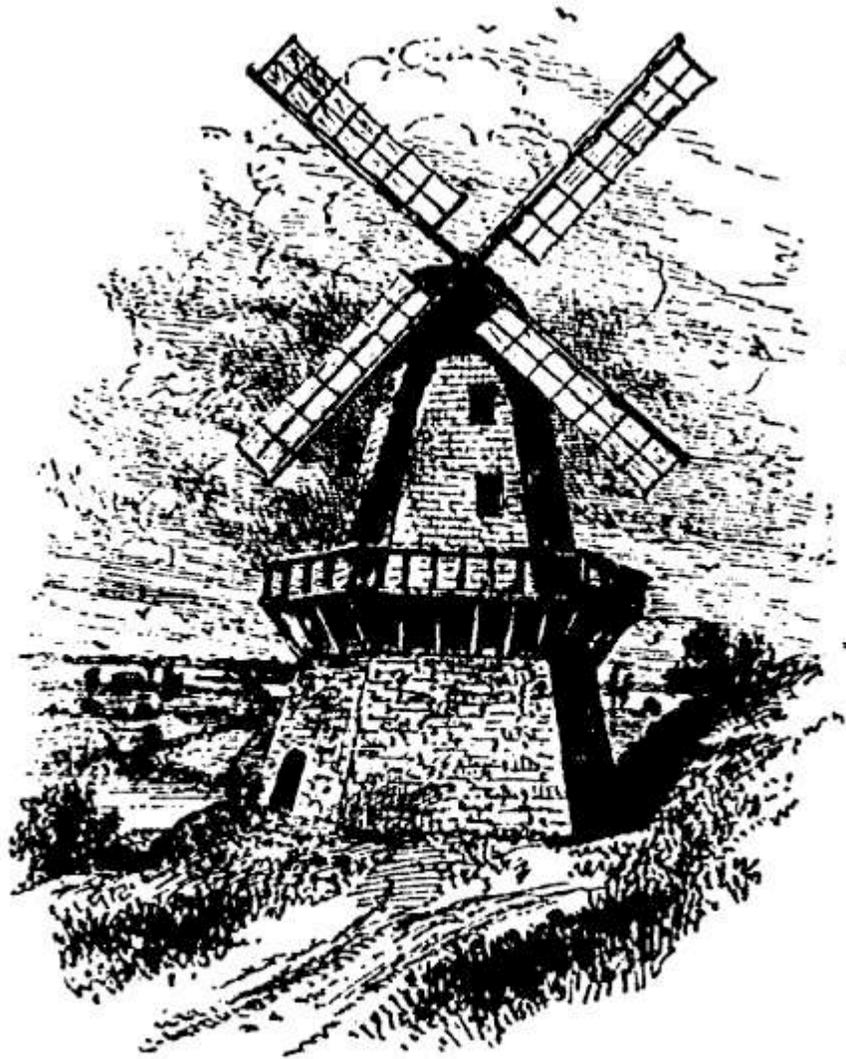


OUR DUTCH ANCESTORS IN AMERICA

VAN WAGNERS AND VAN HOUTENS



By
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COMPILED BY STEPHEN L. NEBEKER

INTRODUCTION

In late 2008, while preparing to go with my wife on a mission to Mozambique Africa, for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, I turned to family history to fill some of my spare time, as I'd often done in the past. However, this time I delved into my own genealogy rather than my wife's. You see, I'd previously worked only on her lines because there were few others researching them and it was easy to find a starting point. On the other hand, much had been done on my lines, so it was more difficult to find a place to begin.

One day, while examining my pedigree chart, I noticed my Van Wagner line had no information beyond my third great grandfather, Halmagh John Van Wagner. I was shocked! I'd understood that line had been researched back to the immigrant ancestor, but if it had, I didn't have a record of it. I finally had a starting point on my own family tree.

The more I thought of it, the more I wanted to research Halmagh's wife's line too—Mary Van Houten—because it was also Dutch and the two families lived in the same New Jersey areas. So, they could easily be researched together.

Before this time, I knew very little about the early Dutch immigration to America, or the arrival of my own Dutch ancestors; however, as I learned more and more, I became fascinated with their stories and impressed by their hardy spirits. So, I take this opportunity to share with you some of the interesting things I learned about them.

(NOTE: This summary does not go into extensive detail about all the descendants of those two families, as it would take hundreds of pages and I wanted to keep this work short. For those desiring such information, I refer you to five, among many, noteworthy sources:

1. Van Wagenen & Van Wagoner of Bergen Country, New Jersey – CA 1660
(Compiled by Carl S. Van Wagenen, Saugerties NY 12477 – Cvanwagenen.com)
2. Van Wagenen - Van Wagoner genealogy of 1969 - Prepared by Loree Van Wagoner Orullian, Mariam Van Wagoner Maxfield, and Lilia Smith Seegmiller; signed by Frank Van Wagenen, President of the Organization.
3. Roelof Cornelisse Van Houten Family of NJ (users.crocker.com/~jcamp/rcvh.html)
4. The Van Houten Family of Bergen NJ (Taken from the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record)
5. Preserved Papers of Judge Gerrebrandt Van Houten, Paterson NJ

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Section 1

THE VAN WAGNER FAMILY

VAN WAGENEN ORIGINS

According to multiple sources, our immigrant ancestor was Garrett Garretson, born in Holland in 1630. From the Historical Sketch of the County of Passaic, 1877 we read "...he and his wife Anna Hermansse (or Hermanusse) were of the town Wageningen, Gelderland, Western Holland. It was noted for its successful factories, Latin school, and public buildings. Its history dates back a thousand years and teems with interesting stories of sieges, battles, rapine and burnings. Before leaving this charming little town for the new world, however, Garrett and his wife took two neighbors to the city council, to testify of their good character. This testimony was taken down and attested to by a 'secret seal' of the city and given to the intending emigrants on 17 Nov 1660 (see below), who brought it with them to this country the following month, in the ship 'Faith.' They brought with them at least one child. Two other citizens from that place, one with a wife and two children, accompanied them. Upon landing at New Amsterdam, on 23 Dec 1660, the couple moved to New Jersey and settled at Communipaw, in the town of Bergen."

In the book, *Van Wagenen - Van Wagoner Genealogy, 1969*, by Loree Van Wagoner Orullian, Mariam Van Wagoner Maxfield, and Lilia Smith Seegmiller, we have another reference to the couple's departure: "Wageningen is an ancient town in Gelderland, ten miles from Arnheim. Situated on the banks of the Rhine, a picturesque country, fertile and thoroughly cultivated, it has been a center of trade and population, and hence a sight of many a fierce contest, since the ninth century. In 1240 it was fortified by Count Otto II van Gelder, who provided it with walls and stout gates. Nevertheless, in 1421 it was captured, plundered, and burnt. After various vicissitudes it was in 1572 reunited with the states of Holland, and is to this day one of the most pleasant and quaintest towns in Holland. The growth of this town has necessitated the removal, for the most part, of the ancient fortifications."

"It was from this town that Gerrit Gerritsen and Annetje Hermansse, his wife, with one child, Gerrit, two years old, and armed with a certificate of good character (see first paragraph), set sail in November 1660, in the ship Faith. Jan Bestevaer was the captain and the fare for the three was 90 florins (about 36 dollars). They arrived at Communipaw New Jersey on 23 Dec 1660."

"For some reason, an older child, Catrintje, was omitted from the passenger list. She is quite important to us, as she married Adrian Post, whose daughter Claertje married Pieter Helmighe Van Houten and they were the 2nd great grandparents of Mary (Van Houten) Van Wagoner, who joined the Mormon Church along with her husband Halmagh John Van Wagoner."

"Gerrit Gerritse appears to have settled in Bergen immediately after his arrival. On 16 Oct 1662, Director General Petrus Stuyvesant in council appointed him one of three schepens (magistrates or aldermen, with magisterial and judicial powers) for Bergen. In the same year Gerritse was one of the petitioners for the settlement of a clergyman at Bergen, and pledged himself to contribute six florins yearly toward his support."

Gerrit and Annetje had four sons and four daughters and they all married into prominent families in that area, who also happened to be their neighbors. These families were large land owners and

the aristocracy, if there were any such classification in Bergen County. The families were: Post, Marcelis, Steynmets, Van Vorst, Van Winkle, Diedricks, Straetmaker, and Van Houten.

GERRIT'S & ANNETJI'S CERTIFICATE OF CHARACTER

According to the book *History of the Van Wagoner-Van Wagenen Family*, by Frank A. Van Wagenen, the Certificate of Character granted Gerrit and his wife before they came to America read: "We, burgomasters, schepens, and councilors of the city of Wageningen, declare by these presents, that there appeared before us Hendrick Ellisen and Jordiz Spiers, citizens of this city, at the request of Gerritt Gerritsen and Annetji Hermansse, his wife. They have testified and certified as they do by these presents, that they have good knowledge of the above named Gerrit Gerritsen and Annetjei Hermansse, his wife, as to their life and conversation, and that they have always been considered and esteemed as pious and honest people, and that no complaint of any evil or disorderly conduct has ever reached their ears; on the contrary, they have always led quiet pious and honest lives, as it becomes pious and honest persons. They especially testify that they govern their family well and bring up their children in the fear of God and in all modesty and respectability.

"As the above named persons have resolved to remove and proceed to New Netherland, in order to find greater convenience, they give this attestation, grounded on their knowledge of them, having known them intimately, and having been in continual intercourse with them for many years, living in the same neighborhood. "In testimony of the truth, we the burgomasters of the city, have caused the private seal of the city to be hereto affixed. "Done at Wagening, 27 Nov. 1660, by the ordinance of the same. J. Aqueline."

DUTCH NAMING CONVENTIONS

I offer a word here as to Dutch customs in naming children. From *A Historical Sketch of the County of Passaic*, I quote: "In country districts it was common, until the close of the 17th century, to call children after their father's first name. If a man's Christian name were Gerrit, and he had a son named Jan, the latter would be called Jan Gerritsen, meaning Jan, Gerrit's son. If he had a daughter Anneke, she would be called Anneke Gerritse. Now, since Gerrit and Jan were very common first names, it wasn't long until Gerritsens and Jansens were innumerable, a fact that makes it exceedingly hard to trace Dutch genealogy of that era. Another custom, however, is a help to genealogists: the first son was usually named after his paternal grandfather. The second son was generally given his father's name, but this rule was not so absolute. Similarly, the first daughter was usually called by her maternal grandmother's name. And, certain family names were perpetuated from one generation to the next and still are today. So, when families moved, it often became necessary to distinguish one Gerrit from another Gerrit, and the natural method seemed to be to add the name of the town from whence he came. Thus, the children of Gerrit Gerritsen were frequently spoken of as van Wageningen—or from the town of Wageningen. Hence, the common surname which has been corrupted into Van Wagoner".

From the book *History of Passaic NJ and Its Environs* I quote, "Some names were monopolized to such an extent that one could guess the surname after hearing the Christian. Adrian preceded Post; Ralph that of Van Houten; Rynier that of Van Giesen; Gerrit that of Gerritsen; Walling most always stood for Van Winkle, descendants of Walling Jacobs; while Edo or Iddo was seldom seen outside the Merselis family. Urian Thomasese was the ancestor of

all Van Ripers, many of whose sons were given the name of Uriah or Urie. Many families among our first settlers had no family name, which did not work any great hardship at first, but as the Jacobs, Johns, Gerrits, Adrians and Williams began to increase, surnames were adopted, as set forth above. Gerrit Gerritse was simply Gerrit, son of Gerrit. In time, his son, Peter, had a son Gerrit, who was called 'Pietem's Gat' to distinguish him from other Gerrits or Gats. He was also known as 'Spyker-Kop Gat or Nail Headed Gat', meaning that his head was as hard as nails, and his disposition likewise. He became so angry over some dispute with his brothers about the division of certain land that he then and there vowed he would no longer use the name of Gerritse, but take Van Wagoner, which he did."

In church records the surname of the same man was entered sometimes Gerritse and sometimes Van Wagenen, occasionally with and more often without a distinguishing middle initial. The old Dutch people were persistent in keeping certain names in a family; it's not unusual to find three children, one after another, given the same baptismal name, the first and second having died.

EARLY NEW JERSEY LIFE

One of the problems for the early settlers of our nation, including the New Jersey and New York areas was getting along with the Indians. From *History of the Development of Bergen NJ*, we read: "The Second Indian War in 1655 resulted in the destruction of every *bouwerij* (bowery) on the west of the North River. The inhabitants fled to the shelter of New Amsterdam and only the Aborigines were left in possession. As this was the second incident of this character in the history of New Netherlands, Peter Stuyvesant wisely ordered that no settlement should be allowed on the west side of the river except in concentrated villages, which could be easily protected and defended. This decree opened the way for a petition presented to the Council at New Amsterdam during the summer of 1660, requesting permission to found a village on the highlands about two miles from the North River. The petition was granted and between August and October of that year the village of Bergen NJ was founded. The lines of the village are still marked by the streets of Jersey City, which surround and pass through it. An open square was reserved with two streets running north and south and others running east and west, meeting in the center. The village was protected by a rectangular palisade, with a gate at the center of each side. Later a well was dug in the middle of the open square and a corner lot was reserved for a school. With the village, came also the church and the school; in fact, a condition made by each pioneer in accepting a grant of a village lot or outlying farm was that ministers of the Dutch Reformed faith should be provided and the education of the children secured. In 1661, the first municipality was created in the form of an inferior court whose decisions were subject to appeal in the general New Amsterdam court."

To resume the history of our common ancestor, I quote again from *History of Passaic NJ and its Environs*, "Gerrit took the oath of allegiance to King Charles II of England on 26 Nov 1665, but after the recapture of New Netherlands by the Dutch, he was again made one of five Schepens of Bergen. On 12 May 1668, he bought from Gov. Philip Carteret about 100 acres of land at Bergen, including the site of the watch factory at Marion. He probably worked as a farm laborer until he earned money enough to become a land-owner. He was one of the original patentees of Acquackanok in 1685, but never settled there. He always remained at Communipaw and sold his Acquackanok interest in 1699.

“Gerrit and Annetje were members of The Reformed Protestant Dutch Church and were financial supporters of it. All their children were christened and married in it, and all of them were buried by the ministers of that church. “They continued to reside in the Communipaw section of Bergen until their deaths. Annetje died on 7 Sep 1696, and Gerrit died on 6 Apr 1703. Gerrit thus lived a little over 42 years in the New World.”

GERRIT AND THE ACQUACKANONK PATENT

Continuing from that same source: “The Van Wagoner farm, upon which the old Van Wagner house stood, was part of the Acquackanonk Patent, which embraced land bounded on the south by the Yanticaw River; on the west by the ridge of the mountain, and north and east by the Passaic River. The Indian deed for this patent bears the date 28 Mar 1679. Captahem, the Indian Sachem and Chief, states ‘In the presence and by the consent of Memiseraen, Mindawas, and Ghonnajea, Indians and Sachems of said country, for and in consideration of a certain P’sall of coates, blankets, kettles, powder and other goods,” conveyed the tract known by the name of Haquequenqncq unto Hans Diederick, Gerret Garretson (our ancestor), Walling Jacobs, Elias Macheilson, Cornelius Macheilson, Adrian Post, Urian Tomason, Cornelius Rowlofson (another ancestor), Symon Jacobs, John Hendrick Speare, Cornelius Lubbers and Abraham Bookey. A patent (deed), for any land at this time was never given until one had first been obtained from the Indians, who in every instance were paid their price. It is for this reason the first and succeeding settlers in Passaic area never had a dispute with the Indians, who were honorably, dealt with.

“These Patentees divided the Acquackanonk Patent into 28 farms, after setting aside a tract of 13 acres for a church and support of a minister. This tract was a triangle whose apex was near the present corner of Park Place and Prospect Street, the base of one line was the north corner of the present bridge at Gregory Avenue and the other near the foot of Park Place. Just how the division of the patent was accomplished is unknown. Whenever it is referred to in ancient documents, it is said to have been “by mutual exchange, casting of lots, or otherwise.” One method of casting lots at that time was to take 14 cards, upon which was written the name of one of the 14 men, who were each given a number. These cards were thrown in a sugar bowl, tightly covered, and shaken up. Fourteen other cards, each bearing a number 1 to 14, were placed in another receptacle, well shaken and the cards thoroughly mixed. At the appointed time, these 14 men met and John Ver Kirk, surveyor and scrivener, would have drawn a card containing a name and number and then drawn one with a number only, and would have placed these cards on the farm or lot, on a map bearing that number, that was spread before them. In this way, (it is thought) the original Van Wagoner farm was drawn about 1690.

“This farm was marked No. 1, in the first division of Acquackanonk. There were other divisions at this time, 1685 to 1690. One of the patentees, Walling Jacobse (or Van Winkle) drew the farm numbered one. He was born in Holland, came to this country as a youth and settled at the present Jersey City until 1685, when he came here, married and had children, who assumed the name of Van (from) Winkler (shop keeper). Walling built the smaller part of the present building about 1690 and intended making this his homestead, but did not. He instead settled on another farm he had acquired across the river. He then conveyed an undivided half of lot No. 1 to John Barkaloo, who conveyed it to Hessel Peterse, who conveyed it to Garret Van Wagoner.

“In 1702, Walling Jacobs conveyed the remaining half of the title to Hermanus Van Wagoner by whom it was devised to his son, Gerrit, who thereupon became the sole owner, and subsequently, by will dated 1769, devised the whole farm to his son, John, provided he married and had lawful issue. Should John fail to marry and have lawful issue, the entire estate to go to another son, Harmon. John disappeared mysteriously in 1776, unmarried and childless. He was never seen or heard from again. Harmon took possession of the farm, and by his will dated 1789, devised the same to his son, Ruliff (Ralph), upon whose death, intestate, the farm became the property of his son, Harmonis (Harmon), whose son John, upon his death, intestate, inherited the same. After the death of John’s father, his mother, Jane, married Levi Shelp and by him had three daughters and two sons, viz.: Sarah, who married Henry P. Simmons; Mary Ann, who married (1) Harmon Oldis, (2) John Van Riper; Phoebe, who married Adrian Van Blarcom; Jacob Shelp and William Shelp. Henry P. Simmons was the owner at his death in 1896, and by his will devised the same to his executors in trust for his granddaughter, Margaret Gillen, and after her and her issue, then to Mary Eliza Hadley, another daughter. This old farm, therefore, has been owned by the Van Wagoner blood for over two hundred years, and is still thus vested.”

From the book *Pre-Revolutionary Houses in Southern NJ and Northern NY*, we read “In the Acquackanonk settlement a short distance above the Newark town purchase line (now Essex County border) runs a small stream known as the Miner Spring Brook. Lot No. 7 on its south bank, a 100 acre lot in the first division of the patent, fell to a member of the Vreeland family; Dirck Vreeland, baptized 1686, was still living there in 1750, and in 1778 another Richard Vreeland had his home there. Lot No. 6, immediately to the south, was allotted to Gerrit Gerritse Van Wagening, a patentee of Acquackanonk but a resident of Communipaw in the town of Bergen. His son Hermanus Gerritse settled further north in Acquackanonk, opposite the present bridge at Passaic (plate 154). On 30 Jan 1698/9, Gerrit Gerritse Van Wagening of the town of Bergen deeded to Christoffle Stynments of Essex Country Lot No. 6 in Acquackanonk, with the house lot and half the patent rights pertaining thereto. Christoffel’s parents were Casper Steynmetzen and Jannetje Gerrits; they had six sons baptized in New York between 1650 and 1670. They probably settled in Bergen about the time the youngest was born, as Casper’s wife Jannetje was buried in Bergen in 1670. Their fourth son Christoffel Stynmets, baptized 19 Dec 1660 in New York, married Jannetje Gerrits (baptized 19 Mar 1662) at Bergen 6 Oct 1684. She was the daughter of Gerrit Gerrits Van Wagening and Annetje Hermanse of Communipaw.”

ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNIPAW NJ

From the book *Jersey City and Its Historic Sites*, by the Jersey City Women’s Club, we find this interesting record about the establishment of Communipaw NJ: “On 8 Sep 1660, Jacques Cortelyou was ordered to survey Gemoenepa and lay it out into village lots. The village site fronted on the Bay, was two hundred feet deep and extended from what is now Communipaw Avenue on the north to the Bay Shore House on the south. The Council ordered that the village should be stockaded, but there seems to have been numerous delays, for in June 1663, Gerrit Gerritsen (our ancestor) Harmen Smeeman and Dirck Claussen were appointed commissioners to fortify Gemoenepa.”

From the book *Pre-revolutionary Dutch Houses in Northern NJ and Southern NY*, we find the will of Gerrit Van Wagening, son of Hermanus Gerittse (and grandson of Garret Garretse the immigrant): “Gerrit Van Wagening made his will in 1769 shortly before he died. He devised to his son Hermanus the land where he (the son) dwelt, and to his son Johannis the land where he (the testator) dwelt with the building, stating that if Johannis did not marry, the land was to revert to Hermanus at Johannis’ death; Gerrit also mentioned his daughters and his second wife Sarah. The younger son Johannis Van Wagenen, born 18 Nov 1728, died unmarried in 1770/-71. He occupied the old Van Wagening homestead at the Passaic Bridge. The first bridge had been built here over the Passaic River in 1766. His older brother Hermanus Van Wagenen, born 4 Feb 1717 and died by 1794, married 29 Dec 1741 Geertruy Van Houten of Totowa. He lived at the Notch, but inherited all his father’s lands on the death of his brother. Hermanus left his property to his sons Ruleff and Garret. The family name later became standardized to Van Wagoner. It is not known when the family sold the house. It was owned by Judge Simmons about 1880, later was a part of Henry P. Simmon’s estate, and recently belonged to the Newport Chemical Co. It has been torn down since the photograph was taken in 1925” (see photograph below).

ORIGINAL VAN WAGENING HOUSE ON RIVER DRIVE--PASSAIC NJ, PLATE 154



THE APPLE TREE HOUSE

In the book *Van Wagenen and Van Wagoner of Bergen County NJ—CA 1660* we read about another well-known Wagenen home: “This house located at 198 Academy Street in Jersey City NJ, presently is owned by the city of Jersey City and is only a short distance from the Bergen Reformed Dutch Church and the cemetery where many Van Wagenens are buried. It is a two-story brick and fieldstone house that was built in 1740 and purchased by the Van Wagenen family. Gerret Gerrettsen is said to have spent his first Christmas on this property after arriving from Holland, probably in a log cabin somewhere on the property. In 1779, George Washington, general of the Continental Army, met there with the Marquis de Lafayette to map out

Revolutionary War strategy against the British and sat for their portraits. The Van Wagenen family owned the property for more than 200 years and then sold it to Lawrence Quinn, a local undertaker, in 1947. Until 1985 the house was known as Quinn's Funeral Home, where services were held for local dignitaries. The house then fell into disrepair, with broken windows, dilapidated shutters, and a dying apple tree in the front yard. Jersey City bought the Apple Tree House in 1999 from Provident Savings Bank for \$450,000 and there is presently a committee attempting to have the house designated a state and national landmark and they hope to turn it into a museum. In the 1920s the residence was occupied by William Cokelet, age 55, b. NJ, his wife Eliza J., age 53, b. NJ, and Hannah Van Wagenen, age 12, sister-in-law. (This family's genealogical connection is undetermined)." (Van Wagenen and Van Wagoner of Bergen County NJ—CA 1660)

From the book *Jersey City and Its Historic Sites*, by the Jersey City Women's Club, 1899, we read, "On 24 Aug 1779, General Lafayette and his troops marched on a foraging expedition from near Fort Lee to Bergen. On the morning of the 25th, they arrived at the brow of the Hill and encamped about the large, old tulip tree, known as 'oude Boom' to the early settlers and as the 'King of the Woods' to those of later date. The locality is now known as Waldo avenue, between Henry street and Magnolia avenue. The tree was cut down 20 Dec 1871. Lafayette's headquarters were at the Van Wagenen place on the northwest corner of Academy street and Bergen square. Mr. Taylor states, 'in the orchard on the old parsonage site on northwest side of Square,' where he entertained at dinner General Washington who came over from Hackensack. The dinner was cooked in the Van wagenen weave-house and eaten under an apple tree. This tree was blown down in a gale on 3 Sep 1821 and from a portion of it was made a very handsome cane, gold mounted and with this inscription, 'Shaded the hero and his friend Washington in 1779; presented by the Corporation of Bergen in 1824.' When Lafayette visited America in 1824, when he was on his way from Jersey City to Newark, there was a gathering of all the people of this vicinity to meet him at Riker's Tavern. Five Corners, which is still standing on the southwest corner of Newark and Summit avenues."

THE HAMILTON—VAN WAGONER HOUSE

From *History of Passaic NJ and its Environs*, we read "The Hamilton—Van Wagoner home is a representative example of the pioneer homesteads that once dotted what was known as 'old Acquackanonk.' With its graceful gambrel roof and red sandstone, the house reflects many of the characteristics of the architecture of early New Jersey Dutch colonists. Although the Hamilton family resided in the house for 116 years, actually only three generations called it home, ending in 1972 with the death of Henry Hamilton. At that time, the newly appointed Clifton Historical Commission approached the city council and urged that the house become an historical museum. It subsequently was moved across Valley Road into Surgent Park. Each room in the house reflects the different lives of the various families who called it home. No record has been found when the first dwelling was built on the original site or what it looked like. The property, however, passed from Garet Garritsee, one of the original Acquackanonk settlers, through his descendents to Hermanus Van Wagoner, who was living in a nearby house at the time of the Revolution. In 1804 Anna Vreeland inherited the property from her grandfather, Garret Van Wagoner, son of Hermanus. She married John J. Vreeland, a mason. Sometime around 1815, they built what is the main section of the house. The original house, some researchers believe,

continued to be used as a kitchen. In 1837, the Vreelands sold the property to Jacob and Sarah Van Riper. At about this time, the kitchen was enlarged and attached to the main house. The house remained basically unchanged for the next 135 years, save for some modernizing in the 1880's and the installation of plumbing in the early 20th century. The Hamilton-Van Wagoner house is a living museum." (See photo below)

THE HAMILTON – VAN WAGONER HOUSE



HALMAGH JOHN'S CONNECTION TO THE IMMIGRANT GERRIT

Halmagh's direct line was through Gerrit's youngest son, Johannes, who was born 11 Jan 1678, and then taken by his parents to be christened in The Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of New York. From the book *Van Wagenen & Van Wagoner of Bergen County NJ, CA 1660*, I quote, "It was through Johannes' marriage that we get the name "Halmagh" that has been passed down through the family for generations. Johannes married Catelyntje Helmighse Van Houten 17 Oct 1703. Their eldest son was Helmigh (Halmagh), as written in the Dutch records, to honor his grandfather Helmigh Cornelise Van Houten. Dutch custom called for naming the first four children after the grandparents, if the sexes were right. If a child should die who had a name that was to honor his relatives, that name would be given to the next child born of the same sex. Sometimes three or four children in a family would all have the same name, the older ones dying young, until one was healthy enough to carry on the special family name.

“Johannes was an active member of the Dutch church in Bergen, and his five sons and two daughters were christened there, except for his youngest son Johannes, who was christened in the NY Reformed Protestant Church as was his father. Six of the children married in the Dutch Church and had their children christened there too. Johannes, the youngest son of Johannes, married his first cousin, Neesje Van Wagene, the daughter of his father’s oldest brother, Gerrit Gerritse, Jr., and Neesje Pieterse Marcelis. (NOTE: This may not be correct, as Gerrit does not appear to have had a daughter by that name. It more likely would have been the **daughter of Gerrit’s brother Jacob.**) The oldest son, Helmigh, married Marritje Cornelise Blinkerhoff (which became Brinkerhoff), the daughter of Cornelius Blinkerhoff and Aegie Hartmanse Vreeland.

“Helmigh bought 625 acres of land from his father-in-law that was situated on the Wanques River, on the side of the hill called Wanaque, on 12 Apr 1740. His father Johannes bought an additional amount just below his property, from Jacobus and Angenietje Blinkerhoff. (Jacobus was the brother of Cornelius.) The original sheepskin deed covering this transaction remained in the family for many years, in the possession of John Mervyn Smith, 81 South 600 East, Provo, Utah.

“Johannes, husband of Catelyntje Helmighse Van Houten, made out his will in which he refers to himself as Johannes Gerritse Van Wagene of the Town of Bergen in the Province of New Jersey, yeoman (farmer). It is dated 24 Jul 1752 and was probated 8 Nov 1759. He leaves the property he purchased in Wanaque to his son Cornelius. (His eldest son, Helmigh, was deceased by this time, but Helmigh’s oldest son John was left two pounds in NY currency by his grandfather in recognition of the birthright of his deceased father). The other two living sons, Jacob and Cornelius, also inherited property, but the will didn’t indicate where Jacob’s was located. He lived to be 94 years and 10 months old, and was buried in the North Schraalenburgh Cemetery. Johannes and his wife Neesje received the property in the Town of Bergen from his father Johannes.

“Helmigh and his wife, Marritje Blinkerhoff, had eight children: five daughters, which included a set of twins, and three sons, before Helmigh’s early death, at the age of 39. Marritje lived for 56 more years and died at the age of 85. She was buried in the Old Graveyard at Dundee Lake on the Alyea property.

“Helmigh and Marritje’s son Johannes Van Wagene (as it appears in the Schraalenburgh Dutch Church register) was christened 27 Apr 1746. He used the name John H. Van Waggener and did not marry until almost 40 years old. He married Johanna (Anny, as she was called) Van Dervoort, who was only 18. The date of marriage was 18 Sep 1786. Family tradition is that John H. was living with his sister Catherine and aged mother Marritje, who was also blind. The pretty Van Dervoort girl was hired to care for them. Anny’s father, David Vandervoort, had lost most of his money because of money exchanges after the Revolutionary War and had moved to New Jersey from Newtown, Long Island. Anny’s mother was Breechje (Bridget in English) Remsen.

“Anna, the oldest daughter of Helmigh and Marritje, married John Smolagin or Smulliger in 1803 and the county court appointed him legal guardian for Bridget who was under age 14. Halmagh, however, was over 14 and thus able to choose his own guardian. He chose brother-in-law, John Smolagin. Bridget later married Abraham Baldwin on 25 Nov 1815. They’re supposed to have moved to San Francisco and built a hotel there.

HALMAGH J & MARY VAN HOUTEN'S FAMILY

“Halmagh J. (or I as it appears in some records because the Dutch alphabet did not have the letter J) married Mary Van Houten, his third cousin once removed. In the will of John Pieterse Van Houten (Mary's father), he refers to her as “Polly, wife of Halmagh I. Van Wagoner”. Polly's mother was Annetje Roome. Polly's grandfather, Pieter Adrianse Van Houten, was the grandson of Pieter Helmighse, who was the brother of Catlyntje Helmighse Van Houten, who married Johannes Gerritse Van Wagene--the youngest son of immigrants Gerrit Gerritse and Annetje Hermanse; thus making two direct lines back to Gerrit Gerritse and his wife, Annetje Hermanse, and two lines back to Helmigh Cornelise Van Houten and his wife, Jannetje Pieterse Marselise.

“Halmagh J. and Mary were married 22 Dec 1810 at Horseneck, Bergen County, by Reverend John Duryee. Horseneck has since been changed to Fairfield, a more euphonious name. They had five children, all born at Wanaque, Pompton Township, Bergen County, NJ. Pompton Township became a part of Passaic County in 1837. The first two were sons: John Halmagh, (after his grandfather and father, according to Dutch tradition) and Henry R. The last three were daughters.

“John Halmagh was born 1 Sep 1811 and taken to Pompton Plains, Morris County NJ, where he was christened in the Reformed Dutch Church 12 Jan 1812. He married first on 24 Sep 1835, Eliza Smith in Old Bergen (Jersey City) by Reverend Benjamin C. Taylor. Eliza was born in Newark, Essex County, 15 Sep 1815, the daughter of Samuel Smith and Anna Simonson. The couple had two children before Eliza died of an untimely death 13 Jul 1840, leaving her husband to care for 4 year old David and 3½ month old Mary. He married again, on 21 Dec 1841, to Clarissa Tappen, daughter of Sarah Drew and George Tappen, who lived at Ringwood, a nearby community in Pompton Township. They were married in Pompton by a Dutch Reformed minister named Doolittle. Clarissa bore John 10 children: Ephraim, John, Ann, William, Cynthia, Clarissa, Henry, Esther, George, and Walter.

“The second son Henry R was born about 1813. The R may have stood for Roome, maiden name of his maternal grandmother. Some of the children may have been baptized in the Reformed Dutch Church at Ponds (now Oakland, Bergen County) which is closer than Pompton Plains, in Morris County, but unfortunately 150 years of Ponds Reformed Dutch Church records were destroyed by fire, so we do not have all the pertinent information about Halmagh and Polly's family. (Some family members believe Henry married Charlotte Benson and died in New Jersey about age 27, but no record has been found to support that marriage. Other family members believe he married Rachel Baker on 8 Sep 1840, as there is a marriage record to that effect. They do not rule out the first marriage though.

“The last three children of Halmagh and Polly were: Hannah, born 4 Apr 1815, and christened at the Pompton Plains Reformed Dutch Church. She married 4 Apr 1833, to James H. Smith, and moved to Salt Lake City with the Utah pioneers in 1847. The second daughter, Ann (our direct ancestor), was born 24 Mar 1817 and married John Havens on 13 Feb 1839 in Bergen NJ. She was divorced later because of her joining the Mormon Church and married Henry Nebeker while preparing to move to Utah. The last daughter, Sarah, was born 11 Jul 1822 and married John Fairbanks. Like her older sisters, she emigrated to Nauvoo and then moved on to Utah with the Mormon Pioneers.

THE VAN WAGONER FAMILY MEETS THE MORMONS

The Van Wagenens were a happy, united family. United in all but one thing—religion. Mary was a Presbyterian. She was devoted and faithful to her church. Halmagh, on the other hand, would not attend or have anything to do with any church. In fact, he was very much opposed to religion. Halmagh's attitude worried and grieved Mary. She wanted her children to be Christians—good Christians—but how to accomplish it with a house divided? Halmagh was firm in his convictions. "I can't see anything in religion," he said.

It was about this time that the Mormon missionaries came to New Jersey. Out of curiosity John, the eldest son, attended some of their meetings. He bought a Book of Mormon and some other Mormon literature. Knowing the sentiments of his father and not wishing to hurt his mother, he kept the book secreted in a drawer in his room. Every opportunity he could find he would slip into his room and read the book. It fascinated him. He could hardly put it away to do his work. He attended more meetings, asking questions and received enlightening answers. John studied and prayed and asked for guidance. By now, the Book of Mormon was more than interesting or fascinating—John knew it was true. He had a testimony. He was so thrilled with what he read and heard, he longed to share it with his family but he didn't dare. Prudence and fear of ridicule stopped him.

One morning the men folks were away at work. Mary was ironing. Her aged mother was busy darning socks and humming as she rocked by the fire. Sarah was preparing the bread for the oven. "Sarah," called her mother, "as soon as you put the bread in the oven, come here. Will you please gather up the stockings, those that grandma darned, and take them with these shirts I've ironed to John's room. Put them away neatly and while you're there, tidy up his room. I think John has been neglecting it lately." Sarah climbed the stairs with an armful of carefully paired and rolled stockings and the shirts. She opened the door and tossed the socks on the bed while she hung the shirts in the wardrobe closet. She began tidying up the room. She pulled open the stocking drawer to put them away. For a minute she stood frozen to the spot. Her eyes bulged. Her mouth gaped open wide. She gasped a deep breath. Automatically her hand flew to her throat and she pressed it hard against her chest as if to keep her pounding heart from bursting. Was she seeing things? Slowly and cautiously she reached her hand out and touched it. It was real! But what was it doing here? MORMONS. The word seemed to leap at her. She had heard of the Mormons—the Minister had warned everybody about the awful Mormons. A sickening feeling came over her. She must tell mother. Never had Sarah made the stairs in such record time. From the hall she motioned for her mother to come quickly. This was private. Grandmother (Annatje Roome Van Houten) must not know. At her age it would upset her terribly. "What is it, Sarah? You look like you have seen a ghost." "It's awful, mother! It's awful," she whispered. "I'm afraid John is going to join the Mormons." "The Mormons? That's nonsense! Wherever did you get an idea like that?" "He's got their terrible book in his drawer," said Sarah. "I saw it with my own eyes. I touched it." "Well don't you worry your pretty head anymore," she said reassuringly. "I'll take care of the matter. John has better sense than to do a thing like that. Whatever you do," she warned, "don't say anything about this, to anyone—least of all to your father." Sarah promised. She envisioned what it would be like if he knew.

Mary couldn't settle down to her work until she had opened the drawer and verified the evidence. There it was in black and white. She closed the drawer quickly. A feeling of restless

uneasiness swept over her. She tried to put it out of her mind, but it kept coming back. "John is a good sensible boy," she kept reassuring herself. "He wouldn't do this. It's just that he has an inquiring mind, and I've always admired him for that." As Mary sat down to help grandma with the mending, grandma inquired, "What's bothering you, Mary? You look worried." "I'm just tired, Mama." But Mary was worried. She was recalling how much of late John had chosen to stay in his room. And he had been evasive occasionally, as to his whereabouts, when he had gone out lately. Maybe Sarah was right. Maybe John was thinking of joining the Mormons. "I must handle this tactfully," she vowed to herself.

The next evening, after a day of much praying for guidance, and after most of the family had retired, Mary knocked on John's door. His lamp still burned. "It's mother, John. May I come in?" "You're always welcome, Mother," he said, as he slid the book under his pillow. Mary pulled the chair near his bed. She held his manly hand and looked into his sun-tanned face and his honest blue eyes. "It's about that Book of Mormon, son." There was a moment of awkward silence. "You found it?" She nodded her head affirmatively. "I'm glad you found it. Have you read any of it?" he asked eagerly. "No, son." "You'll want to read it, mother. It's the most wonderful book I have ever read. I know it's true." "Now John," she said in a cautioning voice, "how do you know?" "Let me read you something," he said, turning the pages of the Book of Mormon searchingly. "Here it is, Moroni 10:4-5. Listen carefully to this promise, mother." He read: And when ye shall receive these things, I would exhort you that ye would ask God, the Eternal Father, in the name of Christ, if these things are not true; and if ye shall ask with a sincere heart, with real intent, having faith in Christ, he will manifest the truth of it unto you, by the power of the Holy Ghost. And, by the power of the Holy Ghost you may know the truth of all things.

"Mother, I have followed the Prophet Moroni's counsel. I have earnestly and sincerely prayed and I know it is true. If you would only read it, mother, I would be so happy. I'll put the book in the desk in the hall. Then you can read it whenever you get time. You better not let dad see it," he cautioned. "Mother," he said, full of enthusiasm, "you will find it so interesting, you won't be able to leave it alone. Say, Mother, I'll bet you didn't know that Jesus visited America after His crucifixion. Well, He did. It tells all about it in this book." John turned the pages to where he had it marked. He briefed his mother in on a few details surrounding the occasion: Jesus stood in the midst, he commanded the multitude that they should kneel down. "Let me read it to you. It is in III Nephi, Chapter 17:15-17: And when he had said these words, he himself also knelt upon the earth; and behold he prayed unto the Father, and the things which he prayed cannot be written, and the multitude did bear record who heard him. And after this manner do they bear record: The eye hath never seen, neither hath the ear heard, before, so great and marvelous things as we saw and heard Jesus speak unto the Father. And no tongue can speak, neither can there be written by any man, neither can the hearts of men conceive so great and marvelous things as we both saw and heard Jesus speak; and no one can conceive of the joy which filled our souls at the time we heard him pray for us unto the Father.

"How beautiful," she said. "I think I would like to read the Book of Mormon." "Don't forget Moroni's promise," John reminded, as she closed the door behind her. It was just as John had predicted. She couldn't leave it alone. Household tasks were neglected as she read aloud to her family. They listened first out of curiosity, but curiosity was soon replaced by enthusiastic desire. There was plenty of suspense, especially when they had to interrupt the story and quickly put the book back in the desk when Halmagh showed up unexpectedly.

They talked about the things they read with John. They began going to the meetings to learn more. They were greatly impressed with the Book of Mormon, the Gospel, and the missionaries. They were all convinced it was true. They decided to be baptized. Mary had not mentioned a thing about it to Halmagh. The children hadn't let a word of it slip in front of their father. The day for the important event arrived. The house was buzzing with activity as they made preparations. "What's going on?" demanded Halmagh. "What is this you folks are all so busy about?" Mary's heart began beating faster. Suddenly she felt as if a chill wind had flung open the door. "You seem to have some secret," said Halmagh sternly. Mary moistened her dry lips. "You see, Halmagh," she said apologetically. "I have been going to tell you, but it seems I just haven't had the opportunity." She lowered her eyes, straightened her skirt. "You are so opposed to religion. I meant to tell you before we went. You see, we have all decided to join the Mormons, if you don't object." "So you have been keeping me in the dark," he said in a very disappointed tone. Then a big smile wrinkled his face. "You are not the only one with a secret." His eyes twinkled merrily. "You see, I found John's book. I, too, have read the Book of Mormon. So if you will get my things ready, I will go with you. I want to be baptized also." Everyone was very much surprised but so happy and delighted. The children hugged and kissed their father. Mary, having recovered from the shock, now rushed into Halmagh's waiting arms. "You really want to be baptized?" "I was never more serious in my whole life," he said. "I know the truth when I hear it."

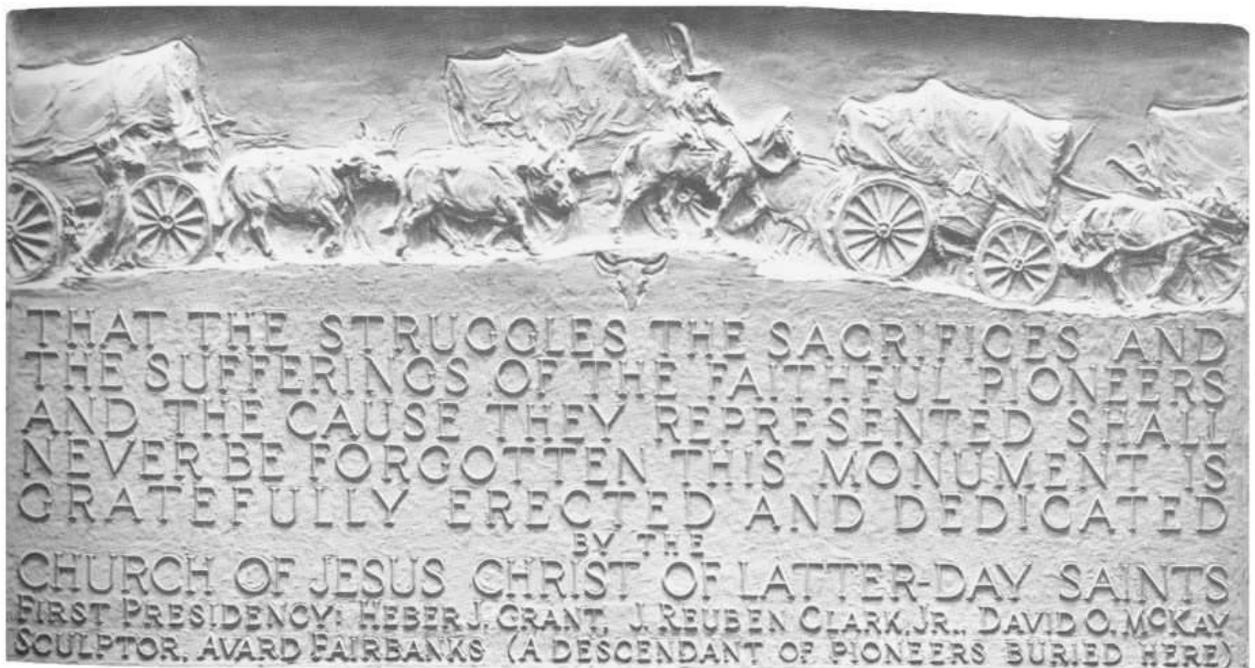
With a testimony of the truth, happy hearts and a wonderful feeling of unity, they stood as a family on 13 April 1844, by the waters of baptism, and Elder John Leach baptized each one into the Church, including Grandma Van Houten. Halmagh could see real value in the Gospel. He attended his meetings and was devoted to the Church. Halmagh was willing to make any sacrifice for the Church. In 1844, the Van Wagenen's desired to join the Saints in Nauvoo. "Halmagh and Polly sold their property in Wanaque to Peter Vandervoort, a relative of Halmagh's mother, for \$3,000, on 14 Nov 1845 and made the trek westward. (Family tradition is that they gave \$500 to the Church to help with the emigration of the Saints to Nauvoo.)

They weren't to stay in Nauvoo long though because of the religious persecution the Saints were suffering. On 25 April 1846, they left their home in the beautiful city of Nauvoo for the West, where they hoped to worship God according to their conscience. They crossed the Mississippi River in May and traveled with the Orson Hyde Company to Winter Quarters, near the present city of Omaha, Nebraska. Again they built a home and made their own furniture, beds, benches, tables, etc. However, "the following winter (1846-1847) was disastrous. An epidemic of cholera took over 600 lives and Halmagh and his wife Mary were among those who died. Mary died in October 1846 and Halmagh died on 4 December. They were laid to rest in the Pioneer Cemetery, on the bench above Winter Village. Their children went on to Utah, however, and raised up a noble posterity, full of faith and devotion and an honor to their courageous ancestors.

NOTE: The name Halmagh is descended from the Dutch name "Helmige" (with various spellings), which also meant Wilhelm in German or William in English, so these names that appear from generation to generation in this family are really the same. Therefore, it is little wonder Ann Van Wagoner named her first son "William" Henry Havens after her father, Halmagh.

MONUMENT BY AVARD FAIRBANKS (VAN WAGONER DESCENDANT)
TO THE COURAGEOUS SAINTS WHO GAVE THEIR ALL

In 1936 the First Presidency of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, dedicated a beautiful monument to the Mormon Pioneers, at Winter Quarters, now known as the Pioneer Memorial Cemetery, in Florence, Nebraska. It was erected to honor those faithful and courageous Saints who "gave their all" for the sake of the Gospel. The names of Halmagh Van Wagoner and Mary, his lovely wife, are among those inscribed on that monument. Shown below and on the succeeding page are pictures of this monument. Dr. Avard Fairbanks, the famous sculptor, who created this great monument, is the second great grandson of Halmagh and Mary Van Wagoner.



TRAGEDY AT WINTER QUARTERS MONUMENT



HARRIET ANN VAN WAGNER'S STORY

In Winter Quarters she met Henry Nebeker and they were married 4 Dec 1845. In February 1847, they began their journey west. Ann drove a covered wagon all the way across the plains. Most colonists who came the first year spent that winter in the stockade of the Old Fort in the southwest part of the city. It was enclosed on the east with log houses, the north and west sides had adobe walls. A large gate on the east was closed at night for protection from the Indians. The floors of the houses slanted inward, doors and windows faced the interior, but each house had a small hole for a look out. The first part of the winter was mild, but as time went on, heavy snows fell. Upon melting, they soaked through the roofs and descended in drizzling streams upon their beds and provisions. Umbrella's were often used while in bed, or held in one hand, while turning beef steak with the other. Situations were far from pleasant, especially during sickness. Swarms of bed bugs and mice infested the fort, while wolves prowled outside making the nights hideous and attacking the cattle on the range.

On 29 Feb 1848, her son Ammon was born in one of those leaky roofed houses. Pans were set on the quilts to catch the water while she gave birth. So, you can see she experienced her share of early Utah trials. They lived in Salt Lake City 4 years. George was also born there. In 1851, with 15 other families, they moved to Payson. However, since water there was scarce, they could not stay, so with David Crockett and John B. Fairbanks, they went to Salem and were the first settlers there. They helped build the Salem Dam and Salem Fort (built of adobe). In 1852 they returned to Payson. Three children were born there: Florence 1854, Susanah 1856, and Henry 1859. Henry Nebeker built a school house which still stands on the East of the Nebeker house, which marks the southeast boundary of the Old Fort. Henry also built a molasses mill west of the Ammon Nebeker home on Peteetneet creek. A man by the name of Wall, brought an Indian boy from the north and sold him to Mr. Nebeker for \$60. This Indian was adopted into the family and was liked and respected by all of them. He was named Cush.

In 1855, Henry Nebeker was one of 27 missionaries called to leave their homes for the purpose of serving a mission to the Bannoch, Shoshone, and Flathead Indians. They located on the Snake River. The Mission failed, for the 27 men were but a handful compared to the many Indians they worked with. They suffered many hardships so President Young ordered the men home.

Then, in 1867 or '68, Henry and his families responded to a Muddy River Mission call. He had become quite well established financially in Payson, but in making preparations for this mission most of his property went at a sacrifice. They made two trips to the Muddy. On the first one, they took a threshing machine. On the second, they took 11 mules and some horses. These were stolen by the Indians. On the Muddy, they had a fairly good home in the fort, built of adobe. A town corral, built of rocks, kept the cows from being taken by the Indians. Mr. Nebeker bought a cotton gin and hired Indians to pick the cotton, but this venture failed and President Young released the missionaries to go whenever they wanted. Ann Nebeker and her family returned to Payson, while Henry remained at the Black Holes on the Sevier River with a second family.

Through all Ann's trials and hardships, she remained a faithful and devoted Latter-Day-Saint. Two of her favorite maximums were "Every tub must stand on its own bottom," and "It is better to suffer wrong than to do wrong." She had high ideals and lived up to them. These characteristics stood out: Faith in God, respect for the priesthood, love for the scriptures, and reverence for sacred things. Her home life was a living example to family and friends.

THE MYSTERY OF THE MISSING SHEEPSKIN DEED

By Genevieve Van Wagenen

In 1964 family representatives from the descendants of John Halmagh Van Wagoner met in Salt Lake City, at the home of Loree Van Wagoner Orullian to make preparations for compiling and publishing a history of the Van Wagenen and Van Wagoner families. During this meeting the question arose as to what materials should be included. Many interesting and valuable items were suggested: Histories, pictures; the genealogy of our noble and courageous forebears was a must, as also was the delightful story of their conversion to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. "We must have a picture of the monument at Winter Quarters. The names of Mary Van Houten and Halmagh Van Wagoner, our valiant ancestors, are engraved on it. They are honored among those who made the supreme sacrifice for the Gospel." Everyone agreed that a picture of "The Tragedy at Winter Quarters" should be included.

Then someone said, "By all means the book should have a picture of the old sheepskin deed." "What sheepskin deed?" asked several. "The deed showing the purchase of land from the Indians by our early ancestors when they came to America," chorused several who had seen the deed, or heard of it. The sheepskin deed was truly a topic of interest and excitement. Those who had not seen it were curious, delighted, and anxious to hear all about this ancient legal document. Those who had seen it were just as eager to describe it and tell everything they remembered about the rare and unique deed. "The sheepskin deed was about the size of a piece of legal paper," said one. "It was smooth and white and pliable. It was rolled up like a parchment. The mark of the Indian Chief attesting to the sale was made in one corner." "I saw the deed once when I was just a kid," said another, "but if my memory serves me right, it was much larger and still had the wool on the back of the deed." There seemed to be a difference of opinion as to its description, but there was no doubt of its existence. "Where is the deed now?" everyone wanted to know. But nobody had any idea where the deed could be. Speculations were made and rumors aired. It had not been seen in many a long year. Several present were appointed to look into the matter. A search was begun. Inquiries were made, but the whereabouts of the sheepskin deed seemed to be a complete mystery. It was as if it had vanished into thin air. Time was running out. This intriguing deed seemed destined to remain a mystery. Our book would have to go to press without a picture or mention of it.

Then something wonderful occurred. Destiny stepped in, removed the mystery, and changed the story. In 1966, Lucile Smith of Monterey Park, California, came to Provo, Utah to attend a Smith family reunion. Lucile Smith is the grand-daughter of Hannah Van Wagoner Smith. Now Hannah was the eldest daughter of Mary Van Houten and Halmagh Van Wagoner. Our progenitor, John Halmagh Van Wagoner, was the brother of Hannah. In 1967, Lucile came to Salt Lake City to attend the October General Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. While in her motel one day, she was surprised when a representative of the Smith family from Provo called on her and brought a collection of family records and papers. These family valuables were entrusted to her care for one day only. As she began to examine them, there—before her very eyes, was the ancient sheepskin deed. A deed which was drawn up and written in 1684. She was thrilled at the sight of it. She was fascinated with the style of penmanship. The deed was neatly written in ink. There were places where the ink had faded with time, but most of it was clearly legible. Lucile was overjoyed. What a discovery she had made! Her first thought was to get in touch with Loree Van Wagoner Orullian, whom she knew was

inquiring after this ancient document. Lucile telephoned Loree. "I have the sheepskin deed-but only for a day. What shall I do with it?" Between gasps of amazement and pure delight Loree directed her to take the deed to Leland Van Wagoner, the photographer, and have him photograph it immediately. Leland's wife, Irene, fastened it in position to be photographed. Then, adjusting his lighting, Leland photographed this 283-year-old deed for our book. While Erol Wiscombe, who had brought the sheepskin, carefully read the deed, Irene typed the information word for word. So at last the mystery of the missing sheepskin deed was solved. It was only natural that the eldest daughter, Hannah, would be interested in preserving this ancient heirloom among her heirs. We are indebted to them for its safe keeping. We are grateful that the Lord opened the way so that the deed came into our hands long enough to be photographed, but the copy is almost unreadable, so here is what it said.

WORDING OF SHEEP SKIN DEED

This Indenture made the Twelfth Day of April Anno Domini One Thousand Seven hundred and Forty; - Between Cornelius Blinkerhoff in the County of Bergen and Province of East New Jersey, Yeoman, of the one part, and Helmech van Wagenen – of Bergen, in the County and Province aforesaid, Yoeman of the other part. – Witnesseth, that the said Cornelius Blinkerhof, for and in Consideration of the Sum of two Hundred Pounds Currant lawful money of the Colony of New-York, to me in hand paid, at and before the Ensealing and Delivery hereof, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged. Hath granted, bargained, Sold, and by those presents, doth grant, bargain, sell unto the said Helmech van Wagenen, his Heirs, Adminsrs and assignes, The Northerly part, the full half of all Tract or parcel of Land, Situate and being upon Pahaguess River in the County of Bergen aforesaid, being butted and bounded in manner following, viz., Beginning at a white oak marked K- - twelve notches on the side of a hill called Qannaqua hill, above the Indian burying place, thence west – fifteen Chains to a white oak Corner post Standing over a Run. Thence South forty-Seven Degrees West twenty chains to a Spanish Oak Corner, thence West fourteen Chains to a Corner post Standing on the west Side of Pahaguess River, on the edge or near the upper end of a plain, thence South twenty-three Degrees West in the plain thirty-five chains to a post thence South eighty Degrees, west Sixteen Chains an half to a white oak, and then more the same Course Eleven Chains to a white oak, thence South ten chains and an half to a black oak by a small run, thence South Seventy-three Degrees, easterly twenty-three Chains to a White Oak, thence South twenty-two Chains to a black oak for a Corner, thence South thirty Degrees Westerly twenty-eight Chains and an half to a black oak standing by a Small run of water, thence South Sixty-eight degrees, Easterly Sixteen chains to a maple standing by the fork of said Run where it runs into another run thence north fifty-five degrees Easterly, fifty-three Chains and across a hill and said Pahaguess River to a white oak for a corner, thence north twenty-three Degrees east Sixty-three Chains, thence north nine degrees east fifty-three Chains to the first mentioned Corner, to remain by Richard Ashfield his Line, the whole Tract of Land containing (besides allowance for highways) Six Hundred and twenty-five Acres, be it the same more or less, Which said Land was bought of Joseph Kirkbride, writings thereunto had, may more fully and at large appear. Likewise all my Right and Title, Claim and Demand, that I have in the Ceder-Swamp, bought of Doctor Johnson, writings thereunto had may at large appear. To have and to hold, the said granted and bargained, premises with all the Appurtinances, Priviledges and Commodities to the same belonging or in any wise appertaining, To him the said Helmech van Wagenen, his Heirs and assigns forever, to his and their own

proper use benefit and behoof for ever. And I the said Cornelius Blinkerhof, for me, my Heirs, Executors, Adminrs, do Covenant, promise and grant to and with the said Helmech van Wagenen, his Heirs, & Assigns, that before the Ensealing hereof, I am the true Sole and lawfull owner of the above bargained premises, and am lawfully seized and possessed of the same in mine own right, as a good perfect and absolute Estate of Inheritance, and have in myself good right, full power and lawful Authority, to grant, bargain, Sell, convey and confirm, said bargained premises in manner as above said. And that the said Helmech van Wagenen, his Heirs and Assigns, shall and may from time to time and all times for ever hereafter; by force and virtue of these presents, lawfully, peaceably, and quietly have, hold, use, occupy, possess and enjoy, the said demised and bargained premises with the Appurtinances free and clear and freely and clearly acquitted, exonerated and discharged of, from all and all manner of former and other gifts, grants, bargains, Sales, leases, Mortgages, Wills, Entails, joynters, Dowries, Judgments, Executions, Incumbrances and Extents (the Quitrents there unto Issuing to our Souveraign Lord the King, if any be, only excepted) furthermore, I the said Cornelius Blinkerhof, for my Self, my Heirs, Excutors, Administrators, do Covenant and Engage the above demised premises to him the said Helmech van Wagenen his Heirs and Assigns, against the Lawfull Claims and Demands of a any person or persons whatsoever, for ever hereafter to warrant, secure and defend. In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal the Day and Year above Written.

Signed, Sealed and delivered

his

in presence of,

Cornelius C B Blinkerhof

mark

DIRECT LINE ANCESTRY OF JOHN HALMAGH VAN WAGONER

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth Date</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>	<u>Married</u>	<u>Death Date</u>
1. Gerrit Gerritsen	abt. 1632	Holland,	Married in Holland,	Bur. 6 April 1703
Annetje Hermansse		Holland		7 Sept 1696

Children:

2. Catryna Gerretsenabt 1656 Holland
3. Gerrit Gerritsen (Van Wagenen) Chr. 1658 Holland 9 Oct 1732
4. Jannetje Gerretsen (VanWagenen) 19Mar 1662 Bergen, N.J.
5. Fytje Gerretsen (Van Wagenen) 30 Dec 1663 Bergen, N.J. 19 May 1734
6. Hermanus Gerretsen (VanWagenen) 10Mar1667 chr. Bergen, N.J.
7. Aeltje Gerretsen (Van Wagenen) 14 Apr 1672 Bergen, N.J. 22 Dec 1754
8. Hendrick Gerretsen (Van Wagenen) 22 Oct 1675 chr. Bergen, N.J. 20 Dec 1758 w.p.
9. x Johannes Van Wagenen 11 Jan 1678 Bergen, N.J. 30 Sep 1756

9. Johannes Gerritse Van Wagenen, 11 Jan 1678, Bergen, N.J., Mar. 4 Nov 1703

Catalyntie Helmigse Van Houten 6 Sep 1777

Children: Bergen, N.J.

10. Antje Van Wagenen 6 Sep 1705 Bergen, N.J.
- 11.x Helmig Van Wagenen 18 Feb 1708 Bergen, N.J.
12. Gerret Van Wagenen 7 Oct 1710 Bergen, N.J.
13. Cornelius Van Wagenen 22 Nov 1713 Bergen, N.J.
14. Johannes Van Wagenen 1715 Bergen, N.J.
15. Jacob Van Wagenen 1717 Bergen, N.J.
16. Antje Van Wagenen Bergen, N.J. 25 Jan 1749
17. Jannetje Van Wagenen 22 Feb 1721 Bergen, N.J.

11. Helmig J. Van Wagenen 18 Feb 1708 Bergen, N.J., mar. 26 Sep 1735

Maritie Brinkerhoff 27 Feb 1709 Bergen, N.J.

Children: Bergen, N.J.

18. Aaffie Van Wagenen 8 Aug 1737 Bergen, N.J. 19 Oct 1749

19. Catalyntie Van Wagenen 25 Dec 1738 Bergen, N.J.

20. Maritie Van Wagnene (twin) 7 Apr 1741 chr. Bergen, N.J.

21. Antje Van Wagenen (twin) 7 Apr 1741 Bergen, N.J.

22. Cornelius Van Wagenen 1 Apr 1744 chr. Bergen, N.J.

23. Jacob Van Wagenen abt 1742 N.J. 4 Oct 1749

24.x John H. Van Wagenen 27 Apr 1746 chr. Shralbg. N.J. w. adm. 23 Sep 1797

25. Cathryn Van Wagenen after 1 Feb 1787

24. John Halmagh Van Wagenen 27 Apr 1746 Schralb, N.J. m. 18 Sep 1786 w.adm.23 Sep 1797

Ann Van Devort 17 Nov 1768

29 Jan 1840

Children: 26. Anna Van Wagenen 5 Dec 1786 Pompton, N.J.

27.x Halma Van Wagenen 21 Nov 1788 Pompton, N.J. Jan 1847

29. Bridget Van Wagenen 1790 Pompton, N.J.

27. Halma J. Van Wagenen 21 Nov 1788 Pompton, N.J. m. 22 Dec 1810

Jan 1847

Mary (Polly) Van Houten 24 Feb 1793 Pompton, N.J. 4 Oct 1846

Children: 30.x John Halma Van Wagoner 1 Sep 1811 Pompton, N.J. 29 June 1886

31. Henry Van Wagoner 1813 Pompton, N.J. abt 1840

32. Hanna Van Wagoner 4 Apr 1815 Pompton, N.J. 26 Oct 1901

33. Ann Van Wagoner 25 Mar 1817 Pompton, N.J. 1891

34. Sarah Van Wagoner 11 July 1822 Pompton, N.J. 8 Feb 1898

Section 2

THE VAN HOUTEN FAMILY

VAN HOUTEN ORIGINS

The progenitor of the Van Houten family of Totowa NJ is generally considered to have been Roelof Cornelissen. However, there are different stories regarding his origin. Here are some:

From the book *Genealogical History of Hudson and Bergen Counties NJ and NY* we read: “Boele Roelfosen Joncker, a native of the Province of Gelderland, Holland, and his wife and four children, besides his wife’s sister and a boy, came to America in Feb 1659 and settled at New Amsterdam. His wife’s surname was Teunis. The names of the children he brought with him were Halmagh, Cornelis, Teunis, and Matilda, and after his arrival in New York he had two more children baptized: Henry, 6 Feb 1661, and Catharine 8 Oct 1662. Roelofsen’s children after his death removed to and settled at Bergen NJ. Halmagh married 3 Sep 1676 Jannetje Peters, a daughter of Peter Merselis, of Beest Holland. Cornelis married 14 Nov 1677, Magdalena Rynses Van Giesen. Teunis married 8 Jan 1678, Catharine Claes Kuyper (Cooper). Matilda married 22 Jul 1683, John Hendricks. No further mention is made of the other two children. Halmagh’s children, baptized at Bergen, were ten: Roelof, Peter, (NOTE: We descend through this Peter) Cornelus, Catelyntie, Jacob, Dirck, Geertie, Elizabeth, John and Jannetie. These all remained at Bergen, where their descendants are very numerous. Cornelius went to Aquackanonck, where, on 16 Mar 1684, he and several others purchased and settled on a large tract known as the Aquackanonck (Passaic) patent. His children were Grietie, Roelof, Rynier, Drickie, John, and Cornelius. These remained at Passaic, and their descendants are numerous in Passaic County and in the western and northern parts of Bergen County. Teunis removed to Rockland County NY (then Orange County) where he purchase lands and located, and where he became somewhat noted. In 1689 he was a Justice for Orange County and the same year he was a member of the Committee of Safety to deal with the treason of Governor Leisler at New York. He had 13 children, some baptized at Bergen, some New York, and some at Tappan. Their names were Grietie, Rolof, Ann, Claes, Jannetie, Vroutie, Cornelia, John, Vroutie, Elizabeth, Pietartie, Grietie, and Anetie. Many of these married and their descendants spread over Rockland County NY and southward into Bergen County NJ.”

From the book *Passaic County and its Environs*, we read, “There is no record of him prior to 1638, when Roelof Cornelissen Van Houten was among emigrants that year to Rensselaerwyck. The records show that four brothers—Roelof, Pieter, Helmigh and Theunis, all sons of Cornelis somebody—came to New Netherlands between 1638 and 1650, settling in various places, but ultimately taking up their abodes at Amesfoort, Long Island. Their descendants took different surnames. Under date of 13 Jan 1657, the schepens of Amesfoort assessed Roelof Cornelissen ten florins. His wife was Gerritje Van Nes, but there is no record to show where either of them came from before their emigration to America. Their children in their later years sometimes assumed the name Van Houten which might indicate that Roelof was from Houten, a village in the southeastern part of the province of Utrecht in Holland. The children of Roelof Cornelissen and Gerritje Van Nes were three sons and a daughter, Geesje, who became the wife of Lubbert Lubberts in (Westervelt).”

From *A Historical Sketch of the County of Passaic NJ* we read. “In 1648, Roelof Cornelissen was a Dutch soldier on Manhattan Island, and quarreling with his Corporal wounded that officer, for which he was sentenced ‘to ride the wooden horse two hours a day for three days, with a ten-pound weight fastened to each foot, to pay the surgeon’s bill, and to forfeit six months’ wages.’ Now it is quite likely that this disgrace befell Roelof because he had become excessively frisky

over the birth of an heir, Hellemeg (or Helmig), on 25 Jun, to himself (Roelof) and his wife Gerritje Van Nes. (NOTE: We descend through this son.) In 1651, they had another child, Cornelis, the Acquackanonk patentee, who married at Bergen, 14 Nov 1677, Magdaleena Van Giesen and had 7 children—Grietje, Roelof, Rynier, Hendrick, Dirckje, Johannis, and Cornelis. His wife appears to have been a daughter of Rynier and sister of Bastiaen Van Giesen, the names Rynier, Hendrick and Dirckje being common in that family in the 17th century. He died prior to 1711. His son, Roelof Cornelisse, took the surname van Houten, perhaps because some of his ancestors came from the pleasant village of Houten, now a notable place of 1050 inhabitants, in Utrecht, Holland. He married Jannetje Spijr, and between 1715 and 1727 seven children were born unto him—Helena, Cornelis, Johannes, Jacob, Maria, Henricus and Abraham. He owned and doubtless lived on a plot of land in Passaic, at the corner of Monroe and Grove streets.

From “**The Van Houten Manuscripts**”, by Judge Gerrebrandt Van Houten, we read, “Hellemeg (Helmigh), first child of Roelof Cornelisse and Gerritje Van Nes, was baptized 25 Jun 1648 and later bought Lot 2 at Sloomerdam in 1696. He married Jannetje Pieterse, 3 Sep 1676, and died 7 Oct 1729, leaving the following children:

1. Roelof, baptized 13 Jun 1677; m. 1st Angtje Cornelisse Vreeland on 21 Apr 1710; and 2d, Fietje Sickels, 15 Dec 1711.
2. Pieter, b. 23 Jan 168_; m. Claertje Post, 8 Apr 1703. He settled Sloomerdam, his father conveying him Lot 2. Some of his children settled in the neighborhood of the Ponds and Wanaque. (NOTE: We descend through this individual.)
3. Cornelis, b. 21 Mar 1682; m. Aagtje Johannisse Vreeland, 19 Apr 1711; d. 4 Oct 1748.
4. Catelyntje, b. 17 Feb 1685; m. Johannis Gerritsen, 4 Nov 1703.
5. Jacob, b. 11 Oct 1687; m. Marijtje Sickels 10 Jun 1718
6. Dirck, b. 11 Oct 1687 (twins); m. Metje Gerrebrantse, 27 Sep 1711. By deed of 26 Sep 1715, Henry Brockholst conveyed to him a ¼ interest in a tract of land at Totowa, bought by him from Samuel Bayard on 30 Sep 1703. The will of Dirck Van Houten is dated 16 May 1769 and was proved 16 Dec 1769.
7. Gerritje, b. 7 Jan 1691; m. Arie Sip, 19 Apr 1711.
8. Lysbet, b. 16 Oct 1693; m. Johannis Post, 8 Oct 1714.
9. Johannes, b. 28 Oct 1696; m. Helena Johannisse Vreeland, 17 Jun 1719
10. Jannetje, b. 2 Nov 1699; m. Michiel Cornelisse Vreeland, 23 Oct 1718.
11. Robert, b. _____; m. Elizabeth Post; will dated 11 Apr 1782.

PURCHASE OF THE TOTOWA PATENT

From the same source: “The western part of Manchester, including Totowa, was originally patented in 1686 to George Willocks, one of the Proprietaries, and was sold prior to 1710 to Anthony Brockhoist, Helmegh Roelofse, and Roelef Helmeghse—whom we should nowadays call Halmagh or ‘Ham’ Van Houten and Ralph Van Houten. This was called the Totowa Patent, and extended from the Passaic river back to the hills—the line of the Pacquanac Patent—and from Hamburg Avenue northwesterly three and a quarter miles, to about opposite the mouth of the Peckman river. It was divided into three parcels—Lots 1, 2, and 3; the Van Houtens took No. 1, and in 1724 bought No. 2 also. In 1768, the heirs of Brockhoist sold No. 3, or what remained of it, to Garrebrandt Van Houten, Marte Ryerse, Holmer Van Houten and Abraham Godwin. A part of it, including the Great Falls, had been previously sold to Bastiaen Van Giesen, whose

sister had married Cornelius Roelofsen Van Houten. When Van Giesen made his will, by the way, he provided for all his ten children before he thought about the Falls, and then gave them all an equal interest in it, for fishing—that being its only value a century ago! These Totowa Van Houtens appear to have first settled at Slooterdam, in Bergen county. They were active, enterprising men, and made the most of their purchase. They were foremost in the school and in the church, and until the Totowa church was formed, in 1754, were almost invariably represented in the Acquackanonk Consistory. They and the Ryersons intermarried more than a century ago, and those two families could always control affairs in their neighborhood. It is but just to say their rule was acceptable to their fellow citizens.

From the book “**The Van Houten Manuscripts**”, by **Judge Gerrebrandt Van Houten**, we read “Some time prior to 1710, Helmigh Roelofse and his son, Roelof Helmighse, became owners of an equal undivided one-third of the Totowa patent; the other two-thirds belonged to Major Anthony Brockhoist, of Pompton. This patent extended from the present Clinton Street, in the city of Paterson, up the Passaic River to a big rock opposite the mouth of the Peckamin River, a distance of about three miles and a half, and from the river westerly to the mountain. By deed dated 4 May 1722, this great tract was partitioned into three lots—Lot No. 1, the most southwesterly, was released to Roelof Helmighse Van Houten and his brother, Jacob Helmighse Van Houten. By deed dated 29 Oct 1724, the heirs of Major Brockhoist conveyed to Dirck Van Houten, brother of Roelof and Jacob, what appears to have been Lot 2, a tract of 313 acres next east of Lot No. 1, for 312 pounds. (NOTE: Our direct line descends through a brother of Roelof, Jacob and Dirck—Pieter Helmighse Van Houten.)

According to the website users.crocker.com, our ancestor Pieter was reportedly born on 23 Jan 1680, at Bergen NJ, and baptized 8 Feb 1680 at the Reformed Dutch Church of New York. Wit: Merselis Pieterszen and Niesje Pieters. On 8 Apr 1703, at the Reformed Dutch Church of Bergen (with banns published 21 Mar 1703) he married Claretje (Claasje) Post, b. 4 Dec 1681, in Pompton Plains, Morris Co., NJ, a daughter. of Adrian Post and Catrintje Gerrits Van Wagenen. Rev. Vreedeman from Schoonechte performed the ceremony. Both were recorded as being from Bergen. He was elected a deacon by the united consistories of Hackensack and Acquackanonk in May 1710, and an elder on 26 May 1720.

THE MERSELIS FAMILY CONNECTION TO VAN WAGENENS

The Historical Sketch of the County of Passaic New Jersey states, “The Merselis family is another very old one in New Jersey history and the first of the family in this country was Peter Marselis (or Merselis), who, on 9 May 1661, sailed from Amsterdam Holland, in the ship Beaver and arrived at New Amsterdam, Manhattan Island, on 29 July. He settled, with his wife, four children, and two servants, in Bergen, where his wife died 1 Aug 1680. He died 4 Sep 1682. On 20 Aug 1682, he conveyed property to his son-in-law, Helmigh Roeloff Van Houten (NJ Historical Soc. Vol. I, No. 1, 3rd Series, 1896). He was said to be from Leerdam Holland. John Neafie says he might have been born in Leerdam, but when he came to America, he was from the village of Beest, near the town of Buren, in the province of Gelderland, where at least three of his children were born.

“Peter Marselis’s four children, when he arrived in this country, were aged 13, 6, 4 and 2 years. The name and sex of the first we do not know. The second was called Marcelis, always known as Mercelis Pieterse. The third was Jannetje Pieterse, who 3 Sep 1676, married Roelof Helmigse Van Houten. The fourth was Neesje Pieterse, who married Gerrit Gerritson, Jr. on 11 May 1681 (another relative of ours). He reportedly held property in Preakness.”

SWEARING ALLEGIANCE REQUIREMENTS

County officials in the reign of King George II had to subscribe to set oaths, which sounds a bit strange to us in America. In the book Joannes Nevius, Schepen and 3rd Secretary of New Amsterdam, are two 1775 oaths that were required and the list of subscribers taking the oaths.

Allegiance to the King

“I do heartily and sincerely acknowledge, profess, testify, and declare, in my conscience, before God and the world, that our sovereign lord, King George the Second, is lawful and rightful king of Great Britain and all other his Majesty’s dominions and countries thereunto belonging. and I do solemnly and sincerely declare, and I do believe in my conscience, that the person pretending to be the Prince of Wales during the life of the late King James, or since his decease, pretending to assume to himself the title of King of England, by the name of James the Third, or James the Eighth, or the full title of the King of Great Britain, or by any right or title whatever to the crown of Great Britain, or any other dominions thereunto belonging; and I do renounce, refuse, and abjure any and all allegiance or obedience to him; and I do swear that I bear faithful and true allegiance to his Majesty King George the Second, and him will defend to the utmost of my power against all traitorous conspiracies or attempts whatsoever to be made against his person, crown, or dignity, and I will do my utmost endeavors to disclose and make known to his Majesty and his successors all treasons and traitorous conspiracies which I shall know to be against him or them; and I do faithfully promise to the utmost of my power to uphold and defend the sacredness of the crown against him, the said James, under any title whatsoever; which succession, by an act entitled ‘An act for the succession of the crown and the better securing the rights and liberties of the subjects,’ is limited to the Princess Sophia, electress and duchess dawager (sp) of Hanover, and the heirs of her body, being Protestants. And all these things I do plainly and sincerely acknowledge and swear according to the express words by me spoken, and according to the plain sense and understanding of the same, without any equivocation, mental evasion, or secret reservation whatsoever. And I do make this recognition, acknowledgment, abjuration, renunciation, and promise heartily, willingly, and truly, upon the true faith of a Christian. So help me God.

Abjuration of the Papacy

“I do swear that I do from my heart abhor, detest, and abjure as impious and heretical that damnable doctrine and position that princes excommunicated by the Pope or any authority of the See of Rome may be deposed or murdered by their subjects or any other Catholics; and I do promise that no foreign prince, person, prelate, or potentate shall or ought to take any

jurisdiction, superiority, pre-eminence, or authority, either ecclesiastical or civil, within the realm of Great Britain. So help me God.”

Names of Persons Taking Those Two Oaths

William Kingsland, Arent Schuyler, Johnnes Van Houten, Michael Vreelandt, John Cardan, Isaac Kingsland, Jost Van Roskirk, Walingh Van Winkel, Johannes Bougart, Philip Schuyler, Jan Van Orden, Jacobus Wynkoop, Pieter Bogert, George Reyerse, Jr., Roeleff Van Der Linder, Theunis Day, Simon Vreeland, Albert Zabriskie, Jacobus Van Buskirk, Abraham Leydecker, Jacob Horne, Jacob Van Nostrand, Jr., Luke Reyerse, Albert Berdan, Jacob Sitson, Ardsen Kersoris, Garret Hollenbck, John Schuyler, William J. Kingsland, Jacob, his son, Isaac Kingsland, Jacob Van Buskirk, Helmage Van Houte(n), Abraham Gottvenier, Isaac Schuyler, Jacobus Van Winkel, Johannes Vreelandt, Gerge Vreelandt, Jan Terhuyn, Hendrick Doremus, Johannes Reyerse, Johannes Bougart, Pieter Demarest, Sorens Jan Van Buskirk, David Van Buskirk, Henry Van Dalinda, Cornelius Wynkoop, Roelef Van Houten, Derick Cuyper, George Reyorse, Johannes Post, Rejof Lyndaker, Abrahm Ackerman, Michael Noorland, David Demarest, Timothy Ward, Henry Van De Linda, Jacoben Wyckoff, Pieter Post, David Terhuyn, Samuel Bogert, James Board, Peter Schuyler, John Berdan, Jacob Magel, Johannes Van Houten, Johannes Wagner, Roelef Westervelt, Hendrick Yeshopp, Abraham Dirick, Dirick Guysen, Peter Marsetin, Jansen Post, Jacobus Buck, Reynier V. Giere, Timothy Moore, Jr., Jacob Mead, Johannes Reyerse, Dirick Cuyper, Samuel Moore, Jacob Dobson, Cornelius Bogert, Houseus Van Buskirk, Casparus Schuyler, Simon Juland, William Van Emburgh, Johannes Demarest, Ephanus Van Horne, Wabigh Van Buskirk, Peter Bogert, Rydsley Jecken, Jacobus Jeter, Isaac Kingsland. ‘Qualified as Vendue master this 22d May, 1755, before me’ John Schuyeler”

OTHER HISTORICAL VAN HOUTEN ANECDOTES

From the book *A Historical Sketch of Passaic Co.*, by William Nelson, we read “October 7, 1780, the American army, then at Newburg, was ordered to Totowa, one column, under command of Lord Stirling, marching through Paramus, where the headquarters were established the next day, and orders given to repair the road thence to ‘Totoway Bridge’. On the 9th, the headquarters were established at Totowa, where they remained for six weeks. The main army was encamped at the foot of Preakness mountain, extending along for two or three miles, General Washington being quartered in a fine brick house still standing, a mile or two west of Paterson, in what was long known as the ‘Hogencamp house,’ although he occasionally passed a night with some of the Van Houtens of Totowa.

From the book *Joannes Nevius, Schepen and Third Secretary of New Amsterdam*, we find this interesting story: “Cornelius Neafie and his brother-in-law, Robert Van Houten, were on their way to Bergen, or New York, in the Revolutionary War period, about 1781 or 1782, and were unarmed. When, near the Hackensack River, they were confronted by three negroes, supposed to have been slaves of Cornelius Neafie, who were armed with guns. Van Houten was permitted to enter the boat and when half way across heard the sound of the guns. He made his way quickly as possible to Bergen Hill and brought back help to the scene of the shooting, where it was found that Neafie had been tied to a tree and shot to death. The negroes were tracked to

Hackensack, captured and brought back to the place where Neafie was murdered, where they were all hung to the same tree, without any form of trial. The act is supposed to have been inspired by Tories.”

LIST OF MAJOR SOURCES USED

Historical Sketch of the County of Passaic New Jersey, especially of the first settlements and settlers, by William Nelson, 1877

History of Bergen Co. NJ., New Jersey Publishing Co., 1900

Genealogical History of Hudson and Bergen Counties NJ and NY, by Cornelius Burnham, Genealogical Publishing Co., 1900

Pre-revolutionary Dutch Houses in Northern New Jersey and Southern New York, W. Morrow and Co., 1936

History of Passaic and Its Environs: historical, biographical, Lewis Historical Pub. Co., 1922

Joannes Nevius, Schepen and Third Secretary of New Amsterdam Under The Dutch, First Sec. Under the English, and his Descendants, AD 1627-1900, Honeyman 1900

The Van Houten Manuscripts by Judge Gerrebrandt Van Houten, Patterson New Jersey, 1894

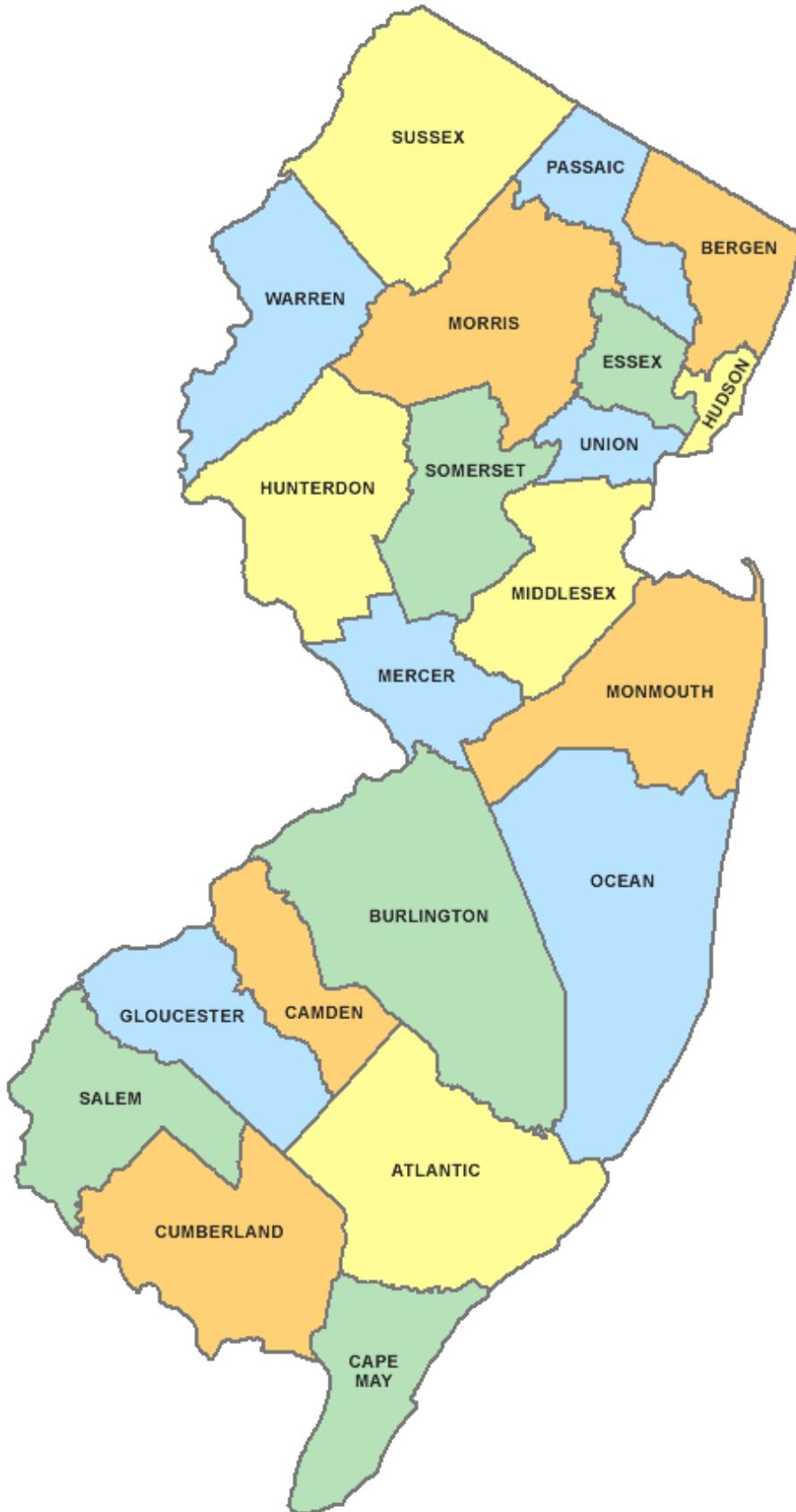
The Van Houten Family of Bergen NJ, JJ Little & Co. NY, 1897

History of Passaic and Its Environs, Lewis Historical Pub. Co. NY, 1922

Jersey City and Its Historical Sites, by the Jersey City Women's Club, 1899

The Vans, Van Wagenen = Van Wagoner, 1630 to 1969, by the John Halmagh Van Wagoner Organization

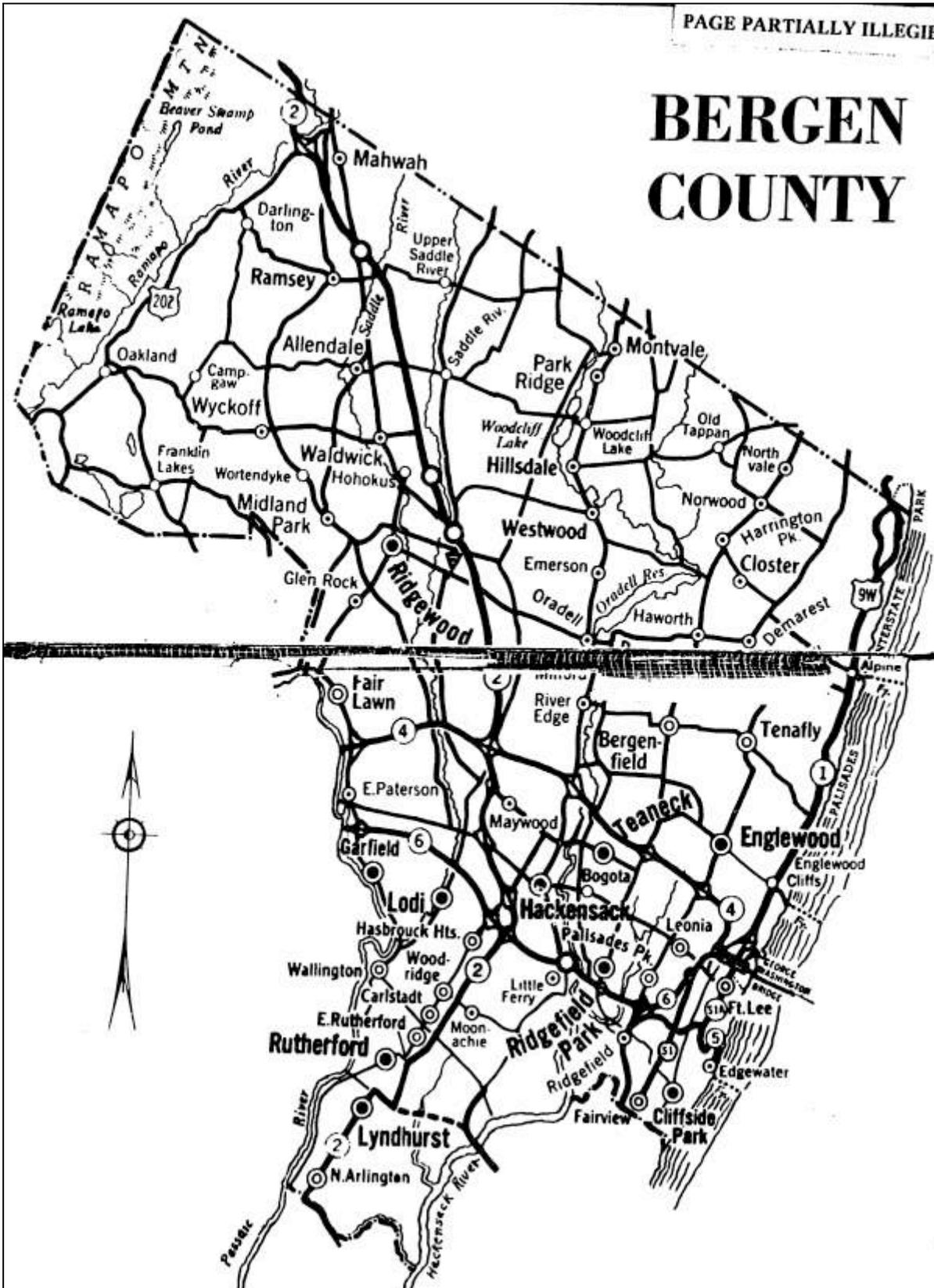
2010 COUNTY MAP OF NEW JERSEY



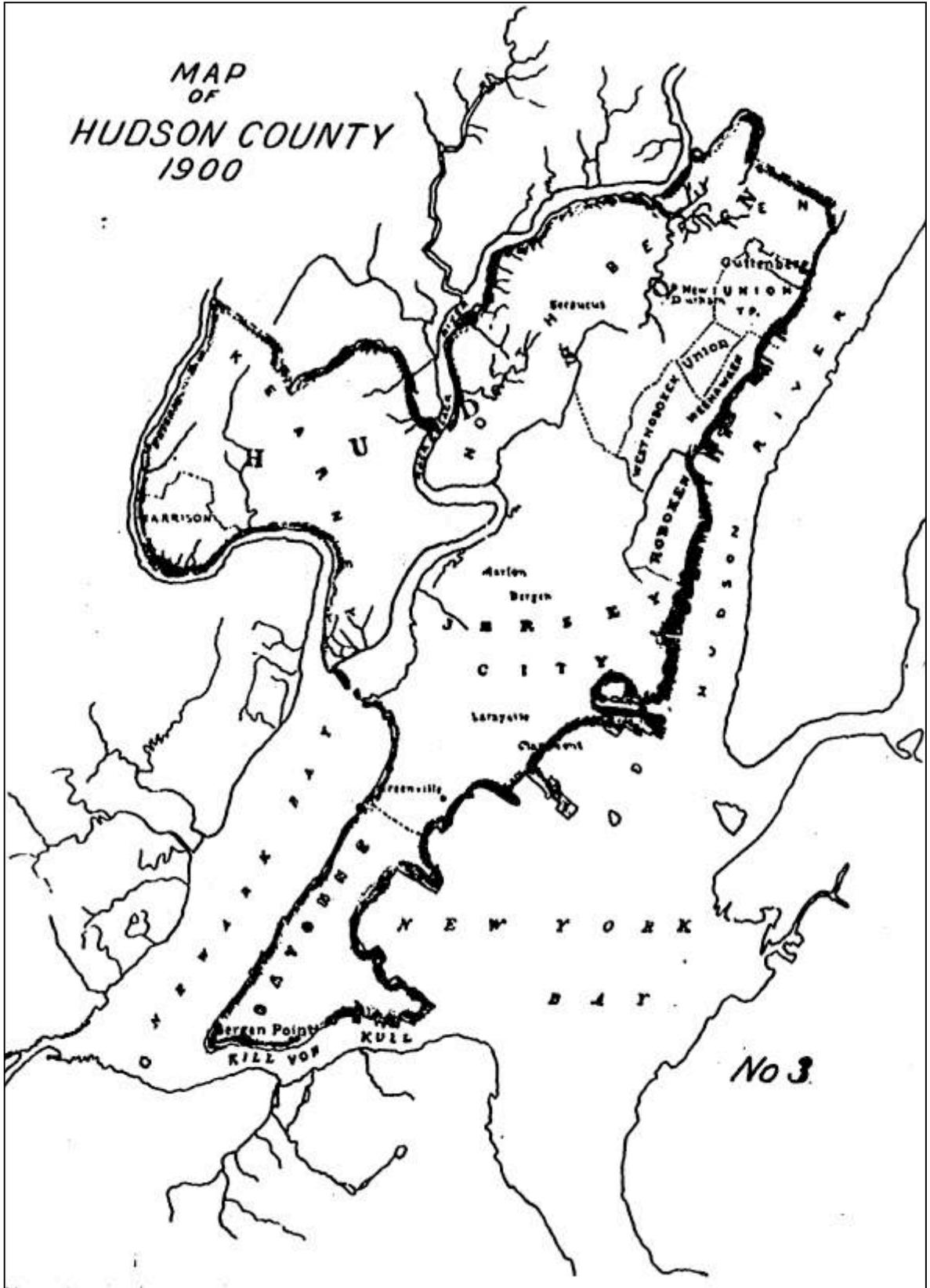
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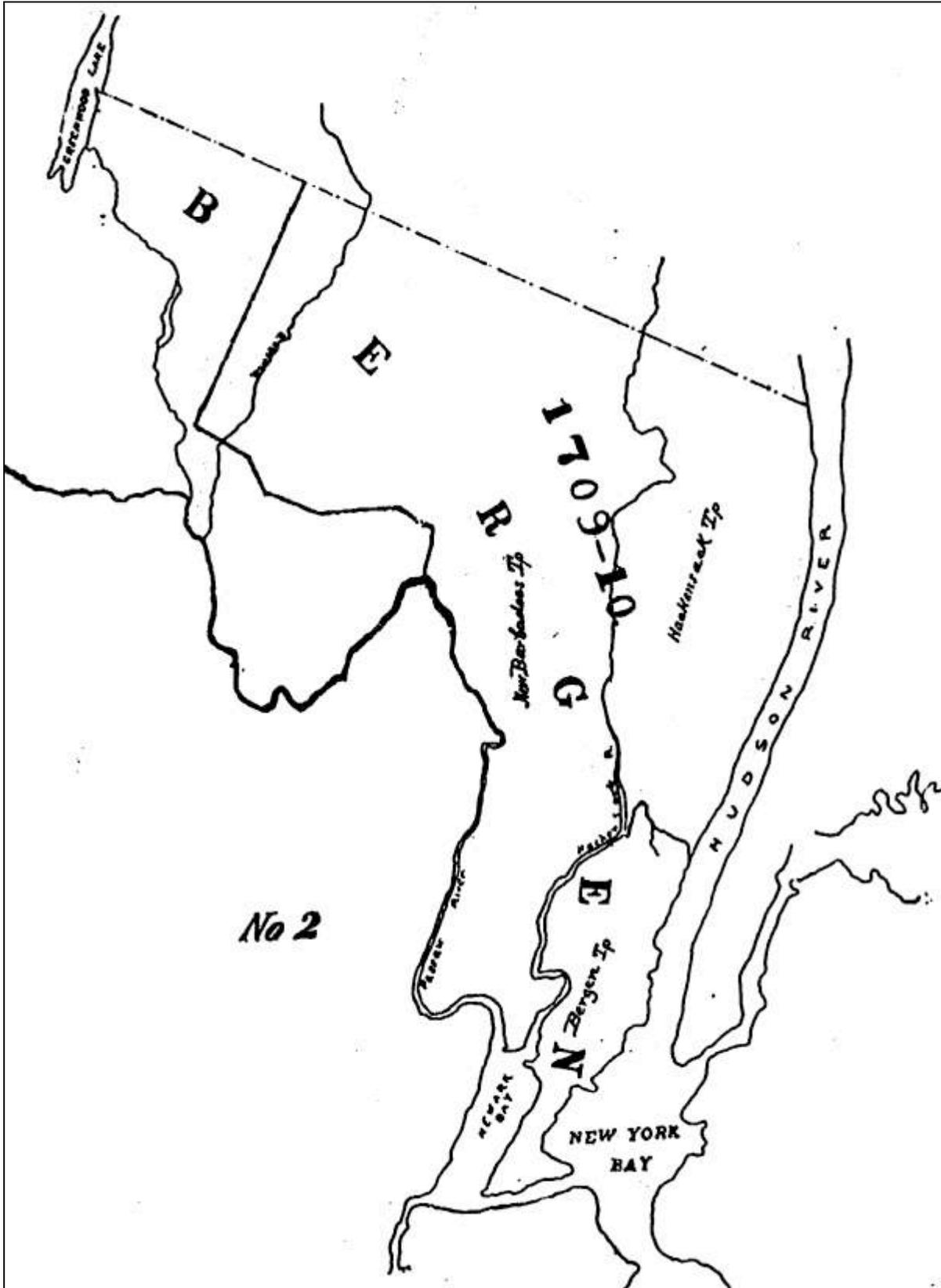
BERGEN COUNTY



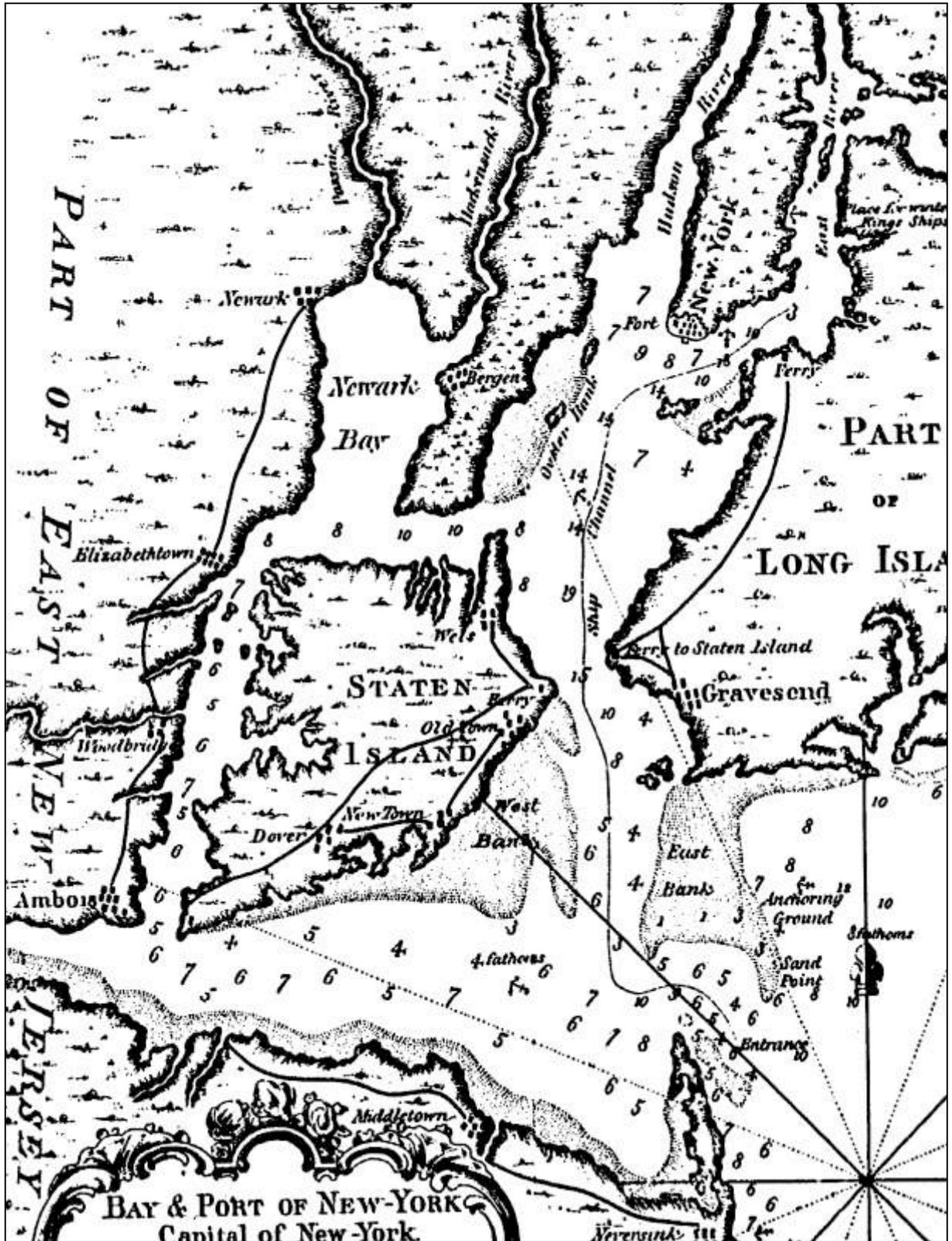
1900 MAP OF HUDSON COUNTY NEW JERSEY



1710 MAP OF BERGEN COUNTY NEW JERSEY



1764 MAP OF NEWARK BAY



Pedigree Chart

Chart no. 1

Completed Ordinances:

- B** Baptized
- E** Endowed
- P** Sealed to parents
- S** Sealed to spouse
- C** Children's ordinances

2 Halmagh John Van Wagoner

B: 21 Nov 1788 **BEPS**
P: Wynockie, Passaic, New Jersey, USA
M: 22 Dec 1810
P: Fairfield, Bergen, New Jersey, USA
D: 4 Dec 1846
P: Winter Quarters, Douglas, Nebraska, USA

C

1 Harriet Ann Van Wagoner

B: 25 Mar 1817 **BEPSC**
P: Pompton, Bergen, New Jersey, USA
M: 4 Jan 1847
P: Winter Quarters, Douglas, Nebraska, USA
D: 26 Jul 1899
P: Payson, Utah, Utah, USA

Henry Nebeker (Twin)

(Spouse of no. 1)

3 Mary (Polly) van Houten

B: 24 Feb 1788 **BEPS**
P: Wanaque, Passaic, New Jersey, USA
D: 4 Oct 1846
P: Winter Quarters, Douglas, Nebraska, USA

4 Johan (John) van Wagenen

B: 27 Apr 1746 **BEPS**
P: Schraalenburgh, Bergen, NJ, USA
M: 18 Sep 1786
P: Wynockie, Passaic, New Jersey, USA
D: 15 Nov 1811
P: Wynockie, Passaic, New Jersey, USA

5 Johanna (Ann) van Dervort

B: 17 Nov 1768 **BEPS**
P: Wynockie, Passaic, New Jersey, USA
D: 29 Jan 1840
P: Rockaway, Morris, New Jersey, USA

6 John Pieterse van Houten

B: 7 Jul 1763 **BEPSC**
P: Pompton Plains, Morris, New Jersey, USA
M: 28 Feb 1783
P:
D: 17 Oct 1814
P: Pompton Plains, Morris, New Jersey, USA

7 Annatje (Hannah) Roome

B: 6 Aug 1767 **BEPS**
P: Pequannock, Morris, New Jersey, USA
D: 17 Jan 1846
P: Pompton Plains, Bergen, NJ, USA

8 Helmigh Johannis van Wagenen

B: 18 Feb 1707
P: Wynockie, Passaic, New Jersey, USA
M: 26 Sep 1735
P: Bergen, Bergen, New Jersey, USA
D: 19 Jul 1747
P: Wanaque, Passaic, New Jersey, USA

9 Marritje Blinkerhof

B: 26 Feb 1709
P: Bergen, Bergen, New Jersey, USA
D: 21 Jul 1793
P: Wanaque, Passaic, New Jersey, USA

10 David van Dervort

B: 28 Dec 1741 **BEPSC**
P: Tappan, Orange, New Jersey, USA
M: 18 Mar 1763
P:
D:
P:

11 Briget Remsen

B: 23 Mar 1742 **BEPSC**
P: Hampstead, Swamp, New York, USA
D:
P:

12 Pieter Adrian van Houten

B: 8 Mar 1736 **BEPSC**
P: ,, New Jersey, USA
M: 20 Oct 1755
P: ,, New Jersey, USA
D: 28 Mar 1820
P: , Tompkins, New York, USA

13 Rachel Lein or Lyne

B: Abt 1738 **BE SC**
P: of, Passaic, New Jersey, USA
D: 20 Jul 1801
P: , Tompkins, New York, USA

14 Paulus Roome

B: Abt 1741 **BEPSC**
P: of Pompton Plains, Morris, New Jersey, USA
M: 12 Oct 1766
P:
D: 3 Jun 1771
P: Pompton Plains, Morris, New Jersey, USA

15 Sarah (or Saartie) Kidney

B: Abt 1745 **BEPS**
P: of Belleville, Essex, New Jersey, USA
D:
P:

Pedigree Chart

No. 1 on this chart is the same as no. 8 on chart no. 1

Completed Ordinances:

- B** Baptized
- E** Endowed
- P** Sealed to parents
- S** Sealed to spouse
- C** Children's ordinances

