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I am seeking all genealogical and biographical details for the family documented below including their ancestors, children, and grandchildren and the spouses thereof, including the full names of those spouses' parents. All additions and corrections within this scope, however speculative, will be greatly appreciated.

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### Jan Jansen Verkerk [Van Kirk] of Brooklyn, New York

The following chapter was extracted from "The Van Kirk Family" by Wilson Ledley (*Genealogies of New Jersey Families From the Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey* [hereinafter *Ledley*]; [Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc.] Volume I). The pre-immigration generations are not documented in *Ledley* but were found in postings to DUTCH-COLONIES-L@rootsweb.com and should be considered theoretical until further evidence is found.

In the early records of Kings County, N.Y., where the Van Kirks first settled in this country, they spelled their name Verkerk. "Ver" is the Dutch contraction of "van der" and "kerk" means "church," so it is quite obvious that "of the church" has no particular geographical designation, such as "Van Hoorn" or "Van Naerden." Since it is known that Jan Jansen, the first Verkerk in this country, came from Burmelzen near Buren in Gelderland, The Netherlands, the name possibly goes back away in that locale. It is apparent that Jan, unlike so many of his contemporaneous immigrants, did not take his surname from his place of birth or residence

... those in Monmouth County [New Jersey]... quickly adopted the form Van Kerk, soon stabilized as Van Kirk (*Ledley*).

Family legends indicate that they "originally came from Scotland and the name was originally Kirk. During religious disturbances and clan wars the family left Scotland, fleeing with others to Holland, where the "Van" was prefixed to the name" (Barbara Haley, Dutch-Colonies@rootsweb.com, 13 January 1998). If this theory can be proven, it would address *Ledley's* comments on the early adoption of a surname by the VerKerk family. They didn't adopt the surname *Verkerk*; they immigrated to The Netherlands with a Scottish surname *Kirk*.

#### 1. THOMAS<sup>B</sup> VERKERK.

Child:

2. ii. JAN<sup>A</sup> THOMASSE.

2. JAN<sup>A</sup> THOMASSE VERKERK (*Thomas<sup>B</sup>*), was probably born and died in Gelderland Province, Netherlands.

Child:

3. ii. JAN<sup>I</sup> JANSE, b. 1628.

3. JAN<sup>I</sup> JANSEN VERKERK [VAN KIRK] (*Jan Thomasse<sup>A</sup>, Thomas<sup>B</sup>*), Captain, was born, probably in Bueer Maetsen (Burrnelzen), Gelderland Province, Netherlands, in 1628. Jan died in Brooklyn, King County, Long Island, New York after 10 November 1688, his will was dated at (then Flatbush, now) Brooklyn, New York on 10 November 1688. Jan was married, probably in Bueer Maetsen, Netherlands, about 1652 to MAYKE GISBERTS. She was born in Holland, Netherlands, about 1640; she died in (then New Utrecht, now) Brooklyn, New York in 1688 after 10 November.

Jan Janszen Verkerk ("Verberck" in the passenger list) emigrated March 15, 1663, from Buren, province of Gelderland in The Netherlands in *De Roseboom* (The Rosetree) with wife and five children, aged 9, 8, 6, 5, and one year old (Holl. Soc., *Passengers to New Netherland*, p. 23). He was either born in, or came from Buurmelzen near Buren, aged about thirty-odd years, so he was very likely born about 1630. Probably he settled directly in New Utrecht in Kings County, N.Y., since his sons Jan and Barent, who were of age in 1687 and stated that they were natives in the oath of allegiance, do not appear in the baptismal records either of the New York or Brooklyn Dutch churches. He was listed in the assessment rolls of New Utrecht in 1675, 1676, 1683, and 1693; Dongan's Patent of 1686; oaths of allegiance, 1687, and the census of 1698. He served as magistrate in 1679 and 1684. His will was dated Nov. 10, 1688 (NYGBR 47:232), signed also by his wife "Mayke Verkerke" (who is said to have died in that year; KCo. 370), but in it he only named his last two sons. His wife, whose parentage is unknown, was Mayke Gysberts. (*Ledley*)

Children, "known and supposed," (*Ledley*):

i. ROELOF JANSZ, b. [Buren, Gelderland, The Netherlands] ca. 1654; d. after 1718; was of Flatbush when he m. 7 Aug 1681 CATRYNTJE SIMONS of Brooklyn, d. after 3 April 1710; probably the dau. of a couple named Simon \_\_\_ and Annetje \_\_\_.

Children, surname *Verkerk*: 1. *Annetje*, bapt. Brooklyn RDC 29 Oct 1682, sponsors Barend Jansen, Geertje Verkerken (paternal aunt and uncle); d. young. 2. *Annetje*, b. Flatbush; bapt. Brooklyn RDC 13 Jan 1684, sponsors Jan Van der Vliet, Geertje Verkerken (paternal aunt and husband); m. Jan Van Dyck of Shrewsbury, NJ. 3. *Sybrech*, bapt. Brooklyn RDC 4 May 1695, sponsors Barent Jansen (paternal uncle),

Annetje Jansen; m. William Van Duyn of Somerset Co., NJ. 4. *Mayke*, b. ca. 1686; m. (1) Nicholas Van Brunt of New Utrecht; m. (2) Samuel Groendyck. 5. *Jannetje*, b. ca. 1690; m. before 3 April 1710 Hendrick Claesen Kuypers when a dau. was bapt. at Bergen, NJ RDC with her parents as sponsors. 6. *Jan*, b. ca. 1692. 7. *Sara*, b. ca. 1697; m. Hendrick Emans of Somerset Co., NJ.

ii. AERT JANSZ, b. [Buren, Gelderland, the Netherlands] 1655; m. GRACE "GRATOSIER" BUNDOCK; moved to Sussex Co., DE.

Children, surname *Verkerk*: 1. *Jan*, bapt. New Utrecht RDC 12 Nov 1682. 2. [*Mayke*], m. before 1722 Jan Lambertse. 3. [*Hendrick*], b. ca. 1690. 4. *Gerrit* (KCo. 370). 5. *Seytje*, m. Johannes Truweks.

\* iii. GEERTJE JANSZ, b. 2 Dec 1658; m. (1) Buurmalsen, Gelderland, Netherlands HENDRICK JANS; m. (2) Flatbush RDC 18 Nov 1683 JAN<sup>2</sup> DIRCKSE VAN DER VLIET (*Dirck<sup>1</sup> Jans*) "John Vliet," b. Wall, Gelderland Province, Holland, Netherlands April 1654. Although his will of 1 December 1722 was not proved until 20 May 1754, he d., probably at Six Mile Run, Somerset Co., NJ, in 1722, son of Dirck<sup>1</sup> Jans Van der Vliedt and Geertje Gerretse Gerrits, direct ancestors of the compiler; see *Dirck Jans Van der Vliedt of Brooklyn, New York* for more information.

iv. [HENDRICK] JANSZ, b. 1657/59; not mentioned by *Ledley*.

v. BARENDJE JANSZ, b. 1660/61, m. Flatbush RDC 21 Aug 1684 NICHOLAS<sup>2</sup> VAN DER GRIFT, b. New Amsterdam 5 May 1658, d. after 1709, son of the compiler's direct ancestors, Jacob<sup>1</sup> Leendertsen Van der Grift and Rebecca Frederickse; see *Jacob Leendertsen Van der Grift of Newton, Long Island* for more information.

vi. CORNELIS JANSZ, b. NY 1661/63; d. before 1698.

vii. JAN<sup>2</sup> JANSZ, b. [New Utrecht, NY ca. 1644]; d. Freehold, Monmouth Co., NJ 1722/23; will dated 10 Feb 1722/23 and proven 3 March 1722/23 (NJA 23:479), m. (1) GEERTJE \_\_; m. (2) ELSJE "ALSEY" \_\_, perhaps she was identical with Alice, widow of John Van Kirk, m. as his second wife about 1725 Thomas Hankinson (Hornor, *This Old Monmouth of Ours*, p. 105).

Children, "known and supposed," surname *Verkerk*: 1. *Hendrick*, b. ca. 1690-1700. 2. *John*, in father's will. 3. [*Jannetje*], m. Peter Stryker of Flatbush. 3. [*Rebecca*], m. Hendrick Lott. 4. *Sytje*, bapt. Brooklyn RDC 29 May 1705; m. Gerrit Van Duyn of New Utrecht.

viii. BAREND JANSZ, b. [New Utrecht, NY ca. 1666]; d. Bucks Co., PA 1739; m. New Utrecht, NY 1689 RACHEL JACOBSE VAN DER GRIFT, b. 20 Aug 1664, New Amsterdam (now New York City), NY, dau. of the compiler's direct ancestors, Jacob<sup>1</sup> Leendertsen Van der Grift and Rebecca Frederickse; see *Jacob Leendertsen Van der Grift of Newton, Long Island* for more information.

Children, surname *Van der Grift*: 1. *Johannes*, bapt. New York RDC 2 April 1695. 2. *Jacob*.

## Index

This is a complete every-name index for the entire document; each woman is indexed under her maiden name and her married name(s). A question mark, (?), indicates an unknown maiden name.