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The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record

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The first two articles in this issue illustrate once again the value to early New York genealogy of the extensive 17th century records that survive in the Netherlands. In his first contribution to the RECORD, Chris Brooks takes us step by step through his discovery of the parentage of Pieter Pietersen of Kingston, founder of the Ostrander family, and of his sister Tryntje Pieters, wife of Hendrick Albertsen Ploegh. Refuting the origin previously claimed, he shows that they came to New Netherland from Amsterdam with their mother and stepfather Arent Teunissen Pier, and that their father, who had died in Amsterdam, was from Nordstrand in Schleswig-Holstein.

Also drawing on Dutch archives, John Dobson has compiled the story of Joseph Margetts, an Englishman who became a diamond-cutter in the Netherlands. Dobson recreates Margetts' years in Amsterdam and his large family, including daughter Catharina who married Adriaen Hegeman and settled in Midwout (Flatbush), Long Island.

Families with common surnames can be the bane of genealogists. Over the past few years Gale Ion Harris, F.A.S.G., has been sorting out the numerous colonial Harris families, in a series of exemplary articles in the RECORD and other journals. In this issue we begin his reconstruction of the family of Robert Harris of Connecticut, whose sons moved into New York's Hudson Valley and left many descendants.

Barbara Barth concludes her study of the Van Woggelums of Staten Island with several more important discoveries. Donna Ewins continues her carefully documented account of the third generation of the Lassens of Dutchess County. The issue also includes several additional years of Jamaica Presbyterian marriages, and more of Charles Farrell's abstracts of the records of children in the New York City Almshouse, which tell much about social conditions in the early 19th century city (don't miss the last item).

At the end of this issue are the minutes of the 1999 Annual Meeting of The NYG&B Society. We hope you will take the time to read this report on the Society's progress during the past year.

THE AMSTERDAM YEARS OF JOSEPH MARGETTS, FATHER-IN-LAW OF ADRIAEN HEGEMAN OF NEW NETHERLAND

BY JOHN BLYTHE DOBSON*

Joseph Margetts will be familiar to many readers as the father of Catharina Margetts, wife of Adriaen Hegeman of Flatbush. It is nearly a century since proof of this connection first appeared in print, in the form of a notarial record made in New Netherland:

To-day, the 28th of February 1664, appeared before me, Walewyn van der Veen, Notary Public . . . , the Worshipful Adriaen Heegeman, Schout of the Villages of Amesfort [Flatlands], Breukelen, Midewout [Flatbush] and Uytrecht on Long Island in this Province, who declared that as husband and guardian of Catharina [sic] Margits he constitutes and empowers . . . as his attorney the worthy Sieur Joseph Margits, his father-in-law, living at Amsterdam, Holland, to demand and receive . . . from the Lords Directors of the Hon^{ble} East India Company, Department of Amsterdam, such moneys, as are due to his said wife from the estate of her deceased brother Joseph Margits, who died in East India, according to his testament and other vouchers. . . [1]

This document has been cited many times, perhaps first by William A. Eardeley, whose 1918 account of Adriaen Hegeman contains what is likely the first mention of Joseph Margetts in a compiled genealogy.^[2] Nothing further in this direction seems to have been found until 1963, when Rosalie Fellows Bailey, in a little-known paper, drew on manuscript collections of John J. DeMott to reveal that "Joseph Margits in 1646 registered in Amsterdam's *poorter boeck* as a diamond cutter, from London."^[3] Apparently unaware of this work, a number of writers on the origins of the Hegeman family have rediscovered the same information.^[4]

In 1997 we began to seek out further traces of Joseph Margetts at Amsterdam, taking advantage of records now available on microfilm. Discussion of the results with Dorothy A. Koenig, a fellow Hegeman

* ~~4 Cromer Bay, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R2M 4C5.~~ The author wishes to thank Interlending and Document Supply Services of the University of Winnipeg Library for assistance in obtaining materials used in the preparation of this paper, and Harry Macy, Jr., and Henry B. Hoff for their valuable suggestions. A special debt is owed to Dorothy A. Koenig, editor of *New Netherland Connections*, for reading various drafts of this material and providing valuable commentary and additional documents.

¹ Berthold Fernow, transl. & ed., "The Records of Walewyn van der Veen, Notary Public," in *Minutes of the Orphanmasters Court of New Amsterdam, 1655-1663*, [vol. 2] (New York, 1907), 13-72, at p. 69. An earlier edition is "Walewyn van der Veen's Record," trans. E.B. O'Callaghan, *Year Book of the Holland Society of New York*, 1900, 152-58, at p. 158.

² William A. Eardeley, *Chronology and Ancestry of Channcy M. Depew; with fifty-four other affiliated families, with . . . an appendix on the Hegeman ancestry . . .* (New York, 1918), 187-96.

³ Rosalie Fellows Bailey, "Signatures of Flatbush, L.I., Settlers," pt. 2, *De Halve Maen*, vol. 38, no. 2 (July 1963), 11-12, 14-15, at 15, citing John J. DeMott, "Hegeman Family" (1952), MS. at NYG&BS.

⁴ The more notable of these publications all derive ultimately from materials given in J.Th.M. Melsse, "Hegeman Research," Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie report dated 16 Aug. 1973, commissioned by Franklyn Frick, of Sioux City, Iowa, and deposited in the vertical files of the Holland Society of New York, s.v. Hegeman (files Ha-Hi of this collection are contained on FHL microfilm no. 1013482). This report formed the basis of Melsse's own article "De Familie Hegeman," *Jaarboek van het Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie en het Iconografisch Bureau*, 28 (1974), 28-45, and of "The Ancestry of Adriaen Hegeman [sic] of New Netherland," *De Halve Maen*, 58, no. 4 (Feb. 1985), 1-3, 21.

descendant, elicited the information that she was engaged in similar research, and had progressed further backward into Joseph Margetts' years at Utrecht. We hope before too long to see her discoveries in print, and have endeavored not to encroach on the unpublished investigations she has so generously shared with us, except when they are essential to an understanding of the Amsterdam records.

The progenitor of this family, who passed his entire adult life in the Netherlands, was nevertheless of English origin. Although he is called "from London" in the record of his second marriage, searches of the International Genealogical Index® (IGI) and of Boyd's Marriage Index, which together cover a high percentage of the 16th- and 17th-century population of London, revealed several families named Margetts there at that time but failed to provide any candidate for our Joseph Margetts. A possibly more relevant clue to his origin comes from a collateral source: a slightly younger man of the same surname whose movements exactly parallel his, "Robert Margetts" (the reading in the signature) "from Narumtesier," registered at Amsterdam on 2 July 1622, at the age of 23 years, his intention to marry "Marÿa Geloffer^[5] from London in England, aged 23 years, without parents, accompanied by Styntin Gelopfer her . . . [illegible]."^[6] This couple had only recently been at Utrecht, where, in the Dutch Reformed Church, banns were recorded a few days earlier, on 30 June 1622, for "Robert Margits, of Naranthisier in England, and Maria Geelofsen, also from England, both living in Amsterdam."^[7] As to the place of his birth, it is hard to imagine what could be meant other than Northamptonshire. Unfortunately that county has received little attention from the LDS Controlled Extraction Program, and there are no Margetts entries therefrom in the IGI or in the recently-released *Vital Records Index: British Isles* CD-ROM. Preliminary investigation of 17th-century probate records does however show a number of persons of this name at Towcester, a clue to which we plan to devote further study. But we have failed thus far to establish any definite English connection for Joseph Margetts, nor can we suggest a motive for his removal to Amsterdam beyond the obvious fact that in the early 16th century it was a major center of diamond-cutting.

JOSEPH MARGETTS, of Utrecht and Amsterdam, diamond-cutter, born *circa* 1593, presumably in England, died aged 82 years, shortly before 27 May 1675, when he was buried in the yard of the Noorderkerk (North Church), Amsterdam.^[8] He married (1) before 1614, ANNA VAN

⁵ One wonders whether she could have been the Mary Glover who appears in the 1649 membership list of the English Reformed Church (see Carter, note 12 *infra*, p. 209).

⁶ Amsterdam Marriage Intentions, 427:187, FHL 0113190.

⁷ Dorothy Koenig kindly forwarded a copy of this record, which was discovered by Peter Nouwt, of Duiven, The Netherlands.

⁸ Registers van Doop, Trouw en Begraven te Amsterdam (Registers of Baptism, Marriage and Burial at Amsterdam) [hereafter Amsterdam DTB] 1079:75, courtesy of Dorothy Koenig.

WEERDENBURCH,^[9] who died 1630-35. He married (2) by Amsterdam marriage intention dated 31 March 1635,^[10] GEERTUIJT JACOBS VAN DRIELENBURCH,^[11] "from Dort" (*i.e.* Dordrecht), living January 1651, widow of Hendrik Vermarten.

Joseph Margetts was evidently living in Utrecht in 1614-22, when his first five children were born; the records of the English Reformed Church there do not survive before 1632, which probably explains our failure to find baptismal records for them. He took his family to Amsterdam in 1621 or in the first half of 1622, and the first mention we find of him there is in the consistory minutes of the English Reformed Church on the Begijnhof.^[12] His name appears in a list, dated 17 August 1622, of "persons who brought witnesses of their good conversation and desired to be received members of the church" as "Joseph Margates, factour, dwelling by the Lily Sluse; [with] testimony fro[m] the church of Utrecht."^[13] From this first appearance in 1622 his name occurs in all the membership lists until 1674, in which it was afterward stricken out and the word "obyt" [*i.e.* died] written beside it; in these lists his surname is written Margett, Marget, or Margetts with about equal frequency.^[14] Although ostensibly offering only an English-language version of Calvinist services, this congregation in fact maintained an unusually strict rule and generally recruited its pastors from among the exiled English Puritan ministers who were always in plentiful supply.^[15] One consequence of its punctiliousness was the keeping of a register of infractions of regulations and of absences from communion; these records make for wearisome reading but a fairly extensive sampling of them failed to locate further references to Joseph Margetts.^[16] Nor was mention found here or elsewhere in the records of his wives or children, who were apparently never members; none of his four children born at Amsterdam

⁹ In the absence of an actual marriage record, we use the most typical spelling of her name as found in various contemporary records relating to her family, kindly shared with us by Dorothy Koenig, who continues her researches. Although the place obviously referred to is now called Waardenburg, we have thought it inadvisable to modernize the spelling of the surname, which generally became fixed during the 17th century as Weerdenborch, -borg, -burch, or -burg, and is well known in that form.

¹⁰ Amsterdam DTB 443:280, courtesy of Dorothy Koenig.

¹¹ The place-name from which her surname is obviously derived is now spelled Drillenburg. William J. Hoffman, in REC. 65:218 refers to the Drillenborchs as "a Utrecht magistrate family," but Geertuijt's parentage has not been determined.

¹² See Alice Clare Carter, *The English Reformed Church in Amsterdam in the Seventeenth Century* (Amsterdam, 1964); this work prints the membership list for 1649 in pp. 205-17, and the name of "Joseph Margett" appears on p. 211.

¹³ English Reformed Church, Amsterdam, consistory minutes, vol. 2 (1621-1627), FHL 0114965, unpaginated; punctuation and capitalization added. An extensive sampling of these minutes, and also of those in vol. 3 (1628-1700) on the same film, failed to locate other references to him.

¹⁴ English Reformed Church, Amsterdam, alphabetical lists of members, vols. 8-16 (1629-1674), FHL 0114966. The list for 1674 is misdated 1673 in the label on the FHL film.

¹⁵ Keith L. Sprunger, *Dutch Puritanism: A History of the English and Scottish Churches of the Netherlands in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries* (Leiden, 1982), 91-122.

¹⁶ English Reformed Church, Amsterdam, [disciplinary records], vols. 20 (1639-1663) and 21 (1663-1727), FHL 0114966; these are misleadingly calendared in *Church and Civil Records of Amsterdam . . . before 1811*, Genealogical Society Research Paper Series C, no. 25 (1975), p. 35, as "membership attestations."

were even baptized there. Although the church on the Begijnhof had a burial ground, Joseph Margetts did not buy a plot there, perhaps because the protocols may not have allowed his family to be buried with him.^[17]

In 17th-century Netherlands, widowed parents were required to register with the Orphans' Chamber, to protect their children's inheritances from misappropriation by any future step-parent. Joseph Margits, then living "behind" the Westerkerk (West Church), did so on 2 May 1635, listing his children as Joris (21), Lysbeth (19), Maria (17), Machtelt (15), Lambertgen (13), Catrijntgen (10), Anna (7) and Joseph (5). Their inheritance of 500 guilders (a considerable sum) was to be administered by a maternal uncle.^[18]

Joseph Margetts is called "Joseph Mergis, from London, widower of Annetje Waerdenburgh" in the intention of his second marriage in 1635. Eleven years later he was sufficiently established in Amsterdam to be listed in the *Poorter Boeck* (Register of Citizens), where, under date of 8 June 1646, he is described as a diamond-cutter from London.^[19] (Citizenship was normally required before a person could engage in trade or hold membership in a guild.) The marriage records of his daughters Elisabeth (1647) and Catharina (1649) give their places of residence as the Oudezijds Achterburgwal (to use the modern spelling), which was the second earthen wall on the old (*i.e.* east) side of the city. On 15 January 1651 "Joseph Margits" and "Gertruit Margits" served as baptismal sponsors for his grandson Joseph Hegeman, baptized in the Nieuwe Kerk.^[20] At the time of his death at an advanced age in 1675 Joseph Margetts was of the Nieuwezijds Achterburgwal, "near the Nisel."

The relationship of Joseph Margetts to his daughter Catharina as an adult is proven by the notarial document of 1664 cited above, and the inheritance forthcoming to her is seemingly also mentioned in another document of the same year.^[21]

Joseph Margetts' enterprising and adventurous spirit appears to have been a family trait. It is noteworthy that at least three of his daughters were well-enough educated to write their names. And not only did his son Joseph Jr. emigrate to the East Indies and his daughter Catharina to New Netherland, but it is practically certain that his eldest son, Joris, was the one of this name who went to Brazil when the Dutch settlement there was still in its infancy.

¹⁷ He is not mentioned in the so-called "burials" constituting vol. 22 of the church's records (FHL 0114966), which appears to be in fact an inventory of marked graves, begun in the 18th century, with annotations from a lost burial register.

¹⁸ Amsterdam Weeskamer 22/247, courtesy of Dorothy Koenig.

¹⁹ Amsterdam Poorter Boeken, E:344, courtesy of Dorothy Koenig. This record was previously quoted without precise date by Bailey, *De Halve Maen* 38(2):15.

²⁰ Melssen, in *Jaarboek van het Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie*, 28.

²¹ Regarding this inheritance, Bailey, *De Halve Maen* 38(2):15, cites *Minutes of the Orphanmasters Court of New Amsterdam*, 2:69, as cited in note 1 above. She also cites 1:62 of the same series, but this is a mistake, and the index to the volume contains no reference to the names of Margetts or Hegeman. We are unable to say whether she may have seen some other document relating to the same matter.

Known issue of Joseph Margetts by his first wife Anna van Weerdenburch, the first five born doubtless at Utrecht, birthdates based on the Orphans' Chamber records:

- i. Joris, b. ca.1614, living May 1635, when his father registered with the Orphans' Chamber. With his distinctively Dutch first name and English surname, we may be pretty sure he was the "Joris Margets" who on 15 Aug. 1636 witnessed a baptism in the Dutch Reformed Church of Recife, Brazil, an important export point for sugar cane which had been captured by the Dutch only six years earlier.^[22]
- ii. Elisabeth, b. ca.1616; m. by Amsterdam marriage intention dated 19 Sept. 1647,^[23] Johannes Sander, "from London, merchant (*coopman*), aged 30 years, without parents, residing on the Oudezyts Achterburgwall." She is described as "Elisabeth Margitss, from Uytrecht, aged 27 years [a rather bold understatement], accompanied by her father Joseph Margits, of the same place." He signs as "Johannes Sander" and she as "Elisabedt Margit."
- iii. Maria, b. ca.1618, living 1635.
- iv. Machtelje, b. ca.1620; m. 19 Apr. 1648 at Sloterdijk (a suburb of Amsterdam), by Amsterdam marriage intention dated 4 April 1648 preceding,^[24] Pieter Pieters, "from Amsterdam, diamond-cutter (*diamant snyder*), aged 22 years, residing on . . . [illegible]." She is described as "Machteltgen Margits, from Uytrecht and residing there, aged 25 years [an understatement], accompanied by her father Joseph Margits." He signs as "Pieter Pietersen" and she as "Mechtel Marget."
- v. Lambertje, b. ca.1622; m. (int. 27 Aug. 1644),^[25] Cornelis Willemse Hospronck, "from Alckmaer [modern Alkmaar], oil-crusher (*olj slaeger*), aged 30 years, residing on . . . [illegible]." She is described as "Lambertie Margits, from Uytrecht, aged 22 years, accompanied by Josep [*sic*] Margits her father." His signature is not very legible but seems to read "Cors. Willemsz."; she subscribes with a mark.
- vi. Catharina, bap. (as "Catelyn, daughter of Joseph & Anna Margitts") 4 Feb. 1625 in the New Church, Amsterdam, with sponsor Nicolaes Jacob,^[26] d. 1690, before 16 Apr., and buried from the Dutch Church of Midwout (now Flatbush), Kings Co., L.I., N.Y.^[27] She m. 7 Mar. 1649 at Sloten, near Amsterdam, by Amsterdam marriage intention dated 29 Jan. preceding,^[28] Adriaen Hegeman,

²² "Dooptregister der Hollanders in Brazilië," *Algemeen Nederlandsch Familieblad*, 5 (1888), 141ff., at p. 142. The child baptized was Hendrick Janss, son of Jan Gerretss, and the other witnesses were Jan Corneliss, Jan Tielens, and Grietjen Albertss. This record was discovered by Dorothy Koenig, who kindly provided a photocopy.

²³ Amsterdam Marriage Intentions, 465:135, FHL 0113205.

²⁴ Amsterdam Marriage Intentions, 465:438, FHL 0113205, including in this case the actual marriage data in an added marginal note.

²⁵ Amsterdam Marriage Intentions, 461:31, FHL 0113203.

²⁶ Amsterdam DTB 40:291, FHL 0113144. The 1994 edition of the IGI contains an entry which erroneously imputes to her the baptismal date of her sister Anna.

²⁷ At an unspecified date in 1690 Joseph Hegeman paid 20 guilders "for a grave in the church for his mother"; see Frank L. Van Cleef, transl., "Records of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church at Flatbush," Marriage Fees, etc., p. 28, typescript, Josephine C. Frost Collection, NYG&BS Library. Her death occurred before 16 April of that year, when "the children of Catryna Hegemans" had the lands "left behind her" appraised; see Frank L. Van Cleef, transl., DeWitt Van Buren, ed., "Flatbush Town Records . . . Liber A, comprising deeds, leases and wills, 1670-1708," p. 18, typescript, NYG&BS Library, FHL 0017663.

²⁸ Amsterdam Marriage Intentions, 466:339, FHL 0113205, including in this case the actual marriage data in an added marginal note. This record has previously been quoted less completely by Bailey, and in *De Halve Maen* 58(4):1.

- b. ca. 1624 at Elburg in Gelderland, living 27 Sept. 1671 (when he was confirmed as an executor of the will of Jan Everts Bout, of Brooklyn),^[29] but died, presumably in the province of New York, by 28 May 1672.^[30] Proven by previous writers to have been a son of the late Rev. Hendrick Hegeman, Dutch Reformed Minister at Vorchten, Gelderland, by his first wife (name unknown),^[31] he is described in the marriage intention as “Adriaen Hegeman, of Elburgh, silk-worker (*gyreder*),^[32] aged 25 years, having no parents, [living] in Egelantier Straet.” She is recorded as “Catharina Margits, of Amsterdam, aged 21 years [an understatement], living on the Oudesyts Achterburgwall, accompanied by Joseph Margits, her father.” He signs as “Adriaen Hegeman” and she as “Katarina Mairgit.” Following the births of their first two children they left for New Netherland in 1652, settling at Midwout (modern Flatbush), on the west end of Long Island, where her husband was (as we have seen) appointed Schout of four of the “five Dutch towns” (Flatlands, Brooklyn, Flatbush, and New Utrecht) in Kings County.^[33] They are the ancestors of most of the Hegemans of New York and New Jersey.^[34]
- vii. Anna, bap. (as “Anna, daughter of Joseph Margeth”) 16 Jan. 1628 in the English Presbyterian Church, Amsterdam,^[35] d. by 1639, when another daughter was given the same name.
- viii. Joseph, Jr., bap. (as “Joseph, son of Joseph Margeth”) 20 Jan. 1630 in the English Presbyterian Church, Amsterdam,^[36] d. before his father and apparently unmarried, in or shortly before 1664, in the “East Indies,” as shown by the notarial document cited at the beginning of this paper. In a modern index to the records of commissioned officers in the Dutch East India Company, “Joseph Margits” is listed under date of 6 Feb. 1660, as “Director at Timor, on leave,” and precisely one year later, as “Sub-merchant [acting] as head near Bima.”^[37] Timor was an important source of sandalwood, while Bima, lying on the island of Sumbawa, was noted for its teak and tamarinds.

Issue of Joseph Margetts by his second wife Geertruijt Jacobs van Drielenburch:

²⁹ New York Co. Wills 1:127; *Abstracts of Wills* . . . , 17 vols., Collections of The New-York Historical Society 1892-1908, 1:17.

³⁰ “The widow of Adriaen Hegeman” is listed in the Flatbush church accounts on 28 May 1672; see Van Cleef, “Records of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church at Flatbush,” *Marriage Fees, etc.*, p. 13. His paternity was discovered independently by John J. De Mott and by J. Th. M. Melssen; see notes 3 and 4 above.

³² This word is absent from all the dictionaries to which we have access, but appears as *sijreeder* in a list of old occupational terms found on the Dutch website COMP-GEN.BOX (<http://w3g.med.unigessen.de/CBG>). It is translated as “worker in silks” by Bailey, *De Halve Maen* 38(2):15, and (less plausibly) as “silk merchant” in *De Halve Maen* 58(4):21.

³³ *Supra*, note 1, and *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York*, ed. E.B. O’Callaghan and B. Fernow, 15 vols. (Albany, 1853-87), 2:480 (*bid*), 482 (*bid*); 14:475-76 (where his first name erroneously appears as Peter), 490-91, 501, 502, 502-03, 516, 527, 549, 652-53, 654-55, etc.

³⁴ Lawrence La Tourette Driggs, *The Hegeman Family of Flatbush* [ca. 1940?], MS./typescript at NYG&BS. With the sole exception of Richard W. Cook, “The Tribulations of Denys Hegeman,” *Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey*, 25(1950):49-54, reprinted in *De Halve Maen*, 55, no. 4 (Winter 1981), 7-8, there is no really satisfactory account of any branch of this family in print.

³⁵ Amsterdam DTB 137:33, FHL 0113414.

³⁶ Amsterdam DTB 137:38, FHL 0113414.

³⁷ Vereenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie (VOC) *Personalia*, deel I (1620-1700) (= Burgerlijke Stand Batavia, bundel 117), FHL 1210708 (A-Pi) and 1210709 (Pi-Z), unpaginated.

- ix. Sara, bap. (as a daughter of "Joseph Margitts & Geertruyt J. van Drillenburg") 22 May 1635 in the Nieuwe Kerk, Amsterdam, with sponsor Vincent Jacobss,^[38] only two months after her parents' marriage, of whom we have found no further record.
- x. Anne, bap. (as "Anne, daughter of Joseph Margets") 23 Feb. 1639 in the English Presbyterian Church, Amsterdam,^[39] of whom we have found no other record.

³⁸ Amsterdam DTB 41:381, FHL 0113145.

³⁹ Amsterdam DTB 137:56, FHL 0113414.

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Communicants of the First Presbyterian Church,
New York City, 1769

Origin of the Dutch Ryder Family Revealed

Additions and Corrections to Articles in The Record

130:177 (“The Amsterdam Years of Joseph Margetts, Father-in-Law of Adriaen Hegeman of New Netherland,” by John Blythe Dobson)

Line 22, Joseph Hegeman was baptized in the Norder Kerk, not the Nieuwe Kerk.

John Blythe Dobson