

THE VERIFIED ACCOUNT OF THE FIRST TWO GENERATIONS OF THE OSTRANDER FAMILY

Setting the Record Straight

THE CORROBORATED GENEALOGY AND HISTORY OF THE PIETERSEN/OSTRANDER FAMILY'S 1ST AND 2ND GENERATIONS OF HOLLAND AND COLONIAL AMERICA

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For the Ostrander Family Association (OFA) Research Committee
&
The OFA Membership







ABOUT THE AUTHOR









Kent De Geer is professionally accredited Certified Management Consultant (CMC). Now retired he spends a fair amount of his free time working on his family genealogy. His Ostrander ancestry places him in the line of Johannes⁽³⁾ Ostrander [Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen, Pieter⁽¹⁾ Carstensen] and he is a new member of the Ostrander Family Association (OFA) having joined the OFA in 2007. He accepted an invitation to serve on the OFA's Genealogy Research Committee in 2008.





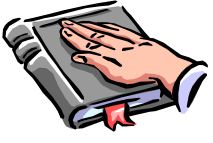
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen, b. 1657 in Amsterdam, was doubtless the son of Pieter⁽¹⁾ Carstensen and his second wife Geesje Jans and he along with Rebecca Traphagen are the progenitors of the Ostrander family of colonial New York. His ancestry has been successfully traced and his migration from Holland to Coney Island in Brooklyn in 1661 and then to Ulster County, New York in 1663/64 confirmed, so his precise whereabouts from his birth in Amsterdam to his death in Hurley c1740, has been genealogically proven and verified, as summarized below.

1654	26th June – Amsterdam Marriage Intentions Pieter Carstensen from Nordstrand (?), innkeeper, widower of Tryntje Thyssen and Geesje Jans from Norden, age 22 years assisted by her father Jan Doets.	
	NOTE - Pieter Carstensen married first, Tryntje Thyssen from Nordstrand in 1623 and at that time he was reported to be from Husum on the European mainland, located due east of the nearby North Frisian Island of Nordstrand.	
		14th July – Nieuwe kerk, Amsterdam Pieter Carstensen and Geesje Jans were married by Domine Menso.
		29th December - Amsterdam Lutheran Church Tryntje ⁽²⁾ , daughter of Pieter Carstensen was baptized.
1657		3rd July – Amsterdam Lutheran Church PIETER⁽²⁾ , son of Pieter ⁽¹⁾ Carstensen and Geesje Jans was baptized.
c1659		Pieter ⁽¹⁾ Carstensen died in the East Indies, leaving two underage children (a daughter Tryntje ⁽²⁾ Pieters, aged 4 and a son PIETER⁽²⁾ PIETERSEN , aged 2) in Amsterdam
1660	2nd October – Amsterdam Marriage Intentions Arent Teunissen from Amsterdam and Geesje Jans from Norden, widow of Pieter Carstensen were betrothed.	
		14th October – Amsterdam Orphan Court Geesje Jans appeared before the court. Evidence of Pieter Carstensen's death in the East Indies was introduced and the widow testified that her deceased husband left their two children without any inheritance.
		31st October – Amsterdam After satisfying the Orphan Court, Arent Teunissen and Geesje Jans were married.

1661		<p>28 April – Amsterdam Notary Office</p> <p>Arent Teunissen signed a contract with Dirck de Wolfe, a major investor in New Netherland, to go to Gravesend [<i>Brooklyn</i>] and select a site where he was to build and operate a salt kettle.</p>
		<p>At sea after 9th May, Arrived 6th August 1661</p> <p>The Dutch ship <i>De St. Jan Baptist</i> transported Arent Teunissen, his wife Geesje Jans and her two children of her first marriage (Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters in her 7th year and PIETER⁽²⁾ PIETERSEN in his 4th year) to New Amsterdam.</p>
		<p>10th August – New Amsterdam</p> <p>Herman, a son of Arent Teunissen and Geesje Jans (their first child) was baptized in the Reformed Dutch Church of New Amsterdam. He was a half-brother of PIETER⁽²⁾ PIETERSEN and Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters.</p>
1661-1662		<p>Arent Teunissen selects a site on Coney Island [<i>Brooklyn</i>] for his house and the salt refinery. Located near Gravesend, on land used for grazing by the English residents of this village, the salt kettle venture was openly opposed, often sabotaged and eventually abandoned.</p>
1663		<p>4th December – Wildwyck Court (<i>Kingston</i>)</p> <p><i>“Arent Teunissen asks the Honorable Court for a lot in the village of Wildwyck, as he intends to take up an abode here. The Honorable Court will determine upon a vacant spot for him in the village of Wildwyck.”</i> [<i>Kingston Papers, Vol. 1, page 108</i>]</p>
1664		<p>12th July – Wildwyck (<i>Old Dutch Church of Kingston</i>)</p> <p>Jannetje Arents, daughter of Arent Teunissen and Geesje Jans was baptized. The child was the half-sister of PIETER⁽²⁾ PIETERSEN.</p>
1668		<p>25th March – Wildwyck (<i>Old Dutch Church of Kingston</i>)</p> <p>Gepje (<i>Gepie</i>) Arents, daughter of Arent Teunissen and Geesje Jans was baptized. The child was the half-sister of PIETER⁽²⁾ PIETERSEN.</p>
1670		<p>5th April – Hurley Militia</p> <p>Arent Teunissen appears on a list of soldiers at Hurley, NY</p>

1673		Teunis Arentsen, son of Arent Teunissen and Geesje Jans was born in Hurley and baptized between 21 May 1673 and 21 August 1673 (<i>Kingston Papers, Vol. 2, page 739</i>). The child was the half-brother of PIETER⁽²⁾ PIETERSEN .
c1677 /1678		Arent Teunissen sells a house and lot in Hurley and returns to Kingston.
1679	 	<p>19th January – Kingston (Old Dutch Church)</p> <p>PIETER⁽²⁾ PIETERSEN.from Amsterdam, resident of Westquansengh (<i>a tract of farmland on Foxhall Manor</i>) married Rebecca Traphagen, born in Bushwyck (<i>Brooklyn</i>) and also a resident of Westquansengh.</p> <p>Among the other residents of Westquansengh (Foxhall Manor) are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters and her husband Hendrick Albertse[n]; and ➤ Willem Jansen Traphagen (father of Rebecca)
1687		<p>1st September – Hurley, Ulster County (Oath of Allegiance)</p> <p>PIETER⁽²⁾ PIETERSEN of Hurley, 29 (<i>i.e., b. 1657/58</i>), farmer, was one of several residents of the village who appeared before Major Thomas Chambers of Foxhall to swear an oath of allegiance.</p>

The Baptismal Trail

Numerous baptism records between 1675 and 1715 show kinship connections and close familial bonds between Geesje Jans and the six children of her two marriages, specifically:

- Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters, b. 1654 in Amsterdam and Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen, b. 1657 in Amsterdam both of Pieter Carstensen (c1603 – c1659); and
- Herman Arentsen Pier, Jannetje Arents Pier, Gepje Arents Pier and Teunis Arentsen Pier of Arent Teunissen.

Dutch Naming Custom

Typically the Dutch colonists had large families and tended to name children after their grandparents, relatives and friends, usually in that order, but not always. The first three children of Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen and Rebecca Traphagen were sons named Pieter⁽³⁾ (likely named after Pieter Carstensen), Willem⁽³⁾ (named after his maternal grandfather Willem Jansen Traphagen) and Arent⁽³⁾ (probably named after his step-grandfather Arent Teunissen). Pieter⁽²⁾ and Rebecca also had a daughter Geesje⁽³⁾ (named after Geesje Jans); a son Hermanus [named after Pieter⁽²⁾'s half-brother Herman (Arentsen) Pier and a son Teunis, likely named after Teunis (Arentsen) Pier].

Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters and her husband Hendrick Albertse[n] had thirteen children including sons named Pieter⁽³⁾ (likely named after Pieter Carstensen) and Arent⁽³⁾ (probably named after his step-grandfather Arent Teunissen) as well as two daughters baptized Geesje⁽³⁾ (both named after their maternal grandmother Geesje Jans, but the first daughter died young).

In late February 2008 David Baker of Hurley (the town's former historian) was doing some research at the request of Pieter J. Ostrander and happened to delve into the records of the Kingston church. The end result was that David Baker was certain that he had:

*“cracked the case, and the answer was under our noses all the time. Pieter⁽²⁾ [Pietersen] and Tryntje⁽²⁾ [Pieters] **are the stepchildren of Arent Teunissen**. I looked up the Baptisms in the "Registers of the Dutch Church of Kingston, NY" that Arent and **Geesje Jans** were involved with. Then I had a stroke of luck and looked up the baptism of Pieter and Rebecca's first child [that was reported in the church's records] Willem, and there it was **Geesje Pieterz**. I included a lot more info, but it is to show you that when the Teunissen's were involved with witnessing the baptism of Arent's children, **most of the time their last name was given as the same as the last name their child was using.**”*

While the Kingston baptismal records do show an unusually close relationship between Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters and Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen and the four Pier children of Arent Teunissen and Geesje Jans as well as a mother-daughter kinship between Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters and Geesje Jans the evidence of a connection between Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen and Geesje Jans is not quite as conclusive. In addition, no record had been recovered in New Netherland or colonial Ulster County to remotely suggest that Geesje Jans was a widow of Pieter Carstensen and the mother of two children prior to her second marriage to Arent Teunissen. For this discovery, we are forever indebted to the genealogical curiosity of three separate sources.

1. The OFA who engaged Dr. J. A. J. Krijnen of Leiden, Holland in 1993 to seek whatever might be found of a Pieter Pietersen with a wife named Tryntje (Catrina) and three children - a son named Pieter and daughters baptized Tryntje and Geestje, in the records in Holland. This led to the recovery of two records – the baptism of a son Pieter in Amsterdam¹, 11 May 1653 of “*Pieter Pietersz*” and “*Trijntje van de Lande*” and the Amsterdam marriage banns, 26 October 1652 for “*Pieter Pieters*” and “*Tryntie vande Lande*.” Although no baptism records were found for any other children of this marriage, Dr. Krijnen presumed the groom of 1652 was later the Dutch cadet of the same name who was listed as a passenger on *De Bonte Koe* in 1660 accompanied by his wife (allegedly Tryntje van de Lande) and three children, supposedly six year old son Pieter who was presumed to be the child reported as 8 years old, and daughters Tryntje, 4 (b. c1656) and Geestje, 2 (b. c1658).
2. Chris Brooks, a descendant researching his ancestor Willem Jansen Traphagen (and ours as well, as Willem was also the father of Rebecca Traphagen, the maternal progenitor of the Ostrander family of colonial New York). Mr. Brooks had noted that Dr. Krijnen's information did not seem to fit and was also genealogically inconclusive. As a result, he set out in 1997 with the belief that “... **if correct, the 1993 findings “could be substantiated at least in part by the baptismal and marriage records”** of Amsterdam.

¹ Amsterdam *Doopregisters, 1564-1811, Bron 43, page 248*

However, he was unable to substantiate the 1993 research but in the process discovered that the “*Pieter Pieterss*” who married “*Tryntie vande Lande*” in Amsterdam in November 1652 was the widower of Luytje Jans, father of an underage child from his first marriage and a furrier by trade. The new information made it seem unlikely that Pieter Pietersen, the furrier would abandon his career in Amsterdam and enlist as a cadet (a junior officer-in-training) with the Dutch West India Company. This prompted Mr. Brooks to significantly expand his search for children of a father with the first name of Pieter who had children baptized Pieter, Tryntje and Geestje (Geesje), undoubtedly a daunting task as the Amsterdam Archives are full of baptismal records between 1650 and 1660 where the father’s given name was Pieter.

Apparently by a tedious process of elimination, Chris finally zeroed in on the baptism of our ancestor and family patriarch Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen, the son of Pieter Carstensen and Geesje Jans. Following a review to ensure that his research met the Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS), Mr. Brooks’ work was found to be GPS compliant and was published in *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record (THE RECORD)* in July 1999.

3. Unaware of Mr. Brooks’ research, but around the same time that *THE RECORD* published his article, Lorine McGinnis Schulze was researching her Pier ancestry with the assistance of three researchers based in Holland. It was while investigating her Dutch roots that she noted that she was covering a lot of the same ground as Chris had, as one branch of the Pier family of Holland and New York was inextricably connected to the Ostrander (Carstensen–Pietersen) family of Amsterdam and Ulster County, New York. As a result, she initiated contact with Chris in the latter half of 1999 and collaborated with him throughout the remainder of her research. Their combined work was published in an article entitled “ORIGINS OF THE PIER FAMILY IN THE NETHERLANDS AND AN UPDATE ON THEIR CONNECTION TO THE OSTRANDER FAMILY,” which appeared in the July 2000 issue of *THE RECORD (pages 163-181)*.

Thanks to the excellent research documented in the articles by Chris Brooks and Lorine McGinnis Schulze I was readily able to confirm their findings and conclusions and during the audit process I was struck by just how astonishingly lucky we are to have their information. Specifically, although the genealogical trail of Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen and his mother Geesje Jans is crystal clear, it was noted that Lorine and Chris recovered 12 baptism records for the children of Pieter Carstensen in the Amsterdam Lutheran Church between 1625 and 1657 from his two marriages (ten children by Tryntje Thyssen and two by Geesje Jans) yet the only baptismal record that contained the name of the child’s mother was that of our ancestor Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen, bpt. 3 July 1657 (truly a blessing in disguise).

Basically Lorine McGinnis Schulze’s subsequent research reconfirmed and augmented Chris Brooks’s 1999 work as did the research that I conducted in the past year, which produced further supporting evidence. The crowning touch came via the OFA Research Committee’s recent review and due diligence, which concluded that:

1. Our ancestor Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen was the only son of Pieter⁽¹⁾ Carstensen and Geesje Jans to come from Amsterdam to New Netherland and settle in Ulster County, NY; and
2. Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen OSTRANDER (s/o Pieter⁽¹⁾ Carstensen and Geesje Jans) and Rebecca⁽³⁾ Traphagen (Willem⁽²⁾, Johannes⁽¹⁾) are the progenitors of the Ostrander family.

THE 1ST & 2ND GENERATIONS OF THE OSTRANDER FAMILY

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

I originally became interested in the Ostrander family history in 2003 when I first discovered that the full name of my great, great grandfather John O. De Geer (c1800/01 – 1873) was John Ostrander De Geer, the son of Peter De Geer and Maryte “Mary” Ostrander who were married in Fonda, Montgomery County, New York on December 17, 1797. Thanks to leads in the OFA Big Book², I was able to find Maryte Ostrander’s parents and trace her ancestry back to Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen Ostrander and Rebecca Traphagen [Maryte⁽⁵⁾ Ostrander, Gerrit⁽⁴⁾, Johannes⁽³⁾, Pieter⁽²⁾], but I never gave much thought to the first generation of the Ostrander family at that time.

Four years later I stumbled onto another Mary Ostrander, but this time it was in my paternal grandmother’s side of the ancestral tree. This piqued my curiosity somewhat and I began to dig a little deeper into the past, but it was not until some other Ostrander descendants informed me that the brief rendition of the 1st generation of the Pietersen/Ostrander family presented in the Big Book was incorrect. They referred me to an article by Chris Brooks that was published in the July issue of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record³ (THE RECORD) and I became truly intrigued. However, I had no idea at that time that I would end up expending more than 1,200 hours over the next year seeking and verifying the progenitor of the Ostrander family of colonial America. As it turns out the first male in the Ostrander family line to emigrate from Holland to New Netherland was the Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen who was first reported in Kingston, New York as “*Pieter Pietersse*” in the record of his marriage to Rebecca Traphagen⁴ in 1679.

In 1999, two different accounts of the first two generations of the Pietersen/Ostrander family were published. The first genealogy published was the referenced 11-page article compiled and written by a descendant of Willem Jansen Traphagen (Mr. Chris Brooks, whose ancestor was also the father of our maternal ancestor Rebecca Traphagen), based on research conducted in 1997/98. Prior to its publication, Mr. Brooks’ work was reviewed by a professionally accredited genealogist to ensure that it met the Genealogical Proof Standard and once accepted as compliant it appeared in the July issue of THE RECORD.

One year after its publication, Mr. Brooks’ article was again reviewed by a second, independent professionally accredited genealogist in 2000, who stated:

“Mr. Brooks established through complex correlation of evidence that Pieter Pietersen who married in 1679 in Kingston was a son of Pieter Carstensen and his wife Geesje Jans, and that he came to New Netherland in 1661 on De St. Jan Baptist with his mother and stepfather Arent Teunissen Pier”⁵ [and his elder sister Tryntje Pieters].

² OSTRANDER: A GENEALOGICAL RECORD 1660-1995, by Emmett Ostrander, Vinton Pierce Ostrander & Collin Ostrander, published by the Ostrander Family Association, 1999

³ “PARENTAGE OF PIETER PIETERSEN OSTRANDER AND HIS SISTER TRYNTJE PIETERS,” *pages 163-173*

⁴ Old Dutch Church of Kingston, Marriage Register, *page 504, Entry #36* – “19 January 1679, Pieter Pietersse, j.m. of Amsterdam & Rebecca Traphage, j.d., of Boswyck both resided in Westquansengh. Banns published three times in the church but dates not given.”

⁵ New York Genealogical and Biographical Record, July 2000, Book Review by David L. Greene, CG, FASG, Coeditor of *The American Genealogist* [TAG]), *page 228*

The second genealogical account was the brief 1 ½ page rendition that appeared in the Big Book and consisted of two hypotheses, the:

- first was based on the century old Ostrander family traditional oral record that purported that the Pieter Pietersen who married Rebecca Traphagen was the son of a Dutch cadet of the same name, who was listed as a passenger on *De Bonte Koe* in 1660; and
- second was based on two records recovered from the Amsterdam Archives in 1993 and a presumption that the Pieter Pietersen who married a Tryntje van de Lande in November 1652 was also the Dutch cadet of the same name, who was listed as a passenger on *De Bonte Koe* in 1660.

The same professionally accredited genealogist that performed the second independent appraisal of Chris Brooks 1999 work and found that it met the Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS) also conducted a review of the OFA Big Book, at the request of THE RECORD, and he noted that the Big Book was not GPS compliant. In particular, he noted that the first generation was primarily hypothetical and further research and documented evidence was required before it could be accepted.

A concerted effort was made to verify the two cited hypotheses as well as the Ostrander family traditional oral account and the findings and conclusions are presented in a separate research paper entitled “THE OSTRANDER FAMILY TRADITIONAL HISTORY”– The Origin and Evolution of the Traditional Oral Accounts of the First Two Generations of the Pietersen-Ostrander Family in America. The final analysis contains evidence that shows that there is nothing to connect Pieter Pietersen the Dutch cadet listed as a passenger on *De Bonte Koe* in 1660, to either the:

- Pieter Pietersen who married a Tryntje van de Lande in Amsterdam in November 1652;
or
- Pieter Pietersen who married Rebecca Traphagen in Kingston in January 1679.

Additional Findings and Conclusions (1999/2000)

Unaware of Mr. Brooks’ research, but around the same time that THE RECORD published his article, Lorine McGinnis Schulze was researching her Pier ancestry with the assistance of three researchers based in Holland. Lorine is a published author of books on genealogy and history, as well as the founder and administrator of the Olive Tree Genealogy a free website found at: <http://www.olivetreegenealogy.com/>

While investigating her Pier ancestry she noted that she was covering a lot of the same ground as Chris had, as one branch of the Pier family of Holland and New York was inextricably connected to the Ostrander (Carstensen–Pietersen) family of Amsterdam and Ulster County, New York. As a result, she initiated contact with Chris in the latter half of 1999 and collaborated with him throughout the remainder of her research. Their combined work was published in an article entitled “ORIGINS OF THE PIER FAMILY IN THE NETHERLANDS AND AN UPDATE ON THEIR CONNECTION TO THE OSTRANDER FAMILY,” which appeared in the July 2000 issue of THE RECORD (pages 163-181).

Basically the second genealogy confirmed Chris Brooks' 1999 article, while providing additional evidence that showed when, why and how our ancestor Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen emigrated from Amsterdam to New Netherland with his mother Geesje Jans, sister Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters, and stepfather Arent Teunissen (Pier).

Special Acknowledgements

About one month into the initial phase of my research I remembered one of the many excellent lessons I learned during my few years with IBM – “*you are the manager of all of the resources available to you.*” It was with this in mind that I opted to establish direct contact with Chris Brooks in the fall of 2007 and his subsequent assistance and feedback has been invaluable.

Although not an Ostrander descendant, Mr. Brooks is a descendant of William Jansen Traphagen the biological father of our maternal ancestor and female progenitor Rebecca Traphagen, which in turn means that all Ostrander's descended from her spouse Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen Ostrander are also descendants of William Jansen Traphagen.

Since co-authoring the 2000 article on the Ostrander-Pier connection, Chris Brooks has recovered quite a bit more information on our Ostrander ancestors while tracing his Traphagen roots and which he was kind enough to share with me as he has no vested interest in the Ostrander family genealogy per se, other than the parents of Rebecca Traphagen's husband Pieter Pietersen Ostrander and their children. His primary focus is the genealogy of the Traphagen family and he appears to be a leading authority on this line in America and I believe he has traced the Traphagen family's ancestry back to the 14th or 15th century in Europe. He is currently in the process a preparing a large volume on the first five generations of the Traphagen family for publication later this year, which will include a chapter on Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen and Rebecca Traphagen and their children.

According to her website (*The Olive Tree Genealogy*) the first volume of the Peer [PIER] family, compiled by Lorine McGinnis Schulze was scheduled for publication July 1, 2008 and was to include the 21-page article she co-authored with Chris Brooks.

PURPOSE OF THE REVIEW

To determine the genealogical and historical validity of the first and second generations of the Ostrander family of colonial New York as compiled and documented by Chris Brooks and Lorine McGinnis Schulze.

RESEARCH (OCTOBER 2007 – JULY 2008)

During the past ten months the following major tasks have been completed.

1. A diagnostic review of the records, findings and conclusions presented in the articles published by Chris Brooks in 1999 and Lorine McGinnis Schulze and Chris Brooks in 2000.

2. Research of records of the Amsterdam Archives, the colonial records of New Netherland, New York and Ulster County, N.Y. and documentation of my analysis and research findings and conclusions, which were submitted in a detailed Discussion Paper to officers of the OFA for review and comment at the end of January 2008.
3. Additional research of issues, concerns and new (and old) information provided by officers of the OFA and specific queries raised by members of the Research Committee that was commissioned by the OFA Board of Board of Directors in April 2008 to “*to objectively review all information (traditional, inconclusive and alternative) pertaining to the real and/or perceived progenitor of the Ostrander family.*”
4. Extensive review and deliberation by the Research Committee regarding all information related to the traditional family history and the alternative genealogy published by Chris Brooks in 1999, as well as the Pier-Ostrander genealogy subsequently published by Lorine McGinnis Schulze and Chris Brooks in 2000.

This paper presents the verified records, which consist of factual and circumstantial evidence that when combined into a complete picture show that our ancestor and family progenitor Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen Ostrander was doubtless the son of Pieter Carstensen and Geesje Jans and he:

- was baptized in the Amsterdam Lutheran Church in July 1657;
- arrived in New Netherland, 6 August 1661;
- first settled on Coney Island [*Brooklyn*] where the family lived for about two years;
- later grew up in Ulster County, NY, while residing in the Dutch settlements at both Kingston and Hurley as a youth;
- was living in Westquansengh (a tract of land in Fox Hall Manor, located just north of Kingston) when he married Rebecca Traphagen in January 1679; and
- settled in Hurley with his bride some time after their marriage.

The Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS)

Genealogical research is a complex process that uses historical records to establish biological, genetic, or familial kinship. The validity and reliability of conclusions are based on the quality of sources, ideally original records; the information within those sources, ideally primary or firsthand information; and the evidence that can be drawn, directly or indirectly, from that information. Genealogists insist that any and all assertions (genealogical or historical claims) must have a precise source citation before they can be accepted. However, genealogists must often assemble indirect or circumstantial evidence to build a case for identity and kinship and in those instances of uncertainty they must provide a rationale for each uncertain identification, assumption or presumption.

Both the Traphagen-Ostrander and Pier-Ostrander genealogies submitted to THE RECORD in 1999 and 2000 respectively were GPS compliant. As a result, the precise source citations provided by Chris Brooks and Lorine McGinnis Schulze readily facilitated the audit process utilized to verify the validity, accuracy and completeness of their information. Thanks to the excellent research documented in the articles by Chris Brooks and Lorine McGinnis Schulze I was readily able to confirm their findings and conclusions.

THE 1ST GENERATION – PIETER⁽¹⁾ CARSTENSEN AND GEESJE JANS

Ironically, it was the minimal results and inconclusive evidence from the narrowly focused research conducted in Holland in 1993 for the OFA, by Dr. J. A. J. Krijnen of Leiden, that ultimately led to the discovery of our ancestor and family patriarch Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen's biological parents, by Chris Brooks in 1997/98. It was Dr. Krijnen who had hypothesized that Pieter Pieterss, the furrier who married a Tryntje van de Lande in Amsterdam in 1652 was the same person as the Dutch cadet named Pieter Pietersen that was listed as a passenger on *De Bonte Koe* in 1660 with his wife and three children aged 8, 4 and 2. Noting some disparities in Dr. Krijnen's information, Mr. Brooks was simply following a lead from Dr. Krijnen's research while investigating descendants of his ancestor Willem Jansen Traphagen (the father of our maternal progenitor Rebecca Traphagen).

When he first ventured into the records of the Amsterdam Archives, Mr. Brooks felt that "*if correct, the 1993 findings could be substantiated at least in part by the baptismal and marriage records*" of Amsterdam.⁶ However, when he was unable to do so, he expanded his search parameters to include all fathers named Pieter who presented children for baptism in Amsterdam named Pieter, Tryntje and Geestje between 1650 and 1660. By a tedious process of elimination the list of possible candidates was eventually whittled down to one by Chris Brooks and he documented his findings in compliance with the Genealogical Proof Standard to show that our ancestor and family progenitor Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen was the son of Pieter⁽¹⁾ Carstensen and Geesje Jans, who was baptized in the Amsterdam Lutheran Church on July 3, 1657.

Since the published works of Chris Brooks and Lorine McGinnis Schulze provided precise source citations it made the audit process relatively easy. The audit also was facilitated by the online availability of the Amsterdam *Doopregister* (Baptism Registers) from the Amsterdam Archives at: <https://stadsarchief.amsterdam.nl/archieven/archiefbank/indexen/doopregisters/zoek/index.nl.html>

Pieter Carstensen

There is some uncertainty regarding Pieter Carstensen's origin as he was reported to be "*from Husum*" in the 1623 record of his first marriage in Amsterdam to Tryntje Thyssen⁷ and "*from Nordstrand*" in the 1654 record of his second marriage in Amsterdam to Geesje Jans from Norden, age 22 years assisted by her father Jan Doets⁸. A subsequent review of the 1623 marriage intentions indicated that both the bride and groom of the first union arrived in Amsterdam c1618 when they were each about 14 years of age⁹. Presumably they came to Amsterdam with their parents or, perhaps, older siblings.

⁶ "PARENTAGE OF PIETER PIETERSEN OSTRANDER AND HIS SISTER TRYNTJE PIETERS," by Chris Brooks, The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record, July 1999, page 163

⁷ "PARENTAGE OF PIETER PIETERSEN OSTRANDER AND HIS SISTER TRYNTJE PIETERS," by Chris Brooks, New York Genealogical and Biographical Record, July 1999, page 169 – *Amsterdam Marriage Intentions, 18 February 1623, Pieter Carstensen from Husum, shoemaker's apprentice, having no parents, age 18, and Tryn Thijsen from Nordstrand, age 18* [both resided in Amsterdam]

⁸ Ibid

⁹ ORIGINS OF THE PIER FAMILY IN NEW NETHERLAND AND AN UPDATE OF THEIR CONNECTION TO THE OSTRANDER FAMILY," by Lorine McGinnis Schulze and Chris Brooks - THE RECORD, July 2000, page 179

Nordstrand was an island located just to the west of nearby Husum situated on the mainland and both were a part of what was then the Duchy of Schleswig-Holstein in the Kingdom of Denmark.

Husum, Nordstrand and Norden

Today **Husum** (North Frisian: Hüseem) is the capital of the *Kreis* (district) of Nordfriesland in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, but in Pieter Carstensen's era it was under Danish control and like most towns at the North Sea it was often impacted by strong storm tides. In 1362 a disastrous storm tide flooded the town and carved out the inland harbor. Before this date Husum was not situated directly at the coast as it is today.

Nordstrand is also a part of modern day Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, but as noted above it was also part of the Kingdom of Denmark in the 16th and 17th centuries. In medieval times Nordstrand was also a part of the larger island of Strand when it was torn into pieces in a disastrous storm tide in 1634, which drastically reduced its land mass. Other remnants of Strand are Pellworm and the Halligen islets. Today Nordstrand's area is only 19.5 square miles making it slightly smaller than the Island of Bermuda at 20.6 square miles.

Norden is a town in the District of Aurich in Lower Saxony in modern day mainland Germany. It is situated on the North Sea coast line and also borders the former Danish Duchy of Schleswig-Holstein (to the southwest).

In the early 16th century the Reformation gradually gained adherents in Denmark, and during the reign of Christian III (1534–59) Lutheranism became the established religion in both Husum and Nordstrand, which remained under Danish control until the 19th century when it was ceded to Germany in 1864. A Lutheran Church service was very similar to a Catholic Mass and the Lutheran reformation of the Catholic Church was not to make it a purely protestant church, but to reform some of the interior administrative workings of the Catholic Church that were not included in the Bible.

On the other hand, the Dutch Reformed Church was a true reformation Protestant church and the service, marriages and baptisms were entirely different from the Catholic Church.

Two main attractions of The Netherlands in the 16th and 17th centuries were religious freedom with a coexistence of Catholic, Lutheran and Reformed Protestant Churches as well as a booming economy, particularly in Amsterdam. As a result, the origin of Pieter⁽²⁾Pietersen's parents might have been Scandinavian, although medieval history suggests we cannot rule out the possibility of a European connection. Like so very many other descendants of ancestors that came from elsewhere to Holland and then to New Netherland, it is conceivable that our ethnic origin is more diverse than previously believed.

However, that being said, our ancestor Pieter⁽²⁾Pietersen was most certainly Dutch by birth, culture and custom and the rich Dutch heritage of the Ostrander family in the 17th and 18th centuries is clearly evident in the colonial records of New Netherland and Ulster County, New York.

Children of the 1st Marriage

A list of ten children of Pieter Carstensen and Tryntje Thyssen was compiled from the Baptism Registers of the *Oude Evangelische Luthers Kerk Amsterdam* (Old Lutheran Church of Amsterdam) but none of the baptismal records included the mother's name so it was clearly noted by the researchers that some of the parents-child kinships were reasonably certain and some probable (based on the names of the baptismal sponsors/witnesses)¹⁰. All ten records cited in the referenced article were verified through the Amsterdam Archives online *Doopregister* website and it is evident that the father of the ten children was affiliated with the Lutheran Church, which ties in nicely with the history of Denmark's Duchy of Schleswig-Holstein.

In any event, the ten children have no direct bearing on the Ostrander family genealogy, but it is important to note that DNA testing of male descendants of Pieter Carstensen and Tryntje Thyssen (if any exist and can be found) and male descendants of Pieter Carstensen and Geesje Jans (i.e. Ostrander males descended from Pieter Carstensen's only son of his second marriage, Pieter Pietersen who married Rebecca Traphagen) could eliminate any doubt of the Ostrander family's European roots.

Children of Pieter Carstensen and Tryntje Thyssen:

<u>Daughters</u>	<u>Sons</u>
i. <i>Sijtgen</i> , bpt. 19 August 1625, died young	
ii. <i>Sijtgen</i> , bpt. 26 July 1626	
iii. <i>Foltgen</i> , bpt. 10 October 1628	
	iv. <i>Johannes</i> , bpt. 8 September 1630
v. <i>Marytjen</i> , bpt. 28 September 1632	
vi. <i>Annetje</i> , bpt. 27 May 1635	
	vii. <i>Cornelis</i> , bpt. 30 August 1637
	viii. <i>Mateus</i> , bpt. 20 March 1640
ix. <i>Vooltjen</i> , bpt. 16 January 1644	
	x. <i>Volkert</i> , bpt. 19 March 1647

It is not known exactly when Pieter Carstensen's first wife (Tryntje Thyssen) died, but it was sometime after March 1647 and before his second marriage in 1654.

Pieter Carstensen's 2nd Marriage

Chris Brooks recovered the record of the betrothal (marriage intentions) of Pieter Karstenss from Nordstrand, innkeeper, widower of Trijntje Thyssen and Geestie Jans, from Norden, age 22 years, assisted by her father Jan Doets. The marriage intentions¹¹ were registered in Amsterdam 26 June 1654 and the following notations appear in the margin beside the original entry – "*He was referred to the Orphan Court. He satisfied the Orphan Court 10 July 1654.*"

¹⁰ ORIGINS OF THE PIER FAMILY IN NEW NETHERLAND AND AN UPDATE OF THEIR CONNECTION TO THE OSTRANDER FAMILY," by Lorine McGinnis Schulze and Chris Brooks - THE RECORD, July 2000, pages 180-181.

¹¹ "PARENTAGE OF PIETER PIETERSEN OSTRANDER AND HIS SISTER TRYNTJE PIETERS," by Chris Brooks, New York Genealogical and Biographical Record, July 1999, page 169

Pieter Carstensen and Geesje Jans were married at the Nieuwe kerk (New Church) in Amsterdam by Domine Menso, 14 July 1654.¹² Their marriage record provided a number of clues. For example, we know Geesje Jans was the daughter of Jan Doets, therefore her patronymic was JANS and it seems likely that Pieter Carstensen was the son of a father named Carsten or Karsten. In addition, since Pieter Carstensen reported that he was from Nordstrand while accompanied by his bride-to-be during the registration of their betrothal, it suggests a plausible explanation why some Ostrander descendants in Ulster County first used the name Van Norstrande or Van Nostrande before switching to Van Oostrande[r] soon after. Based on the reference to the Orphan Court (*Weeskamer*) we also know that in June 1654 Pieter Carstensen had at least one living underage child from his first marriage and the record of the hearing indicates:

*10 July 1654 – Pieter Carstense, innkeeper, has proved that his underage daughter Volckge [Vooletjen], 11 years old, whose mother was Trijntge Thijs, has for her maternal inheritance 50 guilders. . . [witnesses] Sytge Pieters his daughter and Styntge Pieters the aunt: presented before de Heer Johan Van der Poll, etc.*¹³

Since only one underage child was mentioned in the *Weeskamer* record it seems sons Mateus (bpt. March 1640) and Volckert (bpt. March 1647) may have died before July 1654. If this were the case, it suggests perhaps Pieter Carstensen had only two surviving sons from his first marriage. Additional research would be required to confirm what happened to these two male children (as well as the others).

The Trail Begins – Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters & Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen

The children of Pieter Carstens[en] and Geesje Jans:

1654 29 December 1654, Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters was baptized in the Amsterdam Lutheran Church.¹⁴ The articles of 1999 and 2000 article reported the baptism date as 15 December 1654 and I discovered that this is the date when another father named Pieter Carstens presented a daughter who was baptized Anntie¹⁵ in the same church two weeks earlier.

Despite the minor mix up in the dates, Chris Brooks had originally confirmed that there was more than one Pieter Carstens[en] who presented children for baptism in the Amsterdam Lutheran Church between 1625 and 1660, but he also noted that the name of the witness for the baptism on the 29th of December 1654 was *Seijtie Pieters* and that it was possible that she was Pieter Carstensen's eldest living daughter of his first marriage – i.e., *Sitgen*, bpt. 26 July 1626.

¹² Ibid, pg. 169

¹³ ORIGINS OF THE PIER FAMILY IN NEW NETHERLAND AND AN UPDATE OF THEIR CONNECTION TO THE OSTRANDER FAMILY," by Lorine McGinnis Schulze and Chris Brooks - THE RECORD, July 2000, page 180

¹⁴ Amsterdam *Doopregisters*, Bron: 143, page 197, *kind* (child) – *Trijntie*; *vader* (father) – *Pieter Carstens*; *moeder* (mother) – *NAME NOT RECORDED*; *religie* (religion) – *Evangelisch-Luthers, Lutherse Kerken*

¹⁵ Ibid, Bron 143, page 193

When Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters' baptism of 29th December 1654 is viewed in isolation it can be seen as inconclusive as the name of the mother was not recorded, although the name of the witness indicates a plausible connection and it also raises the distinct possibility that Pieter Carstens[en] named the first daughter of his second marriage Tryntje, out of respect for his deceased first wife Tryntje Thyssen. Fortunately, a 100% confirmation that the mother of the Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters baptized on December 29, 1654 was Geesje Jans is only of secondary importance to the lineage of the Ostrander family of colonial New York as highlighted in the following paragraphs. That being said, it should be noted that several other records confirm that this Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters was almost certainly:

- born in Amsterdam in 1654;
- the daughter of Pieter Carstens[en] and Geesje Jans; and
- the older sister of our ancestor and male progenitor of the Ostrander family of colonial Ulster County, New York - Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen, b. 1657.

The confirming records are cited in later sections of this document.

1657 3 July 1657, Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen, the son of Pieter Carstens[en] and Geesje Jans was baptized in the Amsterdam Lutheran Church.¹⁶

It was noted that the baptismal records of the Amsterdam Lutheran Church rarely recorded the mother's name so it was truly a blessing when Chris Brooks recovered the original handwritten record of the baptism of our ancestor and family progenitor Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen Ostrander, which also included the names of both the mother and the father as follows:

“Den dage der 3 Julius [1657 bij] do Paulus Cordes. Pieter, Va. Pieter Carstense, moeder, gesije Jans, getu[ijgen] Annetje Jans.”

Translated into English it reads “[Baptized] *this day July 3 [1657 by] Domine Paulus Cordes. Child: Pieter, father: Pieter Carstense, mother: Gesije Jans, witness: Annetje Jans.*”¹⁷

In retrospect, it is hard to fathom just how truly fortunate we are as this is the only baptism record of the twelve children of Pieter Carstensen's two marriages where the name of the mother was included. From this point forward the migration trail of this Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen, from Amsterdam to Hurley, Ulster County, New York is clear, precise and compelling, leaving no doubt that he is our ancestor and along with his future wife, Rebecca Traphagen, they were the progenitors of the thousands of Ostrander descendants of the United States and Canada.

¹⁶ Amsterdam *Doopregisters*, Bron: 144, page 50, *kind* (child) – Pieter; *vader* (father) – Pieter Carstens; *moeder* (mother) – **GESIJE JANS**; *doop* (baptized) 3 juli 1657; *religie*(religion) – Evangelisch-Luthers, Lutherse Kerken

¹⁷ “PARENTAGE OF PIETER PIETERSEN OSTRANDER AND HIS SISTER TRYNTJE PIETERS,” by Chris Brooks, The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record, July 1999, page 171

The bottom line is that just like the old motto of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, albeit slightly paraphrased - **WE HAVE OUR MAN!** Not only that, but we have his entire life cycle - from his cradle in Amsterdam to the altar in the Old Dutch Church in Kingston, NY and to his grave in Hurley although the specific date of his death is unknown as is the location of his burial.

c1659 Thanks to the combined work of Lorine McGinnis Schulze and Chris Brooks we learned from the records of the *Amsterdam Weeskamer Caliregister* (a register of individuals who died outside of Amsterdam leaving underage children in the city) that Pieter Carstens[en] died in the East Indies as noted below.

1660 Following the death of her first husband (Pieter Carstensen), Geesje Jans remarried on 31 October 1660 in Amsterdam, Arent Teunissen. According to the record of their betrothal, which was recovered by Chris Brooks in 1997, a copy of the husband's death record was introduced when the intended couple registered their marriage intentions on 2 October 1660, as follows:

"... Arent Teunis from Amsterdam, locksmith, 21 (see note below), assisted by Jannetje Arentse his mother, living on the Palmstraat and Geesje Jans from Norden, widow of Pieter Carstense living on the Goudsbloemstraat" [Marigold Street]. There is a note, dated 14 October 1660, in the margin beside the betrothal record that indicates "She has satisfied the Orphan Court."

Lorine McGinnis Schulze recovered the records of the Orphan Court hearing dated 14 October 1660 and the *Amsterdam Weeskamer Caliregister*, which stated that Pieter Carstensen *"died in the East Indies [present day Indonesia] leaving behind two children [in Amsterdam] with no money or possessions. Geesje Jans his widow can provide nothing to the children for their father's inheritance."*¹⁸

Note: Arent Teunissen was the son of Teunis Jansz¹⁹ and Jannetje Arents[e] who was baptized 17 December 1637 in Amsterdam, so Arent was actually in his 23rd year when he married Geesje Jans (28 years).

1661 Almost six months after his marriage to Geesje Jans, Arent Teunissen signed a contract on 28 April 1661 with Dirck de Wolfe in a notary's office in Amsterdam. De Wolfe *"enlisted Arent Theunisz to sail from Amsterdam with his wife to New Netherland on the ship De St. Jan Baptist and upon arrival Arent was to go to Gravesend [Brooklyn] on Long Island to build a salt kettle under the direction of Mr. Evert Pietersz."*²⁰

De St. Jan Baptist set sail from Amsterdam after 9 May 1661 under the command of Captain Jan Bergen and arrived in New Amsterdam 6 August 1661.

¹⁸ ORIGINS OF THE PIER FAMILY IN NEW NETHERLAND AND AN UPDATE OF THEIR CONNECTION TO THE OSTRANDER FAMILY," by Lorine McGinnis Schulze and Chris Brooks - THE RECORD, July 2000, page 174

¹⁹ Ibid, page 165

²⁰ Ibid, page 173 (Note - Arent Teunissen, Dirck De Wolff and the Gravesend (Coney Island) salt venture are also all mentioned in the book *"Holland on the Hudson: an economic and social history of Dutch New York"*, by Oliver A. Rink)

Listed among the passengers were - Arent Teunissen from Amsterdam with his wife and two children, 7 and 4 years of age.²¹ Although the names of the wife and children of Arent Teunissen are not recorded in the passenger manifest there is an abundance of evidence from the records of Amsterdam and colonial New York that substantiate that they were indeed Geesje Jans and her:

- daughter Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters (b. 1654) - reported as the child of 7 years of age;
- son Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen (b. 1657) of her first marriage to Pieter Carstensen - reported as the child of 4 years of age.

On the 10th of August 1661, Arent Teunissen and Geesje Jans presented their first child, a son *Herman* for baptism in the Reformed Dutch Church of New Amsterdam just four days after the family arrived in New Amsterdam (*RDC of New Amsterdam – Baptisms 1639 - 1730, Vol. 1, page 61*). This suggests that Herman may have been born at sea. Herman was, perhaps, the first child of Arent Teunissen and Geesje Jans to adopt the PIER surname. More importantly, the witness to Herman's baptism was Mr. Evert Pieterszen giving us an indisputable link between the *Arent Theunisz* of Amsterdam that was contracted in Holland to work for a *Mr. Evert Pietersz* in Brooklyn and the Arent Teunissen and Geesje Jans who arrived in New Amsterdam on 6th August 1661. In addition, we have an indisputable connection between Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters and her brother Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen and their stepfather Arent Teunissen by virtue of the record of their mother's second marriage.

In September 2008, Peter J. Ostrander found a book entitled "***Holland on the Hudson: an economic and social history of Dutch New York***", by Oliver A. Rink, from which we get a clear picture of why Arent Teunissen brought his pregnant wife and her two young children of her first marriage (his stepchildren) to New Netherland. According to Oliver A. Rink's account (*pages 183-186*), Dirck de Wolff was a major investor in New Netherland and in 1661 de Wolff petitioned the directors of the New Netherland Commission in Amsterdam, Holland for permission to build a salt refinery in the Dutch colony.

The Saga of the Salt Kettle

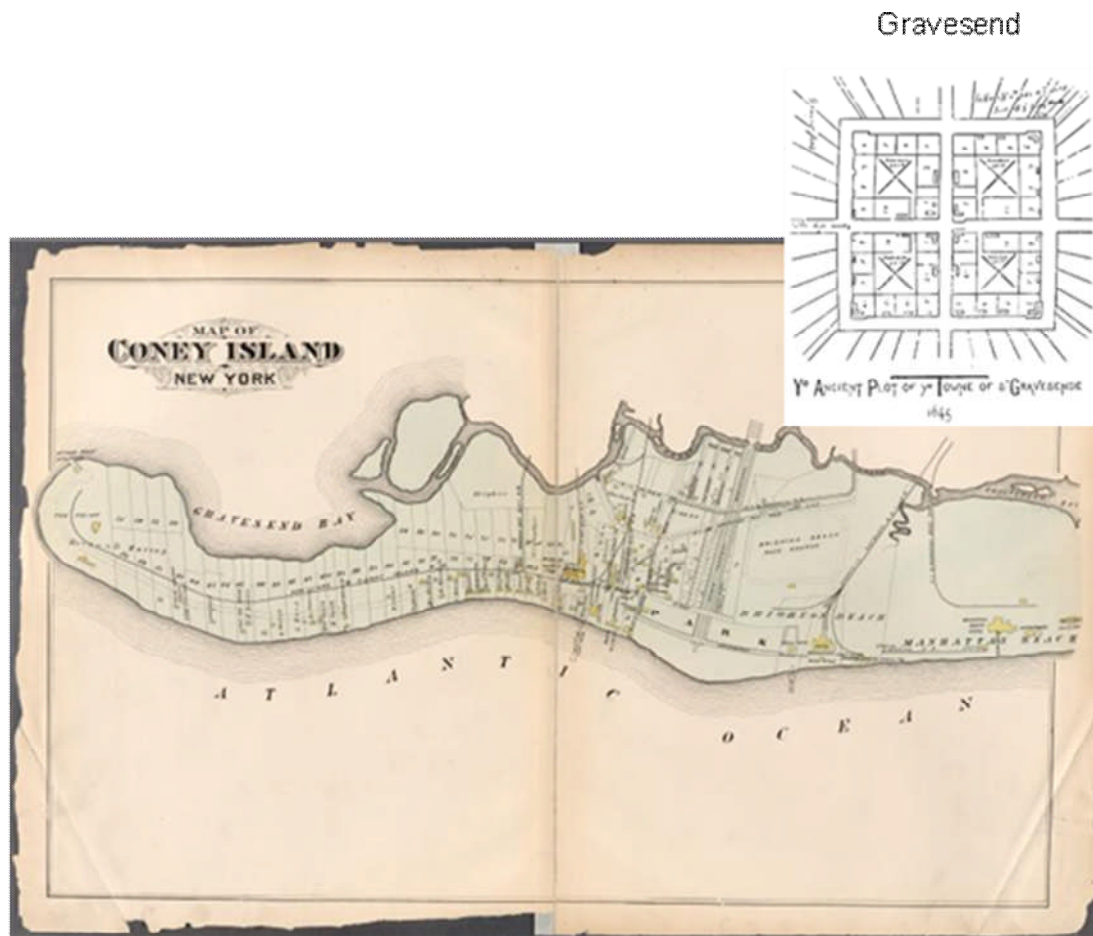
Subsequently, "*de Wolff hired Arent Theunisz [Teunissen] a blacksmith [and locksmith] from Amsterdam to go to New Netherland with his wife and family and serve as his agent for the selection of a site [to build and operate a salt kettle]. Dirck de Wolff held promissory notes from Theunisz dating back to 1659 and he may have used them as leverage in persuading him to immigrate. In any case, Theunisz carried instructions to build the salt refinery on a suitable site near the sea. The blacksmith and his family were to be given the use of a house to be constructed at company expense. After the selection of the site and the completion of the house, Theunisz was to 'cook salt day and night' in exchange for his expenses, food, drink, housing, and 15 fl. per month salary. If the salt refinery succeeded in producing profits, Theunisz was to receive a 5 fl. per month raise and 25% of the gross production of salt to sell for his own profit. The actual salt refining was the responsibility of Evert Pietersz an Amsterdam merchant who had some experience in the:*

²¹ The 1902 Yearbook of the Holland Society of New York, listings of passengers from Holland to New Netherland in 1661.

'art of salt production.' Evert Pietersz was also a junior partner of de Wolff and received for his work one-quarter of the production in addition to his dividends from the company. Problems arose immediately when Theunisz chose a site on Coney Island [in Brooklyn] near the English settlement of Gravesende . . . as the site lay on land used by the villagers as a common meadow for cattle and sheep."

As a result, the venture was openly opposed and constantly sabotaged by the English settlers at nearby Gravesend[e] and "on one occasion the English villagers threatened to throw Theunisz and Pietersz into their own fire" used to boil the sea water to produce the salt so it is evident that Arent Teunissen's sojourn on Coney Island was perilous. The difficulties continued and eventually forced de Wolff to abandon the salt refinery after two years.

Coney Island was the westernmost of the barrier islands of Long Island about four miles long and one-half mile wide. However, it is no longer an island as Coney Island Creek, which was little more than tidal flats that separated it from the main part of Brooklyn was filled in for construction of the Belt Parkway in the 20th century. The larger map shown below is circa 1880.



Bounded by Gravesend Bay, Sheepshead Bay, Manhattan Beach and Atlantic Ocean

From Coney Island in Brooklyn to Kingston and Hurley in Ulster County, New York

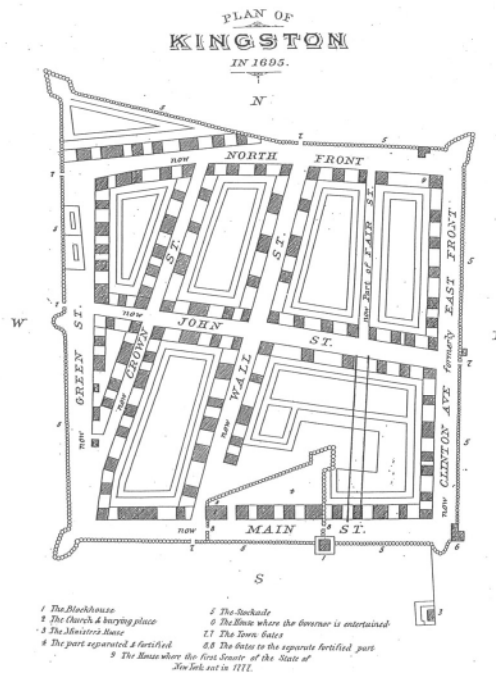
There is a slight gap in the records of Arent Teunissen's existence in New Netherland following the demise of the salt kettle venture, but it was while researching the *Kingston Papers* (New York Historical Manuscripts, translation of Dutch records) that I picked up his trail when I stumbled onto the following key record for him that was not included in the index of the historical records (found in Volume 1, page 108):

1663 On 4 December 1663 at an ordinary session of the Wildwyck (a.k.a. Wiltwyck) Court (later the Kingston Court when Wiltwyck was renamed Kingston by the British in 1669):

“Arent Teunissen asks the Honorable Court for a lot in the village of Wildwyck, as he intends to take up an abode here.

The Honorable Court will determine upon a vacant spot for him in the village of Wildwyck.”

Arent's request for a lot came about six months after the attack on the village so it seems likely he would have been assigned an available property within the walls of the stockade based on the plan shown below. According to Nathaniel B. Sylvester's "*History of Ulster County*" most of the settlers of New Dorp (Hurley) came from Wildwyck and had returned to the new village in the latter half of 1663 to rebuild their destroyed homes so it seems probable that it would not have been difficult for the Honorable Court to select a vacant site for Arent Teunissen and his family.



MILLER MAP OF KINGSTON STOCKADE AREA IN 1695
AS DESIGNATED BY GOVERNOR PETRUS STUYVESANT

Documents Relative to the Colonial History of New York State,
Insert between pages 84,85, Vol. XIII

1664 About seven months later Arent Teunissen and Geesje Jans presented their second child (a daughter Jannetje) for baptism in the Old Dutch Church of Kingston²² on 12 July 1664 thus confirming that the family had settled in Wildwyck. Jannetje Arents later adopted the PIER surname and she was the fourth child of Geesje Jans and a sibling (half-sister) of our ancestor Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen and his biological sister Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters. Therefore, at the end of 1664 the Kingston household of Arent Teunissen and Geesje Jans included the following four children of the common mother:

1. Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters, 10, probably the daughter of Pieter Cartsens[en] who was baptized in Amsterdam 29 December 1654 (and his second wife Geesje Jans).
2. Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen, 7, the son of Pieter Cartsens[en] and Geesje Jans baptized in the Amsterdam Lutheran Church - 3 July 1657.
3. Herman Arentsen (Pier), 3, baptized in the Reformed Dutch Church of New Amsterdam – 10 August 1661.
4. Jannetje Arents (Pier), about 6 months, baptized in Kingston 12th July, 1664.

1668 Arent Teunissen and Geesje Jans presented their daughter Gepje, a.k.a. Gepie (Arent's third child and Geesje Jans' fifth child of her two marriages) for baptism in the Old Dutch Church of Kingston²³ on 25th March. Gepje (Gepie) Arents also later adopted the PIER surname and she too was a sibling (half-sister) of our ancestor Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen and his sister Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters.

The later marriage records of daughters Jannetje Arentse [PIER] (in 1682) and Gepje (Gepie) Arentse [PIER] (in 1685) confirm that they were both born in Wiltwyck (Wildwyck). We next find the combined Carstensen-Pietersen/Arentsen-Pier family living in Hurley in 1670.

Colonial Ulster County, New York - Migration and Milestones

1670 April 5 - **Aaron Tunys** (Arent Teunissen) is on the list of soldiers at Hurley, (*Source: Documents Relating to the Colonial History of New York, E.B. O'Callaghan, Vol. XIII, p. 448*). The household of Arent Teunissen and Geesje Jans then consisted of the following five children (*and it was verified to be the only family in Kingston or Hurley with siblings named Tryntje Pieters and Pieter Pietersen at this time*):

1. Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters, 15 years of age– (born December 1654, Amsterdam);
2. Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen [later OSTRANDER], 12 years old - (bpt. 3 July 1657, Amsterdam);
3. Herman Arentsen [later PIER], 8 years - (bpt. 10 August 1661, New Amsterdam);
4. Jannetje Arents [PIER], 5 years - (bpt. 12 July 1664, Wiltwyck); and
5. Gepje Arents [PIER] aged 2 - (bpt. 25 March 1668, Wiltwyck).

²² ODC Kingston Baptism Register, page 3 – Baptism #39, 12 July 1664, **Parents:** Arent Teunesse, Giesjen Jans;
Child: Jannetjen

²³ ODC Kingston Baptism Register, page 6 – Baptism #91, 25 March 1668, **Parents:** Arent Teunesse, Geesjen Jans;
Child: Gepje

c1672 Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters, d/o Pieter⁽¹⁾ Carstensen and Geesje Jans and stepdaughter of Arent Teunissen married Hendrick Albertse[n]. He was most likely the farmer that had leased “certain lands known as **Wisquaemsickx**” [*Westquansengh*] on Fox Hall Manor from Capt. Thomas Chambers for the period of ten consecutive years from October 7, 1671 until October 7, 1681. (*Source: Kingston Papers, Vol. 2, pages 703-4 and 724*)

1673 Teunis Arentsen [Pier] was born in Hurley, NY.²⁴

c1677 In January 1677/78 **Aaron Tunison** (*i.e. Arent Teunissen*) sold a house and lot in Hurley to Michael Modt (De Modt) with payments due in February for three years. Arent sued Modt in March 1677/78 for payment but Modt claimed the lot was encumbered.²⁵ No record of the outcome of the law suit has been found, but it appears the matter may have been resolved as Michel De Modt sold a house and lot in Hurley, 1 April 1679.²⁶ Arent Teunissen was also buying land in Kingston and renting some property behind Westquansengh on Fox Hall Manor near where Willem Jansen Traphagen owned land.

1678 Among the residents in/near Westquansengh in 1678 were:

- Hendrick Albertse[n], his wife Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters and their children;
- Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen; and
- Rebecca Traphagen living with her father Willem Jansen Traphagen.

After a decade without a resident minister, Domine Laurentis Van Gaasbeek arrived in Kingston in September. On 2nd October 1678 he made a house visitation at the home of Arent Teunissen [Pier] (Member #190) and his wife Geesje Jans (Member #191) in Kingston. (*Source: Old Dutch Church of Kingston – Member Register*).

1679 January 19th - Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen of Amsterdam, resident of Westquansengh, 21, s/o Pieter⁽¹⁾ Carstens[en] and Geesje Jans and stepson of Arent Teunissen, married Rebecca Traphagen²⁷ of Bushwick (a village in the northeastern part of what is now modern day Brooklyn) and also a resident of Westquansengh, 16, d/o Willem Jansen Traphagen and Joosje Willems.²⁸

²⁴ *Kingston Papers, Vol. 2, page 739 - an entry appears between 21 May 1673 and 21 August 1673 - “Baptized the child of Arent Teunisen, named Teunes” and the 1702 marriage record for Teunis Pier (ODC Kingston, Marriage Register, page 519 – Entry #194 indicates “he was born in horle” [Hurley]*

²⁵ Ulster County, colonial land and court records

²⁶ Ulster County land records - 1 Apr 1679 Michiel De Mott grantor, Clacs Clacsen Sluter grantee. Conveys certain house and lot at Horly [Hurley]

²⁷ Old Dutch Church of Kingston, Marriage Register, page 504, Entry #36 - 19 January 1679, “Pieter Pietersse, j.m. of Amsterdam & Rebecca Traphage, j.d., of Boswyck both resided in Westquansengh. Banns published three times in the church but dates not given.”

²⁸ New Amsterdam Reformed Dutch Church, Marriage Banns - January 15, 1661: Willem Traphagel, Wedr. Van Aeltje Dirx, en Joosje Willems, Wede Van Jan Verkinderen – also First Dutch Reformed Church of Brooklyn – 6 February 1661: Willem Janszen Traphagel to Joosje Willems, with certificate "from the Manhatans".

Westquansengh

When the OFA Big Book was published in 1999 it was thought that Westquansengh was “*an Indian name for a locality believed to be in the Hurley area*” (page 3). Actually Westquansengh was not in the Hurley area, but was instead a tract of land situated on Foxhall Manor (a.k.a. Fox Hall Manor) located about 6 to 7 miles northeast of Hurley and 2 to 3 miles north of Wiltwyck (which was renamed Kingston in 1669). The name is difficult to find in the history books and is only mentioned a few times in Ulster County wills, the Secretary’s papers and land grants.

The location of this area is important as this is where Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen (later Ostrander) and his bride Rebecca Traphagen were living at the time of their marriage. It is also where we find reference to four families that are intimately intertwined with the bride and groom, specifically:

- Arent Teunissen [Pier];
- Hendrick Albertse [Ploeg];
- Willem Jansen Traphagen; and
- Thomas Chambers.

The names of these four persons are found often in court and land records with a reference to Westquansengh [Wisquaemsickx, Wisquametinx,] and there also are references to Thomas Chambers as the owner of Foxhall Manor, which was a 330 acre estate north of Kingston.²⁹ For example, among the Ulster County court and land records we find the following (among others):

- “At an Extraordinary Court Session, July 24, 1675, Willem Traphagen requested a piece of land for a plantation back of the land named *Wisquametinx* (*sic* – Westquansengh), about ten morgens [20 acres] in extent. The Court finding that no one would suffer any loss by it, granted the land to petitioner, subject to the Lord Governor's approval.”
- Thomas Chambers died childless in 1694 and left the Manor to his stepson, Abraham Van Gaasbeek, later Abraham Gaasbeek Chambers. In the abstract of Thomas Chambers' will (*Source: Anjou's "Ulster County, New York, Probate Records, volume II, page 107*) there is reference to a bequest "to my wife's daughter, Maria Salisbury, tract of land now in possession of Dirck Hendrix de Goijer [Goyer], called "Wigguansinck" (*sic* – *Westquansengh*). The date of the will was 5 April 1694.
- The Sept. 18, 1749 will of Francis Salisbury of Catskill (*Source: NY Historical Society, Abstracts of Wills vol. 5 p. 126 - 128*) mentions: "my Farm, Bowery, and lands lying at Wisquaensick (*sic* – *Westquansengh*), in the Manor of Fox Hall, in Ulster County."
- French's Gazetteer p. 663 says that the "Fox Hall Patent was annexed March 12, 1787" by the 'town' of Kingston. Fox Hall Patent was issued to Thomas Chambers, May 21, 1667, with manorial privileges... The district still [*in 1860*] bears the name of *Fox Hall*."

²⁹ *Landlord and Tenant p.15; Minor Manors pp. 14-15.*

The Ulster County court and land records also report that Arent Teunissen [Pier], Hendrick Albertse [Ploeg] and Willem Jansen Traphagen acquired or leased land in Foxhall, Hurley and/or Kingston. It appears that Hendrick Albertse and Willem Traphagen resided in the area of Foxhall, while Arent Teunissen lived in Kingston and Hurley at various periods of time.

1687 Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen farmer of Hurley, 29, was among several residents of the village that took an Oath of Allegiance in Ulster County on September 1, 1687 and the basic information reported at that time indicated the individuals name, occupation, place of residence and age. From this record we learned that he reported that he was 29 years old in 1687 (i.e., he was born 1657/58), but as will be noted below the wording of the colonial 17th century records is peculiar and unclear by today's standards.

The following oath of allegiance records were found in the Earliest English Deeds of Ulster County, New York, Liber BB, Volume II, which were reviewed to ensure that the record for Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen was interpreted correctly:

- *“These are to Certifie that Pieter Petersen of hurley, ffarmer, 29 years Inhabitant, appeared before me Major Thomas Chambers of ffoxhall the 1st September and there did take the oath of allegiance. Signed December 2, 1687, Thomas Chambers.”*
- *“These are to Certifie that Arien Roos of Hurley, ffarmer, 42 years Inhabitant appeared before me Major Thomas Chambers of Foxhall, 1st September, and there did take the oath of allegiance.... Signed 2 Dec. 1687, Thomas Chambers;”³⁰ and*
- *“These are to Certify that Heyman Roos of Hurley, Shoemaker, 45 years Inhabitant appeared (as above) and did take the oath of allegiance.” (Signed, etc as above).³¹*

The latter two individuals Arien Roos [*sic*] and Heyman Roos [*sic*] were brothers and sons of Albert Heymans [ROOSA] who arrived with their father on *De Bonte Koe* in 1660 and first settled in Kingston before relocating to New Dorp (Hurley) in 1662/63. Therefore, we know that they were both inhabitants of Ulster County for a maximum of 27 years and the peculiar wording “42 years Inhabitant” and “45 years Inhabitant” actually meant that they were 42 years of age and 45 years of age respectfully and residents of Hurley, ergo we have among the inhabitants of Hurley in September 1687 who took the oath of allegiance:

- our ancestor and family progenitor Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen, farmer, 29 years of age.

This narrows the year of his birth down to 1657/58 and eliminates any lingering doubt about Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen's parents and when combined with other information it further confirms that he was:

- About 21 years old when he married Rebecca Traphagen in January 1679; *and*
- Doubtless the son Pieter, bpt. 3 July 1657 in Amsterdam, of Pieter⁽¹⁾ Carstense[n] and Geesje Jans (as well as the stepson of Arent Teunissen [Pier]).

³⁰ Earliest English Deeds of Ulster County, New York, Liber BB, Volume II, page 87

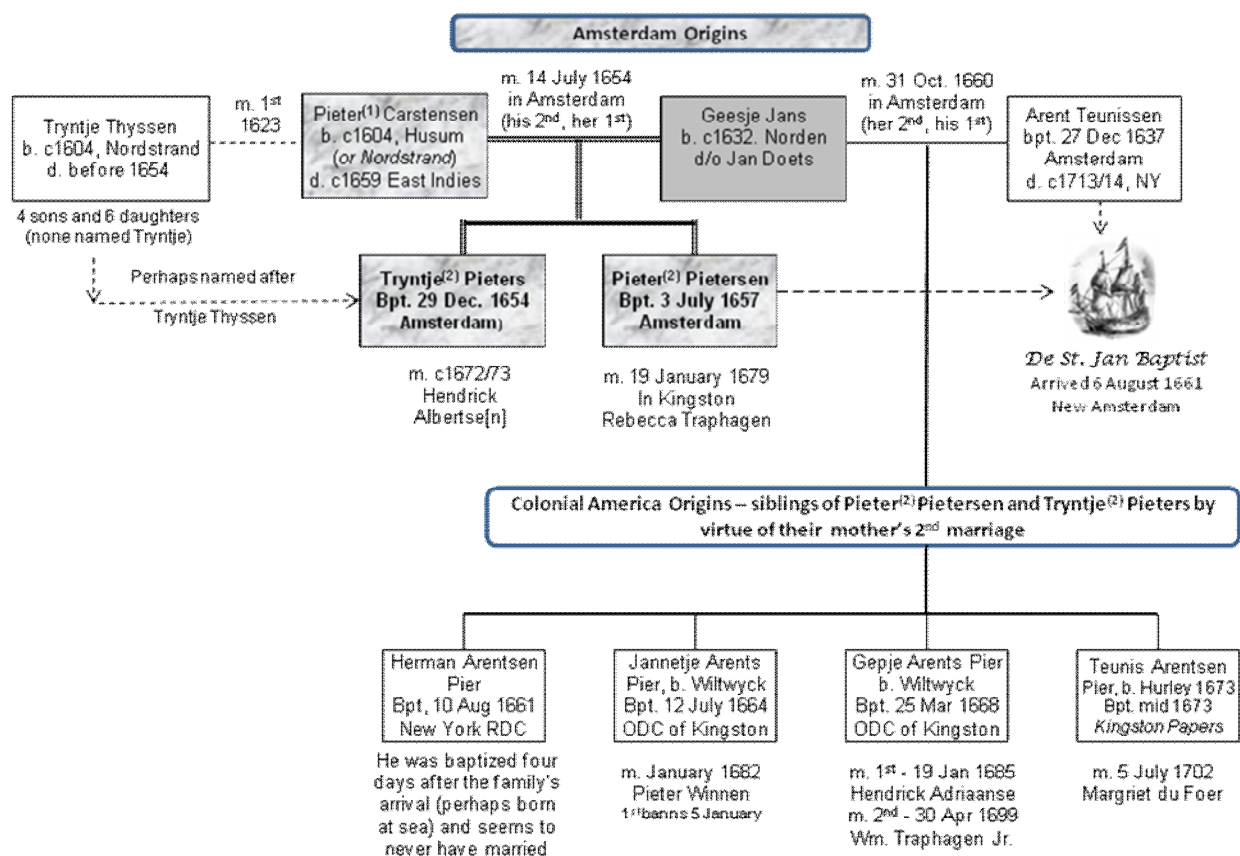
³¹ Ibid, page 88

Summary and Conclusions

All of the information provided in the articles by Chris Brooks and by Lorine McGinnis Schulze and Chris Brooks that were published in THE RECORD in 1999 and the 2000 respectively, has been audited and all relevant evidence has been checked and confirmed. In the process, two baptismal dates were found to be incorrect (one in each article), but they had no bearing on the validity of Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen's proven and verified ancestry. The correct baptism dates have been incorporated in this research paper.

In the past year, new information has come to light that simply added to the already compelling weight of evidence put forth by Chris and Lorine. However, it was while attempting to verify a seemingly suspect theory, suggested by a Holland based researcher affiliated with the PLOEG family line, that I was able to confirm that the only family in Ulster County with a Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters and a Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen in the same household between 1663/64 and 1679, was that of Arent Teunissen and Geesje Jans (the children's verified biological mother).

The Extended Family Tree of Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen Ostrander



Dutch Naming Patterns and Marriage and Baptismal Customs

The genealogical information given in the marriage and baptism registers is often sufficient in itself to assemble a skeleton pedigree, because of the following helpful Dutch customs:

1. A couple was betrothed in the Dutch Reformed Church and then married after three banns had been read. The betrothal (*marriage intentions*) and/or marriage record ordinarily gives marital status and place of origin (which is usually place of birth).
2. A woman normally (but not always) continued to use her maiden name after marriage.
3. The first two children of each sex were often (but not always) named for the four grandparents.
4. Children were baptized shortly after birth and usually had relatives as godparents.
(*Source: The New York Genealogical & Biographical Newsletter*, Summer 1996)

Therefore, it was customary for Dutch couples to name children after their own respective parents, alternating between paternal and maternal grandparents, often in an orderly fashion, but not always.

If the first child was a son he would have likely been named after his paternal grandfather, then usually the eldest daughter would be named for the maternal grandmother, but once again not necessarily. Since they also tended to have large families, it was not unusual to find a child named for each of the four grandparents and not always in some preordained order. However, the British capture of New Netherland in 1664 marked the beginning of the end of the Dutch patronymic system in the colonies and the introduction of surnames. However, it appears to have been a slow phased process implemented in the last quarter of the 17th century, with some Dutch families adopting their new surnames sooner than others.

Had Pieter Carstens[en] and his first wife Tryntje Thyssen named a child "Tryntje." it is unlikely that he would have baptized his first daughter of his second marriage with this name. Following an intensive search of the Amsterdam Archives during the foray in 1999/2000, ten baptism records were recovered for children that might, perhaps, be attributable to the first marriage, and eight were subsequently confirmed as a match, while two remained questionable.³²

In any event, none of the ten were named Tryntje, so it seems quite possible that Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters was named after Tryntje Thyssen, the deceased wife of her father Pieter Carstens[en] as an act of deep respect for his first wife of at least 25 to 30 years.

This distinct possibility is supported by the presence of *Seijtje Pieters* as a witness to Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters' baptism. It is perceived that this witness was Pieter Carstensen's eldest daughter of his first marriage *Sitgen*, bpt. 26 July 1626 who, perhaps, appeared as a sponsor to the baptism of the child named in honor of her deceased mother.

³² The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record, July 2000, pages 163-181, "ORIGIN OF THE PIER FAMILY IN THE NETHERLANDS AND AN UPDATE TO THEIR CONNECTION TO THE OSTRANDER FAMILY" by Lorine McGinnis Schulze and Chris Brooks, pages 180-181.

THE 2ND GENERATION – PIETER⁽²⁾ PIETERSEN AND TRYNTJE⁽²⁾ PIETERS

It seems that the early Ostrander descendant-researchers had relied on the Dutch use of patronymics to correctly indentify that Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen and Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters were the children of a father named Pieter. At that time, the record of a Dutch cadet named Pieter Pietersen on *De Bonte Koe* in 1660 was seen to suggest a plausible connection. In addition, the perception that the children came to the Kingston-Hurley area with their parents was also correct, but there was nothing in the records of Ulster County to indicate that their father was actually Pieter Carstensen who had died by 1660 and they had come to New Netherland with their widowed mother Geesje Jans and her second husband, their stepfather Arent Teunissen. This was not known until the multiple records of Chris Brooks' 1997/98 research became public. It also appears that the switch from Dutch patronymics to British style surnames in 17th century colonial New York may have caused some confusion among the settlers and the church. In particular, it was noted that some mothers were later reported by their married name (i.e. the surname used by their children), which had been converted from their husband's old patronymic to the newly adopted family surname (rather than their maiden name per the old Dutch custom) and so Geesje Jans became Geesje Pier around the end of the 17th century.

As a result, there seems to have been little to no reason for the early Ostrander descendant-researchers to suspect such a circumstance, even though the Kingston baptismal records reveal unusually close relationships between Geesje Jans' six children – the two Pieters[en] siblings and their four Arents[en] siblings, two half-brothers and two half-sisters, who later adopted the PIER surname. After all, the settlements at Kingston and Hurley were small and marriages between neighboring families were so common that neighbors often became relatives.

It seems likely that only Geesje Jans, Arent Teunissen, the children and, perhaps, a few close friends were aware that Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters and Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen were the issue of Geesje Jans' first marriage to Pieter Carstensen, a seemingly unknown fact to all Ostrander descendants until the disclosure of Chris Brooks' 1997/98 Amsterdam research. In his 1999 article, Chris Brooks cited an article published in *THE RECORD*³³ in 1939, presumably submitted by a descendant of the Pier family, which only included the children of Geesje Jans' second marriage to Arent Teunissen, indicating that her first marriage to Pieter Carstensen was also unknown to Pier descendants (in 1939). Apparently the author of the *Winne-Pier genealogy* (Lila James Roney) also did not see the very close baptismal relationships of Pier parents/children with Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters and Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen as being of significance.

As noted earlier, baptismal records were recovered for the four children of Arent Teunissen and Geesje Jans, but the mother was not listed in the record of the youngest child, son Teunis, which was found in the *Kingston Papers*. However, she was reported by her maiden name - Geesje (or Geesjen) Jans in the baptismal records of her three other children, as well as on a number of occasions when she appeared as a witness to the baptism of some of the grandchildren of her second marriage.

³³ "Winne-Pier," by Lila James Roney, *THE RECORD*, Vol. 70, pages 159-62

This raises an interesting possibility first suggested by Chris Brooks in 1999 when he presented evidence showing that it was quite likely that the witness to the following baptism reported in the Kingston church records as Geese Pieterz was most likely Geesje Jans, the mother of Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen, the father who was recorded as Pieter Pieterz. The other witness, Johannes Traphagen, was Rebecca Traphagen's half-brother (of her father's second marriage).

Baptism#/ Date	Child	Parents	Witnesses
#279 (pg. 17) 24 Sept 1682	Willem	Pieter Pieterz Rebecca Traphagen	Johannes Traphagen Geesje Pieterz

More than a decade later in late February 2008 David Baker of Hurley (the town's former historian) was doing some research at the request of Pieter J. Ostrander and happened to delve into the records of the Kingston church. The end result was that David Baker made the same conclusion and at that time he wrote that he was certain that he had:

*“cracked the case, and the answer was under our noses all the time. Pieter⁽²⁾ [Pietersen] and Tryntje⁽²⁾ [Pieters] **are the stepchildren of Arent Teunissen**. I looked up the Baptisms in the "Registers of the Dutch Church of Kingston, NY" that Arent and **Geesje Jans** were involved with. Then I had a stroke of luck and looked up the baptism of Pieter and Rebecca's first child [as reported in the church's records] Willem, and there it was **Geesje Pieterz**. I included a lot more info, but it is to show you that when the Teunissen's were involved with witnessing the baptism of Arent's children, **most of the time their last name was given as the same as the last name their child was using.**”*

NOTES

1. In the earlier baptisms of the children and grandchildren of her second marriage, Geesje Jans used her maiden name, but in the case of the grandchild (Willem) in 1682 of her son, Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen of her first marriage, she likely used his patronymic to reflect her familial kinship, not an uncommon Dutch custom under the particular circumstances whereby she had children by two husbands, as noted by David Baker.
2. The 1682 baptism was the only time the name Geesje Pieterz (Pieters or Pietersen) appeared anywhere in the records of the Old Dutch Church of Kingston between 1660 and 1700.

Obviously as the Hurley Town Historian, David Baker was aware of the local Dutch baptismal customs and practices whereby the parents (in this case Geesje Jans) often used the same patronymic as their child (in this case her son Pieter Pieterz, i.e. our ancestor Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen) so the record would clearly show that Geesje Jans [Pieterz] was the mother of the father and the grandmother of the child. However, it seems that Mr. Baker was unaware that this same revelation was first reported in 1999 by Mr. Chris Brooks. The major difference in arriving at the same conclusion is the Mr. Brooks provided the Amsterdam baptism record that showed the mother-son kinship as well as a trail of evidence leading directly from Holland in 1657 to the baptism of her grandson, Willem⁽³⁾ Pietersen Ostrander, in Kingston on the 24th September 1682.

PIETER⁽²⁾ PIETERSEN

Mr. Baker also noted that stepchildren were often treated poorly by their stepparent(s) in the 17th century and indicated that Arent Teunissen was only responsible for Tryntje⁽²⁾ Peters and Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen until they each turned sixteen. However, the two children were only 5 and 3 years old when Arent Teunissen married their widowed mother and it was noted that both children later named sons Arent, suggesting they might have had a much closer bond than normal with their stepfather. Whatever the case, it seems that Tryntje⁽²⁾ Peters married when she was about 16 or 17 and settled in Westquansengh with her husband, Hendrick Albertse[n] and we know from their marriage record that both Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen and Rebecca Traphagen were residents of Westquansengh in 1678/79. Thus we have a number of possibilities to explain why Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen may have left the household of his mother and stepfather before January 1679, some time when he was between 16 and 21 years of age. Since we know he was a farmer in 1687, it is conceivable that he worked as a farm laborer or an apprentice farmer for either his:

- brother-in-law, Hendrick Albertse[n], or
- future father-in-law Willem Jansen Traphagen.

As an apprentice he would also have probably received food and lodging, so it is also conceivable he lived in or near the household of his sister or that of Willem Traphagen. Regardless of the circumstances we know where he lived in 1661/62 (Coney Island), 1663/64 through 1669 (Kingston) and 1670 until at least July 1673 (Hurley) when he would have turned sixteen. Fortunately his precise location between 1673 and January 1679 is of secondary interest, but because of the close proximity between Hurley, Kingston and Westquansengh we know he had ample opportunity to interact with the Traphagen family before marrying Willem Jansen Traphagen's daughter Rebecca.

Baptismal records were found for nine of the children of Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen and Rebecca Traphagen (eight in the Kingston church and one in the Reformed Dutch Church of Albany. Unfortunately, no baptism record was recovered for Pieter⁽³⁾ Pietersen OSTRANDER [Pieter⁽²⁾, Pieter⁽¹⁾ Carstensen], who is believed to have been the eldest child, b. c1680. Based on Dutch custom, this appears to be correct as the second child was also a son (Willem) who was undoubtedly named after his maternal grandfather Willem Jansen Traphagen indicating that Pieter⁽³⁾ Pietersen OSTRANDER was likely named after his deceased paternal grandfather Pieter⁽¹⁾ Carstensen, as indicated above. It is also likely that Pieter⁽¹⁾ Carstensen's widow, Geesje Jans, would have appeared as a witness to the baptism of the first child, but the baptism was not recorded in the Kingston church (or apparently elsewhere, so it may have been lost).

The third child was also a son baptized Arent and since the names of both grandfathers had already been used, it is conceivable he was named after his step-grandfather Arent Teunissen, although it was noted that neither Arent Teunissen nor Geesje Jans were listed as witnesses. By custom the next child who was also the first daughter should have been named after her maternal grandmother (Joost Willems), but this was not the case as she was baptized Catrina and it is not known if, perhaps, Joost Willems ever used the name Catrina.

Besides Pieter⁽³⁾ Pietersen OSTRANDER, no baptismal records were found for three other children assigned to Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen and Rebecca Traphagen, but two sons, Teunis⁽³⁾ reported in the Big Book as born 16 January 1690 (no source cited for the birth date) and Hendrick⁽³⁾ who recorded his birth date in his own handwriting in his Dutch Bible have been confirmed. It is conceivable that the third child, a daughter named Rebecca alleged to have been born c1702 might have actually been the first child of Pieter⁽³⁾ Pietersen OSTRANDER and Rachel Dingman, a daughter baptized in Albany in 1706, who in all likelihood was named after her paternal grandmother Rebecca Traphagen. The purported daughter named Rebecca of Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen and Rebecca Traphagen is currently under review. Children of Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen and Rebecca Traphagen:

<u>Child's Given Name</u>	<u>Witnesses/Relationship</u>	<u>Most Likely Namesake</u>
1. Pieter ⁽³⁾ , b. c1680	No baptismal record	Biological paternal grandfather - Pieter ⁽¹⁾ Caretsens[en]
2. Willem ⁽³⁾ , bpt. 24 Sept. c1682. Bpt. #279	Geesje Pieterz (paternal grandmother Geesje Jans, widow of Pieter Caretsens[en] & Johannes Traphagen (kin of the mother)	Doubtless his maternal grandfather – Willem Jansen Traphagen
3. Arent ⁽³⁾ , bpt. 5 Oct. 1684. Bpt. #389	Hendrick Albertsz & Tryntje ⁽²⁾ Pieters. – Brother-in-law and sister of the father child's (i.e., aunt & uncle)	Step-grandfather – Arent Teunissen [Pier]
4. Catrina ⁽³⁾ , bpt. 5 Sept. 1686, Bpt. #483	Hans Burhans & Lena Traphagen (Rebecca's half-sister from her father's 1 st marriage)	Unknown. By custom she should have been named after her maternal grandmother (Joost Willems).
5. Johannes ⁽³⁾ , bpt. 23 Sept. 1688, Bpt. #590	Anthony Creupel & Catrina Post	Perhaps Johannes Traphagen (half-brother of Rebecca).
6. Teunis ⁽³⁾	No baptismal record	The father's youngest half-brother – Teunis Arentsen [Pier]
7. Hendrick ⁽³⁾	No baptismal record, but he entered his D.O.B. in his Bible	Possibly Hendrick Traphagen or perhaps Hendrick Albertsen Ploeg
8. Hermanus ⁽³⁾ , bpt. 10 Nov. 1695, Bpt. #874	Herman Pier (the child's uncle and godfather & Jannetje Pier [the father's half-sister, child's aunt]	Doubtless Herman (Arentsen) Pier, the father's half-brother.
9. Lea ⁽³⁾ - (twin) 10. Rachel ⁽³⁾ - (twin)	Bpt. 1 May, 1698, Bpt.#1024	Possibly biblical names (wives of Jacob)
11. Geesje ⁽³⁾ , bpt. 19 May 1700 (#1172)	Pieter du Boys (<i>DuBois</i>), Jannetje Burhans	Paternal grandmother – Geesje Jans
12. Rebecca ⁽³⁾	No baptism record (possible wrong placement, perhaps she was the d/o Pieter ³ Pietersen Jr. & Rachel Dingman) – <i>Under review</i>	If this child belonged to the parents, as indicated in the OFA Big Book. it seems likely she was named after the mother or perhaps it was a biblical name
13. Jacob ⁽³⁾ , bpt. 13 Jan 1706 (RDC Albany)	Pieter Ploeg & Geesje Ploegh (nephew and niece of the parents)	Possibly after the biblical Jacob

TRYNTJE⁽²⁾ PIETERS

There is no record of the marriage of Hendrick Albertse[n] (PLOEG) and Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters but they presented 10 children for baptism at of the Old Dutch Church of Kingston. An analysis of the Baptism Register of the same Church led to the identification of three additional children, as outlined below. They had a total of 13 children and are perceived to have married c1672/73.

Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters, b. December 1654, Amsterdam, bpt. 29 December 1654 in the Lutheran Church in Amsterdam, Holland. She was the daughter of Pieter Carstens[en] (c1604-c1659) and Geesje Jans and the stepdaughter of Arent Teunissen by virtue of her widowed mother's second marriage in Amsterdam in October 1660. Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters was almost 7 years old when she came to New Netherland in 1661 with her brother Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen (bpt. 3 July 1657, also in the Lutheran Church in Amsterdam, Holland), her mother Geesje Jans and her stepfather Arent Teunissen. The family first settled on Coney Island but relocated to Wildwyck (Kingston) in 1663/64, probably about six months after the attack on that settlement in June started the Second Esopus War. Little is known about the origin and parentage of Hendrick Albertse[n]. Their children (ten of the thirteen were baptized in the Kingston Church).

1. Annetje Hendricks [PLOEG], b. c1673 (perhaps, no baptismal record), married c1691, Jan Oosterhout Jr. (no marriage record). Eight children baptized in the Kingston Church.
2. Albert (*Allert*) Hendricksen [PLOEG] b. c1674, perhaps, no baptismal record), married April 1699, Rachel Pier, widow of Arie Fransen. Two children.
3. Jacob Hendricksen [PLOEG], **Bpt. #133** - 25 April 1675, married twice, 1st 1702, Sara Spoor; 2nd 1711, Catrina Bresser. Nine children (one illegitimate).
4. Pieter Hendricksen [PLOEG], b. Kingston, c1677 (perhaps earlier, no baptismal record found), married 1707, Aaltje Peele. Six children.
5. Geesje Hendricks [PLOEG], **Bpt. #177** - 6 April 1679, probably died young. Witnesses: Jacob Rutse, Rebecca Traphagen - *see child # 7*).
6. Jan Hendricksen [PLOEG], **Bpt. #227** - 5 May 1681, married c1712, Elizabeth Borhans (no marriage record). Nine children.
7. Geesje Hendricks [PLOEG], **Bpt. #317** - 22 July 1683 [witnesses: Rebecca Willems (probably Rebecca Traphagen again) and Harmen (*Herman*) Pier], married c1713, Willem Leg (no marriage record). Six children.
8. Maria (Marytjen) Hendricks [PLOEG], **Bpt. #455** - "Maria" bpt. 28 February 1686, married 1716, Kryn Oosterhoud (Oosterhout). Eight children.
9. Rebecca Hendricks [PLOEG], **Bpt. #608** - 3 February 1689, (no marriage record, may have died young).
10. Arent (Arend) Hendricksen [PLOEG], **Bpt. #696** - 26 January 1692, married 1720, Rachel Brink. Seven children
11. Geertje Hendricks [PLOEG], **Bpt. #803** - 8 June 1694, may not have married.
12. Willem Hendricksen [PLOEG], **Bpt. #937** - 25 December 1696, married 1719, Barbara Schoonmaker. Four children.
13. Abraham Hendricksen [PLOEG], **Bpt. #1086** - 9 April 1699, may not have married.

NOTE

It appears that the children of this marriage began to use the surname PLOEG near the end of the century as it was first reported in the records of the Old Dutch Church of Kingston in 1697.

Without the benefit of a baptism record, the chronology of the births of three of the children of Hendrick⁽²⁾ Albertse[n] and Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters is unknown, but it seems all were older and were born during the decade when the Kingston Church did not have a resident pastor (Dutch Domine). Based on the Dutch patronymic system and naming customs:

- Hendrick⁽²⁾ Albertse[n], was probably the son of a father who had been baptized Albert⁽¹⁾ and so it is conceivable that Albert⁽³⁾ (*Allert*) Hendricksen Ploeg, b. c1674, was the first son and, perhaps, the second child of Hendrick⁽²⁾ Albertse[n] and Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters; and
- Annetje⁽³⁾ (Anna) Hendricksen Ploeg, b. c1673, was likely the eldest child, possibly named after her paternal grandmother (maiden name unknown).

The first child for which there is a baptismal record was Jacob⁽³⁾ Hendricksen Ploeg in April 1675 who might actually have been the fourth child and third son, as Hendrick⁽²⁾ Albertse[n] and Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters had a son Pieter⁽³⁾ Hendricksen Ploeg whose birth has been variously estimated to have occurred between 1674 and 1680, perhaps based on his marriage in 1707. Pieter⁽³⁾ Hendricksen Ploeg was likely named after his deceased grandfather Pieter⁽¹⁾ Carstensen, if the parents adhered to Dutch naming customs and if this was the case he might well have been the third child and second son.

Whatever the case, it is the baptismal records of the second and third daughters that provide a key, as both infant females were baptized Geesje indicating that:

- both were likely named after their grandmother Geesje Jans;
- the first daughter Geesje, bpt. 6 April 1679, died young; and
- the next daughter Geesje, bpt. 22 July 1683 was also named the same as her deceased infant sister.

Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters – Geesje Jans (Kinship Connection Records)

It was a marriage record and four baptismal records related to the grandchildren and great grandchildren of Geesje Jans that literally put the icing on the cake, by showing that Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters was clearly the daughter and eldest child of Pieter⁽¹⁾ Carstensen and Geesje Jans as follows:

1. Annetje (Anna) Hendricks PLOEG

No baptism record. She is listed as Member #247 in the records of the Old Dutch Church of Kingston, 28 March 1697 when she was reported as PLOEG, Annetje Hendricks. She may have been the first to adopt the family surname. Married c1691/92 (no marriage record recovered), Jan Oosterhout Jr., bpt. 5 November 1666 (ODC Bpt. #74), son of Jan Jansen van Oosterhout (Jan Sr.) & and his 2nd wife, Annetje Jellis (Jelles, Jeles, Jiles). It is from the baptismal records of the first two children of Annetje⁽³⁾ (Anna) Hendricks PLOEG and Jan Oosterhout Jr. that we see the connection between the mother [Annetje⁽³⁾ (Anna) PLOEG] of the baptized child and her:

- mother, Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters (the baptized child's maternal grandmother); and
- grandmother, Geesje Jans (the baptized child's maternal great grandmother) as shown in the table on the next page.

Baptism#/ Date	Child (probable namesake)	Parents	Witnesses
#745 23 Apr. 1693	Jan (<i>his paternal grandfather</i> – <i>Jan Jansen van Oosterhout Sr.</i>)	Jan Oosterhout, junior Anna Hendriks (<i>d/o Hendrick Albertse[n] and Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters</i>)	Arent Teunissen, Geesje Teunissen, <i>i.e.</i> <i>Geesje Jans, wife of Arent Teunissen [Pier] and mother of Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters</i> – <i>SEE NOTE 1, below</i>
#792 3 June 1694	Hendrick (<i>doubtless his maternal grandfather</i> - Hendrick Albertsen)	Jan Oosterhout, junior Anna Hendriks	Hendrik Albertsen Tryntje ⁽²⁾ Pieters, <i>d/o Geesje Jans & Pieter Carstensen</i> – <i>SEE NOTE 2, below</i>
#889 2 Feb. 1696	Pieter	Jan Oosterhout Annetje Hendricks	Pieter Oosterhout, Pieter Hendricks, Annetje Jiles, Cathalya Oosterhout
#1033 8 May 1698	Tryntje (<i>likely her maternal grandmother</i> – Tryntje ⁽²⁾ Pieters)	Jan Oosterhout Annetje Hendricks – <i>SEE NOTE 3, below</i>	Teunis Oosterhout, Lydia de Meyer
#1150 4 Feb. 1699	Teunis	Jan Oosterhout Annetje Ploeg – <i>SEE NOTE 3, below</i>	Cornelis Lambertsē Marritje Lambertsē
#1362 13 Dec. 1702	Jacob	Jan Oosterhout Annetje Ploeg	Jacob Ploeg, Sara Ploeg
#1487 3 Sept. 1704	Anneke (<i>perhaps Annetje</i>)	Jan Oosterhout Anneke Ploeg	Jan Ploeg, Maria Ploeg
#1664 12 Oct. 1707	Laurens	Jan Oosterhout Annetie Ploeg	Cryn Oosterhout Mareytie Schut
#1908 14 Jan. 1710	Wilhelmus; and Maria	Jan Oosterhout Annetjen Ploeg	Nicolaas Meyer, Anna Meyer (<i>for the son</i>) Tomes Steenberg, Maria Metselaers (<i>for the daughter</i>)

NOTES

1. The baptized son was the first great grandchild of Geesje Jans and her deceased first husband Pieter Carstensen and this was probably why Geesje Jans appeared as a witness rather than the child's namesake and paternal grandfather Jan van Oosterhout Sr.
2. The baptized son was the grandchild of Hendrick Albertsen and Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters and was certainly named after his paternal grandfather. It is here we see one of several confirmations in the Kingston church records that Geesje Jans had a daughter named Tryntje⁽²⁾ from her first marriage and the earlier evidence from Holland indicates she was likely the daughter of Pieter Carstensen who was baptized in the Amsterdam Lutheran Church on 29 December 1654.

3. Annetje Hendricks was first reported with the PLOEG surname in 1697 but here we find her a year later recorded with her patronymic in 1698 (Bpt. #1033), while in 1699 (Bpt. #1150) she had dropped the patronymic altogether and was reported simply as Annetje PLOEG (or a variation thereof) over the next decade or so, indicating the new surname was widely adopted by the children of Hendrick Albertse[n] and Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters by the end of the 17th century.

2. Albert (*Allert*) Hendricksen [Ploeg]

He was probably born before 1675, but no baptism record was recovered. Marriage #143 - ODC Kingston, 17 April 1699, ALBERT HENDRICKSEN PLOEG, j.m. born and residing in Kingstown, and RACHEL PIER, widow of Arie Franssen, born in Amsterdam and resident of Kingstown. In the margin of this entry is the following: - "*In the presence of Ariaan Roos, Geesje Pier, Maria Nucella and Mary Singer was Rachel Pier with her chemise over her clothes, married to Albert Hendricksen Ploeg, by me [Domine] Nucella.*" There is also a footnote indicating that the bride's strange attire was based on an erroneous belief that a widow, when married in this manner, relieved her new husband of all debts incurred by her previous spouse. The Kingston Court records indicate that Rachel's first husband was often sued for non-payment so the ritual attire suggests he likely had significant outstanding debt(s) when he died. The widowed bride's deceased first husband was also the former farming partner of the groom's father, Hendrick Albertse and she was about 13 to 14 years older than her second spouse.

Here we see that his grandmother (Geesje Jans) appeared as a witness to his marriage where she was reported as Geesje Pier and Lorine McGinnes Schulze's research showed that the bride Rachel Pier was the:

- daughter of Jan Teunissen (an older brother of Arent Teunissen) and Maria Jans, bpt. 28 January 1660, Amsterdam
- niece of Arent Teunissen and Geesje Jans; and
- older cousin of her second husband.

Children:

Baptism#/ Date	Child <i>(probable namesake)</i>	Parents	Witnesses
#1192 15 Sept. 1700	Hendrick <i>(doubtless his maternal grandfather - Hendrick Albertsen)</i>	Allert (<i>sic</i>) Ploeg Rachel Pier	Hendrick Ploeg [<i>Albertsen</i>], <i>grandfather of the child</i> Tryntje Ploeg [<i>i.e., Tryntje Pieters, child's grandmother</i>]
#1282 25 Dec. 1701	Teunis <i>(possibly named after Teunis Pier, perhaps after his great, great grandfather Teunis Jansz)</i>	Allert (<i>sic</i>) Ploeg Rachel Pier	Arent Teunissen [<i>Pier</i>] Geesje Teunissen [Geesje Jans], <i>great grandmother of the baptized child</i>

Once again we see consecutive baptisms indicating the mother-daughter kinship between Geesje Jans and her eldest child Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters.

The Ploeg Chronicles

Henk Watjer is a Holland based researcher who seems to have presented himself as an authority on the Ploeg family genealogy. He first communicated with the OFA through Emmett Ostrander in 1999.

Some years later he was kind enough to provide Kurt Brown with copies of two different versions of the Ploeg Chronicles, which he had compiled. A review of his work showed that the section of the family history on a “Hendrik Alberts Ploeg”, who was supposedly born c1630/31 at the village of Grootegast in the Province of Groningen, did not meet the Genealogical Proof Standard. According to Mr. Watjer, Hendrik Alberts Ploeg was allegedly the son of a Albert Jans Ploeg and Eelke Harms (*no source cited*) and this would seem to explain his patronymic of Alberts, Albertse or Albertsen although it was noted that there is no mention of a Hendrik Alberts Ploeg in the Ulster County records before 1699. The first individual recorded with this name (or a close variation thereof) was the husband of Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters, but he was consistently reported in Ulster County only by his patronymic (Albertse or Albertsen) from 1664 until 1700 when he was first reported as Hendrick Ploeg.

Henk Watjer claimed that his Hendrik Alberts Ploeg:

- first married 5 May 1651 in Nieuwolda (Oostgroningen), Ancke Allerts, b. c1630 Nieuwolda, daughter of Allert Jans and they supposedly had two sons born in Holland:
 - ⇒ Albert Hendriks Ploeg, b. 1653 in Leutingewolde (Drenthe), purported in one version prepared by Henk to have died in Kingston c1678 (*no source cited*), but Henk also reported in the other rendition that he was born in Foxwolde in 1653 and married 17 April 1699 at Kingston, NY, Rachel Jans Pier, b. 1675 at Kingston (NY) (*no source cited, SEE NOTE 1, below*), widow of Aryen Fransen de Lange; and
 - ⇒ Aldert Hendriks Ploeg, b. about 1656 at Foxwolde, died 1660 at Kingston (in one paper, *no source cited*) and separately reported in another paper as born 1656 in Leutingewolde (Drenthe), died in Marbletown (New York State) between June 1658 and January 1661 (*no source cited, SEE NOTE 2, below*).
- was supposedly one of the first emigrant families that left from Tixel in 1658 to come to New Netherland (*no source cited*);
- first settled his family in Marbletown in 1658 (Ulster County, NY, *no source cited, SEE NOTE 2, below*);
- had a third child of his first marriage - Allert Hendriks Ploeg, b. 1661 in Marbletown and suggested the mother and child may have died during childbirth or the mother died in Marbletown by 1663 and the child died by 1670 at Marbletown or Kingston, but he also indicated in one rendition of his work that it was Allert Hendriks Ploeg, b. 1661 at Marbletown who married 17 April 1699 at Kingston, NY, Rachel Jans Pier, b. 1657, Amsterdam, widow of Aryen Fransen de Lange;

- returned to Holland for an unknown period of time after his wife died (*no source cited*) and Henk acknowledged there was no record to substantiate this supposition;
- came back to the colonies in an unknown year (*no source cited*) and Henk once again acknowledged that there was no record to substantiate this speculation; and
- married for a second time in 1673, Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters when he was about 42 and she was 17-19 (*no source cited*).

NOTES

Without the benefit of source citations I was unable to confirm most of the information compiled by Mr. Watjer, much of which turned out to be erroneous or unsubstantiated and unverifiable, including the:

- birth (1630/31) or marriage (1651) of a Hendrik Alberts Ploeg in Holland;
- baptism of the two alleged sons in either Foxwolde or Leutingewolde (Drenthe);
- family's departure from Trexel in 1658 or settlement Marbletown in that year;
- birth of the purported third son in Marbletown;
- death of his first wife in Marbletown c1661 (or alternatively in 1663);
- alleged deaths of two his three sons in Marbletown or Kingston (actually Henk reported that all three sons had died in various renditions of his works, e.g., ALBERT, b. c1653 supposedly died in Kingston c1678; ALDERT, b. c1656 supposedly died in Marbletown between June 1658 and January 1661 or in Kingston in 1660; and ALLERT, b. 1661 in Marbletown supposedly died during childbirth in 1661 or in Kingston in 1670);
- marriage of the eldest son ALBERT Hendricksen Ploeg (1653-1678, two decades after his alleged death) to Rachel Jans Pier in April 1699; and
- marriage of the youngest son ALLERT Hendricksen Ploeg (1661-1661 or 1661-1670, three to four decades after his alleged deaths) to Rachel Jans Pier in April 1699.

In addition, the history of Marbletown and Ulster County did not support Mr. Watjer's account of the family's settlement in New Netherland in 1658 and showed that Henk's knowledge of this area of the 17th century Dutch colony was suspect. Specifically, the area of Marbletown was only first settled as early as 1669 (*History of Marbletown*) so it is not known how Henk came to believe that his Hendrik Alberts Ploeg lived in a community that did not exist until a decade after he mistakenly placed the purported family in Marbletown. Finally, Mr. Watjer provided no factual evidence or plausible explanation as to how he:

- established a possible connection between his Hendrik Alberts Ploeg, purportedly born about 1630/31 and Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters (who he also asserted was the daughter of Pieter Pietersen, the Dutch cadet and Tryntje van de Lande who married about November 1652, a 27 year old widower and furrier by trade, named Pieter Pieterss [Pietersz], although there is no record of this couple having a daughter name Tryntje); and
- determined that his Hendrik Alberts Ploeg settled anywhere in Ulster County in 1658 as the surname PLOEG first appears in the records about 1697. (*Note* – the records of Ulster County mentions a Hendrick Albertsen who died before 1661 and another Hendrick Albertse[n], apparently a farm laborer and later a farmer, first appears in the *Kingston Papers* in 1664 but there is nothing to connect the apparently younger Hendrick Albertse[n] to Henk's alleged Hendrik Alberts Ploeg).

In a nutshell, Mr. Watjer's genealogy was found to be highly speculative and riddled with errors and contradictory information as noted above and below.

Note 1 The verified research of Lorine McGinnis Schulze shows that the Rachel Jans Pier, who married 2nd – Albert Hendricksen Ploeg in April 1699 was the daughter of Jan Teunissen and Maria Jans and she was baptized 28 January 1660 in Amsterdam. Jan Teunissen settled in New Amsterdam where he died before April 1676 (when it was then called New York) as his widow remarried in 1676. Jan Teunissen and Maria Jans also had two other children:

- a daughter Jannetje Jans Pier, b. 1657, Amsterdam, married 1676, Jan Davidsen DuFour in New York City; and
- Teunis Jansen Pier, bpt. 5 March 1664, New Amsterdam Reformed Dutch Church and he later settled in/near Newark, New Jersey as a young man.

It is conceivable that Rachel Jans Pier, perhaps, lived with her uncle Arent Teunissen after her father died. Whatever the case, she was the only member of her branch of the family to end up in Ulster County in the latter part of the 17th century.

Unfortunately, the works of Henk Watjer are inconsistent and since they are also not dated there is now way of telling which version is more recent, but both appear to be seriously flawed. Another example of suspect information is Henk's un-cited record claiming that "*Rachel Jans Pier was born in Kingston in 1675 and was the widow of Aryen Fransen de Lange, when she remarried 1699 Albert Hendricksen Ploeg, [b. 1653 in Foxwolde or Leutingewolde (Drenthe)].*" The alleged date of her birth certainly doesn't fit as she must have first married c1677/78 as eight children of her first marriage were baptized between 1678 and 1696 and her first spouse died by about 1698.

It will be noted from the above that attention to detail and accuracy were apparently not strong points of Henk's research as the marriage record clearly showed the groom was Albert Hendricksen Ploeg who "*was born in Kingston,*" although it was noted that he was later reported as Allert Ploeg in the transcription of the original handwritten baptismal records suggesting the writing may have been poor and the letter "b" poorly formed and interpreted as the letter "v".

Note 2 There was no settlement at Marbletown until 1669 at the earliest, yet Henk Watjer placed the family in a village (community) that did not exist between 1658 and 1668, according to the histories of Ulster County and Marbletown.

Summary

The Ploeg Chronicles appear to be based on little fact and much supposition and contain multiple errors and many contradictions. The bottom line is they present very little evidence that meets the genealogical proof standard and it seems more likely that if Henk Watjer's purported Hendrik Alberts Ploeg did return to Holland after his wife died (as suggested in some of his writings), he took his surviving child(ren) with him, never to return. In any event, the questionable account of the enigmatic Hendrik Alberts Ploeg by Henk Watjer's should be viewed with extreme caution.

There certainly is no proof of the existence of a Hendrik Alberts Ploeg in/near Ulster County between 1658 and 1663 and there is nothing to connect him to Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters, the daughter of Pieter⁽¹⁾ Carstensen and Geesje Jans who was born in 1654 in Amsterdam. In addition, there is no proof that the Dutch cadet Pieter Pietersen who arrived on *De Bonte Koe* in 1660:

- had a wife named Tryntje (or Catrina); or
- had three children named Pieter Jr., Tryntje and Geertje (or Geestje); and
- ever settled in or near Kingston or Hurley in or about 1660.

Henk Watjer also speculated that, perhaps, there were two families in the Kingston-Hurley area, both with siblings named Pieter Pietersen and Tryntje Pieters, but a close scrutiny of the colonial records proved this hypothesis to be groundless. This is not surprising given the small size of the two Dutch settlements and the number of families (75 to 80) that resided in the area in 1670. As a result, it was confirmed that the only household with children named Pieter Pietersen and Tryntje Pieters was that of Geesje Jans (their biological mother) and her second spouse Arent Teunissen (their stepfather).

Hendrick Albertse[n] Ploeg

It was noted earlier that little is known about the husband of Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters although a few records suggest that he was most likely the Hendrick Albertsen that leased certain farms (farmland) named Westquansengh for 10 years (1671-1681) in Foxhall Manor. In 1716/17 their son Pieter Ploeg was one of four taxpayers who appeared on the assessment list for the Manor of Foxhall³⁴, indicating he may have inherited the family property from his father.

It was noted earlier that no baptismal records were found for three of the older children of Hendrick Albertse[n] – Annatje (Anna) Hendricks [Ploeg], Albert Hendricksen [Ploeg] and Pieter Hendricksen [Ploeg]. Fortunately, the marriage records of the two sons indicate that:

- Albert was born in Kingstown; and
- Pieter was born “*under the jurisdiction of Kingstowne.*”³⁵”

While no record was recovered for the marriage of Annatje (Anna) Hendricks [Ploeg] to indicate where she was born, the baptism records of her first two children indicate that she was the:

1. daughter of Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters and Hendrick Albertsen; and
2. maternal granddaughter of Geesje Jans.

³⁴ The Freeholders Inhabitants Resident and Sojourners in the County of Ulster their Reale and Personall Estates are rated and assessed by the assessor (on their Oaths) Chosen for the same and that on the 23^d day of January in the third year of his Majesties Reigne Anno Dom 1716/7 - <http://archives.co.ulster.ny.us/taxassessment.htm>

³⁵ Old Dutch Church of Kingston, Marriage Register, Entry # 245, page 523, [Date of marriage not given] *PIETER PLOEG, j.m., born under the jurisdiction of Kingstowne and residing there, and AALTIE PELE, j.d., born under the jurisdiction of Horle [Hurley], and residing in Kingstowne. First publication of banns 4 Jan. “A certificate was given them to be married by a Justice of the Peace, 29 Jan. 1706/7*

As a result, it appears to be a virtual certainty that all thirteen children assigned to Hendrick Albertsen and Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters are valid and all were born in Kingston or nearby Foxhall Manor (Westquansengh) which was then under the jurisdiction of Kingston. This raises the possibility that Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters' husband might have been the Hendrick Albertsen listed as a farm laborer on the 1662 passenger list of the Dutch ship *D'Voer* (The Fox) that arrived in New Amsterdam on 14 November 1662. The listing suggests he was a single, young man, perhaps born between 1640 and 1645 or about 10 to 15 years older than Tryntje⁽²⁾, but there is nothing concrete to confirm the connection.

However, it was noted that on December 9, 1664, Hendrick Albertsen, who was apparently working as a 'farm laborer' in Ulster County sued Albert Heymans, saying that "*he contracted with defendant to thresh his grain but was prevented in doing so. Defendant says he wasn't fast enough. Court orders plaintiff to continue with threshing.*"³⁶

Later records from the *Kingston Papers* [Vol. 2, pages 703-04] show that Hendrick Albertsen and Adriaen Fransen (a.k.a. Arie Franssen and Aryen Fransen de Lange) leased certain farm names "**Wisquaemsickx**" (Westquansengh) from Thomas Chambers for a period of ten consecutive years from October 7, 1671 to October 7, 1681. The following year Arie Franssen opted out of the agreement and was replaced by Dirck Hendricksen as the second lessor of the property according to an agreement signed on November 5, 1672 at Foxhall [*Kingston Papers* Vol. 2, page 724 - "*Dirck Hendricksen takes the place of Adriaen Fransen.*"]

About 26 years later Hendrick Albertsen's son, Albert Hendricksen Ploeg about 25 years of age, married Rachel Jans Pier, 39, the widow of Arie Franssen who was also the former farming partner of the groom's father at Westquansengh, many years earlier.

Once again it should be noted that the marriage of Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters and Hendrick Albertsen as well as the parentage of Hendrick Albertsen has no direct bearing on the Ostrander family genealogy, but it seems more plausible that he was, perhaps, the single farm laborer that arrived in New Netherland in 1662.

³⁶ *Kingston Papers*, Vol. 1, p. 185

THE 2ND GENERATION – PIER SIBLINGS OF PIETER⁽²⁾ PIETERSEN AND TRYNTJE⁽²⁾ PIETERS

Geesje Jans and her second husband Arent Teunissen had four children all born in colonial New York that were siblings (half-brothers and half-sisters) of Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen and Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters by virtue of their widowed mother's remarriage. The Kingston baptismal records show that there were strong familial bonds between the six children who grew up in the same household in Kingston and Hurley. For reasons unknown, the children of Geesje Jans second marriage began to use the PIER surname almost two decades before our ancestor Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen was first reported with an early version (Van Oostrande[r]) of the modern day spelling of OSTRANDER at the beginning of the 18th century.

3. Herman (*Harmen*) Arentsen Pier

There is no record that he ever married, but he was the uncle of Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen's seventh son Hermanus⁽³⁾ Pietersen Ostrander and he appeared as the child's godfather (and namesake) in the Kingston church's Baptism Register (Bpt. #874 - 10 November 1695). His sister Jannetje Pier was also recorded as a witness. It was noted that both Herman and his sister Jannetje were reported with the PIER surname as early as 1683.

Herman Pier was recorded as Harmen when he witnessed the baptism of the second of Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters' daughters named Geesje (Bpt. #317 - 22 July 1683), a child who was obviously named after their common mother Geesje Jans.

4. Jannetje Arents Pier

Old Dutch Church of Kingston – Marriage Register, **Entry #51** – January 1682 “*Pieter Winnen junior, j.m. born in W. Indien [West Indies] in Curassauw [Curaçao] and residing under the jurisdiction of Kingston and Jannetie Arentsdr Pier, j.d., born in the Esopus under the jurisdiction of Kingston and residing there. First banns 5 Jan 1682, marriage date not given.*”

Arentsdr = daughter of Arent. Jannetie was most likely named after her paternal grandmother (Jannetje Arentse).

The marriage record indicates that Pieter Winnen Jr. was born in Curaçao, West Indies (an island of the Netherlands Antilles in the Caribbean Sea off the coast of Venezuela). He was probably the child of Pieter Winnen [Sr.] and Jannetje Albertz, who was baptized in the Old Dutch Church on 20 November 1661 (Bpt. #11 - witnessed by Nicolaus Albertz and Rebecca Albertz). This suggests that he may have been an infant when he came from Curaçao to Esopus/Wildwyck (Wiltwyck) and was then christened in the Kingston church.

Children of Pieter Winnen Jr. and Jannetje Arents Pier:

Baptism#/ Date	Child	Parents	Witnesses
#316 22 July 1683	Aegie	Pieter Winnen Jannetje Pier	Arent Teunissen Pier Geesje Jans (<i>reported by her maiden name</i>)
#460 21 Mar. 1686	Geesie	Pieter Winnen Jannetje Pier	Hendrick Adriaantz Gepie Pier (<i>mother's sister</i>)
#589 23 Sept. 1688	Goetje	Pieter Weynen Jannetje Harents (<i>sic - Arents</i>)	Hendrick Alderts, Wilhelmus de Mayer, Gepie Aarents
#679 4 Oct. 1691	Pieter	Pieter Winnen Jannetje Pier	Teunis Pier (<i>the mother's brother</i>) Annetje Henderiksen (<i>d/o Hendrick Albertsen & Tryntje Pieters</i>)
#782 3 June 1694	Rachel	Pieter Winnen Jannetje Pier	Pieter Pietersen , Rachel Winne, Rebecca Traphagen
#949 7 Mar 1697	Cathryntje	Pieter Winnen Jannetje Piers	Hendrick Alderssen (<i>probably Albertsen</i>), Tryntje Aldersen (<i>likely Tryntje Pieters</i>), Wilia de Meyer
#1141 24 Dec. 1699	Arent	Pieter van Winnen Jannetje Pier	Willem Traphagen Hilletje Burhans
1440 2 Jan. 1704	Gepje	Pieter Winnen Jannetje Pier	Pieter Oostrande (<i>Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen - probably</i>) Egbert Cornelieessē, Hendrickje Cornelieessē

5. **Gepje (Gepie) Arents Pier**

1st Marriage - Old Dutch Church of Kingston Marriage Register, **Entry #73** – 19 January 1685 “*Hendrick Adriaanz, j.m. of Gelderland, residing in Kingston and Gepie Arenz Pier, j.d., born in Kingston and residing there. First banns 3 Jan 1685.*” It appears that there was only one child from the first marriage that was baptized in the Old Dutch Church of Kingston.

Baptism#/ Date	Child	Parents	Witnesses
#593 22 July 1683	Arie	Hendrick Arie (<i>sic</i>) Gepie Aerts	Arie (<i>Arent</i>) Teunissen Rebecca Pietersen (<i>probably Rebecca Traphagen</i>)

Here we see Arent Teunissen appearing as a witness alongside of his stepson's wife Rebecca Traphagen, just one of many examples of the closeness of the Carstensen-Pietersen and Teunissen-Arents[en] (Pier) siblings.

2nd Marriage - Old Dutch Church of Kingston Marriage Register, **Entry #145** – 30 April 1699 “*WILLEM TREP HAGEN, widower of TRYNTJE PEELE and GEPJE PIER, widow of HENDRICK ARIAANSE, both residing in Kingstouwn. Married before Jan Tysse, Justice of the Peace. Banns published but dates not given.*”

Children of Willem Traphagen Jr. and Gepje (*Gepje*) Arents Pier:

Baptism#/ Date	Child	Parents	Witnesses
#1175 26 May 1700	Johannes	Willem Traphagen Gepje Pier	Arent Teunissē Pier Geesje Pier (<i>Geesje Jans</i>)
#1379 11 Feb. 1703	Willem	Willem Traphagen Gepje Pier	Johannes Traphagen Helena Burhans
#1500 15 April 1705	Geesje	Willem Traphagen Geesje (<i>sic, Gepje</i>) Pier	Henrik Traphagen Tryntje Oostrande (<i>probably Tryntje Pieters</i>)
#1692 20 June 1707	Arent	Willem Traphagen Gepye Pier	Theunus (<i>Teunis</i>) Pier Margrieta de Voe

Willem Traphagen Jr. was born about 1664 at Bushwyck in Kings County, New York and he was a younger brother of Rebecca Traphagen. He is noted as being a founder of Rhinebeck in Dutchess County, New York and the builder of a small tavern at the junction of the Old Post road and the Sepasco Trail that later gained great reputation as the Beekman Arms Hotel. The Beekman Arms has played host to Presidents and other figures in American history and, although out of the Traphagen family since at least 1769, it is reported to be the oldest continuously operating hotel in the United States.

He appears on the Ulster County Oath of Allegiance at Kingston September 1, 1687 as Willem Traphagen Jr., when he was reported to be a wheelwright and blacksmith at Kingston. In the first two decades of the 18th century there was a fairly significant migration from Ulster County east across the Hudson River from Kingston and Hurley to an area of Dutchess County that became the Township of Rhinebeck. Among the migrants were:

- Willem Traphagen Jr., who purchased several hundred acres of land from Henry Beekman sometime before June 1706, but he still appeared on the Tax lists of Kingston from December 9, 1709 through January 25, 1720/21 although the last list shows a decrease in tax as if he had sold off some of his holdings; and
- Willem⁽³⁾ Ostrander and his brother Pieter⁽³⁾ Ostrander who purchased 124 acres of land at RYN BECK (Rhinebeck) in Dutchess County from Henry Beekman Sr. on November 19, 1714.³⁷

³⁷ HISTORY OF DUCHESS (*sic*) COUNTY, NY, BY JAMES H. SMITH, PUBLISHED BY D. MASON & CO., SYRACUSE, N.Y., 1882, Chapter XXII – History of Rhinebeck, “29th November 1714, the elder Henry Beekman sold 124 acres of land at RYN BECK (Rhinebeck) in Dutchess County to brothers Peter and William Ostrander the land being bounded to the northeast by the lands of said [Henry] Beekman.” The name RYN BECK (Rhinebeck) is thought to have been written (*recorded*) for the first time in the deed to Peter and William Ostrander in 1714, but the brothers did not get their deed until 1718.

A list of the Dutchess County militia dated November 21, 1715 indicates the two Ostrander brothers (Pieter⁽³⁾ and Willem⁽³⁾) and their uncle, Willem Traphagen Jr., were all inhabitants of Rhinebeck in the later part of 1715.³⁸

Between 1728 and 1733 Arent Ostrander had also left Hurley to settle in Rhinebeck, New York and on July 8, 1733 we find among the supporters of the Reformed Dutch Church of Rhinebeck Flatts, N.Y. – brothers Arent⁽³⁾ Oostrander, Pieter⁽³⁾ Van Oostrander and Jacob⁽³⁾ Van Oostrander as well as their uncle Willem Traphagen Jr. and his stepson Arie Hendrickse.³⁹

6. Teunis Arentsen Pier

Old Dutch Church of Kingston – Marriage Register, **Entry #194** – 5 July 1702, “*Teunis Pier j.m. born in Horle [Hurley] and residing in Kingstouwn [Kingston] and Margriet du Foer, j.d., born and residing in N. Jorck [New York]; banns published but dates not given.*”

Baptism#/ Date	Child	Parents	Witnesses
#1395 11 April 1703	Arent	Teunis Pier Grietje de Foe	Arent Teunissen Geesje Teunisse (<i>Geesje Jans</i>)
#1530 17 Mar. 1706	Jannetje	Teunis Pier Magrietje de Foe	Jan de Foe Martyie de Foe
#1662 11 Oct. 1707	Jan	Teunis Pier Grietie de Fou	Pieter (<i>Albertsen</i>) Ploeg Aaltie Pele
#1798 18 Sept. 1709	Geesje	Theunis Pier Grietje de Fou	Arie Hendrickse Geesje de Lange
#1941 29 April 1711	Maria	Theunis Pier Grietjen de Fou	Willem Traphagen (Jr. and his wife) Gepjen Pier
#2207 7 Feb. 1714	Geesjen	Theunis Pier Grietjen de Foe	Ariaan Hendriksz Geesjen de Lange
#2438 30 Sept. 1716	Catrina Pier Elisabeth Pier	Thuenis (<i>Teunis</i>) Pier Grietjen de Foe	Pieter Ostrander, Herman Pier, Rebecca Traphagen, Rachel Winne

³⁸ O'Callaghan, New York Troops, Second Report of State Historian of New York, “List of Military Foorses V'L, Captain Barend Z Van Kleek, Dutchess County New York, includes Pieter Ostrander, William Ostrander and William Trophage.

³⁹ History of the Reformed Dutch Church of Rhinebeck Flatts, N.Y., p. 158-59.

Rachel Jansen Pier

Baptized 28 January 1660, *Noorder kerk* (North Church) Amsterdam, d/o Jan Teunissen [Pier], b. Oct. 1631, bpt. 19 Oct. 1631 in Amsterdam, d. before April 1676 in NYC, NY, m. c1656, Holland, Maria Jans. Rachel came to New Amsterdam with her parents on *De St. Jan Baptist* in 1661. Her uncle Arent Teunissen was also a passenger on the same ship.

Rachel married twice, 1st c1677/78, Arie Fransen de Lange (no record of the marriage). It seems likely that her husband farmed in Westquansengh, in Foxhall Manor in partnership with Hendrick Albertse [Ploeg] for about a year (1671-72) (*Kingston Papers*, Vol. 2, pages 703-4 and 724). Children of the first marriage:

Baptism#/ Date	Child	Parents	Witnesses
#155 29 Sept. 1678	Maria Bpt. in Hurley	Ary Freese? Wife not named <i>Perhaps, Rachel Jansen Pier?</i>	Roelof Swartwout Eva Alberts
#226 24 April 1681	Frans	Aryan Fransen Rachel Jansen Pyer	Pieter Pietersen Gretyen Jans (<i>perhaps,</i> <i>Geesje Jans?</i>)
#296 1 Jan 1683	Jannetie	Ary Franz Lange Rachel Janse Pier	Barentz Cool, Maartie Cornelis de Laa Thomas Teunisz Quick, Leendert
#394 19 Oct. 1684	Marytie	Ary Franze Ragel Jans	Willem Janze Mary Jans
#491 7 Nov. 1686	Rachel	Ary Franz Rachel Jans	Rebecca Traphage
#569 7 May 1688	Ariantje	Arie Fransen Langerth Rachel Jans Pier	Simon Kool Eltje Jurians
#767 12 Nov. 1693	Wyntje	Adriaan Fransen Rachel Pier	Jan Oosterhout Antje Hendriks (<i>Ploeg</i>)
#887 12 Jan. 1696	Jonas	Ariaan France Lange Rachel Jansse Pier	Dirick Westbroeck Catelyntje Oosterhout

2nd Marriage

Old Dutch Church of Kingston - 17 April 1699, ALBERT HENDRICKSEN PLOEG, m. RACHEL JANS PIER (*see* page 27 for details).

Summary of Baptismal Connections

The table on the next page shows some of the records that reflect the close familial ties of the six children of Geesje Jans' two marriages.

**THE CHILDREN OF GEESJE JANS by HER 1ST MARRIAGE to PIETER
CARSTENS[EN] AND 2ND MARRIAGE to ARENT TEUNISSEN [PIER]**

THE TWO CHILDREN OF PIETER CARSTENS[EN] & GEESJE JANS (children's patronymic – PIETERS[EN])		THREE OF THE FOUR CHILDREN OF ARENT TEUNISSEN PIER & GEESJE JANS [CARSTENS(EN)], THE 4TH - son Herman may have never married but appears as a witness at some baptisms		
Tryntje Pieters & Hendrick Albertsen [Ploeg]	Pieter Pietersen & Rebecca Traphagen	Jannetie Arents (Jannetje) [Pier] & Pieter Winnes (Winnen, van Winnen)	Gepie Arents [Pier] & Willem Traphagen	Teunis [Arentsen] Pier & Margriet Du Foer
Geesje, bpt. 6 April 1679, died young, wit. Rebecca Traphagen (named after Geesje Jans)	Willem, bpt 24 Sept 1682 wit. Geesje Pieterz, paternal grand-mother of child (i.e. Geesje Jans)	Aegie, bpt. 22 July 1683, wit. Arent Teunisz Pier, Geesje Jans	Johannes, bpt. 26 May 1700, wit. Arent Teunissē Pier, Geesje Pier (nee Jans, widow of Pieter Carstensen)	Arent, bpt. 11 April 1703 wit. Arent Teunissen, Geesje Teunissē (nee Jans, widow of Pieter Carstensen)
Geesje, bpt. 22 July 1683, wit. Rebecca Willems (probably Traphagen), Harmen Pier (named after her maternal grand-mother Geesje Jans)	Arent, bpt. 5 Oct 1682, child poss. named after his step-grandfather, Arent Teunissen - wit. Hendrick Albertsz and his wife Tryntje Pieters	Geesie (<i>perhaps Geesje</i>), bpt. 21 March 1686, wit. Hendrick Adriaantz & Gepie Pier (Hendrick was her 1 st husband)	Geesje, bpt. 15 Apr 1705, wit. Henrik Traphage, Tryntje Oostrande (probably Tryntje Pieters)	Jan, bpt. 12 Oct 1707, wit. Pieter Ploeg (s/o Tryntje Pieters)
Maria, bpt. 28 Feb 1686, Wit. Geesje Pier [Geesje Jans], maternal grand-mother of child	Hermanus, bpt. 10 Nov 1695, wit. Herman Pier, Jannetje Pier, siblings of the father	Pieter, bpt. 4 Oct 1691, wit. Teunis Pier	Aarent (Arent), bpt. 20 June 1708,	Geesje, bpt. 18 Sept 1709
Rebecca, bpt. 3 Feb 1689, Wit. Teunis Pier, sibling of the mother	Geesje , bpt 19 May 1700 (named after her maternal grand-mother Geesje Jans)	Rachel, bpt. 3 June 1694, wit. Pieter Pietersen, Rachel Winne, Rebecca Traphagen		Maria, bpt. 29 Apr 1711, wit. Willem Traphagen, Gepjen Pier
Arent, bpt. 28 Jan 1692, child possibly named after his step-grandfather	Jacob, bpt. 13 Jan 1706, Albany RDC, wit. Pieter and Geesje Ploegh	Arent, bpt. 24 Dec 1699, wit. Willem Traphagen		Geesjen, bpt. 7 Fed 1714
		Gepje, bpt. 2 Jan 1704, wit. Pieter Oostrande		Catrina and Elisabeth, bpt. 30 Sept 1716, wit. Pieter Ostrander, Harmen (Herman) Pier, Rebekka Traphagen, Rachel Winne

The Origin of the OSTRANDER Name

Nothing has been found to indicate why Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen and his children eventually adopted the Ostrander spelling for their family surname, but it was noted that it evolved over a period of years, about a decade beginning in 1699 when Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen was reported on one occasion as Pieter Pieterssē Noordstrand (in Kingston Baptism #1107 - 13 August, 1699). The only clue for the Noordstrand name was the 1654 marriage intentions of his father Pieter Carstensen *van Nordstrand* who apparently reported that he was from Nordstrand (an island off the west coast of the mainland section of the Danish Duchy of Schleswig-Holstein when he married Geesje Jans). However, some 31 years earlier he had reported that he came from Husum, which was located on the west coast of Germany, when it was part of the mainland of the Duchy of Schleswig-Holstein in the jurisdiction of the Kingdom of Denmark.

Subsequently Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen was variously reported as Pieter van Oostrande[r] and Pieter van Oostrander Sr., then Pieter Ostrander or Pieter Ostrander Sr. Whatever the case, it seems that the name originated in Ulster County and was unique to the line of Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen and Rebecca Traphagen, but his home in Hurley was located on the east side of Esopus Creek so it is conceivable he adopted his new surname accordingly – oost (east) + strand (shore, bank, beach) so Ostrander could simply denote he was *of the east bank of Esopus Creek*. However, there simply is no clue as to how or why it came to be selected, so the actual origin of the family name remains a mystery that has been the subject of much speculation for more than a century.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

According to the OFA Big Book, nothing was known of where Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen of Amsterdam, Holland and Hurley, NY lived in New Netherland or colonial New York until 1679, when his name first appeared in the Marriage Register of the Old Dutch Church of Kingston where he was reported as a resident of Westquansengh (situated in Fox Hall Manor). Fortunately this is no longer the case. Although David Baker (the former Town of Hurley historian) recently noted that “*the answer was right under our noses all the time,*” it was really not that clear as the Kingston baptismal records provided circumstantial evidence that did not match the Ostrander family traditional record that had been unchallenged for more than a hundred years.

It was the attempt in Holland in 1993 to confirm that the wife of the Dutch cadet, Pieter Pietersen listed as a passenger on *De Bonte Koe* in 1660, was named Tryntje and together they had a son named Pieter born in Amsterdam between 1652 and 1656 that ultimately led to the revelation that the:

- Groom (*Pieter Pietersse*) who married Rebecca Traphagen, 19 January 1679 in Kingston, was actually the son of Pieter Carstensen (c1603 – c1659) of Husum (or Nordstrand) and Geesje Jans of Norden, who was baptized in the Amsterdam Lutheran Church, 3 July 1657.

Prior to this major breakthrough here was little to no reason to suspect that the age old traditional account was incorrect. However, Chris Brooks and Lorine McGinnis Schulze combined to recover records that precisely track our ancestor Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen from his baptism in Amsterdam in 1657 until he appeared (with Rebecca Traphagen) before Domine Laurentius Van Gaasbeek at the marriage altar of the Old Dutch Church of Kingston, in 1679. Not only has their research been confirmed, but new information has been recovered that further supports and augments their findings and conclusions to the point we now have a complete life cycle (i.e., from cradle to grave) for Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen from his baptism in Amsterdam until his death in Hurley, c1740.

They also provided a logical rationale for the likelihood that the Tryntje Pieters baptized 29 December 1654 in the Amsterdam Lutheran Church was the daughter of Pieter Carstensen⁴⁰ and Geesje Jans, even though the mother's name was not recorded. Fortunately a 100% proof positive identification of both parents of Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters' (by virtue of her exact birth or baptism record) is really only of secondary interest to the Pietersen-Ostrander family genealogy. It is the verified identification of our ancestor and family patriarch Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen's biological father and mother that is critical to our ancestry, particularly to those Ostrander descendants interested in researching their European origins, which likely go beyond The Netherlands.

Having said that, it should be noted that there is an abundance of evidence that clearly shows that Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen and Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters were siblings of the same set of parents, as outlined above and thus we have a classic example of the whole being greater than the sum of its parts. It is also important to note that in order to view the *whole picture* one must also factor in the additional information recovered in Amsterdam by the three Dutch researchers engaged by Lorine McGinnis Schulze and presented in the joint article coauthored by Lorine and Chris Brooks that was published in THE RECORD in July 2000, as well as the new information recovered since 2000.

This Research Paper does just that and presents all of the pertinent information in a single document that clearly shows that the male progenitor of the Ostrander family came to New Amsterdam in 1661 and first settled on Coney Island near Gravesend (*in Brooklyn*) on Long Island. By 1664 he was residing in Wiltwyck (Kingston) where he lived until about 1670 when he relocated to Hurley with his parents and siblings. He probably spent most of his teen years in Hurley before settling in Westquansengh where he was residing when he married Rebecca Traphagen in January 1679.

The twice married Pieter Carstensen was first reported as being 18 years old and a shoemaker's apprentice from Husum (now part of Germany) according to the record of his Amsterdam marriage intentions of 18 February 1623 recovered by Chris Brooks. This indicates he was born in Husum in 1604 when it was part of the Duchy of Schleswig-Holstein under the control of the Kingdom of Denmark, suggesting the possibility of a Danish origin. His intended bride was recorded as "*Tryn Thijsen*" [Tryntje Thyssen] "*from Nordstrand, age 18 living [on the Goudsbloemstraat in Amsterdam] assisted by Volcken Laurens her mother.*"⁴¹

⁴⁰ Amsterdam *Doopregisters*, Bron 143, page 197, **vader** [father]- *Pieter Carstens*, **kind** [child] – *Trijntie*, Amsterdam Lutheran Church (mother's name not recorded)

⁴¹ *Ibid*, page 169

Historical and Geographical Notes:

1. Nordstrand (North Frisia, *Noordströön*) is a peninsula and former island in North Frisia on the North Sea coast of today's Germany. In the 17th century, Nordstrand was a part of the larger island of Strand which was then part of Denmark when the Island was torn into pieces in a disastrous storm tide in 1634, which drastically reduced its land mass.

Nordstrand is now part of the Nordfriesland district in the federal state of Schleswig-Holstein in the country of Germany, but it remained under Danish control until the 19th century when it was ceded to Germany in 1864.

2. Lutheranism was the established religion of the Schleswig-Holstein region in the 17th century.
3. Pieter Carstensen was a member of the Amsterdam Lutheran Church and as noted below presented as many as twelve children for baptism there.

The 2nd Marriage

In 1997, Chris Brooks recovered the record of the betrothal for Pieter Carstensen's second marriage, which was written in Dutch so he reported the information verbatim in Dutch and provided an English translation in compliance with the Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS). The essence of the marriage intentions, dated 26 June 1654, were that the intended:

- groom was *Pieter Karstenss from Nordstrand, innkeeper, widower of Trijntie Thijssen* [and he resided in Amsterdam]; and
- bride was *Geestie Jans, from Norden, age 22 years, assisted by her father Jan Doets* [and the bride-to-be was also reported as a resident of Amsterdam].⁴²

There was also a note in the margin alongside the record of the marriage intentions stating "*He* [Pieter Karstenss (Carstensen)] *satisfied the Orphan Court 10 July 1654.*" This reference indicates that Pieter Carstensen had at least one underage child and was required to appear before the Amsterdam *Weeskamer* [Orphan Court] to provide an account of the inheritance due the child (or children) of his previous marriage when the child[ren] reached his/her age of majority. Once the widower Pieter Carstensen had satisfied the Orphan court, he was allowed to remarry.

⁴² "PARENTAGE OF PIETER PIETERSEN OSTRANDER AND HIS SISTER TRYNTJE PIETERS," by Chris Brooks, *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, July 1999, page 169

THE TRAIL OF PIETER⁽²⁾ PIETERSEN

Born in Amsterdam in 1657, our ancestor Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen:

- was doubtless the son Pieter⁽²⁾ of Pieter⁽¹⁾ Carstensen of Husum (*or Nordstrand*) and Geesje Jans of Norden (the daughter of Jan Doets), who was baptized in the Amsterdam Lutheran Church on 3 July 1657;
- was orphaned in Amsterdam as the result of the death of his biological father Pieter⁽¹⁾ Carstensen in the East Indies c1659/60;
- became the stepson of Arent Teunissen [Pier] by virtue of his widowed mother's second marriage in Amsterdam on 31 October 1660;
- came to New Netherland in 1661 on the Dutch ship *De St. Jan Baptist* with his mother Geesje Jans, older sister Tryntje Pieters (b. c1654) and stepfather Arent Teunissen;
- first resided on Coney Island [*Brooklyn*] in 1661/62;
- relocated to Kingston with his parents in 1663/64 (then known as Wildwyck by the Dutch and later Wiltwyck by the British);
- had five siblings by virtue of his mother's two marriages – an older sister Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters from his mother's first marriage and two half-brothers and two half-sisters from his mother's second marriage and evidently there was a strong bond and close family ties between he and his sister Tryntje⁽²⁾ and their four Arents[en]-Pier siblings;
- grew up in the Dutch settlements at Kingston and Hurley before settling as a young man in Westquansengh (a tract of farmland in Foxhall on a 330-acre manorial estate [a.k.a. Fox Hall Manor] owned by Thomas Chambers, located just north of Kingston);
- married Rebecca Traphagen in Kingston, 19 January 1679; and
- later resided and farmed in Hurley, Ulster County, NY for most of his adult life, where most if not all of his children were born.

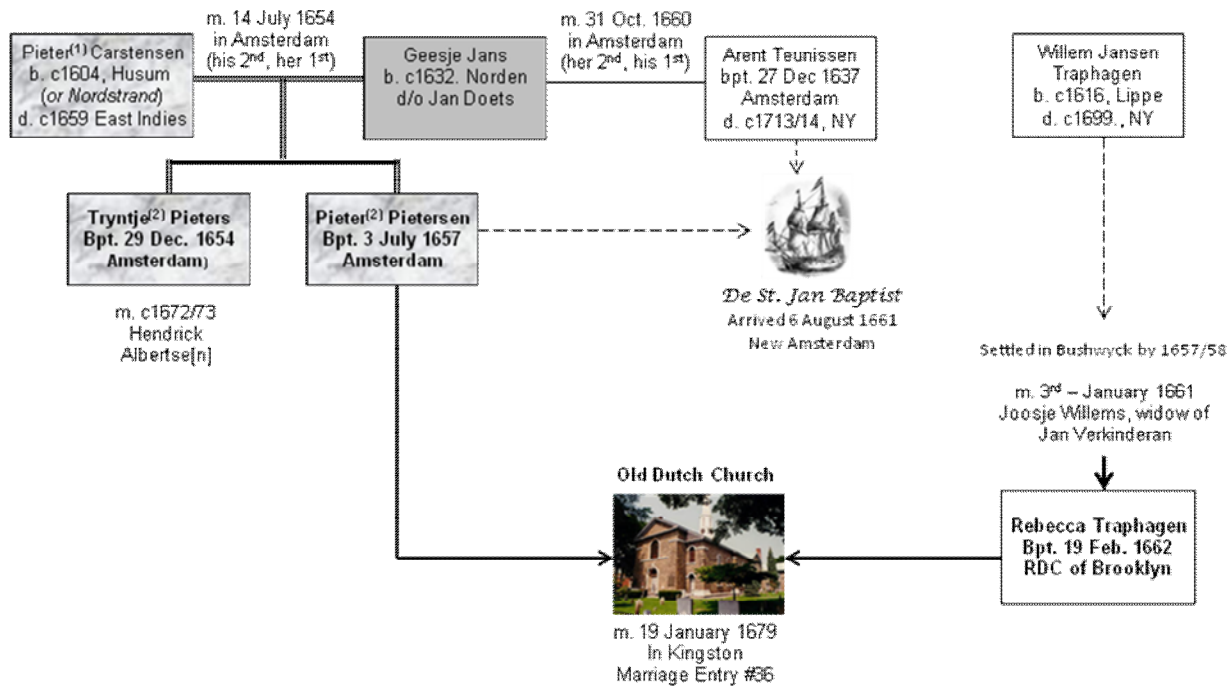
A detailed analysis of the baptismal records of Kingston and Albany, NY confirmed the kinship connections and strong family bonds between the six children of Geesje Jans from her two marriages in Amsterdam - the two children of her first marriage born in Amsterdam and the four offspring from her second marriage who were all baptized in colonial New York.

Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen was the first and only male child of Pieter⁽¹⁾ Carstensen and Geesje Jans that was born in Amsterdam and came to New Netherland three years before it was captured by the British in September 1664. By virtue of their marriage in 1679 Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen and Rebecca Traphagen are the indisputable progenitors of the Ostrander family of colonial New York and it was he who adopted the new surname at the start of the 18th century and the family name is unique to their large line of Ostrander descendants.

Dutch by birth, culture and custom, Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen was raised in his native language initially in Amsterdam and later in the Dutch settlements at Kingston and Hurley. His father came from either Husum or Nordstrand, nearby areas of the Danish Duchy of Schleswig-Holstein. The Duchy was ceded to Germany in 1864, by Denmark, more than 250 years after the birth of his father, so Pieter⁽¹⁾ Carstensen could have been Frisian or Danish, among other possibilities requiring further research. Nevertheless, the Ostrander families of colonial New York were certainly Dutch by language, custom and culture.

The Ostrander Heritage Trail

<p>Karsten (probable 1st name) + an unknown patronymic.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Johannes⁽¹⁾ Traphagen - a medical officer under the Count of Lippe on the manor of Hemelyck in the Principality of Minden</p>
<p>Pieter⁽¹⁾ Carstensen (c1604-c1659) of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Husum (probably) – b. c1604, in the Danish Duchy of Schleswig-Holstein (now on the west coast of mainland Germany); or ➤ Nordstrand (perhaps) – b. c1604, a small island due west of Husum in the former Danish Duchy of Schleswig-Holstein (now part of Germany). 	<p>2</p>	<p>Willem⁽²⁾ Jansen Traphagen (c1616-c1699)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lemgo, Lippe (now part of Germany on the eastern border located in the District of North Rhine-Westphalia). <p>Willem immigrated to Amsterdam c1646 and then New Netherland by about 1657. He first settled in Brooklyn (<i>Bushwyck</i>) and later the Kingston area of Ulster County.</p>
<p>Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen Ostrander</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Born in Amsterdam in 1657, came to New Netherland in 1661 with his stepfather (Arent Teunissen), mother (Geesje Jans) and older sister, Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters. 	<p>3</p>	<p>Rebecca⁽³⁾ Traphagen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ b. 1662, Bushwyck (<i>Brooklyn</i>), Long Island, she was a daughter of her father's 3rd marriage



Pieter Pietersse, j.m. of Amsterdam & Rebecca Traphage, j.d., of Boswyck both resided in Westquansengh. Banns published three times in the church, but dates not given."

The 1st and 2nd Generations

Given that Geesje Jans was the common denominator as the mother of six children from two marriages the first two generations of the Pietersen/Ostrander family is presented in a non-standard format below to reflect the actual composition of the extended **Pietersen/Ostrander-Arents/Pier** family unit:

GEESJE JANS married twice, two children from the first marriage and four children from the second union.

(1) GEESJE JANS married 14 July 1654, Amsterdam, PIETER⁽¹⁾ CARSTENS[EN].
Children:

1. Tryntje⁽²⁾ Pieters, b. December 1654, Amsterdam, bpt. 29 December 1654, m. c1672/73 Kingston (*probably*), Hendrick Albertse Ploeg, 13 children.
2. Pieter⁽²⁾ Pietersen, baptized - 3 July 1657 in the Amsterdam Lutheran Church, arrived at New Amsterdam on August 6, 1661, m. 19 January 1679 in Kingston, Rebecca Traphagen, 12, perhaps 13 children.

(2) GEESJE JANS, widow of PIETER⁽¹⁾ CARSTENS[EN], married 31 October 1660, in Amsterdam, ARENT TEUNISSEN [PIER], arrived at New Amsterdam 6 August 1661.
Children:

3. Herman Arentsen [Pier], bpt. 10 August 1661, New Amsterdam Reformed Dutch Church (no record that he ever married).
4. Jannetje Arents [Pier], bpt. 12 July 1664, Old Dutch Church of Kingston, m. Pieter Winne (*first banns 5 Jan 1682, marriage date not given*).
5. Geesje Arents [Pier], bpt. 25 May 1668, Old Dutch Church of Kingston, married twice:
 - 1st - Hendrick Ariensen, 19 January 1685
 - 2nd - Willem Traphagen Jr. (*brother of Rebecca Traphagen*), 30 April 1699.
6. Teunis Arentsen [Pier], b. 1673 in Hurley, baptized between 21 May 1673 and 21 August 1673, m. 5 July 1702, Margriet du Foer (*Grietje DeFoex*).

350TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OSTRANDER FAMILY

August 6, 2011 will mark the 350th anniversary of our ancestor and male family progenitor PIETER⁽²⁾ PIETERSEN OSTRANDER'S arrival in New Amsterdam in the Dutch colony of New Netherland (later colonial New York).

ORIGINS OF THE OSTRANDER FAMILY IN COLONIAL AMERICA

The progenitor of the Ostrander family PIETER⁽²⁾ PIETERSEN was the son of Pieter Carstensen of Husum (or Nordstrand) and Geesje Jans of Norden. His father died in the East Indies c1659 so he was but a 4-year old boy when he arrived in New Amsterdam on 6 August 1661 with his mother Geesje Jans, sister Tryntje Pieters and stepfather Arent Teunissen on board the Dutch ship *De St. Jan Baptist*. The family initially settled on Coney Island in Brooklyn, NY where Arent built and operated a salt kettle before relocating to Wiltwyck (now Kingston) c1663/64 where our ancestor PIETER PIETERSEN met and married Rebecca Traphagen, the daughter of a relatively wealthy immigrant from Lemgo, Lippe (in what is now a part of Germany). The family name ultimately changed from its Dutch patronymic Pietersen to Ostrander in the early 1700's.

Extended Family Tree

