this kind of record. See the "Church Records" section of this outline for more information.

The records contain the name of the person moving, his or her spouse's name, children's names and ages, former place of residence, and destination. Sometimes the date and place of birth will be recorded.

Records at the Family History Library

Practically all of the available civil records before 1811 of births, marriages, and deaths are available at the Family History Library. Some of the certificates of indemnity have also been filmed. They are listed in the "Locality Search" section of the catalog under:

NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] –
PUBLIC RECORDS

Locating Records Not at the Family History Library

If the records you need are not at the Family History Library, contact the municipal archive of the place you are looking for.

SOCIETIES

There are many societies and organizations that may have information of value to your genealogical research. There are many such societies in the Netherlands, the United States, and Canada. You may find it helpful to join one of these societies and support its efforts.

Genealogical Societies

There are many genealogical societies that emphasize Dutch research. Most of these societies publish helpful periodicals, transcripts, and compiled genealogies and may have special indexes, collections, and projects. Many publish queries about Dutch ancestors or maintain a list of members' research interests. Some specialize in the immigrants to a specific area. The following societies are of interest:

The Central Office for Genealogy. This society is the foremost genealogical society in the Netherlands and has the largest holdings.

Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie
Prins Willem Alexanderhof 22
Postbus 11755
2502 AT Den Haag
The Netherlands

Telephone: 070-3150500
Internet: www.cbg.nl

The Dutch Genealogical Society. It has 34 chapters and publishes the journal *Gens Nostra* (Our Ancestry).

Nederlandse Genealogische Vereniging
Postbus 976
1000 AZ Amsterdam
The Netherlands

E-mail: info@ngv.nl
Internet: www.ngv.nl

The Royal Dutch Society for Genealogy and Heraldry. This society began in 1883. Its collections are in the custody of the Central Office for Genealogy, named above. The society publishes *De Nederlandsche Leeuw* (The Dutch Lion).

Koninklijk Nederlands Genootschap voor
Geslacht- en Wapenkunde
Prins Willem Alexanderhof 24
Postbus 85630
2508 CH Den Haag
The Netherlands

Telephone: 00-31703855965
Internet: www.knggw.nl

The Frisian Academy. This society can help with genealogical, cultural, and historical issues for Friesland province.

Fryske Akademy
Coulonhûs
Doelestrjitte 8/Postbus 54
8900AB Ljouwert/Leeuwarden
The Netherlands

Fax: 058-2131414
E-mail: fa@fa.knaw.nl
Internet: www.fa.knaw.nl

Historical Societies

Historical societies can be valuable sources of information in the Netherlands. Similar societies exist in countries where Dutch emigrants settled. These often collect information about Dutch immigrants. Some may have information about specific individuals. Many societies have special

collections of books and manuscript material for the Netherlands that may be difficult to find in libraries and archives. You may be interested in the services, activities, and collections of the following:

Royal Dutch Historical Society

Koninklijk Nederlands Historisch Genootschap
Prins Willem Alexanderhof 5
Postbus 90406
2509 LK Den Haag
The Netherlands

Telephone: 070-3140363
Fax: 070-3140450
E-mail: knhg@xs4all.nl
Internet: www.knhg.nl

The New Netherland Project. This project was established under the sponsorship of the New York State Library and the Holland Society of New York. Its focus is on the Dutch who immigrated to America before 1675.

New Netherland Project
New York State Library
Empire State Plaza
CEC 8th Floor
Albany, NY 12230
USA

Telephone: 1-518-474-6067
Fax: 1-518-474-5786
E-mail: cgehring@unix2.nysed.gov
Internet: www.nnp.org

The addresses of many ethnic heritage historical societies in North America are given in:

Smith, Betty P. *Directory: Historical Agencies in North America*. 13th ed. Nashville: American Association for State and Local History, 1986. (FHL book 970 H24d 1986; computer number 0491569.)

Wheeler, Mary Bray, ed. *Directory of Historical Organizations in the United States and Canada*. 14th ed. Nashville: American Association for State and Local History, 1990. (FHL book 970 H24d 1990; computer number 531083.)

Family Associations/One-Name Societies

Many family organizations in the Netherlands, the United States, and Canada are gathering information about their Dutch ancestors. Some organizations are gathering information about all individuals with a particular surname. Family

histories, newsletters, family group records, and Ancestral File can help you locate active associations. See the "Genealogy" section of this outline for more information.

Guides to Societies and Associations

Current addresses, functions, and membership requirements of fraternal, ethnic, veteran, hereditary, and other associations are listed in:

Encyclopedia of Associations. 2 vol., 33rd ed., annual. Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1998. (FHC US/Canada Ref book 973 E4gr; computer number 32244.) United States associations and international organizations are listed in separate volumes.

Additional information on societies and other sources of information about the Netherlands are in:

Meyer, Mary Keyser. *Meyer's Directory of Genealogical Societies in the U.S.A. and Canada*. 10th ed. Mt. Airy, Md.: Meyer, 1994. (FHL book 970 C44m 1994; computer number 721144.) See page 110 of this book.

Wasserman, Paul and Alice E. Kennington, eds., *Ethnic Information Sources of the United States*. 2d ed. Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1983. (FHL Ref 973 F24w; computer number 255.)

Records at the Family History Library

Society records are usually described in the "Author/Title Search" section of the Family History Library Catalog under the name of the society. The "Locality Search" section also lists societies under one of the following headings:

NETHERLANDS – SOCIETIES
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – SOCIETIES
NETHERLANDS – GENEALOGY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – GENEALOGY

Some records gathered by societies are listed in the "Locality Search" section of the Family History Library Catalog under the type of record. For example, cemetery transcripts gathered by a local genealogical society are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE]– CEMETERIES
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN]–
CEMETERIES

Lists and guides that describe the collections of societies are listed in the “Locality Search” section of the Family History Library Catalog under:
 NETHERLANDS – ARCHIVES AND
 LIBRARIES – INVENTORIES, REGISTERS,
 CATALOGS
 NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE]– ARCHIVES
 AND LIBRARIES – INVENTORIES,
 REGISTERS, CATALOGS
 NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] –
 ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES –
 INVENTORIES, REGISTERS, CATALOGS

TAXATION

Marriage and Burial Tax Records

The States of Holland imposed a tax on marriages and burials [*impost op trouwen en begraven* or *gaardersregisters*] on 26 October 1695. The tax continued until 1805. Places formerly belonging to the States of Holland are now the provinces of Noord-Holland and Zuid-Holland and some towns in the Noord-Brabant and Utrecht provinces. The tax was levied based on personal income, according to the following scheme:

Income	Tax
12,000+	30 guilders
6,000–12,000	15 guilders
2,000–6,000	6 guilders
0–2,000	3 guilders

Those who were too poor to pay were indicated by “Pro Deo,” meaning no charge. These records include all religions, so they are especially valuable for Jewish and Catholic families or as replacements for Dutch Reformed Church records that have been destroyed.

These records are found in the “Locality Search” section of the Family History Library Catalog under:

NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] –
 TAXATION

The States of Zeeland also imposed a marriage tax. Records for 1704 to 1706 and 1764 to 1805 still exist. These are helpful because several of the church records for Zeeland province were destroyed during World War II. The 1704 to 1706 records are available at the state archives in Middelburg. The 1764 to 1805 records are arranged by island group in typed alphabetical order. Use a gazetteer to locate the name of the island that the town is on. Look in the catalog under:

NETHERLANDS, ZEELAND, [ISLAND] –

TAXATION

Inheritance Tax Records

Collateral succession [*collaterale successie*]. This is a tax on inheritances received from collateral lines, that is, from brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, persons other than parents, and grandparents (who would be direct line). The tax was levied on property left by the death of unmarried persons and married people who died childless. Collateral succession tax records cover 1591 to 1811, although many do not begin until 1700. The tax was imposed in the States of Holland and those lands controlled by the States General in 1658. The records did not cover the entire country until 1806, when a law dated 4 October 1805 took effect. These later records cover 1806 to 1811 and sometimes to 1817. They give the deceased person’s name, date of death, heirs, and estate value.

If filmed, these records will be under one of the following headings in the catalog:

NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – TAXATION
 NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] –
 TAXATION

In addition to tax records, registers of corpses [*registers van aangegeven lijken*], burial registers [*registers van begravenen*], and death registers [*registers van overledenen*] were also created. These records have been filmed by the Family History Library. At times they will be included with church records because the sexton of the Dutch Reformed Church kept the record for the town administration. Other times they will be found under the subject heading “Public Records.” Therefore, search the following headings in the catalog:

NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] –
 CHURCH RECORDS
 NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] –
 PUBLIC RECORDS
 NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] –
 TAXATION

Memoranda of succession [*memories van successie*]. A law of 27 December 1817 required an official document or memorandum of succession be filed in the District Office for Inheritance Rights for each person who died. For young children a “negative” memorandum was to be recorded. In reality, documents were not created for everyone. The records give the deceased’s name, occupation, death date and place, heirs (normally living children) and their residences, spouse’s name, estate value, and real estate

location and tax assessment value. If the deceased had a will the date and name of the notary public is given. The records cover 1818 to 1900. The main purpose for using these records is to learn who the heirs were and where they lived.

Records at the Family History Library

Memoranda of succession have been filmed for the provinces of Limburg, Groningen, and Overijssel. They are either cataloged on a provincial or district [*canton*] level. You can learn which district a municipality was in by using the historical gazetteer by Abraham Jacobus van der Aa (see the “Gazetteers” section of this outline).

Indexes only have been filmed for the province of Zeeland, and they are arranged by island.

To find these records in the catalog, search the “Locality Search” section under:

NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – TAXATION
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [DISTRICT] – TAXATION
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [ISLAND] – TAXATION

Locating Records Not at the Family History Library

For records not at the Family History Library, contact the state archives.

Friesland Tax Records

Many kinds of tax records exist for the province of Friesland. They are valuable because they often identify individuals who lived many years before the church records begin. In the catalog these will be found under the town. For rural areas they will be listed under the district [*grietenij*], which was basically the same as the later municipality [*gemeente*].

There are five main record types:

- ***Floreenkohieren, 1700–1798.*** These are land tax records.
- ***Quotisatiekohieren, 1748.*** These records have been published. They give the man’s name, his occupation, and the number of family members over 12 years of age and those under 12.
- ***Reëlkohieren, 1711–1805.*** This land tax names owners and occupiers of land and houses.

- ***Speciekohieren, 1748–1805.*** These records contain taxes on people (head tax), chimneys, horses, cattle, and cultivated land. The importance of these records is that they state from where and to where people moved.

- ***Stemkohieren, 1640, 1698, 1708–1788.*** These are published lists that give the name of the landowner, renter or inhabitant, and neighbors. Check the catalog under:

NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – TAXATION
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] – TAXATION

There are many other kinds of tax records for the Netherlands, such as the 40th penny, a 2 percent tax on real estate that was sold; and the fireplace, or chimney, tax. They will be found in the catalog under the town or province or in any of the several Dutch archives.

OTHER RECORDS OF THE NETHERLANDS

The topics listed below can be found in the “Locality Search” section of the Family History Library Catalog after the locality. For example:

NETHERLANDS – [TOPIC]
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – [TOPIC]
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN] – [TOPIC]

Though not discussed in this outline, the following catalog topics may be useful to your research:

ALMANACS
BIBLIOGRAPHY
BUSINESS RECORDS AND COMMERCE
DESCRIPTION AND TRAVEL
DIRECTORIES
ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND DICTIONARIES
JEWISH HISTORY
LAW AND LEGISLATION
MANORS
MEDICAL RECORDS
MIGRATION, INTERNAL
MILITARY HISTORY
NEWSPAPERS
OBITUARIES
OCCUPATIONS
OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES
ORPHANS AND ORPHANAGES
POOR HOUSES, POOR LAW, ETC.
RELIGION AND RELIGIOUS LIFE
SCHOOLS
SOCIAL LIFE AND CUSTOMS
YEARBOOKS

FOR FURTHER READING

More detailed information about research and records of the Netherlands can be found in:

Epperson, Gwenn F. *New Netherlands Roots*. Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing, 1994. (FHL book 974.7 D27e; computer number 698385.)

Jonge, E. de and Peter Groen. *Klim in je Stamboom* (Climb in Your Family Tree). 7 vols. Apeldoorn: Volksuniversiteit, 1985. (FHL book 949.2 D27gk; computer number 460330.)

Okkema, J. C. *Handleiding voor Genealogisch Onderzoek in Nederland* (Handbook for Genealogical Research in the Netherlands). 2nd ed. Weesp: Fibula–Van Dishoeck, 1986. (FHL book 949.2 D27o; computer number 413775.)

Vennik, Roelof. *Handleiding voor Stamboomonderzoek* (Handbook for Ancestral Research). Rotterdam: Donker, 1987. (FHL book 949.2 D27r; computer number 482792.)

There are also helpful books for just one province:

Friesland Province

Nieuwland, P., D. Visser and W. Dolk. *Gids voor Genealogisch Onderzoek in Friesland* (Guide for Genealogical Research in Friesland). Ljouwert: Fryske Akademy, 1979. (FHL book 949.215 D27n; computer number 130020.)

Gelderland Province

Wissing, Pieter van, ed. *Geldersen Gezocht: Gids voor Stamboomonderzoek in Gelderland* (Searching for Gelderland: Guide for Ancestral Research in Gelderland). Arnhem: Rijksarchief in Gelderland, 1996. (FHL book 949.227 D27g; computer number 798048.)

Limburg Province

Haye, Régis de la. *Handleiding voor Genealogisch Onderzoek in Limburg* (Handbook for Genealogical Research in Limburg). Maastricht: Stichting Vrienden van het Rijksarchief in Limburg, 1987. (FHL book 949.247 D27h; computer number 473709.)

Noord–Brabant Province

Vliet, Adri P. van, L. F. W. Adriaenssen and Rob van Drie. *Brabanders Gezocht: Gids voor Stamboomonderzoek in Noord–Brabant* (Searching for Brabanders: Guide for Ancestral Research in Noord–Brabant.) Den Haag: Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie, 1995. (FHL book 949.246 D27b; computer number 796432.)

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

The Family History Library welcomes additions and corrections that will improve future editions of this outline. Please send your suggestions to:

Publications Coordination
Family History Library
35 North West Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84150
USA

We appreciate the archivists, librarians, and others who have reviewed this outline and shared helpful information.

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G U I D E

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Netherlands Historical Background

History

Effective family research requires some understanding of the historical events that may have affected your family and the records about them. Learning about wars, governments, laws, migrations, and religious trends may help you understand political boundaries, family movements, and settlement patterns. These events may have led to the creation of records such as land and military documents that mention your family.

Your ancestors will become more interesting to you if you also use histories to learn about the events they may have participated in. For example, by using a history you might learn about the events that occurred in the year your great-grandparents were married.

During the 15th century the Netherlands had a population of nearly 750,000 people, most of whom made their living by farming or fishing. Only about 7 percent of the people lived in towns. By the 17th century the picture had changed completely. The country had a population of about two million, with about 45 percent residing in the towns. In the provinces bordering the seacoast, many people were employed in industry and the trades while the people of the inland provinces were engaged primarily in agriculture.

In the 18th century there was a definite decline in the trades and industry. This, in turn, caused high unemployment, and public assistance became a burden. Town governments sought to combat the problem through various statutes aimed at curtailing the movement of the poor.

Below are some key dates and events in the history of the Netherlands.

- | | |
|------|---|
| 1576 | The provinces of Holland and Zeeland were unified. The 17 provinces of the Netherlands (north and south) were also unified into what was called the Pacification of Ghent. |
| 1579 | The southern provinces broke with the Pacification of Ghent. The northern provinces formed the Union of Utrecht. |
| 1579 | The southern provinces broke with the Pacification of Ghent; the northern provinces formed the Union of Utrecht. |
| 1587 | The Republic of the Seven United Netherlands was founded. |
| 1648 | The Peace of Munster ended the 80-year war for independence. The Dutch Republic was officially recognized as a nation. |
| 1685 | The Edict of Nantes (a decree issued by Henry IV of France in 1598 that gave political equality to the Huguenots) was revoked. Consequently, there was a heavy influx of Huguenots into the Netherlands (by 1686 there were 75,000), who founded many French Reformed Church congregations. |
| 1794 | The Republic of the Seven United Netherlands was overthrown, and the Batavian Republic, patterned after the French republic, was established. Zeeuws Flanders, Flanders, and Dutch areas in Limburg were annexed to France. |

1806	The Batavian Republic was dissolved, and the Kingdom of Holland was established, with Louis Bonaparte, brother of Napoleon, as king.
1810	The Kingdom of Holland was dissolved, and the territory was annexed by the French Empire.
1813	French troops left the country. Prince Willem VI of Orange–Nassau became King Willem I, and a new constitution was adopted.
1815	The former Southern (or Austrian) Netherlands became part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.
1831	The people of the former Southern Netherlands rebelled and set up their own government. This was the beginning of the Kingdom of Belgium.
1839	Belgium was recognized as an independent nation, and border disputes were resolved. Limburg became a province of the Netherlands.
1840	The province of Noord–Holland was created by a division of the province of Holland. The remaining part of the province of Holland later came to be known as Zuid–Holland.

The Family History Library has many published national, regional, provincial, and local histories for the Netherlands. You can find histories in the Family History Library Catalog under one of the following:

EUROPE – HISTORY
NETHERLANDS – HISTORY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE] – HISTORY
NETHERLANDS, [PROVINCE], [TOWN]– HISTORY

The following are only a few of the many historical sources that are available. Books with film numbers can be ordered through local Family History Centers. Some may be found in major research libraries.

Grattan, Thomas. *Holland: The History of the Netherlands*. New York: Peter Fenelon Collier, 1899. (FHL film 1181862 item 5; computer number 355947.)
Historical Background Affecting Genealogical Research in the Netherlands. Salt Lake City, Utah: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1977. (FHL book 929.1 G286gs ser. C no. 32; fiche 6001722; computer number 723335.) This work emphasizes religious minorities and emigration.
Kurian, George Thomas. *The Benelux Countries*. New York: [s.n.], 1989. (FHL book 949.3 H2k; computer number 557579.)

Calendar Changes

The Gregorian calendar is the calendar commonly used in the world today. It is a correction of the Julian calendar, which had been in use since A.D. 46. Leap years had been miscalculated in the Julian calendar, so by 1582 the calendar was 10 days behind the solar year.

Brabant, Zeeland, and lands belonging to the States General (mostly Limburg) adopted the Gregorian calendar on 14 December 1582. The days 15 December through 24 December 1582 were dropped to correct the calendar error. Holland adopted the calendar on 1 January 1583 (omitting 2 January through 11 January).

The last areas adopted the Gregorian calendar in 1700 and 1701. In the province of Gelderland the Gregorian calendar was adopted 30 June 1700 (omitting 1 July through 11 July 1700), in Utrecht and Overijssel on 30 November 1700 (omitting 1 December through 11 December 1700), in Friesland and Groningen on 31 December 1700 (omitting 1 January through 11 January 1701), and in Drenthe on 30 April 1701 (omitting 1 May through 11 May 1701).

Double Dating. When an area changed from Julian to Gregorian calendars, the first day of the year changed to 1 January. Before the change the first day of the year was 25 March. Pre-change dates may be confusing. For example, *before* the change, 24 March 1565 was followed by 25 March 1566. Many researchers record dates between 1 January and 24 March with two years, using a technique called double dating. An example of a pre-change date using double dating is 16 February 1573/1574.

Alternative Month Names. Sometimes you will find these old Dutch names for the months of the year:

Louwmaand	January
Sprokkelmaand	February
Lentemaand	March
Grasmaand	April
Bloeimaand	May
Zomermaand	June
Hooimaand	July
Oogstmaand	August
Herfstmaand	September
Wijnmaand	October
Slachtmaand	November
Wintermaand	December

French Republican Calendar. During 1793 to 1805, when the French Empire under Napoleon controlled parts of the Netherlands, another calendar was introduced. This calendar was based on the founding of the French Republic, and it used a system of months unrelated to the regular calendar. See the library publication *French Republican Calendar Research Outline* (34046) for more information.

Dutch

Genealogical Word List

Table of Contents

Language Characteristics

Additional Resources

Key Words

General Word List

1	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Numbers

Dates And Time

This list contains Dutch words with their English translations. The words included here are those that you are likely to find in genealogical sources. If the word you are looking for is not on this list, please consult a Dutch-English dictionary. (See the "Additional Resources" section below.)

Dutch is a Germanic language derived from Old Saxon. Many of the words resemble German and English words. Latin also sometimes appears in older Dutch records. See the [Latin Genealogical Word List](#) (34077). For a time, Dutch records were written in French. See the [French Genealogical Word List](#) (34060).

Dutch is spoken in the Netherlands, northern Belgium, the Netherlands Antilles in the Caribbean, and Suriname. Flemish, which is spoken in Belgium, is a major dialect (regional variation) of Dutch. It uses words similar to the words on this list. Afrikaans, which is spoken in South Africa, is a different language that is similar to Dutch. Frisian, which is spoken in the Dutch province of Friesland, is a different language from Dutch. The "Additional Resources" section below will tell you how to use the Family History Library Catalog to find dictionaries of the various dialects and related languages. In addition, Dutch is found in some early records of the United States (mostly in New York, New Jersey, Michigan, and Iowa) and in South Africa, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, and Taiwan.

LANGUAGE CHARACTERISTICS

Dutch words for nouns (persons, places, and things) are classified as either common or neuter.

Variant Forms of Words

In Dutch, as in English, the forms of some words will vary according to how they are used in a sentence. *Who—whose—whom, or marry—marries—married* are examples of words in English with variant forms. This word list gives the standard form of each Dutch word. As you read Dutch records, you will need to be aware that some words vary with usage.

The prefix *'t* is equal to the Dutch word *het*, which means *the*. The prefix *'s-* is a part of many place-names and means *des* (of the). All prefixes are disregarded in alphabetized lists, except in Flemish records.

The endings of words in a document may differ from what you find in this list. For example, the document may use the word *jonger*, but you will find it in this word list as *jong*. In addition, the suffixes *-je*, *-tje*, *-tien*, or *-ke* are often added to words to indicate "little." These suffixes can also indicate the feminine version of a name. Therefore, the word *zoontje* means "little" or "young (tje) son (zoon)." The ending *-sdr* means "daughter of."

Plural forms of Dutch words usually add *-en* or *-s* to the singular word. Thus *boer* (farmer) becomes *boeren* (farmers), and *tafel* (table or index) becomes *tafels* (tables or indexes).

In Dutch, many words are formed by joining two or more words together. Very few of these compound words are included in this list. You will need to look up each part of the word separately. For example, *geboortedag* is a combination of two words, *geboorte*(birth) and *dag* (day).

Alphabetical Order

In the Dutch language, the letter combination *ij* is considered a single letter. It has the same value as *y*, and it is usually alphabetized as if it were a *y*. Some Dutch dictionaries and indexes use the following alphabetical order:

a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w, x, ij (or y), z

Some Dutch dictionaries alphabetize the letter *ij* under *i* then *j*.

This word list follows the standard English alphabetical order. However, when working with alphabetized Dutch records, use the Dutch alphabetical order.

When the Dutch alphabetize names of places or surnames, prefixes such as *van der*, *de*, or *ter* are not considered in the alphabetization.

Example:

ten	Brock
van der	Graf
's-	Gravenhage
van	Hijden
de	Jong
van	Leeuwen
ter	Pelkwijk
van	IJlst
't	Zandt

Spelling

Spelling rules were not standardized in earlier centuries. Writers often failed to dot the *ij*, so that it looks like a *y*. The letter *y* was not used in older records. In Dutch, the following spelling variations are common.

y used for *ij*

g used for *ch*

d and *t* used interchangeably

j and *i* used interchangeably

Example:

echt spelled as *egt*

overlijden spelled as *overlyden*

Arie spelled as *Arij*

Marietje spelled as *Marietie*

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

This word list includes only the words *most commonly found in genealogical sources*. For further help, use a Dutch-English dictionary. Several Dutch-English dictionaries are available at the Family History Library. These are in the European collection. Their call numbers begin with 439.31321.

The following dictionary is available on microfilm for use in Family History Centers: *Dutch-English, English-Dutch Van Goor Dictionary*. 's-Gravenhage: G. B. Van Goor, 1938. (FHL film 1183584 item 2.)

Additional dictionaries are listed in the Subject section of the Family History Library Catalog under DUTCH LANGUAGE - DICTIONARIES or in the Locality section under NETHERLANDS - LANGUAGE AND LANGUAGES. These include dictionaries of various dialects and time periods.

KEY WORDS

To find and use specific types of Dutch records, you will need to know some key words in Dutch. This section lists key genealogical terms in English and the Dutch words with the same or similar meanings.

For example, in the first column you will find the English word marriage. In the second column you will find Dutch words with meanings such as marry, marriage, wedding, wedlock, unite, legitimate, joined, and other words used in Dutch records to indicate marriage.

English	Dutch
baptism	dopen, doop, gedoopt
birth	geboren, geboorte
burial	begraven, begraaf

Catholic rooms	katholiek, oud katholiek
census	volkstelling, bevolking
child, children kind	kinderen
christening	(see baptism)
civil registry	burgerlijke stand
death	overleden, overlijden, gestorven
father	vader
husband	echtgenoot, man
index	tafel, klapper, fiche
Jewish	joods
marriage(s)	huwelijk(en), trouwen, echt, gehuwden, getrouwd
military	militaire, landweer, krijgsmacht
month	maand
mother	moeder
name, given	voornaam, eerste naam
name, surname	achternaam, familienaam, bijnaam, toenaam
parents	ouders
parish	parochie, gemeente
Protestant	protestant
supplement	bijlage
town, village	stad, gemeente, dorp
wife	huisvrouw, vrouw, echtgenote
year	jaar

GENERAL WORD LIST

This general word list includes words commonly seen in genealogical sources. Numbers, months, and days of the week are listed both here and in separate sections that follow this list.

In this list, optional versions of Dutch words or variable endings (such as some plural endings) are given in parentheses. Parentheses in the English column clarify the definition.

A

Dutch	English
aan	upon, to
aangenomen naam	named, alias, also known as, assumed name, accepted surname
aangiften	intentions (marriage), declarations
aannemen	to adopt (a child), to assume, to take on
aanneming	confirmation
aannemingsdag	day of confirmation
aanstaande	next, toward, following, expectant, future, impending
aanval	stroke, attack
aarde	earth (buried in), ground
aardrijkskundig woordenboek	gazetteer
acht	eight
achtenswaardig	respectable, honorable
achtentwintig	twenty-eight
achtentwintigste	twenty-eighth
achterkleindochter	great-granddaughter
achterkleinzoon	great-grandson
achternaam	surname, last name
achtste	eighth
achttien	eighteen
achttiende	eighteenth
adel	nobility
adellijk	noble, titled
aderlating	bleeding, bloodletting
adresboek	directory
advocaat	notary, lawyer
afkondigen	to post banns
afkondigingen	proclamations, banns
afschrift(en)	extract, duplicate record, transcript, certified copy
akte	certificate, deed, license
alhier	here, at this place, locally
alle	all, every

alleen	alone, single, only
altijd, steeds	always
ambt	office
ambtenaar	official, registrar, civil servant, clerk
ander(s)	other
anders genoemd	alias, also known as
apostolisch	Apostolic
April	April
arbeider	laborer
archief	archive
Augustus	August
avond ('s avonds)	evening, (in the evening)
Avondmaal	communion, sacrament

bad(plaats)	resort, spa, bath
baker	dry nurse
bakker	baker
bedelaar	beggar
bedrag	fee, amount (of money)
bedrijf	trade, business, concern
begraafplaats	cemetery
begravenis	funeral
begraven	to bury
behoefdigden	needy, indigent
behoren	to belong to
beide	both
bejaard	aged
bekende	acquaintance
belasting	taxation
Belg(isch)	Belgian
België	Belgium
bemerking	remarks
benadering	approximation
berg	mountain
beroep	trade, occupation
beschrijving	description
beslagnemen	to seize
besnijdenis	circumcision

bet-overgrootvader	second great-grandfather
bet-bet-overgrootvader	third great-grandfather
betrekking	in relation to, relatives
betuiging	declaration, expression
bevolking	population
bevolkingsregister	population register
bewaarder	guardian, warden
bewijs	certificate, proof
bewijs van overlijden	death certificate, proof of death
bewijs van trouwen	marriage certificate, proof of marriage
bidden	to request, to pray
bijlagen	supplemental documents
bijna	almost, nearly
bijnaam	surname, nickname
bijzit	mistress, concubine
binnenkant	inside
biografie	biography
bisdom	diocese
bladzijde (blz.)	page
bloeimaand	May (blossoming month)
boek	book
boer	farmer
boerenarbeider	cottager, farmhand, worker
boerenknecht	farm worker
bos	woods, forest (new version of the word)
bosbaas	forester
bosch	woods, forest (old version of the word)
boswachter	forester
boven	above, over, upstairs
braaf	honest, worthy, good
broeder, broer	brother
brouwer	brewer
brug	bridge
bruid	bride
bruidegom	bridegroom

buiten(kant)	outside
buitenechtelijk	illegitimate
burgemeester	mayor
burgelijke administratie	civil administration
burger	citizen
burgerboek	citizenship book
burgerlijke ambtenaar	civil registrar
burgerlijke stand	civil registration, civil administration
burgerschap	citizenship
buurman	neighbor
buurtschap	neighborhood

C

communicanten	members, communicants
comparant	one who appeared
compareerde	appeared before
confirmatie	confirmation

D

daar(heen)	there
dag	day
dag der begrafenis	burial day
dagelijks	daily
dagloner	day worker, day laborer
dagteekening	document date
dal	valley
dat	that
datum	date
de	the
December	December
deden	done
deed	did
deel	volume, part of
Deen	Dane

Deens	Danish
degenen	those
Denemarken	Denmark
derde	third
dertien	thirteen
dertiende	thirteenth
dertig	thirty
dertigste	thirtieth
des	of the
dewelke	of which, the which
deze	this, these
diarree	diarrhea
die	those, that
dienst	service, employment
dienstbode	servant
dienstmeisje	servant girl
diensmeid	maid
dinsdag	Tuesday
diocces	diocese
dit	this
dochter(tje)	(little) daughter
doen	to do
dominee	minister
donderdag	Thursday
dood	dead
dood geboren	stillborn
doodgraver	sexton, grave digger
doop	baptism, christening
doopdag	day of baptism
doopregister	baptismal register
doopsgezinde	Mennonite, Baptist
doopvader	godfather, baptismal sponsor
door	through, by
dopen	to baptize
dorp	village
drie	three
drieëntwintig	twenty-three
drieëntwintigste	twenty-third

druppel	gout
Duits	German (language)
Duitser	German (person)
Duitsland	Germany
duizend	thousand
duizendste	thousandth
duplicaat	duplicate
dysenterie	dysentery

E

echt	marriage
echtbreker	adulterer
echtelieden	spouses
echtgenoot	husband
echtgenote	wife
echtgenoten	husband and wife, spouses
chtscheiding	divorce
echtverbintenis	marriage
edel(man)	noble(man)
een	a, an, one
eenendertig	thirty-one
eenendertigste	thirty-first
eenentwintig	twenty-one
eenjarig	annual, yearly
eerder	before, previously, earlier
eergisteren	day before yesterday
eerlijk	honest
eerste	first
eertijds	formerly
eeuw	century
ehelieden	spouses
eigenaar	proprietor
eigengeërfde	yeoman, freeholder
eiland, eilant	island
elf	eleven
elfde	eleventh
elk	each, every

emigrant	emigrant
emigranten register	emigration file
emigratie papieren	emigration records
en	and
enig	only, single
erfenis	inheritance
ervan	of it
ervoor	for it
evangelisch	evangelical

F

fabriek	factory, mill
familie-geschiedenis	family history
familieleden	relatives
familielijst	family group sheet
familienaam	family name, surname
familiewapen	coat of arms
Februari	February
feestdag	feast day, holiday
fiches	index cards
florijn	guilder
Frankrijk	France
Frans	French

G

gangbaar	current
geboorte	birth
geboorteakte	birth certificate
geboortebewijs	birth certificate, proof of birth
geboorteplaats	place of birth
geboortetijd	time of birth
geboortig	born at, native of
geboren	born, maiden name, née

gedoopt	baptized, christened
geelzucht	jaundice
geen	no, none, without
geestelijke	priest, clergyman
gegeven	given, gave
gehucht	hamlet
gehuwd	married
geld	money
gelijk	same, alike, similar
gemeenschap	community, township
gemeente	town, municipality, parish
gemeenteraadslid	councilman, town councilor
genaamd	named
genaamt	named
genealogie	genealogy
gerechtelijk(e)	court, judicial
gerechtshof	judicial court
gereformeerde	Calvinist Reformed
gering	small
gescheiden	divorced
geschenk	deed, gift, present
geschiedenis	history
geslacht	sex, gender
geslachtsboom	pedigree, family tree
gestorven	died
gestorven zonder, nageslacht	died without issue
getrouwd	married
getuigen	witnesses
gewesen	former
gezegend	blessed, the deceased
gezin	immediate family
gezindheid	religious affiliation
gezinslijst	family group sheet
gezwel, gezwollenheid	swelling, tumor
gezworene	juryman, person under oath
gisteren	yesterday
Godsbeschikking	dispensation, God's will
godsdiens	religion

goed	good, right, correct
graaf	count, earl
graafschap	county, shire
graf	grave, tomb
grasmaand	April
grens	border (between countries)
grensgebied	border, region
groen	green
groet	greet, greeting
grondeigenaren	property owners
groot	large, big, great
groothandelaar	trader, merchant
grootmoeder	grandmother
grootvader	grandfather
gulden	guilder (unit of money)

H

haar, hare	hair, her, hers
had(den)	had
half	half
halfbroeder	half brother
halfzuster	half sister
handel	trade, occupation
handtekening	signature
handwerksgezel	journeyman
hebben	to have
heden	today
heel	all, whole, entire
heer	master, gentleman, Mr.
Heer	the Lord
heerschappen	gentry, lords
hem	him
hen, hun	them, their, theirs
herbergier	innkeeper
herder	shepherd
herfst	autumn, fall
herfstmaand	September

Hernhutter	Moravian
hertog	duke
hertogdom	duchy
hertogin	duchess
hervormde	Dutch reformed
Hessisch	Hessian
het	it, the
heuvel	hill
hij	he
hoe	how
hoer	harlot, immoral woman
hoesten	cough
hoger	upper, higher
Hollands	Dutch
honderd	hundred
honderdste	hundredth
hoog	high
hooimaand	July
houtvester	forester
huidziekte	measles
huis	house
huisgezin	immediate family
huisland	home, native country, homeland
huisvrouw	housewife
huizenkant	inside
hun	their
huwelijksaangiften	marriage intention
huwelijk	marriage
huwelijksaf(aan)- kondigingen	marriage banns
huwelijksbijlagen	marriage supplements
huwelijksdag	day of marriage
huwelijksfeest	wedding
huwen	to marry

I

immigrant

immigrant

in	in
ingekommen	arrival, immigration
ingezetenen	citizen, occupants
inhoud	contents
inwoner	inhabitant, citizen
is	is
Italiaans	Italian
Italië	Italy

J

jaar, jaren	year, years
jaarlijks	annual, yearly
jager	hunter
Januari	January
j.d. (jonge dochter)	unmarried daughter
j.g. (jong gezel)	young man, bachelor
jicht	gout
j.m. (jonge man)	young man, bachelor
jong(e)	young
jongeling	a youth, unmarried man
jongen	boy
Jood	Jew
joodse	Jewish
juffrouw	Miss, Madame
Juli	July
Juni	June

K

kamer	room (in a house)
kan	can
kanaal	canal
kanker	cancer
karman	coachman
kasteel	castle

katholiek	Catholic
keizerlijk	imperial
keizerrijk	empire
kerk	church
kerkboek	parish register
kerkelijk(e)	church (pertaining to church)
kerkelijk ambt	parish office
kerkeraads-handelingen	church minutes
kerkgenootschap	religious affiliation
kerk meester	church warden
kerk voogt	church warden
kil	stream, brook
kind, kinderen	child, children
kinkhoest	whooping cough
klapper	index
kledinghandelaar	clothier
kleermaker	tailor
klein	little, small
kleindochter	granddaughter
kleiner	smaller, lesser
kleinzoon	grandson
klompenmaker	wooden shoemaker
km.	kilometer
knecht	servant, laborer, journeyman
kohier(en)	register(s), ledger(s)
koning	king
koningin	queen
koninklijk	royal
koninkrijk	kingdom
koopman	seller, vendor, trader, merchant
kopen	to buy
koperslager	coppersmith
koster	sexton
kraambed	childbed (died in childbirth)
kraambedkoorts	puerperal fever, childbed fever
kramer	seller, vendor, peddler
krampachtig	convulsions
krampen	cramps, convulsions

krijgen	to receive
kuiper	cooper
kunnen	could
kwaal	disease, complaint
kwaliteit	status, quality
kwartierstaat	pedigree, family tree

L

laat, laatste tijd	late (in the day), lately
laatste	latter, last
lakenvoller (-volder)	clothier, fuller
land	land, country
landbouwer	farmer
landgoed, landbezit	estate
landkaart	map
landlieden	farmers
landman	cottager, farmer
land verlatend	emigrant
laten	to let, leave, allow
leeftijd	age
leerjongen	apprentice
leerling	student, apprentice, pupil
leggen	to place, put, impose, to lay
lente	spring (season)
lentemaand	March
leven	to live
levend	living
levenloos	stillborn, without life
levens-beschrijving	biography
lidmaten	members, membership
linker hand	left hand
links	left (direction)
linnenwever	linen weaver
logementhouder	innkeeper
longontsteking	pneumonia
longtering	consumption, tuberculosis
looier	tanner

louwmaand	January
lutheraan	Lutheran
lijk	corpse
lijnslager	rope maker

M

maagd	virgin, maid, servant girl
maand	month
maandag	Monday
maar	but
Maart	March
mag	may (might)
makelaar registers	real estate registers
man	husband, man
mannelijk	male
markt	market
mazelen	measles
meer	lake, more
meerderjarige	of legal age
Mei	May
meier	tenant farmer, bailiff
meisje	girl
melkerij	milk factory, dairy
melkfabriek	milk factory, dairy
mengel (mingel)	liquid measure, about one to two quarts
met	with
met name	named, alias
metselaar	mason, bricklayer
meubelmaker	furniture maker
middag ('s middags)	afternoon (in the afternoon)
middernacht	midnight
mijnheer	Mr.
mijnwerker	miner
militaire	military
minderjarige	minor, below legal age
misschien	maybe, perhaps
missen	to miss, lack

mocht	might
moeder	mother
moet(en)	must
mogen	may (might have), to allow
molen	mill
mondig verklaring	declaration of being of legal age
morgen	unit of land area, about two acres
morgen ('s morgens)	morning, tomorrow (in the morning)
mijl	mile (varying lengths, up to 5.5 km.)

N

na	after
naaister	seamstress
naam	name
naar	to, toward, for, according to
naar gelang van	to, after, according to
naast	beside, following, next (to)
nabijkomen	approach, approximate
nabuur	neighbor
nacht ('s nachts)	night (in the night)
namen	names
namiddag, ('s namiddags)	afternoon (in the afternoon)
neder	low, lower (directional)
Nederland	the Netherlands
Nederlands	Dutch
neef	nephew, male cousin
neefje	nephew, young male cousin
negen	nine
negende	ninth
negentwintig	twenty-nine
negentwintigste	twenty-ninth
negentien	nineteen
negentiende	nineteenth
negentig	ninety
negentigste	ninetieth
neger	Negro
nicht	niece, female cousin

nichtje	niece, young female cousin
niet(s)	no, none, not
niets	nothing
nieuw	new
nimmer	never
noemen	to christen, call, name
nog	still, yet, other
nog leven	still living, surviving
nommer, nummer	number
nooit	never
Noor(s)	Norwegian
noord	north
Noorwegen	Norway
notaris	notary
November	November

O

October	October
of	or
om	for, because of, at, round
oma	grandma
omstreeks	about
on-	un- (prefix)
onbekend	unknown
onder	under
ondergetekende	the undersigned
ondertrouw	betrothal (already registered)
onderwijzer	(school) teacher
ondertrouw	betrothal (already registered)
onderwijzer	(school) teacher
onderwijzeres	female teacher
onecht kind	illegitimate child
ongetrouwd	unmarried
ongetrouwd	single, unmarried
ongeveer	almost, approximately
onmiddellijk	right away, immediately
onmondigen	minor, under age

ons, onze	us, our
ontvangen	to receive
ontvanger	tax collector
onwettig	illegitimate, illegal
onze, ons	us, our
oogstmaand	August
ook	also
oom	uncle
oorkonden	records, documents
oost	east
op	on, upon
opa	grandpa
opgetreden	appeared
op heden	today, on this day
op hoge leeftijd	at a great (old) age
opnemen	to receive
opper	upper
oprecht	honest
optreden	to appear
opziener	overseer, inspector, guardian
organisatie	organization, society
oud	old (age)
ouder	older, elder
ouderdom	age
ouders	parents
oudoom	great-uncle
oudste	eldest
oudtante	great-aunt
over	above, over, via
overeenkomst	contract, agreement
overgrootmoeder	great-grandmother
overgrootvader	great-grandfather
overleden	dead, deceased
overledene, de	the deceased
overlevenden	survivors
overlijden	to die
overnemen	to take over, adopt (an action)
overschrijven	to extract

P

pachter	tenant farmer, leaser, one who leases
pachter van, belastingen	publican, tax collector
Palts, de	the Palatinate
Paltsgraafschap	Palatinate (the place)
paltsgraafelijk	(from the) palatinate
parochie	parish
parochieregisters	parish registers
Pasen	Easter, Passover
pastoor	pastor, minister, priest
patroon	manor lord, patron, employer
peet	godfather, godparent, sponsor
peetoom	godfather
peettante	godmother
pensionering	retirement
pest	plague, pestilence
petemoei	godmother
peten	godparents
plaag	plague, scourge
plaats	place
planter	planter, farmer
pokken	smallpox
Polen	Poland, Poles
Pools	Polish
poorter	citizen, freeman
poortersboeken	burgher registers
Portugees	Portuguese
predikant	minister, clergyman
prins	prince
prinses	princess
protestant	protestant
protocol	document, register
provinciaal	provincial
provincie	provinces
Pruis(isch)	Prussian
Pruissen	Prussia

R

raad	council, counsel
recht	right (correct), straight, law, justice
rechter	judge, magistrate
rechter(zijde)	right side
rechter hand	right hand
rechterlijk	legal, court (judicial)
rechtmatig	rightful, right (correct)
rechts	right (direction)
regering	government, administration
rekeningen	accounts, bills
rentenier	retired tradesperson, man of means
rivier	river
roede	rod (unit of length, about twelve feet or 3.6 meters)
rond	around, about
rood	red
roodvonk	scarlet fever
Rooms Katholiek	Roman Catholic
ruim [ruim 80 = eighty plus years old]	large, broad, wide, upwards of
Rus(sisch)	Russian
Rusland	Russia
rijk	empire, kingdom, rich, wealthy
rijksarchief	state archive, public record office

R

raad	council, counsel
recht	right (correct), straight, law, justice
rechter	judge, magistrate
rechter(zijde)	right side
rechter hand	right hand
rechterlijk	legal, court (judicial)
rechtmatig	rightful, right (correct)
rechts	right (direction)
regering	government, administration

rekeningen	accounts, bills
rentenier	retired tradesperson, man of means
rivier	river
roede	rod (unit of length, about twelve feet or 3.6 meters)
rond	around, about
rood	red
roodvonk	scarlet fever
Rooms Katholiek	Roman Catholic
ruim [ruim 80 = eighty plus years old]	large, broad, wide, upwards of
Rus(sisch)	Russian
Rusland	Russia
rijk	empire, kingdom, rich, wealthy
rijksarchief	state archive, public record office

T

't=het	the
taal	language
tachtig	eighty
tachtigste	eightieth
tafel	index, table
tanden krijgen	teething
tante	aunt
te	at, to
tegelijk	together
tegen(over)	against, across
te huis	at home
teraardebestelling	burial, interment
testament	last will, testament
thuis	at home
tien	ten
tiende	tithing
tiende	tenth
tienjarige tafels	ten-year (decennial) index
tiental [tiental dagen=about ten days]	decade
timmerman	carpenter

toekomend	future
toekomstig	future
toenaam	surname
toestaan	to let, leave, allow
toestemmen	to consent
touwslager	rope maker
trouwboek	marriage book
trouwdag	wedding day
trouwen	to marry
tuberculose	consumption, tuberculosis
tuin	garden, yard
tuinman, tuinier	gardener
tussen	between
twaaif	twelve
twaaifde	twelfth
twee	two
tweede	second
tweeëntwintig	twenty-two
tweeëntwintigste	twenty-second
tweeling	twins
twintig	twenty
twintigste	twentieth
tyfus	typhoid fever
tyfuslijder	typhoid patient
tijd	time
tijdelijk	temporary
tijdschrift	periodical

U

uit	out of, from
uiterlijk	outward, external, appearance, at the latest
uitgeven	to publish
uittrekken	extract
uur	hour, o'clock

V

vaak	often
vader	father
vallende ziekte	epilepsy
van	from, of
veehoeder	herdsman
veertien	fourteen
veertiende	fourteenth
veertig	forty
veertigste	fortieth
veld	field
verdrinking	drowning
vergunning	permission
verjaardag	birthday
verklaard	declared
verklaren	to declare
verklaring	declaration, affidavit, sworn statement
verkondigen	publish (as in banns), proclaim
verlamming	paralysis, stroke
verlaten	to leave, left
verleden	past
verlof	leave (soldier's), permission
verloofd	betrothed, engaged
verloofde(n)	engaged person(s), fiancée, fiancé
verloving	betrothal, engagement
verpandings-kohieren	tax ledger
verscheiden	to pass away or die, various, different
verschijnt	appears
verstopping	obstruction, blockage
vertering	consumption, tuberculosis
vertrokken	departed, moved, gone away
verver	dyer, house painter
verwantschap	relationship
verwijderen	to remove, to withdraw
vestigen	to settle, establish
vesting	fortress

vier	four
vierde	fourth
vierentwintig	twenty-four
vierentwintigste	twenty-fourth
visser	fisherman
vleeshouwer	butcher
vlij	marsh, swamp
V.O.C.	Dutch East Indies Company
voerman	coachman
volbracht	performed, completed, finished
volbrengen	to finish, complete
volgend	following, next
volgende dag	(the) following day
volgens	to, after, according to, follows
volkstelling	census, population records
volmacht	authorization
voltooien	to finish, complete
voltrekkingen	solemnization
vondeling	foundling
voogd	guardian
voor	for, in front of, before
vooraf(gang)	previous, preceding
voorafgaand	former
voorafgaande dag	the previous day
voorbij [voorbij gaan=gone by]	past, beyond, over
voorgaand	previous, preceding
voorheen	born (maiden name), previous, formerly
voorjaar	spring (season)
voormeld	said, stated
voormiddag	morning, forenoon (in the morning)
voornaam	given name
voorouder	ancestor
voortekening	over his signature
voorvader	ancestor, forefather
vorig	previous, preceding
vorige dag	previous day
vormer	framer, molder

vormsel	Catholic confirmation
vorst	monarch, sovereign, ruler
vorstendom	principality
vreemd	foreign, strange
vriend	friend
vrijboer	yeoman
vrijdag	Friday
vrijgezel	bachelor
vroedmeester	man who assists in childbirth
vroedvrouw	midwife
vroeg(tijdig)	early (a.m.), prematurely, untimely
vroeger	formerly, earlier
vrouw	wife, Mrs.
vrouw(spersoon)	wife, woman, female
vrouwelijk	female
V.W.C.	Dutch West Indies Company
vijf	five
vijfde	fifth
vijfentwintig	twenty-five
vijfentwintigste	twenty-fifth
vijftien	fifteen
vijftiende	fifteenth
vijftig	fifty
vijftigste	fiftieth

W

waar	where
waarheen	where to
waarom	why
wagenmaker	cartwright, wagon builder, coach builder
wanneer	when
wapen	heraldic crest, coat of arms
waren	were, goods
was	was
wat	what, how
waterzucht	dropsy
weduwe	widow

weduwnaar	widower
week	week
weeskamer	orphan's court
weeskind	orphan
wegens	because of
weinig	little, small
welk(e)	which
wellicht	maybe, perhaps
werkman	laborer
west	west
wet	law
wethouder	alderman
wettelijk	legal
wettelijk kind	legitimate child
wettig	lawful, legal
wever	weaver
wie	who
wieldraaijer	wheelwright
wil	will, desire, wish, consent
wilde(n)	Indian(s) (in New York), savage(s)
willen	to want to
winkelier(ster)	shopkeeper
winter	winter
wintermaand	December
wit	white
woensdag	Wednesday
wonende	residing
woonachtig	resident, living at
woonplaats	residence, domicile, dwelling place
woordenboek	dictionary
worden	to become, be
woud	forest
wij	we
wijk	district, area, section, ward
wijlen	late (deceased), the late, blessed
wijnmaand	October

Z

zaken	trade, business, case, affairs
zaterdag	Saturday
ze	they, she
zeeman	sailor
zeepzieder	soap maker
zelfde	the same
zes	six
zesde	sixth
zesentwintig	twenty-six
zesentwintigste	twenty-sixth
zestien	sixteen
zestiende	sixteenth
zestig	sixty
zestigste	sixtieth
zetten	to place, put, impose
zeven	seven
zevende	seventh
zevenentwintig	twenty-seven
zevenentwintigste	twenty-seventh
zevenstigte	seventieth
zeventien	seventeen
zeventiende	seventeenth
zeventig	seventy
zie	see
ziekte	disease, illness
zomer	summer
zomermaand	June
zondag	Sunday
zonder	without
zoon	son
zoontje	little son, small son
zou	should
zuid	south
zuigeling	baby, suckling
zuivelboer	dairy farmer

zuster	sister
zwager	brother-in-law
zwakheid	weakness
zwakte	weak
zwanger	pregnant
zwart	black
zwarten	Negroes, blacks
Zweden	Sweden
Zweeds	Swedish
zwelling	swelling, tumor
Zwitserland	Switzerland
Zwitsers	Swiss
zij	she, they
zijn	its, his, to be, are
zijrivier	tributary, river, stream

NUMBERS

In some genealogical records, numbers are written out. This is especially true with dates. The following list gives the cardinal (1, 2, 3) and the ordinal (1st, 2nd, 3rd) versions of each number. Days of the month are written in ordinal form.

	Cardinal		Ordinal
1	een	1st	eerste
2	twee	2nd	tweede
3	drie	3rd	derde
4	vie	4th	vierde
5	vijf	5th	vijfde
6	zes	6th	zesde
7	zeven	7th	zevende
8	acht	8th	achtste
9	negen	9th	negende
10	tien	10th	tiende
11	elf	11th	elfde
12	twalf	12th	twalfde
13	dertien	13th	dertiende
14	veertien	14th	veertiende
15	vijftien	15th	vijftiende
16	zestien	16th	zestiende

17	zeventien	17th	zeventiende
18	achttien	18th	achttiende
19	negentie	19th	negentiende
20	twintig	20th	twintigste
21	eenentwintig	21st	eenentwintigste
22	tweeëntwintig	22th	tweeëntwintigste
23	drieëntwintig	23th	drieëntwintigste
24	vierentwintig	24th	vierentwintigste
25	vijfentwintig	25th	vijfentwintigste
26	zesentwintig	26th	zesentwintigste
27	zevenentwintig	27th	zevenentwintigste
28	achtentwintig	28th	achtentwintigste
29	negenentwintig	29th	negenentwintigste
30	dertig	30th	dertigste
31	eenendertig	31th	eenendertigste
40	veertig	40th	veertigste
50	vijftig	50th	vijftigste
60	zestig	60th	zestigste
70	zeventig	70th	zevenstigte
80	tachtig	80th	tachtigste
90	negentig	90th	negentigste
100	honderd	100th	honderdste
101	honderd(en)een	101st	honderd(en)eerste
200	tweehonderd	200th	tweehonderdste
1000	duizend	1000th	duizendste

DATES AND TIME

In Dutch records, dates are often written out. For example: *Donderdag, drie en twintig maart in het jaar van onse heer een duizend acht hondert en zesendertig* [Thursday, three and twenty March in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and six and thirty].

To understand Dutch dates, use the following lists as well as the preceding "Numbers" section.

Months

English	Dutch	Archaic Form
January	Januari	louwmaand
February	Februari	sprokkelmaand
March	Maart	lentemaand
April	April	grasmaand

May	Mei	bloemaand
June	Juni	zomermaand
July	Juli	hooimaand
August	Augustus	oogstmaand
September	September (7ber)	herfstmaand
October	October (8ber)	wijnmaand
November	November (9ber)	slachtmaand
December	December (10ber)	wintermaand

Days of the Week

English	Dutch
Sunday	Zondag
Monday	Maandag
Tuesday	Dinsdag
Wednesday	Woensdag
Thursday	Donderdag
Friday	Vrijdag
Saturday	Zaterdag

Times of the Day

Dutch birth and death records often indicated the time of day when the birth or death occurred. This is usually written out.

Dutch	English
des avonds ('s avonds)	in the evening
des middags ('s middags)	in the afternoon
des morgens ('s morgens)	in the morning
des nachts ('s nachts)	in the night
in de namiddag	in the mid-afternoon
in de voormiddag	in the mid-morning

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Map of the Netherlands

North Sea

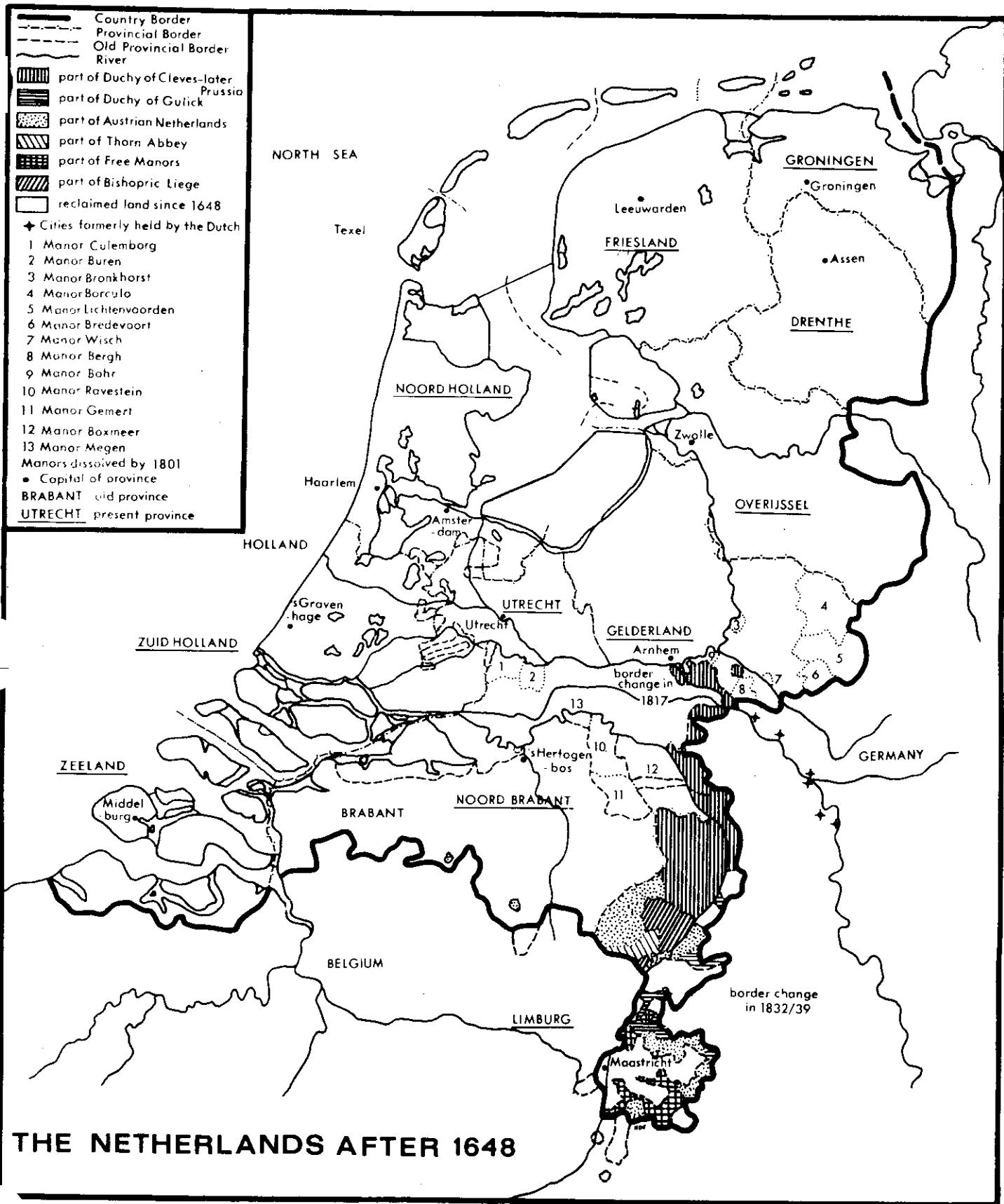


Province Map of Netherlands and Belgium



The Netherlands is divided into eleven provinces. Each province controls its own archive.

Name	Map Index	Capital	Name	Map Index	Capital
Drenthe	B4	Assen	Noord (North) Holland	B2	Haarlem
Friesland	A3	Leeuwarden	Overijssel (Overysse)	B4	Zwolle
Gelderland	C3	Arnhem	Utrecht	C3	Utrecht
Groningen	A4	Groningen	Zeeland	D2	Middelburg
Limburg	D4	Maastricht	Zuid (South) Holland	C2	Rotterdam
Noord (North) Brabant	D3's	Hertogenbosch			



THE NETHERLANDS AFTER 1648

Netherlands Church Record Christenings

Guide

Introduction

Beginning about 1550, many churches required their clergy to keep christening (or baptism) records. The records may include birth dates. Information may be recorded on or after the date of birth. Information found in a christening depends on how detailed the minister made his record.

For more information on church christening records, see Background.

What You Are Looking For

The following information may be found in a christening entry:

- The name of your ancestor.
- The date of your ancestor's christening or baptism.
- The name of your ancestor's parents.
- The names of the witnesses or godparents.
- The date of your ancestor's birth.
- The place of your ancestor's birth.
- The residence of the parents.
- The occupation of the father.
- Whether your ancestor was of legitimate or illegitimate birth.

Steps

These 5 steps will guide you in finding your ancestor in the Netherlands church records.

Step 1. Find the year of your ancestor's christening or baptism record.

To find the christening records available at the library, look in the Family History Library Catalog. Go to **What to Do Next**, select the **Family History Library Catalog**, and click on the tab for **Town Records** to see if your ancestor's parish is listed.

When looking for your ancestor's christening or baptism record, remember:

- Christening records are usually arranged chronologically. Sometimes they are arranged by the first letter of the given name and then chronologically for each letter.
- Christening records may be intermixed with marriage or burial records.
- Separate indexes to the christening records often exist.

If you don't know which parish your ancestor lived in, see the Netherlands gazetteer *Van Goor's aardrijkskundig woordenboek van Nederland* instructions for using this gazetteer are found in *How to use the Netherlands Gazetteer*.

Step 2. Find the entry for your ancestor.

Look for the last name, then look for the given name.

If you do not know the names of your ancestor's parents, you may have to check further to make sure you find the correct entry:

- Find the entries for all the children with the same given name and last name as your ancestor. Start with the year when you think your ancestor was born. Then check the entries for five years before and five years after. You may find several entries for children with the same name but with different parents.
- Take into account the patronymic (father's given name) naming conventions as appropriate.
- Eliminate the entries that contradict what you know about your ancestor. Check death records to see if any of the children died before your ancestor did. Check marriage records to see if any of the children married someone other than your ancestor's spouse (but remember that your ancestor may have married more than once).
- Christening records of all churches except the Mennonite Church will be for infants, unless otherwise indicated. Mennonite Church christenings will only be for adults.
- Try to make sure the christening entry is of your direct line ancestor. Because names are so common, you must be sure you have the correct entry.

For more help in finding the record entry, see Tip 1.

For help in reading the record entry, see Tip 2.

For help in verifying that you have the correct record entry, see Tip 4.

Step 3. Find the entries for each brother and sister of your ancestor.

Once you have the entry for your ancestor, find the entries for your ancestor's brothers and sisters:

- Search the christening records for entries of your ancestor's brothers and sisters.
- Search local death records or the christening records from surrounding parishes, especially if there are gaps of 3 or more years between the christening of siblings. Gaps of 3 or more years may indicate there was another child.
- To make sure you have found entries of all the family members, search death records and christening records of surrounding parishes for any additional children.
- Search for children born before the parents' marriage. Children may have been christened under the mother's maiden name. Sometimes the father's name is not given.

For help in finding the entries for the ancestor's brothers and sisters, see Tip 3.

Step 4. Copy the information, and document your sources.

If you can, photocopy the record. If you can't, be sure to copy all the information in the entry, including:

- All the people listed and their relationships to each other. (Remember, witnesses are often relatives.)

- All the dates in the entry and the events they pertain to. (Sometimes birth, and death information pertaining to the child may be included. The minister may use symbols such as + for death.) Be sure to look for additional dates in the entry's margin.
- All the localities in the entry and who was from the places listed.

On the copy, document where the information came from. List:

- The type of source (a paper certificate, a microform, a book, an Internet site, etc.).
- All reference numbers for the source. Carefully record any microfilm, book, or certificate numbers or the name and Internet address of the site you used.

Step 5. Analyze the information you obtain from the christening record.

To effectively use the information from the christening record, ask yourself the following questions:

- Is this the christening entry of my direct line ancestor? Because names are so common, you must be sure you have the correct record.
- Did the minister identify both parents, and is the mother's maiden name given?
- Were additional event dates, such as death, given in the entry's margin? (The minister may use symbols such as + for death.)
- Did more than 3 years pass since the christening of the last child? If so, another child may have been born and christened in a neighboring parish or born and died before it could be christened.
- Did you search 5 years without finding any earlier christening entries of children? If you find no other entries, then begin looking for the parents' marriage record.

For help in verifying that you have the correct record entry, see Tip 4.

Background

Description

Christening records may go back to the 1500s, when they began during the Reformation. Because of wars, natural disasters, and accidents, many churches were destroyed, along with all or part of their records.

Tips

Tip 1. How do I find the entry of my ancestor?

Look for the Latinized name. In different areas of the Netherlands and at different times, people sometimes Latinized their surnames. A person born and christened under the Dutch name of "Bakker," for example, may have later married and had children under the name "Pistorius," which was the Latin form of Bakker.

For help with name variations, see the Names, Personal section of *The Netherlands Research Outline*.

Tip 2. What if I can't read the record?

Catholic church records are usually written in Latin, and most Protestant church records are written in Dutch. The language used in the record may also be affected by:

- The language of bordering countries.
- The invasion by foreign countries.
- The movement of ethnic groups into the Netherlands, such as the French Huguenots.

For publications that can help you read the languages, see the *Latin Word List*, *Dutch Word List*, *French Word List*, and the Handwriting sections of both *The Netherlands Research Outline* and *German Research Outline*.

Tip 3. How do I find the record for each brother and sister?

Remember, within the family, one or more children may have the same given name(s).

When more than one set of parents has the same given names and surnames (for example two John and Mary Smiths), use the following identifiers and records to separate the families:

- The place of residence of the family.
- The father's occupation.
- The witnesses or godparents.
- Other sources like census, probate and Orphans' Chamber records that list family members as a group.

Tip 4. How do I verify the christening of my direct-line ancestor?

Often more than one family in a parish has the same family name. Because the same children's given names are used in every family, several children with the same given and family names could be christened within a few years of each other. To identify the correct direct-line ancestor and his or her parents:

- Check 5 years on each side of the supposed christening year, and copy the entry of every child with the same given name and surname as the ancestor.
- If one or more entries exist, check church burial records to eliminate those entries of children who died before your ancestor.
- If burial records do not exist or you are not able to eliminate all of the possible entries, check marriage records to eliminate those who married someone other than your ancestor's spouse.
- If you still cannot eliminate 2 or more possibilities, trace all lines to see if they go back to a common ancestor. Then continue research back from the common ancestor.
- Be aware that Dutch parents usually named their first four children after their own parents, and other children after their brothers and sisters. Knowing about this naming practice is especially helpful when you are trying to identify those people that did not have fixed surnames (that is, they were identified by their father's given name, such as Peter Janssen).
- If you eliminate all the possibilities, check the surrounding parishes, and repeat the above process until you find the christening entry for your ancestor.

Where to Find It

Family History Centers

Many Family History Centers can borrow microfilm(s) of christening records from the Family History Library. There is a small fee to have a microfilm loaned to a Family History Center.

Family History Centers are located throughout the United States and other areas of the world. For the address of the Family History Center nearest you, see Family History Centers.

Family History Library

The Family History Library has microfilmed most of the christening records of the Netherlands. There is no fee for using these microfilms in person.

You may request photocopies of the record from the library for a small fee. You will need to fill out a Request for Photocopies—Census Records, Books, Microfilm or Microfiche form. The Family History Library microfilm number is available from the Family History Library Catalog. Send the form and the fee to the Family History Library.

See *Family History Library Services and Resources* for information about contacting or visiting the library.

Archives and Parish Offices

If the Family History Library has not microfilmed the christening records for your locality, you will need to write to the archive or parish office where the records are kept.

Netherlands, Civil Registration Birth 1811-Present

Guide

Introduction

Beginning in 1811, the government required civil registrars to keep birth records.

For more information on civil registration birth records, see Background.

What You Are Looking For

The following information will usually be found in a birth entry:

- The name of your ancestor.
- The date of your ancestor's birth.
- The name of your ancestor's parents.
- The names, ages, occupations, and residences of the witnesses.
- The relationships of the witnesses to your ancestor.
- The place of your ancestor's birth.
- The residence of the parents.
- The age and occupation of the parents.
- Whether your ancestor was of legitimate or illegitimate birth.

Steps

These 5 steps will guide you in finding your ancestor in the Netherlands civil registration records.

Step 1. Find the year of your ancestor's birth record.

To find the birth records available at the library, look in the Family History Library Catalog. Go to **What to Do Next**, select the **Family History Library Catalog**, and click on the tab for **Town Records** to see if your ancestor's town is listed.

When looking for your ancestor's birth record, remember:

- Birth records are arranged chronologically.
- Birth records were kept by the civil registration office in the municipality where your ancestor lived.
- Yearly indexes and 10-year indexes to the birth records exist.

If you don't know which municipality your ancestor lived in, see the Netherlands gazetteer *Van Goor's aardrijkskundig woordenboek van Nederland*. Instructions for using this gazetteer are found in *How to use the Netherlands Gazetteer*.

Step 2. Find the entry for your ancestor.

Use the index first. Look for the last name, and then look for the given name. Record the date of registration and entry number. Next locate the entry.

If you do not know the names of your ancestor's parents, you may have to check further to make sure you find the correct entry:

- Find the entries for all the children with the same given name and last name as your ancestor. Start with the year when you think your ancestor was born. Then check the entries for five years before and five years after. You may find several entries for children with the same name but with different parents.
- Eliminate the entries that contradict what you know about your ancestor. Check death records to see if any of the children died before your ancestor did. Check marriage records to see if any of the children married someone other than your ancestor's spouse (but remember that your ancestor may have married more than once).
- Try to make sure the birth entry is of your direct line ancestor. Because names are so common, you must be sure you have the correct entry.

For more help in finding the record entry, see Tip 1.

For help in reading the record entry, see Tip 2.

For help in verifying that you have the correct record entry, see Tip 4.

Step 3. Find the entries for each brother and sister of your ancestor.

Once you have the entry for your ancestor, find the entries for your ancestor's brothers and sisters:

- Search the birth records for entries of your ancestor's brothers and sisters.
- Search local death records or the birth records from surrounding municipalities, especially if there are gaps of 3 or more years between the birth of siblings. Gaps of 3 or more years may indicate there was another child.
- To make sure you have found entries of all the family members, search death records and birth records of surrounding municipalities for any additional children.
- Search for children born before the parents' marriage. Children may have been born under the mother's maiden name. Sometimes the father's name is not given.

For help in finding the entries for the ancestor's brothers and sisters, see Tip 3.

Step 4. Copy the information, and document your sources.

If you can, photocopy the record. If you can't, be sure to copy all the information in the entry, including:

- All the people listed and their relationships to each other. (Remember, witnesses are often relatives.)
- All the dates in the entry and the events they pertain to. (Sometimes corrections to a birth record were added in the entry's margin.)
- All the localities in the entry and who was from the places listed.

On the copy, document where the information came from. List:

- The type of source (a paper certificate, a microform, a book, an Internet site, and so forth).
- All reference numbers for the source. Carefully record any microfilm, book, or certificate numbers or the name and Internet address of the site you used.

Step 5. Analyze the information you obtain from the birth record.

To effectively use the information from the birth record, ask yourself the following questions:

- Is this the birth entry of my direct line ancestor? Because names are so common, you must be sure you have the correct record.
- Did the civil registrar identify both parents, and is the mother's maiden name given?
- Did more than 3 years pass since the birth of the last child? If so, another child may have been born in a neighboring municipality.
- Did you search 5 years without finding any earlier birth entries of children? If you find no other entries, then begin looking for the parents' marriage record.

For help in verifying that you have the correct record entry, see Tip 4.

Background

Description

Birth records may go back to the 1790s, when they began during the time of the French occupation.

Tips

Tip 1. How do I find the entry of my ancestor?

In some indexes, only the first letter of the surname is in alphabetical order.

For help with name variations, see the "Names, Personal" section of *The Netherlands Research Outline*.

Tip 2. What if I can't read the record?

Civil registration records are written in Dutch. The language used in the record may also be affected by:

- Invasions by foreign countries.

For publications that can help you read the languages, see the *Dutch Word List*, *French Word List*, and the "Handwriting" section of *The Netherlands Research Outline*.

Tip 3. How do I find the record for each brother and sister?

Remember, within the family, one or more children may have the same given name(s).

When more than one set of parents has the same given names and surnames (for example two John and Mary Smiths), use the following identifiers and records to separate the families:

- The place of residence of the family.
- The father's occupation.
- The witnesses.
- Other sources like census and population registers that list family members as a group.

Tip 4. How do I verify the birth of my direct-line ancestor?

Often more than one family in an area has the same family name. Because the same children's given names are used in every family, several children with the same given and family names could be born within a few years of each other. To identify the correct direct-line ancestor and his or her parents:

- Check 5 years on each side of the supposed birth year, and copy the entry of every child with the same given name and surname as the ancestor.
- If one or more entries exist, check civil registration death records to eliminate those entries of children who died before your ancestor.
- If you are not able to eliminate all of the possible entries, check marriage records to eliminate those who married someone other than your ancestor's spouse.
- Be aware that Dutch parents usually named their first four children after their own parents, and other children after their brothers and sisters.
- If you eliminate all the possibilities, check the surrounding municipalities, and repeat the above process until you find the birth entry for your ancestor.

Where to Find It

Family History Centers

Many Family History Centers can borrow microfilms of birth records from the Family History Library. There is a small fee to have a microfilm loaned to a Family History Center.

Family History Centers are located throughout the United States and other areas of the world. For the address of the Family History Center nearest you, see Family History Centers see Family History Library Services and Resources.

Family History Library

The Family History Library has microfilmed nearly all of the civil registration birth records of the Netherlands that are not protected by laws of privacy. There is no fee for using these microfilms in person.

You may request photocopies of the record from the library for a small fee. You will need to fill out a Request for Photocopies—Census Records, Books, Microfilm, or Microfiche form. The Family History Library microfilm number is available from the Family History Library Catalog. Send the form and the fee to the Family History Library.

See *Family History Library Services and Resources* for information about contacting or visiting the library.

Civil Registration Offices

If the Family History Library has not microfilmed the birth records for your locality, you will need to write to the archive or civil registration office where the records are kept.

Netherlands Church Record Marriage 1550-1810

Guide

Introduction

Beginning about 1550, many churches required their clergy to keep marriage records. Information found in a marriage record depends on how detailed the minister made his record.

For more information on church marriage records, see Background.

What You Are Looking For

The following information may be found in a marriage entry:

- The names of your ancestors.
- The date of your ancestors' marriage.
- Whether your ancestors were single or widowed at the time of marriage.
- The names of your ancestors' parents.
- The names of the witnesses.
- The date of your ancestors' birth (or their age at the time of marriage).
- The place of your ancestors' birth (or where they were residing when married).
- The residence and occupation of your ancestors.
- The occupation of the father.
- The date of the marriage proclamations or banns.
- The names of previous spouses.

Steps

These 4 steps will guide you in finding your ancestor in the Netherlands church records.

Step 1. Find the year of your ancestor's marriage record.

To find the marriage records available at the library, look in the Family History Library Catalog. Go to **What to Do Next**, select the **Family History Library Catalog**, and click on the tab for **Town Records** to see if your ancestor's parish is listed.

When looking for your ancestors' marriage record, remember:

- Marriage records are usually arranged chronologically.
- Marriage records may be intermixed with christening or burial records.
- Separate indexes to the marriage records often exist.

If you don't know which parish your ancestor lived in, see the Netherlands gazetteer *Van Goor's aardrijkskundig woordenboek van Nederland*. Instructions for using this gazetteer are found in *How to use the Netherlands Gazetteer*.

Step 2. Find the entry for your ancestor.

Look for the last name. Then look for the given name.

You may have to check further to make sure you find the correct entry:

- If the entry gives the ages of the bride and groom, they should be compatible with their ages at death or on census or other records.

For more help in finding the record entry, see Tip 1.

For help in reading the record entry, see Tip 2.

For help in verifying that you have the correct record entry, see Tip 3.

Step 3. Copy the information, and document your sources.

If you can, photocopy the record. If you can't, be sure to copy all the information in the entry, including:

- All the people listed and their relationships to each other. (Remember, witnesses are often relatives.)
- All the dates in the entry and the events they pertain to. Be sure to look for additional dates in the entry's margin.
- All the localities in the entry and who was from the places listed.

On the copy, document where the information came from. List:

- The type of source (a paper certificate, a microform, a book, an Internet site, etc.).
- All reference numbers for the source. Carefully record any microfilm, book, or certificate numbers or the name and Internet address of the site you used.

Step 4. Analyze the information you obtain from the marriage record.

To effectively use the information from the marriage record, ask yourself the following question:

- Is this the marriage entry of my direct line ancestors? Because names are so common, you must be sure you have the correct record.

For help in verifying that you have the correct record entry, see Tip 3.

Background

Marriage records may go back to the 1500s, when they began during the Reformation. Because of wars, natural disasters, and accidents, many churches were destroyed, along with all or part of their records.

Tips

Tip 1. How do I find the entry of my ancestor?

Look for the Latinized name. In different areas of the Netherlands and at different times, people sometimes Latinized their surnames. A person born and christened under the Dutch name of "Bakker," for example, may have later married and had children under the name "Pistorius," which was the Latin form of Baker.

For help with name variations, see the "Names, Personal" section of *The Netherlands Research Outline*.

Tip 2. What if I can't read the record?

Catholic Church records are usually written in Latin, and most Protestant church records are written in Dutch. The language used in the record may also be affected by:

- The language of bordering countries.
- The invasion by foreign countries.
- The movement of ethnic groups into the Netherlands, such as the French Huguenots.

For publications that can help you read the languages, see the *Latin Word List*, *Dutch Word List*, *German Word List* (for some Lutheran church records), *French Word List*, and the "Handwriting" sections of both *The Netherlands Research Outline* and *German Research Outline*.

Tip 3. How do I verify the marriage of my direct-line ancestor?

Often more than one family in a parish has the same family name. Because the same children's given names are used in every family, several children with the same given and family names could be married within a few years of each other. To identify the correct direct-line ancestor and his or her parents:

- Check 5 years before and after the birth of the first child.
- If one or more entries exist, check church burial records to eliminate those entries of couples that died before or after your ancestor.
- If you eliminate all the possibilities, check the surrounding parishes, and repeat the above process until you find the marriage entry for your ancestors.

Where to Find It

Family History Centers

Many Family History Centers can borrow microfilms of marriage records from the Family History Library. There is a small fee to have a microfilm loaned to a Family History Center.

Family History Centers are located throughout the United States and other areas of the world. For the address of the Family History Center nearest you, see *Family History Centers*.

Family History Library

The Family History Library has microfilmed most of the marriage records of the Netherlands. There is no fee for using these microfilms in person.

You may request photocopies of the record from the library for a small fee. You will need to fill out a Request for Photocopies—Census Records, Books, Microfilm or Microfiche form. The Family History Library microfilm number is available from the Family History Library Catalog. Send the form and the fee to the Family History Library.

See *Family History Library Services and Resources* for information about contacting or visiting the library.

Archives and Parish Offices

If the Family History Library has not microfilmed the marriage records for your locality, you will need to write to the archive or parish office where the records are kept.

Netherlands, Civil Registration Marriage 1811-Present

Guide

Introduction

Beginning in 1811, the government required civil registrars to keep marriage records.

For more information on civil registration marriage records, see [Background](#).

What You Are Looking For

The following information will usually be found in a marriage entry:

- The names of your ancestors.
- The date of your ancestors' marriage.
- The names of your ancestors' parents and their residence and occupation, if living.
- The names of the witnesses, their ages, occupations, residence, and relationship to the bride or groom.
- The date of your ancestors' birth (usually their age at the time of marriage).
- The place of your ancestors' birth (or where they were residing when married).
- The occupation of the groom.
- Whether the bride and groom were single or widowed before the marriage.

Steps

These 5 steps will guide you in finding your ancestor in the Netherlands civil registration records.

Step 1. Find the year of your ancestor's marriage record.

To find the marriage records available at the library, look in the Family History Library Catalog. Go to **What to Do Next**, select the **Family History Library Catalog**, and click on the tab for **Town Records** to see if your ancestor's town is listed.

When looking for your ancestor's marriage record, remember:

- Marriage records are arranged chronologically.
- Marriage records were kept by the civil registration office in the municipality where your ancestor lived.
- Yearly indexes and 10-year indexes to the marriage records exist.

If you don't know which municipality your ancestor lived in, see the Netherlands gazetteer *Van Goor's aardrijkskundig woordenboek van Nederland*. Instructions for using this gazetteer are found in *How to use the Netherlands Gazetteer*.

Step 2. Find the entry for your ancestor.

Use the index first. Look for the last name, and then look for the given name. Record the date of marriage and entry number. Next locate the entry.

For more help in finding the record entry, see Tip 1.

For help in reading the record entry, see Tip 2.

Step 3. Copy the information, and document your sources.

If you can, photocopy the record. If you can't, be sure to copy all the information in the entry, including:

- All the people listed and their relationships to each other. (Remember, witnesses are often relatives.)
- All the dates in the entry and the events they pertain to.
- All the localities in the entry and who was from the places listed.

On the copy, document where the information came from. List:

- The type of source (a paper certificate, a microform, a book, an Internet site, and so forth).
- All reference numbers for the source. Carefully record any microfilm, book, or certificate numbers or the name and Internet address of the site you used.

Step 4. Analyze the information you obtain from the marriage record.

To effectively use the information from the marriage record, ask yourself the following questions:

- Is this the marriage entry of my direct line ancestors? Because names are so common, you must be sure you have the correct record.
- Were additional event dates, such as birth, death, etc., given in the entry? (Each couple had to produce identifying documents including copies of their birth certificates, death certificates of parents and former spouses, and sometimes of grandparents if applicable.) While these documents are contained in a separate packet, the information may also be recorded within the marriage entry.

Background

Marriage records may go back to the 1790s, when they began during the time of the French occupation.

Tips

Tip 1. How do I find the entry of my ancestor?

In some indexes, only the first letter of the surname is in alphabetical order. The index may only contain grooms' names. A brides index may be separate or not exist.

For help with name variations, see the "Names, Personal" section of *The Netherlands Research Outline*.

Tip 2. What if I can't read the record?

Civil registration records are written in Dutch. The language used in the record may also be affected by:

- Invasions by foreign countries.

For publications that can help you read the languages, see the *Dutch Word List*, *French Word List*, and the "Handwriting" section of *The Netherlands Research Outline*.

Where to Find It

Family History Centers

Many Family History Centers can borrow microfilms of marriage records from the Family History Library. There is a small fee to have a microfilm loaned to a Family History Center.

Family History Centers are located throughout the United States and other areas of the world. For the address of the Family History Center nearest you, see Family History Centers see Family History Library Services and Resources.

Family History Library

The Family History Library has microfilmed nearly all of the civil registration marriage records of the Netherlands that are not protected by laws of privacy. There is no fee for using these microfilms in person.

You may request photocopies of the record from the library for a small fee. You will need to fill out a Request for Photocopies—Census Records, Books, Microfilm, or Microfiche form. The Family History Library microfilm number is available from the Family History Library Catalog. Send the form and the fee to the Family History Library.

See *Family History Library Services and Resources* for information about contacting or visiting the library.

Civil Registration Offices

If the Family History Library has not microfilmed the marriage records for your locality, you will need to write to the archive or civil registration office where the records are kept.

Netherlands Church Records Compiled by the Genealogical Society

Church records of the Netherlands - Dutch Reformed : Nederlands Hervormde Kerk

http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/fhlcatalog/supermainframeset.asp?display=title&titleno=102490&disp=Church+records+of+the+Netherlands+%2D+Du%20%20&columns=*,0,0

Church records of the Netherlands - Remonstrant Church or Brotherhood :

Remonstrantsche Kerk of Broederschap

http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/fhlcatalog/supermainframeset.asp?display=title&titleno=102480&disp=Church+records+of+the+Netherlands+%2D+Re%20%20&columns=*,0,0

Roman Catholic Church records of the Netherlands

http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/fhlcatalog/supermainframeset.asp?display=title&titleno=695322&disp=Roman+Catholic+Church+records+of+the+Net%20%20&columns=*,0,0

Church records of the Netherlands - Walloon or French Reformed : Waalse of Frans Hervormde

http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/fhlcatalog/supermainframeset.asp?display=title&titleno=102495&disp=Church+records+of+the+Netherlands+%2D+Wa%20%20&columns=*,0,0

Church and civil records of Amsterdam, the Netherlands, before 1811

http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/fhlcatalog/supermainframeset.asp?display=title&titleno=102503&disp=Church+and+civil+records+of+Amsterdam%2C%20%20&columns=*,0,0

How to Use the Netherlands Gazetteer

Guide

Getting Started

This will help you identify and verify localities in the Netherlands as they are listed in the gazetteer Van Goor's aardrijkskundig woordenboek van Nederland.

For more information on the Van Goor's gazetteer, see Background

What You Are Looking For

In the Van Goor's gazetteer, abbreviations are used for different record jurisdictions. The following information may be found in a Van Goor's locality entry:

- The name of the province to which the municipality belonged.
- The name of the municipality to which a village belonged.

Not all localities of the Netherlands are listed in the Van Goor's gazetteer. For additional information on Dutch localities, see Tip 1.

What Information You Need

You need to know only the name of a place of birth, marriage or death.

Steps

These 2 steps will guide you in finding your locality in the Van Goor's gazetteer.

Step 1. Determine which province your locality was in.

In every complete entry, the Van Goor's gazetteer identifies the province a locality was in. This information is given in abbreviated form following the locality name.

For a list of provinces and other abbreviations used, as well as other important words, see Tip 2.

For examples of entries of a village and a municipality, see Tip 3.

For entries that refer you to something else, see Tip 4.

Step 2. Record the information in your research notes.

Record the province name from the gazetteer.

Background

Civil registration records of births, marriages, and deaths are recorded on the municipality level. The municipality is often the same as a town, but sometimes it contains several towns. The gazetteer will tell you the name of the municipality and province to which a place belongs.

The Dutch language has an additional letter, the ij (sometimes written as ÿ). It is filed in this gazetteer with the letter "y."

Tips

Tip 1. What if my locality is not listed in Van Goor's gazetteer?

Sometimes, Dutch towns were anglicized in U.S. records. This occurred when the town was pronounced in Dutch and recorded based on how it was heard in English. By understanding Dutch phonetics and using a Dutch gazetteer, you can change the anglicized town name back into the correct Dutch spelling.

Tip 2. How can I tell which province my town was in?

The English translations of the abbreviations used in the book follow. The abbreviations page in the gazetteer is not numbered, but it is three pages before the first numbered page, which is page 10.

Voornaamste afkortingen (Principal abbreviations)

Provinces

Gr	Groningen
F	Friesland
D	Drenthe
Ov	Overijssel
Gld	Gelderland
U	Utrecht
NH	Noord-Holland (North Holland)
ZH	Zuid-Holland (South Holland)
Z	Zeeland
NB	Noord-Brabant (North Brabant)
L	Limburg

Other abbreviations

gem.	gemeente, gemeenten, gemeentelijk (municipality, municipalities, municipal)
inw.	inwoners (inhabitants)
rk	rooms-katholiek (Roman Catholic)
nh	Nederlands-hervormd (Dutch Reformed)
vp	vrijzinnig protestant (Liberal Protestant)
ger	gereformeerd (Reformed)
ov	overige gezindten (other religions)
gez	gezindte (religion)
M.E.	middeleeuwen (Middle Ages)

Directions

n	noorden, noord-, noordelijk (north, northern)
o	oosten, oost-, oostelijk (east, eastern)

w	westen, west-, westelijk (west, western)
z	zuiden, zuid-, zuidelijk (south, southern)
no	noordoosten, noordoost-, noordoostelijk (northeast, northeastern)
nw	noordwesten, noordwest-, noordwestelijk (northwest, northwestern)
zo	zuidoosten, zuidoost-, zuidoostelijk (southeast, southeastern)
zw	zuidwesten, zuidwest-, zuidwestelijk (southwest, southwestern)

Other important words used in the gazetteer

- boerderij (farm)
- buurtschap (hamlet)
- deel (part)
- dorp (village)
- dorpje (small village)
- gebied (area, district)
- grens (boundary)
- hoofdplaats (capital of a province, chief town)
- landgoed (manor, country estate)
- polder (polder, reclaimed land)
- stad (town, city)
- stadje (small town)
- streek (region)
- veenkolonie (peat colony)
- wijk (quarter, district)

Tip 3. What information is given in village and municipality entries?

Entry for a village:

Eck en Wiel Gld tweelingdorp in de gem. Maurik (twin village in the municipality of Maurik).

Entry for a municipality:

Maurik 1 Gld gem. van 5.000 inw. aan de Rijn (1 Gelderland province, municipality of 5,000 inhabitants on the Rhine River). There are three places called Maurik; this is the first one listed.

Tip 4: What if my locality has a "see" reference?

"See" references are indicated by words in *italics*. An example of this is:

Eck *Eck en Wiel*.

Where to Find It

At the Family History Library

The Family History Library has the Van Goor's gazetteer in book form.

The gazetteer is available on the first lower level of the Family History Library. There is no fee for using the Library's resources in person.

You may also request photocopies of pages in the gazetteer from the Library for a small fee. You will need to fill out a "Request for Photocopies - Census Records, Books, Microfilm or Microfiche" form. Complete the form using the book number you found in the *Family History Library Catalog*. Send the form and the fee to the Family History Library.

See Family History Library Services and Resources for more information about contacting or visiting the Library.

DUTCH FAMILY RESEARCH: USING THE COLLECTION OF THE CENTRAL
OFFICE FOR GENEALOGY IN THE NETHERLANDS

Theodoor Nijmde Schelhaas

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THOSE WHO MAKE USE OF GENEALOGICAL SOURCES

In the past, genealogy was practiced by amateurs who were practically interested in their own ancestors or relations only. They tried their knowledge by means of correspondence and conversations with older relations and acquaintances. One had to draw up one's family trees or descendants' tables only by means of transmission by word of mouth--only rarely completed with family papers one possessed.

Their results could be compared with the genealogical registers in the Bible or the family trees of the Maoris in New Zealand, which were transmitted by word of mouth.

Investigation by genealogists has assumed enormous proportions, especially after World War II. All kinds of reasons may be brought forward for this, e.g. nostalgia, more spare time, more financial elbow room, and better education. Also, accessibility of data and the equipment of places where they are kept, play a part not to be disregarded.

Whereas for a long time past the part of the population genealogically interested had been composed almost exclusively of amateurs among nobility or patricians, who by means of genealogy tried to add to or show their prestige, at the moment this hobby is possible for a great many people from all strata of society. By some people the hobby is only practiced for a period of time in order to satisfy the need of some knowledge about the past

of their own families. For others satisfaction lies in forming hypotheses with the help of some data, and in seeing these hypotheses proved by finding the very certificate necessary. For others again being busy making investigations into the past, reviving it is a value in itself. In view of problematics about spending increasing spare time, also owing to automation, this hobby is considered to be of great importance by the Dutch authorities. An investigation the other day showed that in the Netherlands there is a host of about 40,000 people who actively practice genealogy.

Moreover, apart from hobbyism, genealogy as an auxiliary science is of great importance for all kinds of people practicing various scientific disciplines.

Those who practice political history should study relations between executive groups in their investigations; e.g., socioeconomic history in studying the guild of carpenters at Haarlem cannot but compose genealogical connections.

The demographer reconstructs entire groups of population from the past. Without genealogy he cannot do much.

What could the biographer attain without being able to place his person to be described in the historical connection of family and relations? In what other way than by means of genealogy could the notary public trace his clients' heirs?

In giving advice in matters of heredity, medical science more and more uses this

very auxiliary science. The total number of diseases or affections now proved to be transmissible or probably transmissible is 5,625. Who does not know about the well-known hemophilia of some of Queen Victoria's male descendants, which is transmissible via women?

By means of genealogy the jurist sometimes traces the land titles of certain family—estates.

Iconography proves the identity of pictures and portraits with the help of family trees and ancestral charts.

I will mention one other example. At the moment I myself, with the help of genealogical data known to me of the isle of Goedereede, am engaged in investigating whether any of the autochthons there accompanied the Dutch explorer Roggeveen, who discovered Easter Island on Easter 1722. For the other day a small image having the shape of the big statues to be seen on Easter Island, was found in the soil of Ouddorp. Who else but the genealogist could give the solution here?

OPENING UP OF SOURCES

Juridical Hindrances

All these amateurs and all those practicing science have in common that for their investigations they must make use of archives.

These are the places where most of the sources important for the genealogist are to be found. As long as these archives were not opened up to the investigator, results of genealogists were in fact unreliable, or at least not justified, scientifically speaking.

This situation has changed since the end of the eighteenth century, also owing to the influence of the French revolution. Whereas at first archives were opened up to the investigator who, in the subjective opinion of the archivist, was deemed reliable, in the course of the twentieth

century publicity has become a right for everybody.

In the Netherlands such publicity of state and municipal archives was first guaranteed in the Archives Act of 1918 and regulated once again in the Act of 1962. At the moment everybody has a right to consult all documents, registers, indexes, etc. free of charge in the reading rooms of the record offices; of course it is possible to have copies made, on payment of charges; documents, registers, etc. are lent out to other record offices and special institutions.

Owing to the publicity it is now possible for the investigator to make his investigations efficiently and to prove the results of them to be scientifically justified.

Making Inventories

Anyone who has once made an investigation of archives, has found out that it is practically impossible to find anything in unarranged archives. Therefore the foremost task of the archivist is to open up the archives under his control to the public. He does so by making an inventory in accordance with the rules he has learned about keeping archives. Of each separate document or of a number of documents of the same kind a summarized description is made, showing who was the maker or author, for whom the documents in question were meant, and the contents. Then groups of those documents and registers or volumes that belong together organically are made. When finally those groups have also been logically classed in categories, the inventory is ready.

In this way, by means of the inventory of family archives, it is possible to find all documents regarding one special person and his family quickly. To be found are the marriage contract, wills, deeds regarding division of property, correspondence, and diaries, but also many businesslike documents regarding taking charge of goods, or regarding following a special trade or profession.

Indexing

To the genealogist who wants to make a family tree of a family having the disposal of archives of their own, it is indeed sufficient to find, with the help of the inventory made of the archives in question the relevant documents, and to obtain the genealogical data of importance to him in these documents. Mostly, however, the data can be obtained only from registers or other sources which do not deal with one special person, but contain a great many data about sometimes hundreds of people.

Thus a baptismal register serves for registering the christenings of all members of a special parish.

A register of transfers contains all transfers of, for example, immovables in a special corporate community. Such a register states buyers, sellers, their representatives or guardians, owners of adjacent premises, witnesses, and special rightful claimants, who are entitled to right of way or a mortgage. There is nothing for the investigator to do but follow with his finger all registrations and to look for those rare data that can be used. Of course in practice this looking is not intensive. It takes too much time. The only solution for this very great problem, arising in any investigation of archives, either genealogical or in other domain, is making indexes on all data relevant for investigators. These indexes or registers are then systematically or alphabetically arranged and made available to the investigator. You will understand that this is a gigantic job, started in many places, it is true, but very far from completed yet. In addition to the quantity of work also the choice of what is to be epitomized from the document in question is a great problem. How does the documentalist know what will interest scientists in twenty years?

I will mention one other problem. The formulation of the subject dealt with in the document is rather a subjective matter. To what extent does the

documentalist now influence the future investigator?

The genealogist has the good fortune that indexing may be done rather simply for him. Names of persons will do.

Also, because genealogists have always been relatively strongly represented among those who visit record offices, in most Dutch archives baptismal, marriage, and burial registers have meanwhile been indexed. This holds good for nearly all municipal record offices, Public Record Offices now on a large scale being engaged in realizing this.

Centralization—Decentralization

A last important hindrance for those who make their investigations in archives is the great scattering of those sources. There are numerous record office where he can find either complete archives or loose documents, or special data. Here we are in the middle of the problem of centralization or decentralization of archives. Here I will leave on one side all juridical problems involved in this and go into the interest the investigator has in this matter. Here we must ascertain that the group of investigators disintegrates. There are historians who direct their attention to a more general subject; e.g., tax levy in Guelders at the time of the Republic. This group will profit by central storing of all archives of both central and local authorities. Others will direct their attention more to the study of subjects regarding special places or districts, e.g., the relation between the yield of taxation at Apeldoorn during a certain period and social construction there. This group will prefer that baptismal, marriage, and burial registers, archives of judicature, municipal, and church archives are to be found at Apeldoorn.

To confine ourselves to genealogists: the composer of an ancestral chart prefers centralization of all genealogical data of the whole country; these who compose the so-called Ortssippenbucher will profit more by decentralization.

Fortunately, technique sees to it that a Solomonian judgment in this matter is not necessary. For photocopies, films, and computers now enable us to store doubles of archives or indexes in several places in such a way that they are most useful for several persons. In this way the wish of most of those practicing genealogy to be able to consult as much genealogical data as possible in one place in the Netherlands, has come far more to realization.

To this datum we want to add the following. In the course of time an ever-increasing number of genealogists working individually at first, later also in unions have made and left enormous quantities of manuscript-genealogies, ancestral charts, and loose notes. Privately, but also with the help of genealogical magazines and other means of publication, rather a lot has been published so far.

Finally, by genealogical and heraldic offices for documentation, a large quantity of material has been collected, made under orders, received, or bought. We mention here manuscripts, loose notes, family advertisements, and all kinds of collections of indexes, especially on baptismal, marriage and burial registers.

THE "CENTRAAL BUREAU VOOR GENEALOGIE"

How It Came into Being

In several countries all this together led to the coming into existence of a central body for the country. In Germany the "Zentralstelle für Personen- und Familiengeschichte" (Central Office for the History of German Persons and Families) at Frankfurt am Main; in Belgium the "Vlaams Centrum voor Genealogie en Familiegesciedenis" (Flemish Centre for Genealogy and Family History) at Handzame and in the United States the Genealogical Society of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints at Salt Lake City. In many countries the various genealogical societies applied themselves

to the collection of all kinds of documentary material.

In the Netherlands the State had obtained possession of the collection of the "Fonds voor Biografische Documentatie" (Fund for Biographical Documentation) in 1940, on the condition that this collection was to be continued by the State. The said collection contained about 12,000,000 advertisements regarding approximately 66,000 surnames of the years 1795 to 1932.

In the course of World War II the "Verbond voor Sibbekunde" (Association for Genealogy) had collected a large quantity of genealogical manuscripts, which was confiscated by the State in 1945. The "Bureau voor Nationale Veiligheid" (Office for National Security) possessed a large collection of identity cards.

In 1945, on the initiative of Jhr. Mr. Dr. E.A. van Beresteyn, the "Stichting Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie" (Central Office for Genealogy) was established. Added were the collections of the "Stichting Nederland's Patriciaat" (Patricians of the Netherlands), among which there were large parts of the collections of Vorsterman van Oyen and Van Epen and also of the "Bureau voor Historische Biografie" (Office for Historical Biography)--Knipscheer collection. Soon the office also got the disposal of the identity cards of persons deceased after 1938. In this way at the "Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie" a concentration of nearly all the genealogical collections in this domain known in the Netherlands took place. Only the collections of the "Koninklijk Nederlands Genootschap voor Geslacht- en Wapenkunde" (Royal Dutch Society for Genealogy and Heraldry) had remained out of the concentration. An effort to cooperate failed in 1948.

In 1975 the president of the "Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie," Jhr. Mr. C.C. van Valkenburg, again suggested the possibility of cooperation between the "Centraal Bureau", the "Koninklijk

Nederlands Genootschap voor Geslacht-en Wapenkunde," and the "Nederlands Genealogische Vereniging" (Dutch Genealogical Society), existing since 1945, which society meanwhile has also the disposal of a considerable collection of genealogical material at Naarden. So far the only result has been a contact committee, composed of members of the Boards of the various bodies.

The Functioning of the Institution

The purpose of the foundation is to further the science of genealogy and sciences related.

To realize this purpose, an organization headed by a board was constructed, the board being juridically responsible. This board consists of a number of persons interested in genealogy, each of whom may be of importance to the foundation in connection with his own professional discipline. There are representatives of industrial circles, the financial world, public notaries, and judicature, together with representatives of a number of organizations related, such as the "Rijksarchiefdienst" (Public Record Service), the "Koninklijk Nederlands Genootschap voor Geslacht- en Wapenkunde" and the "Nederlands Genealogische Vereniging."

The number of persons working at the office of the foundation is about fifty-five, partly in the employ of the foundation and partly put to work there under all kinds of social regulations.

The whole of it is 80 percent State-aided and the rest is financed out of the foundation's own revenue. Half of this revenue consists of contributions of about 5,000 friends of the foundation who, in exchange for their annual subscription of now DFLs. 35,00 receive a yearbook, information, and all kinds of facilities.

The work is done by a number of departments under the guidance of a director and two conservators.

Library

It contains nearly all that has been written in Dutch or in other languages about Dutch families, viz.:

- Monographs
- Magazines
- Reference books, such as biographical dictionaries, Army-lists, almanacs, telephone books, etc.
- Annals of institutions and concerns
- Occasional Poems
- Personalalia, necrologies, biographies, etc.
- Topography and history (for the greater part local history)
- Auxiliary sciences, such as study of names, paleography, chronology;
- Inventories of archives
- Heraldry, besides Dutch also many foreign works

Documentation

This department is in charge of obtaining, taking charge of, increasing, and opening up collections of importance to the genealogist. The said department is divided into the sections Film, Family advertisements, and Manuscripts. Below we will enlarge upon these collections, which are a very important part of our work indeed.

Reading Room

In the reading room a number of civil servants are ready to help anybody in consulting libraries and collections, both in printed, written, and filmed form. Nowadays the reading room is visited by about 10,000 people each year. Investigations may be made without any charge, if one is a "friend," if not, one pays DFLs. 2,50 a day or part of it. Of course of all data photocopies are to be had and of the films filmcopies or prints by means of a reader-printer.

Investigation and Information

Every year about seven-thousand five-hundred letters in which all kinds of inquiries are made, are received.

One-half consists of requests for copies of all kinds of data from the collections. The other half contains inquiries in the domain of genealogy heraldry for which investigation in the collections is required. Naturally this investigation is made on payment of the charges.

The answering of questions varies from simple to thorough investigation. Advice is also given about investigation to be made elsewhere and the methodology of genealogy.

Heraldry

In this domain the office fulfills various tasks. The library was already mentioned. Besides some collections are taken care of. The most important of these is that of R.T. Muschart (1873-1955), who described all pictures known to him of arms, mostly on old seals. This collection has been opened up by means of an index of figures of arms and on surnames.

To historians of art this collection is of the utmost importance. Questions in the domain of heraldry are dealt with in writing. The collection may be inspected in the reading room.

Finally, at the office it is possible to register old, but also new family arms.

Investigation of Archives

By order of third parties this department makes investigations in the foundation's own collections, but mostly in the archives all over the country, for composing complete genealogies and ancestral charts. Every year about thirty to forty great investigations are made.

Publications

The office of the foundation edits the following publications:

Yearbook. This contains the annual

report and a series of articles in the domain of genealogy and related sciences.

"Mededelingen" (information). Each quarter of a year a publication appears in which information of all kinds of importance to the genealogist is given, in which advertising is possible, and in which a summary of gains of the foundation is given.

CB series. This series comprises a number of short works, which, each in a special domain, furnish a surveyable "way in" to the beginning, but sometimes also to the advanced genealogist:

1. Summary of the Collections Deposited with the "Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie" and the "Iconographisch Bureau."
2. Searching for Our Ancestors. A guide, now quite renewed, for investigation of family trees for beginners.
3. Searching for Your Ancestors in the Netherlands. A summary guide for foreigners.
4. Advice and Addresses for Genealogical Investigation Abroad.
5. Registered from the Cradle to the Grave. A guide for investigations at registry offices and in parish registers.
6. Family Arms, Old and New Ones. An introductory to family heraldry.
7. Days, Months, Years. Chronology summarized.
8. Our Ancestors Wrote Like This. A guide for reading the old Dutch writing.

Nederland's Patriciaat (patricians in the Netherlands)

The so-called blue booklet, appearing every year, in which genealogies of important Dutch families are published.

Dutch East Indian Collections

Index on the advertisements from the "Javasche Courant."

Collection of cards on Dutch East Indian Almanacs and directories.

Collection Bloys van Treslong Prins.

I will enlarge upon these collections in another lecture.

Parish Registers

Films of the parish registers of the municipalities in most Dutch provinces will shortly be in our possession. These registers are the forerunners of the identity cards mentioned and were started in approximately 1850.

Civil Registration

Films of the registers of civil registration, which registration was introduced in the greater part of the Netherlands in 1811, will be open to public inspection or our office in days to come. Negotiations with the Public Records Service were meanwhile started. Some indexes and films of the registers of the district of The Hague are already there.

Collection Dutch Red Cross

A collection of cards with data about persons deceased and buried in Germany and elsewhere during World War II, together with a collection of about 80,000 copies of birth, marriage and death certificates regarding Dutchmen.

Lists of Emigrants

On cards and as computer output.

Collections Important for Older Investigations

Baptismal, Marriage, and Burial Registers

Where baptismal, marriage, and burial registers are deposited, is stated in the repertory already mentioned. There also the registers of which there are copies of some kind in the reading room of our

office are mentioned. Meanwhile there are thousands of them, especially those of which the originals are still deposited with the churches and which can therefore be consulted only with difficulty.

Among the many collections of indexes on or notes from baptismal, marriage, and burial registers I will mention the most important:

Guelders Marriages

This collection contains copies of nearly all marriage registers of Calvinistic churches in Guelderland, with indexes on the names of both bridegrooms and brides.

Collection Wolters

Mr. Wolters made copies of entries of marriages of military men in most provinces and especially in garrison towns. The data are arranged according to place and naturally alphabetically.

Walloon Library Card Index

The collection contains 1,200,000 cards, reproduced on approximately 8,000 micro-cards, stating data from baptismal, marriage, and burial registers and registers, of members, of Walloon churches in the Netherlands and of many of these in Belgium, Germany and also France itself. Also inserted: the French names from the resolutions of the States General, army lists and the deeds of the Walloon synods.

Other Documentation

In addition to the said baptismal, marriage, and burial registers, there are also large quantities of copies of other documentary materials; e.g., indexes on the sentences of the Court of Holland, judicial, notarial, and Orphans' Court archives, citizenship lists, records of censuses, etc.

Collection Regt

Twenty-five volumes with data about all

Calvinistic Dutch clergymen, together with indexes.

Collection of Manuscripts

I will conclude this lecture by mentioning the collection of manuscripts. Owing to inheritance, gifts, and purchases, the foundation has become the owner of a very large collection of manuscripts regarding notes (stored in files) about approximately 60,000 surnames (representing many

more families). These notes may be very summarized, but most also contain complete family trees and ancestral charts. An excellent index on these may be inspected in the reading room by everybody.

In this I hope I have given an insight of the importance of the Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie in the Netherlands for genealogy practiced by amateur and scientist.

DISCOVERING A NEW WORLD:
THE IMPACT OF COLONIZATION ON THE DUTCH FAMILY

Theodoor Nimda Schelhaas

Born in the Netherlands. Resides in the Hague, Netherlands. Director, Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie. M.A., Free University of Amsterdam. Author.

DISCOVERING A NEW WORLD

The Netherlands is a small country, and it has never been otherwise. It is a country poor in natural resources, but luckily enough it is situated conveniently between the major European nations, Germany, France and England. It borders the sea and lies on the estuaries of the Rhine, Maas, and Scheldt rivers. The Dutch have long engaged in trade and shipping, so to speak, by nature.

The country's heyday started while the country successfully waged a war of liberation against Spanish rule, the Eighty Years' War, from 1568 till 1648. The discovery of the Americas and the seaways to the Far East had made produce imported directly from these newly-discovered territories very important to trade.

Spaniards and Portuguese virtually monopolized sixteenth century trade, both westwards and eastwards, and after Portugal was annexed by Spain in 1580, all trade to the Americas and Asia was carried on under Spanish colours. This met with resistance from the English and Dutch. Espionage and steady perseverance enabled them to locate themselves the seaways to India and to compete, wherever possible, with the Portuguese and Spaniards.

These struggles benefited the Dutch in more than one way. On the one hand, the war of liberation waged by the Netherlands caused the enemy's economy to suffer. On the other hand, trade

strengthened their own economy and paid the cost of war.

In the Indian Archipelago, the Dutch manifested themselves only in 1596 through the well-known expedition by De Houtman and De Keijzer. Without delay, Dutch merchants, feeling there might be a chance to make money, established several trading companies, which were fused into the Dutch East India Company in the year of 1602. A monopoly of trade was granted to the Company by the States General (of the Netherlands) for all territories and seas east of the Cape of Good Hope and west of the Straits of Magellan, in other words, the Indian and Pacific Oceans. Those who wanted to profit from this trade could buy shares on the stock exchange.

Besides shipping and trading, the Dutch East India Company began to establish factories to accommodate some servants of the Company who stayed behind in a certain place to buy and store products.

In the beginning, the Dutch East India Company's policy amounted to concluding contracts and treaties with the local rulers. Course, a monopoly was sought for. By establishing factories, obtaining territories now and then, and waging wars, in the long run the Company came to resemble more a state than a trading company. This was especially true because justice was being administered, divine worship was being promoted, churches were being built, educational services were being provided, and hospitals were being set up by the Company. This all signaled the beginning

of colonization and conquest of territory.

By 1605, Ambon was conquered from the Portuguese; Banda followed in the year 1610. Jan Pieterszoon Coen, fourth Governor-General, conquered the Java Kingdom of Jacatra, renamed the capital Batavia and at the same place established the headquarters of the Dutch East India Company. From Batavia all contacts with various Far East countries were made, trade missions were dispatched, and factories were founded. The Dutch have been in authority over many territories, be it for a longer or shorter period of time.

Japan

The trade station on Decima, a small island off the city of Nagasaki, has been of great importance. Dutch merchants held the monopoly of trade to Japan until 1853. The Dutch language continued to be the Japanese diplomats' tongue up till 1878.

China

Trade to China was carried on by way of Canton, where many nations owned factories. The Dutch administered the island of Formosa (Taiwan) from the Zeelandia fort for a large part of the seventeenth century until the island was finally annexed by China itself.

India

In India the Dutch have taken over a major share of the Portuguese influence. Most importantly, trading posts were established on the Coromandel and Malabar coasts, strengthened by forts. This empire of trade was successfully defended against the French and for some time against the English as well, until the latter got the upper hand by the end of the eighteenth century.

Ceylon

Contacts with Ceylon already dated from the year 1602. The Dutch East India

Company actually colonized this island completely. During the so-called French period (1795-1813) while the Netherlands had to fight alongside the French against the English, the English took Ceylon in 1796. By the 1802 Amiens Peace, Ceylon fell to England. For a shorter period of time, Dutch trading posts existed in Cambodia, Siam, and Tonkin as well.

Africa

In Africa, posts were established on Mauritius and Madagascar in order to protect the sea lanes to India and to provision the fleet en route. However, the major settlement was to be the Cape of Good Hope colony in South Africa. Directed by Jan van Riebeeck, work at building a fort on Table Bay was started in 1652. The settlement has always been intended for other use than the trading posts elsewhere. From the very beginning, Dutch colonists settled at the Cape with a view to produce all or most that ships passing by might need. Thus they supplied green vegetables, meat, tar, and train oil, even timber and a sickbay as well.

During the French period again, the English took over power in South Africa, pretending to act in the name of Prince/Stadtholder William V of Orange and Nassau, who had fled his country. The 1802 Amiens Peace reassigned the Cape to the Dutch. This situation was to last until 1806 when the English again occupied the colony, which occupation was confirmed by the Congress of Vienna.

Even in the early part of the seventeenth century, factories were established in West Africa. This was notably the case in Angola and Upper Guinea (Goldcoast) where the Nassau (1612) and Elmina (1637) forts became well-known key points. From 1621 these territories belonged to the Dutch West India Company, for the Company considered them of importance to the slave trade. In 1791 the insolvent West India Company handed over to the state all its properties. The Dutch stayed in West Africa during the Napoleonic period.

Although England tried to have these territories come under her influence, Dutch influence existed till 1871-2. Only then did the Netherlands hand over its Gold Coast posts to the English, in exchange for a free hand in Sumatra.

America

I just mentioned the West India Company, formed in 1621. Attracted by the success of the East India Company, a trading company for the West African territories and America was formed as well which obtained a monopoly position on behalf of the States General. In these western territories, the Company was entitled to acquire lands and exercise sovereign rights. Big money was made by privateering and capturing Spanish and Portuguese galleons. Is there one Dutchman who does not know the story of the capturing of the treasure fleet by Piet Hein?

The most important possessions of the West India Company were as follows:

New Amsterdam

Today's New York was founded by Dutchmen. Many a name in that city makes us remember this. Staten Island was named after the States General, Harlem after the well-known city of Haarlem in Holland; the city of Breukelen in Utrecht was corrupted into Brooklyn. After the territory had been under Dutch rule for half a century, the English took it over in 1664 during one of the English wars which we mentioned earlier. As a counter measure, the Dutch conquered the English colony of Surinam. Once peace between both countries was signed, it was decided not to undo this situation again. One might call this the result of a somewhat far-seeing Dutch eye. Surinam became independent only a few years ago. To hold on to New Amsterdam for that long would clearly have been quite impossible.

The Caribbean Islands

In Central America the islands of

Curaçao, Bonaire, and Aruba, as well as the small islands of Saba, St. Eustatius, and St. Maarten came into Dutch possession and even now they are part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, although in an independent way.

Brazil

In South America a colony existed in Pernambuco, Brazil, which after manifold struggles, we sold to Portugal in 1661.

Guyana

Along the northern coast of South America, Berbice, Demarary, and Essequibo with its capital Stabroek (today's Georgetown) came into Dutch possession. These territories include what is now Guyana. The Dutch settled there towards the end of the sixteenth century and stayed until 1803 when the English took over. This situation remained unchanged after the Congress of Vienna.

Surinam

This South American country was colonized by the English and conquered by the Dutch in 1664. Its colonial status did not change till after the Second World War. For awhile it constituted part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and it became totally independent in 1975.

The Impact of Colonization on the Dutch Family

Quite naturally the Dutch left behind their traces in the countries they ruled. In the United States of America, many are those who are proud of their Dutch descent, particularly when their ancestry dates back to the time when New Amsterdam was still a Dutch colony.

The islands in the Caribbean sea still form part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. A number of Dutch families settled down there, quite a few of Jewish descent. Over the last few years some drifting back to the Netherlands has been noticed.

Guyana has known the Dutch presence for such a long period of time, that it ought to be possible to discover traces of this presence. According to some observers, very many records of Dutch origin are to be found there. It is said that they are in very bad condition and that access to them is most difficult.

Surinam only gained independence in 1975. Very close ties have developed with its population. From 1960 onwards, a big stream of Surinam people left for the Netherlands, attracted by Dutch prosperity. This group now may total about 200,000. In Surinam itself, Dutchmen, Jews, Javanese, and Indians settled alongside of the red Indians and the descendants of African slaves, thus forming a multiracial society. Quite a few Surinam records have been preserved, both in the Netherlands and in Surinam's capital Paramaribo.

The colony of Pernambuco, Brazil has not been a Dutch possession for long. However, there are some Dutchmen who number an aboriginal Brazilian woman among their ancestors. Having ancestors originating from the Zealand island of North Beveland probably means that red Indian blood is flowing in your veins. One of my own ancestors' family name was derived from Pernambuco. Joris Adriaensz of Fernabucq or Franabok in all probability either went to Brazil himself or his father did. The nature of these ties with the South American population being quite clear, I need give no further explanations.

As far as Asia is concerned, Dutch influence on the local population apart from Indonesia is visible most clearly on Ceylon. Even today, the so-called Burghers live there, descendants of Dutchmen who united in the Dutch Burgher Union. Baptismal, marriage and burial registers still exist for many former possessions on Ceylon, India, and Malacca. You may find these reviewed in the Repertorium DTB, revised only this year, edited by the Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie in Nederland (Central Bureau for Genealogy in the Netherlands).

The Dutch East Indies, present-day Indonesia, undoubtedly presents the most important area of Dutch settlement. From the very first Dutch contacts until the foundation of the independent state of Indonesia in 1949, Dutch rule has been interrupted only twice. The French period saw Java occupied by the English between 1810-1816 and the Second World War saw the Japanese occupy the Indies between 1941-1945. Many a Dutchman lived there for a shorter or longer period of time, which goes for many foreigners as well, being employees of the East India Company. Everyone of them expected to make their fortune over there. Some of them came because of idealistic considerations, others were sent to the East in anger because in their own country they had made themselves impossible.

All these colonists' descendants were considered to belong to the Dutch group of the population, if only because they preserved their fair complexion. Mixed marriages gave rise to the substantial group of so-called Indian Dutch, looked upon as Dutchmen. They largely emigrated to the Netherlands after independence. Apart from the Moluccan group, not of mixed blood, the Indian Dutch nowadays have been assimilated completely into the Dutch people.

In view of this I wish to draw attention to research by Dr. J.R. Bruijn into the East India Company's records, centering upon the number of those leaving for the East. It appears that between 1602-1795, 1,009,000 left for the East, of whom only 370,000 returned. It strikes the eye that these numbers double in the eighteenth century. Causes mentioned by Dr. Bruijn are the increase in trade and shipping, increasing death rates aboard ship (20 percent) as a consequence of the declining expertise of sailors, a bigger need for people in Asia itself because the administrative and military apparatus kept growing, and declining health in the East. One may well ask oneself about the consequences to the Republic of this loss of people. During the seventeenth century, 2,000 left each year; during the eighteenth century, 4,500 left each year.

Those leaving in most cases were male, in their fruitful stage of life. Although many foreigners could always be noticed amongst those who were enlisted, this loss of approximately 1,900,000 people from a stable population cannot but have been appreciable. (Nederlands Archievenblad 1975 p. 130.)

HOW TO TRACE YOUR INDONESIAN ANCESTORS IN THE NETHERLANDS

From now on I shall use this lecture to expose the possibilities of genealogical research, using sources relevant to the Indies. To start with, I will review the most important source material in print, and then we will explore other sources of particular importance.

SOURCES IN PRINT

The third volume of the yearbook of the Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie presented a very detailed review of sources available in 1949 entitled "In Nederland aanwezige gedrukte- en handschriftelijke bronnen voor genealogisch en historisch onderzoek naar personen of families in Indonesie" (Sources in print or in writing, for genealogical and historical research into persons or families in Indonesia, to be found in the Netherlands) written by W. Wijnaendts van Resandt Sr.

A few titles of major works follow:

History

F. de Haan. Priangan. De Preanger-Regentschappen onder het Nederlandsch Bestuur tot 1811, 4 delen. Batavia-'s-Gravenhage 1910-1912. (The Preanger Regencies under Dutch Rule until 1811.)

F.G.P. Jaquet. Gids van in Nederland aanwezige bronnen betreffende de Geschiedenis van Nederland-Indie/Indonesie 1816-1942. Koninklijk Instituut voor Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde. Leiden 1970. (Guide to sources to be found in the Netherlands, concerning the History

of the Dutch East Indies/Indonesia 1816-1942.)

J.K.J. de Jonge. De opkomst van het Nederlandsch gezag in Oost-Indie. 's-Gravenhage-Amsterdam, 13 delen, 1862-88. (The rise of Dutch rule in the East Indies.)

P.A. van der Lith e.a. Encyclopaedie van Nederlandsch-Indie, 4 delen, 's-Gravenhage, z.j. (ca. 1905). (Encyclopaedia of the Dutch East Indies.)

V.I. van de Wall. De Nederlandsche Oudheden in de Molukken, 's-Gravenhage, 1928. (Dutch antiquities in the Moluccans.) This work contains many descriptions of tombstones.

Genealogy

This single genuine genealogical periodical edited in the East Indies is called De Indische Navorscher, Orgaan van den Genealogisch-Heraldischen Kring, 1934-1941 (The Indian Researcher, Organ of the Genealogical-Heraldic Circle).

Very important as well is: P.C. Bloys van Treslong Prins, Indo-Europesche Families (Indo-European families). A series of articles previously published in Bataviasche Nieuwsblad and De Locomotief. The Dutch Central Bureau keeps a typed copy of these articles, concerning approximately 300 families.

A most important edition, giving texts of several thousand tombstones is: P.C. Bloys van Treslong Prins, Genealogische en Heraldische Gedenkwaardigheden betreffende Europeanen op Java (Memorabilia, genealogical and heraldic, concerning Europeans on Java). Batavia 1934-39, 4 delen.

An important work concerning civil servants of higher rank, employed by the East India company is: W. Wijnaendts van Resandt, De Gezaghebbers der OostIndische Compagnie op hare BuitenComptoiren in Azie (Directors of the East India Company in outlying offices in Asia). Amsterdam 1944. Although this work apparently

centers on civil servants in the outlying offices, it provides, of course, quite some information about those who served as well in the East Indies proper.

Begun in approximately 1720, the so-called Heerenboekjes (Gentlemen's books) have been edited. They name almost every important civil servant, indicating the year of his appointment. The year of appointment in the lowest rank as a rule is the year of arrival. The back of the book lists the civil servants who died that year. A number of volumes from this series are present at the Central Bureau.

We happened to find recent information in the periodical Tong-Tong, presently edited under the name of Moesson, a periodical for Indian Dutch who settled in the mother country after sovereignty was handed over.

A large collection of genealogical data has been compiled by a staff member of our Bureau, Mr. Christaans. He compiled various data in some sixteen volumes. The data concerns both the recent and the faraway past, and each volume is indexed for names.

Lastly some descendants tables from families established in Indonesia have been published. These are, of course, a storehouse of information. For example, we may think of the Descendants Tables of Van Riebeeck, De Ruyter, and Van Riemsdijk.

Genealogical Collections. Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries

For want of civil registers and population files, which, where they exist, are to be found in Indonesia, one must look for alternative entries. A report summing up the civil registers and a list of lost registers can be found in Het Personeel Statuut Jg. 16. 1965, blz. 13 t/m 20 (The Personnel Statute, vol. 16, 1965, p. 13-20). Experience points out that the local authorities in Indonesia only provide sporadic information. A favourable exception can be made for the

record office of the city of Jakarta, which information was kindly communicated by us by Dr. F.J. Ketelaar, deputy Master of the Rolls, who visited Indonesia in 1979.

Indian annuals listed births, marriages, and deaths of European inhabitants from 1817 up to 1923. Indian Dutch, being of mixed blood, were included in this category as well. At this point it may be useful to mention that genealogical research into the native population is entirely impossible, as these persons have never been registered. These annuals of European inhabitants are present at the Central Bureau, however not without some gaps. Names have been put on cards, thus creating a filing system, in alphabetical order, of some 800,000 cards. Birth records, in fact, do not name the parents, but as a rule the annual contains a list of residents. Parents may be discovered if, for example, a researcher finds that in 1872 at Cheribon, a child was born called Bavelaar and there was only one man of the name of Bavelaar living. This man must be the child's father. These annuals also acknowledge children born out of wedlock. These data are of the utmost importance to establish descent.

A second collection compiled by our Bureau is that of family advertisements of the Javasche Courant 1810-1875 (Javanese Journal). Approximately 90,000 cards have been collected. Work has started in editing advertisements of other journals. On the basis of the annexes of the Javasche Courant, data on those who fell in the well-known Atjeh War (ca. 1873-1918) have been filed. This pacification effort apparently cost the lives of 28,000 persons, as this is the number of cards on file.

The moment the state of Indonesia became independent, the Indian Dutch could opt for Indonesian citizenship. A big number of these optional declarations are deposited with the Central Bureau on permanent loan from the Justice Ministry. They have been set in alphabetical order.

Very much data is deposited with the Indian Pensions Office, which has its seat at Heerlen in the Netherlands. The Office was established in 1896, and all civil servants, civilian and military, were to be registered from that year on. Because pension rights are relevant to the wife or husband and his or her children as well, these cards contain very much data on families. Microfilms of this very substantial collection have been deposited with our Bureau. These films are not open to the public, but genealogical data therefrom may be supplied in writing. Some older pension registers concerning civil servants who had been employed in India have been deposited with the Public Record Office.

One source which happens by chance to be present at our Bureau is the staff files of the four railway companies in the Indies, namely, the Semarang-Cheribon, the Semarang-Jena, the East-Java, and the Serajoedal steam-tram companies. They contain data that covers the 1880-1965 period.

The annuals did not contain data on the military encamped in the Indies. Members of the military may be traced in the regimental rolls of KNIL, the Royal Netherlands Indian Army. These rolls have been present from 1815 in the Public Record Office at The Hague and from 1845 at the Interior Ministry as well. There exists an alphabetical index from 1815 till 1940 with entries of the officers.

Victims of the Second World War may usually be traced by the good offices of the Dutch Red Cross whose records are deposited at The Hague. The Oorlogs-gravenstichting (War Graves Foundation) also has helpful records, its seat being at The Hague as well. Lists of persons who perished in the Thai and Burmese camps (Burma railway line) have been printed.

Those repatriating had to apply to the Dutch Embassy for a passport. These passport records are deposited with the Foreign Ministry. Of course these are

not yet open to the public, but our Bureau may well intercede.

It goes without saying that many records are deposited with the Arsip National at Jakarta. Ms. Soemartini is in charge, a very charming lady, an excellent reader and speaker of the Dutch language who has been educated at the Rijksarchiefschool (Public Record Office School) in the Netherlands. An agreement has been reached between the Arsip National and the Public Records Office, under which both sides will allow important parts of the records to be filmed. Already many baptismal and marriage books have been filmed, and the Master of the Rolls kindly placed them at our disposal in order that the Bureau might duplicate them. These films are under a copyright in the sense that it is allowed to supply data from the films, but not copies of the films themselves. Part of this agreement has been incorporated in the Cultural Treaty which has been concluded between the governments of Indonesia and the Netherlands.

The following films have come into our possession:

During the French period Java was under English rule. In the years 1813 and 1815 all European inhabitants were extensively reported. Those concerned reported their name, age, place of birth, occupation, and date of arrival on Java. Of interest are the service records of European civil servants, present on film for the years 1836-1874. Apart from data out of civil registers, they contain many other details such as knowledge of foreign languages, native languages included, social interaction with the native population, fitness for the job, etc.

Batavia's Civil Registers Deeds, registration being introduced in 1817, are extant in part.

Eighteenth Century and Earlier

Each year the settlements overseas reported all their inhabitants to the comptoir (central accounting office) in

the Netherlands. Each year thick volumes resulted, for each settlement (thus not only those in the East Indies) listed the inhabitants, their date of arrival, the name of the ship that brought them there, their occupation, and place of origin. Corresponding with the ship's name as a rule we find ship's muster roll, providing us with much more data on those on the ship and their tenure. All of these muster rolls have been deposited into the Public Records Office at The Hague; microfilms of some of them (those of the year 1693, 1702, 1710, 1719, 1722, 1723, 1740, 1763, and 1786) have been deposited with the Central Bureau.

At disposal as well are microfilms of deeds of adoption from 1683-1737, 1746-1775, and 1787-1825. In those times children were adopted for quite different reasons than children are adopted in our times. Many of these children were from developing countries. A European adopting the children of some native woman under the name of X, could very well be judged to be the father himself, wanting to provide a somewhat more secure future for his children.

A very rich source is to be found in the registers of personalia which cover approximately 1650-1795. These registers list all the military from the cornet rank on, and all civilians from the rank of bookkeeper on, employed by the East India Company. A report is made of each person's whole career, from when he entered the first contract on till he left the service by departure or death.

The last source I want to draw your attention to before dedicating some words to the DTP registers (Baptismal, Marriage, and Death registers) insofar as they have been kept, are the deeds of contract drawn up at Batavia 1689-91, 1773-76, 1802-06. These deeds were drawn up

following expiration of a previous deed of contract, and were concerned with those residing at Batavia.

DTB-registers - Doop-, Trouw- en Begraafregisters (Baptismal, Marriage and Death registers)

Vide Annex 1.

The Bloys van Treslong Prins Collection

From the Jakarta Arsip National has been acquired a film of the collection of Mr. Bloys van Treslong Prins, who kept the records at the Batavia Landsarchief (Public Records Office). His efforts made possible the compilation of a vast file of the entries from these records into a big number of baptismal, marriage, and burial registers and many other sources. The system contains 100,000 cards, with data dating from the first baptismal entries till well into the twentieth century.

I now reach the end of this catalogue of sources at the disposal of those researching Indonesia. This is a good deal, but you will have noticed that many a hiatus and imperfection is there. Research into Indian families is possible but difficult, especially during the period after the introduction of the civil register (1817). Much has been lost in loco as a consequence of circumstances of war and climatic influences. There is hope that present-day good relations with the authorities in Indonesia, that have resulted in the Cultural Treaty mentioned before, will open increasing possibilities for historical and genealogical research.

Annexed to this causerie I add a review of films of baptismal, marriage, and burial registers and other record sources concerning the East Indies in possession of the Central Bureau of Genealogy.

APPENDIX I

Repertory of the Parish Registers of IndonesiaAbbreviations

Denominations:

ref - Reformed
lut - Lutheran
rk - Roman Catholic
civ - Records of civil authorities

Registers:

D - Baptisms
T - Marriages
L - Church Members
O - Deaths and Burials
Gr - Graves

Archives:

an - Arsip Nasional Republik Indonesia
Jalan Gajah Mada 111
Jakarta, Indonesia
cb - Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie
P.O. Box 11755,
2502 AT, The Hague, Netherlands

Publications:

GN - Gens Nostra
Nav - De Navorscher
NL - De Nederlandsche Leeuw
Wap - De Wapenheraut
ANF - Algemeen Nederlandsch Familieblad

Repertory:

Ambon (Amboina)	ref: D 1623-25 (1819-32 zie GN 1957, 60),
Maluku	T 1623-25 an
Banda	ref: T 1823-28, O 1826-29 an
Maluku	
Bangkalang	ref: D 1795-1801, 1808-09 an
Madura	
Banten (Bantam)	ref: D 1761-72, L 1696-1716, 1761-72 an, cb
Jawa Barat	
Batavia	zie: Jakarta
Bengkulu (Benkoelen)	ref: DL 1771-73 an
Sumatera Barat	
Cirebon (Cheribon)	ref: D 1768-77, L 1768-77, 1792 an
Jawa Barat	

- Jakarta (Batavia) ref: (div.) D (1616 extr. zie GN 1973, 364), 1617..1828,
T 1616-61, 1710-29, 1750..60, 1790-1824 (1622-60 extr.
zie Nav 1864, 378; 1865, 246), O 1727-1821, 1826-28, Gr
1738, L 1674-80 an, cb
lut: D 1746-58, 1786-1828, T 1791-92, 1812-28 an, cb
rk : D 1808-28, T 1809-19 an, cb
civ: Adoptie 1683..1825, T 1668-77, 1705-1819 (1718-1807 zie
Publ. 49) an, cb; O 1782..88 cb, 1795-1820, 1826-28 an,
cb
- Jati Negara (Meester
Cornelis)
Jawa Barat ref: D 1748-79 an, cb
- Jepara (Japara)
Jawa Tengah ref: D 1787..1828 an
- Makassar zie: Ujung Pandang
- Meester Cornelis zie: Jati Negara
- Onrust zie: Pulau Kapal
- Padang
Sumatera Barat ref: DL 1760-70 an
- Palau Cinko
Sumatera Barat ref: DL 1760-71 an
- Palau Kapal (Onrust)
Palau2 seribu ref: D 1753-95, L 1696-1716 an, cb
- Rembang
Jawa Tengah ref: T 1818..23 an
- Surabaya (Soerabaja) ref: D 1756-57, 1776-1808, 1820, 1823-28, T 1812-28,
O 1815-20, L 1820 an
- Ternate
Maluku ref: D 1780-1828, T 1803-28 an
- Timor ref: DT 1677-1716, 1752-61, O 1677-1716, L 1752-61 an
- Ujung Pandang
(Makassar)
Sulawesi Selatan ref: D (1727-1809 extr. zie Wap 1901-03), 1751-1808, 1820-28,
T 1727-1828 (extr. zie NL 1901, 180; 1902, 106); Bijl.
1792-1815 an; O 1810 cb, 1819-28 (extr. zie ANF 1902,
119) an
civ: Adoptie 1715-16, 1751-90 an

N.B. See also: Collection Bloys van Treslong Prins, an, cb

APPENDIX II

Index of microfiches of Parish Registers and other Archives of genealogical interest at the Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie, P.O. Box 11755, 2502 AT, The Hague, Netherlands

AN = Film made by the Arsip Nasional Republik Indonesia in Jakarta. Because of copyright we cannot provide duplicates of these microfiches.

Atjeh-war	Killed or died	29
Batavia	Dutch congregation:	
	D 1623-52	25 AN
	D 1623-52, 2e ex.	24 AN
	D 1652-72	47 AN
	D 1655-61, T 1650-61	7 AN
	D 1672-87	15 AN
	D 1688-1727	62 AN
	D 1688-1727, 2e ex.	39 AN
	D 1728-1763	28 AN
	D 1766-1820	29 AN
	Dutch, Portuguese, and Malayan congregation:	
	D 1775-91	37 AN
	D 1791-1819	42 AN
	D 1794-1819, 1815-16	2 AN
	D 1816-28	14 AN
	Dutch congregation:	
	D 1820-28	19 AN
	Portuguese congregation:	
	D 1641-55	63 AN
	D 1652-87	49 AN
	D 1655-65	57 AN
	D 1665-72	58 AN
	D 1661-70	23 AN
	D 1670-1706	27 AN
	D 1672-82	39 AN
	D 1682-92	73 AN
	D 1685-1712	49 AN
	D 1692-99	53 AN
	D 1699-1708	21 AN
	D 1709-17	60 AN
	D 1717-25	55 AN
	D 1731-33	47 AN
	D 1731-47	30 AN
	D 1734-49	40 AN
	D 1734-65	29 AN
	D 1750-59	21 AN
	D 1750-61	32 AN
	D 1760-83	47 AN
	D 1762-74	26 AN
	D 1766-97	62 AN
	D 1784-1817	22 AN

Portuguese and Malayan congregation:

D 1797-1817 15 AN

Malayan congregation:

D 1641-61 58 AN
D 1672-1706 21 AN
D 1672-1712 78 AN
D 1707-33 45 AN
D 1713-33 59 AN
D 1725-33 58 AN
D 1742-49 (continued in Mr. Cornelis D 1748-79) 40 AN
D 1818-28 9 AN

Baptism declarations:

1860-61 32 AN
1861-62 28 AN
1863-64 29 AN
1864-65 37 AN
1866 35 AN
1867 32 AN
1868 34 AN
1869 42 AN
1870-71 53 AN
1872-73 53 AN
1874-75 40 AN
1876 24 AN
1877 31 AN
1878 26 AN
1879-80 24 AN
1883-85 49 AN
1886-87 38 AN
1888-90 33 AN

Dutch congregation:

T 1616-52

Malayan congregation:

T 1652-57 28 AN

Dutch congregation:

T 1621-49 48 AN
T 1756-69 (of civiel?) 13 AN
T 1812-20 20 AN

Malayan congregation:

T 1710-18 15 AN
T 1718-29 (mixed) 9 AN
T 1750, 1751, 1754-60 (mixed) 5 AN
T 1756, 1768, 1769, 1793-1802 (mixed) 8 AN
T 1790-93
T 1820-24 3 AN

Civil marriages by commissioners:

T 1668-77 35 AN
T 1705-86 7 AN
T 1730-66 43 AN

T 1744-45 (marriages at home)	4 AN
T 1737-38 (civil marriages)	9 AN
T 1751-54	6 AN
T 1763-66	6 AN
T 1764-65	49 AN
T 1766-90	11 AN
T 1767-69	42 AN
T 1769-79	18 AN
T 1770	14 AN
T 1771	4 AN
T 1773	16 AN
T 1776	16 AN
T 1777	17 AN
T 1778	12 AN
T 1779	14 AN
T 1780-81	5 AN
1781 (banns by commissioner)	12 AN
T 1781	12 AN
T 1782	10 AN
T 1783	13 AN
T 1784	31 AN
T 1785-86	27 AN
T 1786-92	11 AN
T 1787	11 AN
T 1788	39 AN
T 1788-1802	17 AN
T 1789	10 AN
T 1790-91	48 AN
T 1792	18 AN
T 1793-98	8 AN
T 1793-1802	47 AN
T 1794-95, 1e series	54 AN
T 1794-95, 2e series	38 AN
T 1794-1819	57 AN
T 1796-97	41 AN
T 1797-98, 1e series	44 AN
T 1797-98, 2e series	8 AN
T 1798	33 AN
T 1798-1808	38 AN
T 1799, with supplements	21 AN
T 1799-1800	29 AN
T 1799-1804	35 AN
requests for marriage proclamations, etc. 1800-12	17 AN
T 1801-02	47 AN
T 1802	51 AN
T 1803	45 AN
T 1804	59 AN
T 1805	41 AN
T 1805-06	48 AN
T 1806-07	36 AN
T 1807-08	1 AN
T 1807-09	15 AN
T 1808-12	41 AN
T 1810	22 AN
T 1812-23 supplements	

T 1824-28 supplements	15 AN
T 1838 (certificates given by Orphans Master)	15 AN
Civil Registration marriages in the church:	
1849-55	30 AN
1856-65	49 AN
1868-70	28 AN
1872-77	27 AN
1878	9 AN
1879-89	45 AN
Dutch church:	
B 1734-46, 1e series	40 AN
B 1734-46, 2e series	17 AN
B 1741-56	25 AN
B 1756-78 (with index under given names)	48 AN
B 1761-66	35 AN
B 1766-91	37 AN
B 1772-74	32 AN
Dutch, Portuguese churches:	
B 1779-98 (with index under surnames)	68 AN
Dutch church:	
B 1780-82	27 AN
B 1780-86	15 AN
Dutch, Portuguese churches:	
B 1784-86	39 AN
B 1791-93	40 AN
B 1793-98 (of cemetery Tanah Abang?)	9 AN
B 1798	13 AN
Dutch church and cemetery Tanah Abang:	
B 1799-1804	22 AN
Inside Portugese church:	
B 1739-56	48 AN
B 1740-56 (with index under given names)	23 AN
B 1756-65 (with index under given names)	19 AN
Inside and outside Portuguese church	
B 1765-70 (with index under given names)	29 AN
B 1770-98 (with index under surnames)	22 AN
B 1776-81 (with index under given names)	22 AN
B 1787-90 (with index under surnames)	19 AN
Outside Portuguese church	
B 1727-31	11 AN
B 1727-32	8 AN
B 1731-33 (with index under given names)	8 AN
B 1733-39 (with index under given names)	15 AN
B 1733-40 (with index under given names)	15 AN
B 1737-40 (with index under given names)	12 AN
B 1744-46 (with index under given names)	19 AN

B 1747-51 (with index under given names)	24 AN
B 1753-63 (with index under given names)	28 AN
B 1770-76 (with index under given names)	27 AN
B 1781-83	5 AN
B 1783-84	3 AN
B 1784, fragment	2 AN
B 1784-86	8 AN
B 1787-90 (with index under surnames)	27 AN
B 1791-94 (with index under surnames)	24 AN
B 1791-98	21 AN
B 1795-98 (with index under surnames)	18 AN
B May 1816 - April 1817	20 AN

Rental of chairs Portuguese church:
B 1821, etc

6 AN

Dutch, Inside and Outside Portuguese churches:
Graves in and outside the churches
1738

10 AN

Civil cemetery of Tanah Abang:*

B 1795-1809	29 AN
B 1799-1804	33 AN
B 1804-10	40 AN
B 1805 (with index under surnames)	45 AN
B 1805-10	33 AN
B 1805-07 (with index under surnames)	29 AN
B 1810-15	33 AN
B 1810-19	29 AN
B 1811-20	38 AN
B 1826-28 (with index under surnames)	20 AN

*It is not positive that these entries are all for the cemetery at Tanah Abang

Civil

B from the military hospital 1790	2 AN
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Civil Registration

O 1844	34 AN
O 1845-46	68 AN
O 1847-48 (last part of film is foggy)	64 AN

Death - declarations (to do with tax purposes)
1873-76

25 AN

Dutch congregation:

L 1674-80	12 AN
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Members

Roman Catholic:

D 1808-28	9 AN
T 1809-19	3 AN

Lutheran:		
D 1746-58		17 AN
D 1786-1828		14 AN
D 1839-55		8 AN
T 1791-92 (In the beginning also Malayan congregation)		
1790-93		
T ref., Dutch churches 1879-93		16 AN
T 1812-28		2 AN
Mr Cornelis	ref. See Batavia Malayan Congregation, Baptisms D 1748-78	
Onrust	ref. D 1753-95	10 AN
Onrust, Purmerent, ref.	1696-1716	19 AN
Bantam, Toegoe and ships in the docks of Batavia		
Semarang	ref. D 1849-62	30 AN

OTHER ARCHIVES SOURCES:

East and West Indies

Government officials, and officers appearing in the books of
the Department of Colonies

2

Pensions 1815-29, index

3

Deceased found in the archives of colonies 1816-29, contains

- index deaths in the military hospitals in Indonesia 1816-29
- index to inheritances of military personnel deceased in
Indonesia 1818-29
- index to lists of person deceased in Surinam 1816-29
- index to lists of persons deceased in Curacao, Aruba and
Bonaire 1825-28
- index to lists of persons deceased in St. Eustace 1827-28
- index to lists of persons deceased in St. Martin 1822,
1826-29
- index to lists of inheritances of military personnel deceased
in the West Indies 1817-24.

East Indies

admission passports to Indonesia 1824-28
addressbook 1902
addressbook 1919
addressbook 1923
addressbook 1924
addressbook 1925

47 AN
7
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13
12
12

addressbook 1932	11
addressbook 1938	10
European citizens 1815	1
Civil Registration Europeans	
1822	1
1823	1
1824	1
1825	1
1826	1
1827	1
1828	1
1829	1
1830	2
1831	2
1832	2
1833	2
1834	2
1835	2
1836	2
1837	2
1838	2
1839	2
1840	2
1841	2
1842	2
1843	2
1844	2
1845	2
1846	2
1847	2
1848	2
1849	2
1850	2
1851	2
1852	2
1853	2
1854	6
1855	4
1856	2
1857	2
1858	2
1860	3
1861	3
1863	3
1866	3
1867	3
1872	3
1879	3
1882	3
1883	4
1884	3
1885	3
1886	4

1887	4
1889	4
1890	4
1891	4
1892	2
1893-1894	8
1896	4
1897	4
1899	5
1900	5
1901	5
1903	2
1904	2
1905	2
1906	2
1907	2
1908	2
1909	2
1910	2
1911	2
1912	2
1913	2
1914	2
1915	2
1915	10
1916	2
1916	10
1917	2
1917	10
1918	2
1919	2
1920	2
1921	2
1923	2

East Indies Conduct rolls of European Government Officials 1836-39.

(Officials working in Banjoemas (1839), Kedoe (1838), Pekalongan (1838), Navy Dept. (1839), overseers indigo culture in the residents Banten, Priangan, Cheribon, Tegal, Pekalongan, Japara, Besoeki, Kediri, Bagelen, Banjoemas (1839), Ambon (1836-38), Ternate (1836), Makassar (1837), Sumatra's west coast (1837), Palembang (1836-38), Banka (1836), Banjarmasin (1836)

25 AN

Conduct rolls of European Government officials 1837-38.

(Officials working in Batavia, Judicial Government, Soerabaja, Orphan's Court of Semarang)

22 AN

Conduct rolls of European Government officials on Java en de buiten gewesten 1838-39.

53 AN

Conduct rolls of European Government Officials 1840.

(Officials working in Bantam, Buitenzorg, Preanger, Cheribon, Tegal, Pekalongan, Semarang, Kedoe, Solo, Bagelen, Banjoemas, Rembang, Kediri, Pasoeroean, Besoeki, Dept. of Finance in

Batavia, Ambon, Makassar, Riouw, Banka, Timor, Lampong, Borneo SE, Pontianak, Ternate)

45 AN

Conduct rolls of European Government Officials 1841-42.

(Officials working in Buitenzorg, Krawang, Tegal, Semarang, Banjoemas, Bagelen, Kedoe, Djokjakarta, Madoera, Japara, Rembang, Kediri, Pasoeroean, Besoeke, Dept. of Finance, Dept. of Navy, Justice Dept. in Batavia, orphanages, Ternate, Banka, Borneo SE, Sambas, Lampong)

41 AN

Conduct rolls of European Government Officials 1842.

(Officials working in Ternate, Timor, Samabas, Pontianak, Borneo SE, Padang, Palembang, Bureau of Finance, Navy Dept. Orphanage in Batavia, Orphanage of Semarang, Besoeke, Pasoeroean, Kediri, Patjitan, Madioen, Japara, Semarang, Soerakarta, Djokjakarta, Bagelen, Kedoe, Banjoemas, Tegal, Cheribon, Krawang, Buitenzorg)

44 AN

Conduct rolls of European Government Officials 1842, 1844, 1845.

(Officials working in Residents Semarang (1844), Cheribon (Government Employees), Japara, Rembang, Patjitan, Pasoeroean, Kediri, Besoeke, Pontianak, Sambas, Borneo SE, Lampong, Ternate, Palembang, Alg. Rekenkamer, SE Navy Department, Orphanage, Residents of Batavia, Krawang, Bagelen, Jogjakarta, Soerakarta, Borneo SE, Lampong)

44 AN

Conduct rolls of European Government Officials 1843.

(Officials working in Bantam, Buitenzorg, Krawang, Tegal, Semarang, Kedoe, Jogjakarta, Banjoemas, Bagelen, Madioen, Patjitan, Kediri, Rembang, Ternate, Pontianak, Batavia, Pekalongan)

49 AN

Conduct rolls of European Government Officials 1844-1845.

(Officials working in Buitenzorg, Cheribon, Tegal, Japara, Rembang, Soerabaja, Pasoeroean, Besoeke, Bagelen, Kedoe, Jogjakarta, Soerakarta, Patjitan, Kediri, Lampong, Palembang, Borneo SE, Tegal 1844, Bureau of Finance 1844, Batavia 1844, Navy Dept. 1844, Semarang 1844, Buitenzorg 1844, Banjoemas 1844, Soerakarta 1844, Buitenzorg 1844, Banjoemas 1844, Soerakarta 1844, Jogjakarta 1844, Kedoe 1844)

39 AN

Conduct rolls of European Government Officials 1846.

(Officials working in Soerakarta, Pasoeroean, Buitenzorg, Pekalongan, Japara, Rembang, Besoeke, Banjoemas, Bagelen, Kedoe, Jogjakarta, Palembang, Sambas, Makassar, Ternate)

32 AN

Conduct rolls of European Government Officials 1847.

(Officials working in Batavia, Pekalongan, Semarang, Japara, Rembang, Pasoeroean, Banjoemas, Bagelen, Poerworedjo, Kedoe, Jogjakarta, Soerakarta, Kediri, Lampong, Palembang, Borneo SE, Pontianak, Sambas, Ternate, Timor)

30 AN

Conduct rolls of European Government Officials 1848-50. (Officials working in Batavia, Japara, Buitenzorg, Rembang 1849, Semarang 1849, Rembang 1850)	35 AN
Conduct rolls of European Government Officials 1850-59. (Officials working in Kedoe (1850), Banten (1853), Cheribon (1853), Tegal (1853), Pekalongan (1853), Semarang (1853), Japara (1853), Soerabaja (1853), Besoeki (1853-55), Semarang (1852), Menado (1855), Preanger (1854), Banten (1864), Batavia (1864-65), Soerabaja (1858-59), Banjoemas (1859), Kediri (1859), Ambon (1859), Makassar (1859), Banjoewangi (1859), Besoeki (1859)	29 AN
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Conduct rolls of European Government Officials 1874. (Officials working in Besoeki, Banjermasin, Banjoewangi, Probolinggo, Semarang, Palembang, Batavia, Cheribon, Padang, Soerabaja, Pasoeroean, Makassar	23 AN
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	- Semarang-Jena stoomtrammij.	
	- Oost Java stoomtrammij.	
	- Serajoedal stoomtrammij.	
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	1761-67	16 AN
	1768-75	29 AN
	1787-90	24 AN
	1790-1800	38 AN
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	Census European citizens 1713-20	28 AN
	Census European citizens 1815	7 AN
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	Church Records (administrative minutes) 1620-45 (with index)	15
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Borneo-West Conduct rolls of European Government Officials 1843-66	65 AN
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1854	3 AN
1855	3 AN
1857	3 AN
1858	3 AN
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Also salaries for Pasoeroean 1901	
Muster roll chamber of Zeeland 1722, deel 2	
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Contains rolls of Siam en Ligoor, Ceylon, Sumatra's northeast coast Java, Mocha, Djambi, Timor Cape of Good Hope, Perzie, Suratte and the coast of Malabar.	11
Muster roll Chamber of Zeeland 1786	
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Sea muster roll of the Chamber of Zeeland 1717, part 2 (Inv. nr. 8703 Colonial Archives)	1

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Letters from Indonesia. Colonial Archives inv. nr. 3991. See for index first six pages of register. These papers are from 1678-9. 9.3	135p



*"Record Protection in
an Uncertain World"*

WORLD CONFERENCE ON RECORDS AND GENEALOGICAL SEMINAR

Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A.

5-8 August 1969

**BRIDGING THE ATLANTIC - FINDING THE PLACE
OF ORIGIN OF YOUR GERMANIC ANCESTOR**

Part III

The Netherlands

By

Dr. Simon Hart

BRIDGING THE ATLANTIC – FINDING THE PLACE OF ORIGIN OF YOUR GERMANIC ANCESTOR

Part III

The Netherlands

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My introduction to the history of the Netherlands must of necessity be a very brief one.

In the 16th century the Hapsburgers were overlords of the Netherlands. In the first half of the century this was Charles the Fifth, German Emperor and King of Spain, and in the second half we had his son, Philip the Second, from Spain. They strengthened the central authority which grew to absolute rule under Philip the Second. This centralization of authority endangered the sovereignty of the regional states and townships. Also the church was state controlled. All those not willing to submit to the church's doctrine were persecuted under the motto One state, one church. Also Protestantism, which acquired many followers in the Netherlands in the 16th century, was persecuted. In the Netherlands there were three groups that suffered from this persecution: the Reformed church, Mennonites and Lutherans. Also those who resented this Spanish absolutism of Philip the Second offered resistance. Members of the Reformed church were in the vanguard of resistance and were responsible for the first open act of rebellion. The Spanish army sent to suppress this rebellion was at the end unsuccessful. The Republic of the Seven Provinces was founded during the war with Spain that lasted for 80 years from 1568 to 1648, and which had a Twelve Year's Truce (1609-1621). The Southern Netherlands, now part of Belgium, remained under Spanish authority.

The Republic of the United Provinces of the Netherlands was a federation of independent, sovereign provinces without a ruler and without a powerful central government. It remained thus until 1795 when armies of the French Revolution entered the Netherlands, where they were received enthusiastically. This enthusiasm cooled down considerably during the next few years. After the liberation of 1813 Willem I, Prince of Orange-Nassau, was proclaimed sovereign king. From this time onwards the Netherlands has been a kingdom.

Up to 1795 the Reformed Church had certain rights of priority in the Netherlands but never came to be a State Church. From 1795 onwards all religious denominations have had the same rights. Until 1795 a marriage was legal when concluded before a Reformed minister or before the city authorities. From 1795 onwards only marriages performed by civil authorities have legal status. In 1811 the Register Office was set up where births, deaths and marriages had

to be registered. In 1811 it was also decided that religious denominations had to hand over their baptism, birth, circumcision, marriage and burial registers to the local Register Office at the town hall. A Royal Decree of 1919 required that the parish registers be kept in national archive repositories. There is one of these national archives in the capital town of each province. These registers could also be deposited at the city or municipal archives, provided there was a trained archivist available and that the archive repository met certain legal requirements. Often indexes have been made to these birth, marriage, and burial registers. The same regulations pertain to court and notarial archives. Dutch archives are set up according to a decentralized system. The fact that the Republic was a federation of independent provinces results in a lack of uniformity of justice, government, taxation, etc. As a result of this certain records which we find in one province are completely lacking in another. This is the case with notarial archives, an important source for genealogical research. We do not find such archives dating before 1811 in the provinces of Friesland, Groningen, Drente, Overijssel and Gelderland. These old notarial records which we also find in Belgium, France, Italy, Spain and Portugal are of the greatest importance for genealogical research. The notary himself kept brief copies of all documents he made (of wills, inventories, partitions of estate, contracts, I.O.U.'s, deeds of sale, all sorts of statements, notices, freight contracts and such). Of these he made more detailed copies which he signed and gave to the parties concerned. These archives can be very extensive. In Amsterdam there are such notarial archives from 1578 to 1842 spread out over more than 20,000 volumes and portfolios.

Court Records are also of great importance and in particular records of the civil court, in which we find transfers of ownership, certain I.O.U.'s, etc. And then of course we also have church registers that are now being deposited more and more in public repositories.

An obstacle in genealogical research may be the spelling of the surname, given names and the use of patronymics. After the organization of the Register Office in 1811 it was no longer possible to change one's surname without legal formalities. Those who did not yet have a fixed family name had to adopt one. The use of patronymics was very popular in the Netherlands, especially in the province of Friesland. In this province $\frac{3}{4}$ of the population had no family name before 1811. Until that date one used one's father's name as a surname and we have Douwe Jelles, that is Douwe, son of Jelle. His son could then be called Pybe Douwes. Another difficulty is that when a person moved to another district or country, the name was then often spelled phonetically in deeds and adapted to the names prevalent there. The illiterate had even more trouble in warding off such attacks on their names. In 1660 in Amsterdam 36% of the bridegrooms and 63% of the brides were illiterate, a low percentage of illiteracy for that time.

The question from what place your ancestors came is also of great importance. If you only know the country or district from which they came, it is difficult and often impossible to trace your ancestors. The spelling of the place names in your records may again be phonetical.

Those who left their country to cross the ocean usually left no possessions behind. It was possible to compute for Amsterdam in the 18th century that 80% of the population had no

property to speak of. This must also have been true for the 17th century. It does not seem likely that the emigrants belonged to the other 20%. This background has to be kept in mind when you want to find your ancestors while bridging the Atlantic!

It is of importance for you to be informed about the kind of records that are available in which the names of individuals can be found who left the Netherlands for the United States during the past centuries. Actually it is only possible to determine which Dutch people left the Netherlands after about 1850, since there was almost never any official registration of emigrants before 1850.

This is why I will first deal with the sources before 1850. A source often asked for, passenger lists of ships, does not exist. It is often the membership administration of churches which inform us that a member departed for America. It is a pity that the archives of the West India Company, which was founded in 1621 and which also directed the Dutch possessions in North America, have been almost entirely lost.

Notarial archives sometimes give us particulars, for example in contracts of employment, powers of attorney and in many other documents about people who went to the early Dutch settlements in North America. The difficulty is that these notarial archives, and certainly those of Amsterdam, can be so bulky that a systematic examination is almost impossible. In the course of many years I have noted down those deeds of the Amsterdam notarial archives of the 17th century that concerned North America.

Some emigrants are also sometimes mentioned in family archives, the archives of orphanages, etc.

For the period after 1850 the investigator is more likely to be successful because from that time onwards we have a Census Register in every town. It supplies information about where a man lived in the town, when and where he was born, age, religion, and profession. It also names members of his family and gives the same information about them. These Census Registers also record removals and departures to North America and other areas. There are lists of Dutch people who left the Netherlands in 1847-1877 to go to America and elsewhere. In these lists are given personal details and sometimes the reason for departure. The reason usually given spoke of hopes for a better way of living, but there could also be religious reasons or domestic quarrels, to marry in the U.S., but also to evade creditors. After 1877 we sometimes read of emigrants in local or provincial newspapers.

Perhaps also of importance are the archives of the government committee that supervised the passage and transportation of emigrants from 1861-1934/37. Of these records those of the Rotterdam Committee disappeared and those of the Amsterdam committee were preserved only partly, but the lists of 1895-1934, which mention the Dutch people and people of other nationalities that left for North America, are extant.

Then we have the passenger lists of the ships that sailed for America from 1918-1934,

which of course not only name emigrants but also tourists, and give names ages, sex, marital status, profession, last place of residence, nationality and destination. By far the greater part does not concern Dutch nationals. Of the other archives of this government committee only those of the Harlingen section (Friesland) is of importance because of a register of emigrants from 1875 to 1894.

Rotterdam was one of the most important harbors from which emigrants from Europe sailed to North America in the 18th and 19th century. Numerous emigrant ships sailed from there. It is a pity that these emigrants in the 18th and 19th century were either not processed in Rotterdam or that such records were lost. Passenger lists of the shipping companies were also lost.

I would like to round off with a remark about the use of the original text and translation of a non-English text for any kind of historical research. A translation, however well done, is always an approach to an interpretation of the original text. If used as evidence in genealogy the original text must be available together with the transcript from which the translation was made.

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND EXPLANATORY NOTES

For a survey of the records kept at the national archive repositories in the Netherlands consult: *De Rijksarchieven in Nederland, s'Gravenhage, 1953, 404 p.* and for a survey of the records kept in municipal archives: *Gids voor de archieven van Gemeenten en Waterschappen in Nederland, 2 vols, vol. 1 Groningen 1942, vol. 2 Groningen 1945.*

A survey of the inventories of archives published in the Netherlands: W. J. Formsma en B. van 't Hoff, *Repertorium van inventarissen van Nederlandse archieven*, 2e druk, Groningen, 1965. An inventory of the archives in the province of Overijssel prior to 1811: W. J. Formsma, *Archiefgids van Overijssel*, Groningen 1942. An inventory of the archives in Utrecht: *Gids van de Utrechtse stedelijke archieven en verzamelingen*, Utrecht, 1968.

A list of addresses of the Dutch archive repositories and archives of institutions can be found in: W. J. Formsma, *Gids voor de Nederlandse archieven*, Bussum, 1967. This guide gives a description of the wheres and hows of Dutch archives for (amateur) historians. For a survey of publications, name lists and archives which are important for the genealogist (for baptism, marriage, and burial registers, registers of freemen, taxation registers, etc.) see Jurriaen van Toll, *Gedrukte Archivaliën*, Amsterdam, 1943.

For a general survey of the archives of the Dutch Reformed Church see: *De archieven van de Nederlands Hervormde Kerk*, vol. 1, Leiden, 1960. This contains surveys of the archives of the Reformed Church in the provinces of Gelderland, Groningen, Friesland, Drenthe, Overijssel and Utrecht. The archivist of the Dutch Reformed Church, Javastaat 100, s'Gravenhage, can

give information about church archives in the other provinces.

For a concise repertory of Dutch parish registers before 1812, which also names parish registers of Dutch settlements abroad, some border parishes in Belgium and Germany and an appendix of these records of military regiments, consult: W. Wijnaendts van Resandt, *Repertorium D.T.B.* (baptism, marriage, and burial registers), published by Centraal bureau voor Genealogie, Nassaulaan 18 s'Gravenhage (The Hague), 1969. There are usually detailed inventories of these baptism, marriage, and burial registers. See the above mentioned *Repertorium van de inventarissen van Nederlandse archieven*, 1965.

The entire archives of the city of Middelburg (province of Zeeland) were lost during W.W. II in May 1940. Also the national archives of the province of Zeeland (at Middelburg) were damaged severely. About half of the baptism, marriage, and burial registers were lost. See: *De Rijksarchieven in Nederland, s'Gravenhage*, 1953, pp. 187 - 206.

To find how the Register Office (*Burgerlijke Stand*) and the Census Register (not quite the same as census returns) (*Bevolkingsregister*) operate and which services they can render to genealogy, see: R. F. Vulsma, *Burgerlijke Stand, Bevolkingsregister en Genealogie*, Naarden, (1968), 154 pp.

For a survey of the printed and manuscript sources for genealogical research on persons and families in the former Dutch settlements in the West Indies, South America and Indonesia, see:

1. W. Wijnaendts van Resandt: *In Nederland aanwezige gedrukte en handschriftelijke bronnen voor genealogisch en historisch onderzoek naar personen en families in de gebieden eertijds ressorterende onder de West Indische Compagnie en de met haar verband houdende sociëteiten*, Jaarboek van het Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie, vol. IV, s'Gravenhage, pp. 160-204.

2. W. Wijnaendts van Resandt: *In Nederland aanwezige gedrukte en handschriftelijke bronnen voor genealogisch en historisch onderzoek naar personen of families in Indonesië*, Jaarboek van het Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie, vol. III, s'Gravenhage, 1949, pp. 93-127.

3. M.A.P. Meilink-Roelofs.: *A survey of archives in the Netherlands pertaining to the history of the Netherlands Antilles*, West-Indische Gids, 35 jaargang, s'Gravenhage, 1955, pp. 1-38.

4. W. Ph. Coolhaas: *A critical survey of studies on Dutch colonial history*, s'Gravenhage, 1960, pp. 154.

A few books have been published that may serve as a guide to Dutch archives for the genealogist. I mention: *Hoe vindt men zijn voorouders in de Nederlandse archieven*, published

in Amsterdam in 1961 by the Dutch Genealogical Society. Of importance in this work are articles dealing with genealogical research in the provinces of Friesland, Drenthe, Overijssel and Limburg; research in the archives of the Walloon Church in the Netherlands and the help that the Dutch Genealogical Society can give (secretary: Postbus 976, Amsterdam-C). In the periodical of this society, *Gens Nostra*, 1969, January 24, pp. 149-154, we find a survey of the genealogical sources in the national archives in Zeeland.

H. J. Kruimel published a manual for genealogical research: *Handleiding voor Stamboomonderzoek*, Rotterdam (1952). An important source of information may be the library of the *Koninklijk Nederlands Genootschap voor Geslacht- en Wapenkunde*, Bleijenburg, s'Gravenhage. This is the oldest genealogical society in the Netherlands. During the 86 years of publication of her periodical *De Nederlandse Leeuw* a vast amount of material was published.

An invaluable reference work giving information about which genealogies and fragment genealogies (3 or more generations) of Dutch families were published, also those that appeared in periodicals, is: E.a. van Beresteijn, *Genealogisch Repertorium, 2 vols*, edited by the Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie, s'Gravenhage, 1948, 1962. An important institution and information center for the Netherlands is the Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie, Nassaulaan 18, s'Gravenhage. This institution can dispose of considerable collections, among which 2,500,000 name cards with personal details of those deceased in the Netherlands from 1938-1968; besides the personal information about deceased persons one finds also data on spouses and sometimes children and parents; for example, a collection of more than 15,000,000 family advertisements from 1790 till today, clipped from all kinds of daily newspapers, 300,000 Memorial cards, indexes on marriage registers (Dutch Reformed Church) of Gelderland, to baptism registers (Dutch Reformed) of Groningen, numerous dossiers and manuscript genealogies, a collection of 75,000 family arms.

Also assessment registers are of importance for genealogical research. In the first place we should point out the *Middel op het trouwen en begraven*. In 1696 this taxation was introduced in the province of Holland. It gives a classification according to income classes. Where burial or marriage registers of the 18th century are missing, we shall have to use these registers. Sometimes these events for the poor classes (that is about 80% of the population who had no income or property to speak of) were not recorded. The registers of collateral succession (1658-1811), a taxation of real estate and stock (bonds, shares, etc.) in which the estate of those who died childless was recorded. Furthermore the registers of the family capital, house duties of 1742 (published among others: W.F.H. Oudevelt, *Kohier van de personele quotisatie te Amsterdam over het jaar 1741*, 2 vols, Genootschap Amstelodamum, Amsterdam, 1945). The florin-register (Friesland), registers of the 100th and 200th penny on real estate, etc.

We also have the archives of the guilds. See I.H. van Eeghen, *De Gilden, Bussum, 1965*. Name lists of the civil municipal militia and soldiers can supply valuable information.

There are a number of reference works for the study of Dutch Christian names, patronymics and surnames:

Bernet Kemper, A. J.: *Voornamen. Hoe komen we eraan?*, Utrecht, 1965.

Dijkstra, Waling: *Friesch Woordenboek, benevens lijst van Friesche eigennamen*, bewerkt door Johan Winkler, 4 vols, Leeuwarden, 1898-1911.

Emstede, E.J. Th. A. M.: *Van patronymica en geslachtsnamen in Drenthe*, Amsterdam, 1943.

Graaff, J. J.: *Nederlandse Doopnamen naar oorsprong en gebruik*, s'Gravenhage, 1915.

Hallema, A.: *Bijnamen of het alias als persoons- en naamsonder-scheiding*, Naarden, 1946.

Hermesdorf, B.H.D. and Fockema, Andreae S. J.: *Naam en recht*, Amsterdam, 1956.

Huizinga, A.: *Encyclopedie van namen*, Amsterdam, 1955.

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Meertens, P. J.: *De betekenis van de Nederlandse familienamen*, Naarden, 1941.

Meertens, P. J.: *Zeeuwsche familienamen*, Naarden, 1947.

Meijers, J. A. and Luitingh, J. C.: *Onze voornamen*, 5e ed., Amsterdam, 1966.

Roelandts, K. and Meertsen, P. J.: *Nederlandse familienamen in historisch perspectief*, Amsterdam, 1951.

Schaar, J. van der: *Uit de wordingsgeschiedenis der Hollandse doop- en familienamen*, Assen, 1953.

Uitman, G. J.: *Hoe komen wij aan onze namen?*, Amsterdam, 1941.

Vries, W. de: *Friese persoonsnamen*, Assen, 1952.

Winkler, J.: *De Nederlandse geslachtsnamen in oorsprong, geschiedenis en betekenis*, Haarlem, 1885.

Winkler, J.: *Studiën in Nederlandse namenkunde*, Haarlem, 1900.

The family names current in the Netherlands, based on a population census of May 31, 1947, are being published. The following volumes have already appeared in print: *Nederlands Repertorium van Familienamen*, vol 1, Drente Assen 1963, vol. 2 Friesland, Assen 1964; vol. 3 Groningen, Assen 1964; vol. 4 Utrecht, Assen 1967; vol. 5 Zeeland, Assen 1967 and vol. 6 Overijssel, Assen 1968. The volumes dealing with the other provinces and the cities of Amsterdam, Rotterdam and s'Gravenhage and a volume with summarizing conclusions are yet to appear. In these publications the number of times a family name occurs in a place is recorded, and indexes make them easily accessible.


For geographical names one can consult: A.J. van der Aa, *Aardrijkskundig woordenboek der Nederlanden*, Gorinchem, 1839-1851, 13 vols and E. Heger, *Alphabetische plaatsnamenlijst van Nederland*, Dokkum, 1965.

In 1650 the Netherlands had a population of about 1.85-1.95 million inhabitants and in 1795 of 2.078 million (today 12.9 million), see: A.A.G. Bijdragen, Wageningen, 1965, 110 pp., *Population changes and economic developments in the Netherlands*. In the 17th century the number of Catholics was about 40%. The *Voorlopige systematische bibliographie van de Nederlandse demografische geschiedenis* (Preliminary systematic bibliography for Dutch demographic history) by B.H. Slicher van Bath, Afd. Agrarische Geschiedenis, Wageningen, 1962, mentions many articles and books that are also of importance for the genealogist.

For historical demographic research on Rotterdam see G. J. Mentink and A. M. van der Woude, *De demografische ontwikkeling te Rotterdam en Cool in de 17e en 18e eeuw*, Gemeente archief Rotterdam, 1965 and for the historical demography of Amsterdam: S. Hart, *Bronnen voor de historische demographie van Amsterdam in de 17e en 18e eeuw*, mimeograph, Amsterdam 1965. Also S. Hart, *Historisch demografische notities betreffende huwelijken en migratie te Amsterdam in de 17e en 18e eeuw* (historical demographical notes concerning marriages and migration in Amsterdam in the 17th and 18th C.) published in the monthly magazine *Amstelodamum* 55 (1968), pp. 63-69. Of 5,584 seafaring men who married for the first time in Amsterdam between 1651 and 1665 (of the bridegrooms who married there between 1586-1714 22% gave as profession: seafaring man) 20½% appeared to have been born in Amsterdam, 22% in the remainder of the country and 57% were born abroad (of the last percentage 18½% came from Germany, 15½% from Norway, 6¼% from Sweden, 6% from Denmark, 4% from Great Britain, and 6¼% from other countries). Of the 560 seamen that married in Amsterdam in 1660 53% were illiterate. The percentage of those born in Amsterdam was 45%, born in the rest of the Netherlands 41% and of those born outside the Netherlands 59%. See: Simon Hart, *Zeelieden te Amsterdam in de zeventiende eeuw*, Mededelingen van de Nederlandse Vereniging voor zeegeschiedenis, No. 17, 1968, pp. 5-20, 60. For a study on illiteracy in Europe consult: Carlo M. Cipolla, *Literacy and development in the West*, Penguin Books, 1969.

There are also a number of books written on the emigration of Dutch people to North America:

Henry S. Lucas, *Netherlanders in America (Dutch emigration to the United States and Canada, 1789-1950)*, Ann Arbor, 1955.

 B.H. Wabeke, *Dutch emigration to North America, 1624-1860*, New York, 1942.

J. van Hinte, *Nederlanders in Amerika (Een studie over landverhuizers en volkplanters in de 19e en 20e eeuw)*, 2 vols, Groningen, 1928.

E. T. Corwin edited: *Ecclesiastical Records, 6 vols, 1901-1905*. Many of the records published in here originate from the archives of the Dutch Reformed Classis of Amsterdam (their archives are now kept at the Gemeente Archief Amsterdam [municipal archives]), but are now kept at the Gardner A. Sage Library in New Brunswick, N. J., see: a. Eekhof, *De*

Hervormde Kerk in Noord Amerika, 1624-1664, 2 vols, S-Gravenhage, 1913, vol. 1, pp. 12-17.

For a list of immigrants from Friesland see: *Dutch American Relations*, Friesland, 1845-1878, compiled by Y.C. Spijksma, Fryske Akademy, no. 257, Leeuwarden, 1965.

A.J.F. van Laer translated and edited the *Van Rensselaer Bouvier manuscripts*, Albany 1908. He gives a list of immigrants. The Rensselaer Bouvier manuscripts are now in custody of the Scheepvaart Museum (Shipping Museum) at Amsterdam. The lists with emigrants [*landverhuizers*] to North America 1848-1877 are in the archives of the ministry of Internal Affairs [*Buitenlandse zaken*] kept at the Algemeen Rijksarchief, The Hague.

In the Gemeente Archief of Amsterdam [municipal archives], Amsteldijk 67, Amsterdam, you can find the archives (no. 353) of the State Committee supervising the passage and transportation of emigrants at Amsterdam 1861-1934. Of these the lists and passenger-lists from 1895-1915 are of importance. In the Gemeente Archief at Harlingen the archives of this State Committee from 1875-1937 are kept and have the register of emigrants from 1875-1894 (L.C.7); see: H.T. Obreen, *Harlingen, inventaris der archieven*, Bolsward, 1968, 139 pp. Of the archives of this committee at Dordrecht (Gemeente Archief Dordrecht) little is left and in what is left here are no lists of emigrants to North America. The archives of the Committee in Rotterdam and Vlissingen have not been traced and were probably lost.

In his survey: The translation and publication of the manuscript Dutch records of New Netherland, A.J.F. van Laer already criticized certain translations of Dutch texts. See: *Education Department Bulletin*, no. 462, January 1910, Albany, N.Y., New York State Library Bibliography 46. Ideal but very expensive is the edition edited by A.J.F. van Laer: *Documents Relating to New Netherland, 1624-1626*, The Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Calif., 1924. In *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York*, vol. I and vol. II, Albany 1856, 1858, E. B. O'Calaghan published English translations of the documents found by John Romeyn Brodhead in the Dutch archives over the period 1603-1678. These documents form important evidence for the early history of North America and are kept in the National Archives at The Hague and in the City Archives of Amsterdam.

In 1842 Brodhead concluded his work in these archives. In my opinion filming of these important documents insofar as all of them can be traced, would be very desirable. In this way we could protect certain records in an uncertain world.

Other Resources Netherlands

Guides to genealogical sources in the Netherlands (available in Salt Lake)

<http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/fhlcatalog/supermainframeset.asp?display=titlehitlist&columns=%2C0%2C0&keyword=Guide+to+genealogical+sources+in+the+Netherlands&prekeyword=Guide+to+genealogical+sources+in+the+Netherlands>

Cyndi's List Netherlands Links

<http://www.cyndislist.com/nether.htm>

About.com Netherlands Genealogy

<http://genealogy.about.com/od/netherlands/>

Wikipedia Article on the Netherlands

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Netherlands>

FamilySearch Wiki

www.familysearchwiki.org