

Van Houten
family

New Netherland Connections

Published quarterly:

February, May, August, November

Subscriptions \$15.00 (U.S.) a calendar year

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ISSN 1087-454

Volume 10, Number 3

July, August, September 2005

Van Houten Studies

by

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The following studies were first presented in posts on the "Dutch Colonies" Rootsweb mailing list. Some have been revised using input from members of that mailing list, including Nancy Terhune Morrison of the Bergen County Historical Society, Pat Wardell and Pamela Sears.

First Study:

Adrian⁵ and Jane Van Houten
of Sussex Co., NJ and Steuben Co., NY

In the Jacobus or Everetts Road Cemetery in Urbana, Steuben Co., NY are:

Adrin Van Houten d. 30 Dec. 1836 Age 87y

Jane Van Houten d. 23 Jun 1845 Age 90y, wife of Adrin

That puts this Adrian's birthdate as about 1749, and Jane's birthdate about 1755. Adrian is almost certainly the Adrian baptized at Paramus on 26 November 1749, parents Gerrit Van Houten and Jannetje, witnesses Adrian Van Houten and Angenietje Van Houten. These were Gerrit⁴ Pieter³ Helmigh² Roelof¹ Van Houten and his wife Jannetje Kip, and Gerrit's brother and his wife Angenietje Boomgaert, not Gerrit⁴ Klaes³ Teunis² Roelof¹ Van Houten and Jannetje Blauvelt, as Ackerman¹ places this Adrian. This is confirmed by the presence of Isaac Kronk (d. 23 February 1827, age 62y 3d) and his wife Jane Cronk (d. 18 January 1840 age 74y 6m) in the same burial ground, daughter of Gerrit⁴ Van Houten and Jannetje Kip, born 18 July 1765 and baptized 25 August 1765 at Acquackanonk, and their son Jacob Van Houten Kronk (d. 6 November 1828 Age 27y 7m 11d), who was born 16 October 1801 and baptized 3 January 1802 at Totowa, parents Isaac Cronk and Jannetye Van Houten. Also buried in the Jacobus cemetery are Dea. R. (Deacon Ralph) Van Houten (d. 31 August 1859 Age 73y) and wife Nancy [Glann] Van Houten (d. 17 December 1852 Age 74y) and Simon I. Jacobus (d. 30 January 1871 Age 87y 10d) and wife Elizabeth [Van Houten] Jacobus (d. 15 April 1871 Age 79y 1m 23d) Virtually all the other graves are of the descendants of Simon and Elizabeth or their spouses, so it is reasonable to suppose that Ralph and Elizabeth are children of Adrian and Jane. Isaac Van Houten (and wife Mary Bennett) is closely connected to Adrian in the Steuben County censuses, and may also be a son.

In a deed dated 30 July 1795, and recorded on 17 February 1808 in Sussex Co. Deeds book Q page 539, Adrian G. Van Houten of Hardiston Township, Sussex Co., NJ sold land in Hardiston, including a burial ground, to Paul Farber and Isaac Tompkins, trustees (of a church?) of Hardiston.

In a deed dated 25 August 1801 and recorded in Sussex Co. Deeds book F page 413, Richard Edsall Jr. of Sussex Co. sold land in Wantage Township, Sussex Co. to Peter G. Van Houten and Adrian Van Houten for 1101 pounds 6 shillings 6 pence, and in a deed dated 20 October 1801, and recorded in Sussex Co. Deeds book F page 411, Peter G. Van Houten of Bergen Co. sold his half-interest in the land purchased from Richard Edsall Jr. in the prior deed to Adrian Van Houten of Sussex Co. for 180 pounds.

¹Ackerman, Herbert S., *The Van Houten Family* (mimeograph 1945, reprinted by Bergen Historic Books 2001)

In a deed dated 1 July 1806 and recorded in Sussex Co. Deeds book P, page 444, Adrian Van Houten and Jane his wife of Wantage, Sussex Co. sold to Gabriel Post of Wantage 91 acres of the 108 and 75/100 acre parcel sold to him by Richard Edsall.

In a deed dated 19 June 1812 and recorded in Sussex Co. Deeds book X page 528, Adrian Van Houten and Jane his wife of Wantage sold to Jedediah Sayre of Wantage 17 61/100 acres on the west side of the drowned lands (the remainder of the parcel purchased from Richard Edsall?) The Drowned Lands were the marshes along the Wallkill River and straddled the Minisink-Wallkill town border in Orange Co., NY and I think the Wantage-Vernon town border in Sussex Co.

Finally, in a deed dated 14 March 1814 and recorded 16 April 1825 in Sussex Co. Deeds book B3, page 163 Adrian Van Houten and Jane his wife of Wain (sic), Steuben Co., NY sold to Peter Van Houten of Vernon, Sussex Co., NJ a lot of land on Pochunk Mountain in Vernon. Pochunk Mountain lies in the western part of Vernon township and extends north into the Town of Warwick in Orange Co., NY.

Peter Van Houten of Vernon died in Vernon on 25 February 1846 and was buried at Papakating Cemetery in Wantage, age on gravestone 57-0-25 (the newspaper writeup in the 16 March 1846 "Sussex Register" has, under Deaths, "In Vernon Township on Wednesday the 25th ult., Mr. Peter Van Houten, aged 75 years.") Assuming that the gravestone is more accurate than the newspaper account, this Peter is almost certainly the child born 31 January 1789 and baptized as Piter by Adreyaen Van Houten and yannetje Roomyn on 1 March 1789 at Totowa. Therefore, because of the association of Peter Van Houten of Vernon with Adrian and Jane Van Houten of Steuben Co. (as witnessed by the aforementioned deed), I think that the Jane Van Houten buried in the Jacobus cemetery in Urbana, Steuben Co., NY is Jannetje Roomyn/Romaine, born about 1755.

Lidea, baptised 24 September 1778 at Pompton Plains (parents Adriaan Van Houten and Jannetje, witnesses Benjamin Romyn and Divertje Romyn), is probably the daughter of Adrian⁵ Van Houten and Jannetje Roomyn, Rachel, baptized 1786 at Pompton Plains (father Adriaan Van Houten, witnesses Pieter Van Houten & Rachel) is probably not, but has the father that Ackerman assigned her (Adrian⁶ Peter⁵ Adrian⁴ Pieter³ Helmigh² Roelof¹). I believe that this Adrian is the Aaron Van Houten who married Anna Jayne and moved to Ithaca, Tompkins Co., NY, where Peter Van Houten and Rachel Lyne are buried.

H. S. Ackerman, in his Romeyn/Romaine genealogy², says that Adrian⁵'s wife Yannetje Romyn was born 8 December 1762 and baptized 25 December 1762 at First Presbyterian Church, NYC, daughter of John Romeyn and Julianna Macarthy, but this conflicts with the estimated birthdate from Jane's gravestone data. A more likely candidate is Jannetje, baptized 16 May 1756 at Hackensack, daughter of Roelof Romein and Lidia Demarest. This Jannetje's baptismal date differs by only one year from the estimated birthdate taken from Jane Van Houten's gravestone, and has the added support of being associated with the names Lydia (her mother, who her oldest known daughter would have been named for) and Benjamin (who witnessed Lidea's baptism.) This Jannetje had a brother Benjamin, who is supposed to have married Rachel Vandelinde, daughter of Roelof Vandelinde and Annatie Demarest, though some claim that Rachel married a cousin, Benjamin son of Nicolaes Romeyn and Belitje Demarest. Rachel is known to have predeceased her father, who named Roelof Romeyn (born 21 February 1772, baptized 15 March 1772 Schraalenburgh), son of his late daughter Rachel as an heir in his 1790 will. Benjamin named his next known child Rachel (baptized 12 September 1779 at Schraalenburgh, mother's name not given), so it is possible that Rachel had already died, and Jane's brother Benjamin had remarried a Divertje by the time of Lidea's 1778 baptism, and later named his daughter after his late wife, or that Jane's brother Benjamin had only married Divertje (who, so far as I know, left only the one baptismal record where she and Benjamin witnessed Lidea's baptism as evidence of her existence) and that Rachel had married Jane's cousin Benjamin.

²Ackerman, Herbert S., *Romeyn/Romaine Family* (mimeograph 1953, reprinted by Bergen Historic Books 2001)

Second Study:

Isaac⁵ Van Houten, possible father of
William Van Houten of Edgar Co., IL

One of the older unsolved mysteries for me in the Van Houten family (since it was the subject of a query sent to my mother when she was a member of the Orange Co. (NY) Genealogical Society) was the parentage of William Van Houten of Edgar Co., IL, whose wife was Catherine Edsall, daughter of Benjamin Edsall and Sarah Burt. The enumerator of the 1850 census in District 19, Edgar Co., IL recorded the county as well as the state of birth, and the older surviving children of William and Catherine gave their place of birth as either Orange Co., NY or Sussex Co., NJ; the younger ones said they were born in Seneca Co., NY. A history of Edgar Co.³ says that William Van Houtin (sic) arrived in what would become Edgar Co. in 1819; he is recorded in Junius, Seneca Co., NY in 1810, in Wane, Clark Co., IL in 1820 (Edgar Co. was formed from Clark Co.) and in Edgar Co., IL in 1830. Their known children were:

1. Isaac, b. 1797
2. Sarah, b. 1799
3. Benjamin Edsall, b. 1801
4. Jane, b. 1803
5. William, b. 1805
6. Thomas, b. 1807
7. David, b. 1809
8. Alfred, b. 1813
9. Celia, b. 1814

Recently I decided to try to attack the problem from Dutch naming practice, since Sarah and Benjamin were named for the maternal grandparents, the paternal grandparents should be Isaac and Jane. I don't have any Isaac and Jane couples that would fit; in fact I only have three candidates who I will venture to show are one and the same.

First is the Isaac Van Houten who was recorded in Warwick, Orange Co., NY in the 1790 census, with 3 adult males, 5 males under 16, and 3 females in his household. A son born in 1775 would have been 15 in 1790, so this household certainly fits. Isaac Van Houten of Warwick died prior to 28 November 1795, when his widow Mary Van Houten, son Garret Van Houten and friend Jacobus Post Jr. were named as administrators of his estate. (Orange Co. Letters of Administration, book B, p. 100) His widow, Mary, appears to have been enumerated in Warwick, Orange Co., NY in the 1800 census.

Next, William Nelson in his History of Paterson⁴ names Isaac as one of the sons of Garret⁴ Pieter³ Helmigh² Roelof¹ Van Houten and Jannetje Kip. The information is very sketchy here; he just says that Isaac was living on Totowa Ave. in 1797⁵ and died before 7 May 1801, when his widow Mary of Wantage, Sussex Co. sold two lots of Gerrit⁴'s homestead farm (citing Bergen Co. Transcribed Deeds, book O, p. 205). I have found that Mary Van Houten of Wantage bought land in Wantage, Sussex Co., NJ on 8 May 1801 (Sussex Co. Deeds, book F, p. 217), and sold land in Wantage on 25 May 1808 (Sussex Co. Deeds, book S, p. 190). Mary Van Houten, of Vernon, Sussex Co., NJ, widow of Isaac Van Houten, had her estate inventoried on 14 March 1817 by John Van Houten. (Sussex Co. Inventories, book C, p. 41) Included in the estate were notes against Garret Van Houten, James Van Houten, Isaac Van Houten, Peter P. Van Houten and John Van Houten. Since Gerrit⁴ and Jannetje married in 1745 and they started baptizing children at Acquackanonk on a regular basis in 1754, it is likely that Isaac was born between 1745 and 1754; also, since Jannetje's parents were Isaac Kip and Anna Van Norstrand, it is likely that Isaac was born toward the beginning of that span, and before Adrian⁵ was baptised in November of 1749 at Paramus.

³Le Baron, Wm & Co., *The History of Edgar County, Illinois* (Chicago, 1879)

⁴Nelson, William, *History of the City of Paterson and County of Passaic* (1901), p. 245

⁵In my judgement, some other, younger, Isaac Van Houten was living on Totowa Ave. in 1797, perhaps Isaac⁵ Jacob⁴ Johannis³ Cornelis² Roelof¹ Van Houten, born in Wesel on 1 September 1763 and living in Slotterdam according to his 1785 marriage record.

Finally, H. S. Ackerman has 5-351 Isaac Van Houten as the only son of Jacob⁴ Cornelis³ Cornelis² Roelof¹ Van Houten and Jannetje Kip, born 8 February 1748, baptized 20 March 1748 at Hackensack, who married by license dated 28 May 1770 Maria Post and had children Jacobus, bap. 4 November 1770 at Paramus (witnesses: Jacobus and Mettie Post), Isack b. 11 December 1776 and bap. 5 January 1777 at Totowa (witnesses: father and mother), Johannis, b. 31 January 1779, bap. at Pompton Plains (witnesses: Pieter and Neesje Post) and Jacob, b. 30 October 1794, bap. 28 May 1794 at Raritan (no witnesses, but other baptisms performed the same day are associated with Warwick.) Jacob and Maria also witnessed the baptism of Jannetye, daughter of Jacob⁵ Van Houten and Ragel Ackerman, on 25 January 1778 at Totowa. (Jacob⁵ is one of the sons of Gerrit⁴ Van Houten and Jannetje Kip according to both Nelson and Ackerman.)

So, we have three Isaacs, all about the same age, all married to women named Mary/Maria, two with mothers named Jannetje Kip and likely born within a year of each other (one of which witnessed the baptism of a child of the brother of the other), two of which are associated with the Orange/Sussex border area which is associated with William's early married life (Warwick is bordered by Sussex and Passaic (formerly Bergen) counties on the south and the Wallkill River on the west; Wantage is bordered by Orange Co. on the north and the Wallkill River on the east.) It seems extremely likely to me that all three are the same person, with the father of the Isaac baptised at Hackensack being wrong through a transcription error, either of the church clerk or the Holland Society transcribers.

Now, all of this doesn't mean that William was the son of Isaac Gerritsz Van Houten and Maria Post, but if his father was named Isaac, it is either this Isaac or someone who has avoided leaving any easily found records.

As a postscript on this study, I have discovered that the deaths of two Edgar County Van Houtens, that of William's son David in 1856 and of David's son Arthur in 1863, were reported in an Orange County newspaper⁶, but this fact is likely due to continued communication between David's widow, described in her son's death notice as "Mrs. Catherine E. Mann, formerly of Florida, Orange Co." and her siblings still living in Orange County, rather than continued contact between the Van Houtens of Edgar County and their former neighbors. However, the fact that David married an Orange County girl may indicate some level of continued contact. (Catherine is alleged to be Catherine E. Fox, daughter of Catherine Edsall's sister Sarah; so David and Catherine were first cousins.)

Third Study:

Maria Post, wife of Isaac⁵ Van Houten of Orange Co., NY

It appears from various references in the Wisner letters between various Wisner relatives, principally from Dr. John H. Thompson of St. James Place, Goshen, Orange County, New York to Capt. Charles B. Dahlgren, both of whom married Wisner descendants. (Said letters are located in the Goshen Public Library and published online at

<<http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/ny/orange/bios/wisnerltr.txt>>

that Maria Post, wife of Isaac Van Houten, was the sister of Gabriel Post (9 April 1765-9 April 1820) who is the son of Jacobus Post and Metye Gerritse (Van Wagener) according to several entries at Familysearch.com.

Letter of 9 December 1894 from J.H. Thompson to Capt. Dahlgren:

"The date of birth of GABRIEL POST who was my wife's grandfather was April 9th, 1765. ... The date of death of GABRIEL POST above mentioned, was April 9th, 1820, at 55 yrs."

Letter of 17 January 1895 from J.H. Thompson to Capt. (Dahlgren?):

"An Aunt MARIAH of my wife's father, on the POST side, married ISAAC VAN HOUTEN, and an uncle (HENRY) of my wife's father married ELEANOR VAN HOUTEN. So the kinship to the VAN HOUTENS was identical on both his mother's and father's side -- then, too, all the VAN HOUTEN relatives were town of Warwick people."

⁶*Whig Press*, Middletown, NY, 2 July 1856, p. 3 and 22 April 1863, p. 2.

(Mrs. Thompson's father's mother was Anna Wisner, whose sister Hannah married James Van Houten. It is unclear to me whether the Uncle Henry referred to above is a Henry Post, brother to Gabriel, or to Anna and Hannah's half-brother Harry Wisner, named elsewhere in the Wisner letters, whose wife is not named, but the context seems to indicate that it was the latter.)

Mr. Thompson also mentioned another sibling of Gabriel Post, David:

Letter of 8 December 1894 from J.H. Thompson to Capt. Charles D. Dahlgren:

"Let me say to you that my wife's grandmother's name was ANNA WISNER, and grandfather's name was GABRIEL POST. By the accompanying record (see other side) you will discover that ELENOR WISNER married DAVID POST. GABRIEL POST and DAVID POST were brothers, consequently both DAVID POST and his wife were by consanguinity the uncle and aunt respectively of my wife's father."

None of the trees I can find online place a Maria in the children of Jacobus Post and Metje Gerritse [Van Wagenen]; their oldest recorded child with a surviving baptismal record was Neesje, bapt. 17 December 1752 at Acquackanonk and their youngest was David, baptized 4 August 1771 at Paramus (mother's name given merely as Mettie). If Gabriel Post was the brother of the Maria Post who married Isaac Van Houten in 1770, then we would expect that Maria would be the oldest (or nearly oldest) sibling, born about 1750, and Gabriel, born 1765, to be one of the youngest.

The naming of Isaac and Maria's oldest child as Jacobus does point toward Maria's father being a Jacobus (since we've identified Isaac's father to be Gerrit) and the witnesses at his baptism (Jacobus and Mettie Post) also point to Jacobus Post and Metje Van Wagenen, along with Jacobus and Mettie's son David, baptized after Jacobus Van Houten, but the absence of Maria and Gabriel from the surviving baptismal records is troubling, as are the baptismal witnesses of Isaac and Maria's son Johannes, Pieter and Neesje Post. While there is a Neesje Post among the children of Jacobus and Metje, there is no indication of a Peter to my knowledge, and the only Peter-Neesje Post couple I can find evidence of is Peter Post (son of Johannes Post and Lysbet Van Houten) and Neesje Van Wagenen, and Maria, Gabriel and David are also absent from the children of Johannes and Lysbet.

All in all, I must conclude that Maria Post, wife of Isaac Van Houten, was most probably the daughter of Jacobus Post and Metje Gerritse Van Wagenen.

Fourth Study:

James⁶ Van Houten, son of Isaac⁵ Van Houten and Maria Post

Jacobus⁶ Van Houten was baptized 4 November 1770 at the Paramus Reformed Church, with witnesses Jacobus and Mettie Post (probably the maternal grandparents, as previously noted.) H. S. Ackerman, in his Van Houten genealogy, attributes this Jacobus as the husband of Elizabeth Berry, but I shall attempt to show that he instead was the James Van Houten alleged to be the husband of Hannah Wisner of Warwick, Orange County, NY, and that some otherwise unknown Jacobus was the husband of Elizabeth Berry. (James is, of course, the normal way that children baptised as Jacobus anglicized their name.)

Jacobus Van Houten and Elizabeth Berry had the following children:

- Adriaan, born 29 March 1788, baptized Pompton Plains, witnesses Adriaan and Antje Van Houten
- Marten, born 26 May 1790, baptized Pompton Plains, witnesses Marten and Sara Berry
- Piter, born 30 June 1792, baptized 3 February 1793 Totowa, witnesses the father and mother (died 30 June 1793 per Ackerman)
- Jacobus, born 3 April 1793, baptized 31 August 1794 Paramus (no witnesses)
- Peter, born 22 April 1795, baptized Pompton Plains (no witnesses)
- Agnes, born 23 August 1797 (per Ackerman)
- Elisabeth Berry is alleged to have married Thomas Dodd on 15 September 1803.

According to the Wisner Letters (cited in the previous study), James Van Houten married Hannah Wisner:

Letter of 14 June 1895 from Charles L. Eastman of Penn Yan (Yates Co., NY) to Capt. (C. B. Dahlgren):
"To CAPT JOHN WISNER by his first marriage to MARY THOMPSON had 8 children 2 boys and 6 girls as follows

TEMPERANCE m.	1st CORNELIUS VANDERHOOF, 2nd CALVIN SHEPHERD
MARY m.	JACOB BANDERHOOF (sic)
JAMES m.	1st ELIZA CARPENTER, 2nd MRS. MOORE
MOSES m.	DOLLY HOWELL
ANNA m.	GABRI(E)L POST
HANNAH m.	JAMES VANHOUTEN
ELEANOR m.	DAVID POST
SARAH (my mother) m	to PETER EASTMAN "

Letter of 21 January 1895 from J. H. Thompson to Capt. (C. B. Dahlgren):
"HANNAH WISNER, Daughter of JOHN WISNER and MARY THOMPSON, who married JAMES VAN HOUTEN had four sons: Wm., JAS, JOHN and JACOB, all dead, and four daughters: NANCY, DOLLY, TEMPERANCE and POLLY."

James Van Houten was recorded in the 1800 census (2 males under 10, 1 male 26-45, 1 male over 45; 2 females under 10, 1 female 26-45), the 1810 census (3 males under 10, 1 male 10-16, 1 male over 45; 1 female under 10, 1 female 10-16, 1 female 16-25, and 1 female over 45), the 1820 census (2 males 10-16, 2 males 18-26, 1 male over 45; 2 females under 10, 1 female 10-16, 2 females 16-26 and 1 female over 45), all in Warwick, Orange Co., NY. His widow, Hannah, is recorded in the household of Dorothy Thompson (age 34) in the town of Warwick, Orange, Co., NY in the 1850 census, and the immediately prior household is that of James Van Houten (age 40.) (I take Dorothy and James to be Hannah's children Dolly and James, referred to in Mr. Eastman's letter above.) Hannah also gave a deposition on her father John Wisner's Revolutionary War service on 5 June 1852, at which time she said she was 82 years old and living in Warwick, Orange Co., NY.⁷ This puts Hannah Wisner's date of birth at roughly 1769-1770, very nearly the same age as Jacobus son of Isaac Van Houten and Maria/Mary Post, who I showed in my previous study to have been living in Warwick. Perhaps she was a twin of Anna Wisner. According to Dr. Thompson's letter of 9 December 1894 to Capt. Dahlgren,

"The date of birth ANNA WISNER, wife of GABRIEL POST above named and grandmother of my wife, was Nov. 14th, 1769. ... The date [of death] of ANNA WISNER, [Gabriel's] wife, was March 21st, 1855."

Again, from the Wisner Letters:

Letter of 24 December 1894 from J. H. T(hompson) to Capt. (C. B. Dalgren):
"...we have but a very imperfect acquaintance concerning the VAN HOUTENS, HANNAH WISNER'S descendents. The only representative whom I know about is WM B. VAN HOUTEN, with HARRY WILTSHIRE, 120 Fulton St., N. Y. I should have said LIEUT. VAN HOUTON, for he was Adjutant of the 124th Regt, N.Y.V. from what MR. NANNY tells me I think his great, great grandmother was AUNT "NOCHY," whom MR. NANNY says he can remember. She lived to be very old."

William B. Van Houten was recorded in the household of Isaac and Catherine Van Houten in Chester, Orange Co., NY in 1850 (age 16) and 1860 (age 27) and in Isaac and Catherine's household in Warwick, Orange Co., NY in 1880 (age 47; he is also recorded in this census as the son of Isaac and widowed, and a grandson of Isaac, Fredrick H., age 10 also appears in this household.) William also appears in the 1870 census in New York City's 16th Ward in the household of James and Maria Anderson along with the infant Frederick and wife Addie/Ada (he was recorded as age 38 in the first enumeration, and age 35 in the second enumeration the next January.) The service record of William B. Van Houten records that he enlisted at the age of 28 at Goshen and mustered in on 5 September 1862 as Sergeant of Co. D, 124th Regiment New York Volunteers, called the Orange Blossoms, and was later promoted to Sergeant Major (1 May 1863), Lieutenant of Co. L (21 August 1863), and finally Adjutant (6 October 1863), which rank he held until his resignation and discharge on 23 January 1865. William B. Van Houten was also recorded in

⁷Wisner, G. Franklin, *The Wisners in America and Their Kindred* (Baltimore, ca. 1918), p. 117

the 1890 Veteran's Schedule as living in Brooklyn, where he was recorded as serving as Adjutant of the 124th NY Infantry, and a family group sheet for the family of Isaac Van Houten and Catharine Maria Rowe (prepared by Miral Haubner of Milford, PA in 1985 and in the files of the Orange Co. Genealogical Society in Goshen) says that he was residing in Warwick in 1893, the year of his mother's death. This is the man who is referred to above as the great-grandson of "Aunt Nochy," who I take to be Hannah (Wisner) Van Houten. (Mr. Nanny, who remembered "Aunt Nochy", I take to be Harrison W. Nanny, a Goshen lawyer who wrote one of the other letters to Capt. Dahlgren. Harrison Nanny, lawyer, was recorded as age 26 in the 1870 census of Goshen, so was easily old enough to remember Hannah, who as we already saw was still living 18 years previously.)

William's father, Isaac, was recorded in Warwick in the 1830 census (1 male under 5, 1 male 20-30, 2 females 20-30) and the 1840 census (1 male under 5, 1 male 5-10, 1 male 10-15, 1 male 30-40, 1 female 5-10, 1 female 15-20, 1 female 30-40.) Isaac Van Houten of the Town of Warwick purchased a farm straddling the Warwick/Chester town line on 31 March 1842 (Orange Co. Deeds, book 85, p. 426), and is recorded in Chester in the 1850 census (Isaac age 45, Catharine M. age 44) and 1860 censuses (Isaac age 55, born NJ, Catharine age 53, born NJ.) Isaac Van Houten and Catharine his wife of the Town of Chester sold the aforementioned farm on 11 March 1864 (Orange Co. Deeds, book 181, p. 27), and they are recorded in Warwick in 1870 (Isaac age 65, born NJ, Katherine age 65, born NY) and 1880 (Isaac age 75, born NJ, wife Catherine M. age 75, born NY.) The aforementioned family group sheet gives Isaac's birth as 1 February 1805 in Deckertown, Sussex Co., NJ (the modern Sussex borough), his death as 11 January 1881 in Warwick, Catharine's birth as 9 February 1805 in Cayuga Co., NY and her death as 10 March 1893 in Warwick, and their marriage as 15 November 1827 in Warwick.

In order for William B. Van Houten to be the great-grandson of James Van Houten and Hannah Wisner, as alleged above, either Isaac or Catharine would have to be their grandchild, but both of them are only about 35 years younger than Hannah (or James, if he is the son of Isaac and Maria.) Thus, whichever one is the grandchild (most likely Isaac) would have to be the oldest (or very nearly the oldest) grandchild of James and Hannah, with the parent born most likely in the late 1780s. This is, however, as we saw above, the period when Jacobus Van Houten and Elizabeth Berry started baptizing children, and the only common name between the children of Jacobus and Elizabeth and the children of James and Hannah is Jacobus/James, and they have widely different ages (Jacobus, son of Jacobus and Elizabeth, born 1793; James, son of James and Hannah (if he is the one in the 1850 census of Warwick), born about 1810.) Thus, we see that it passes all credibility that the same man married both Elizabeth Berry and Hannah Wisner. Which, then, was the son of Isaac Van Houten and Maria Post baptised in 1770?

On the side of James husband of Hannah we have the association of James, Hannah, Isaac and Maria/Mary with Warwick. On the side of Jacobus husband of Elizabeth Berry we have just one set of baptismal witnesses for their children: Adriaan and Antje Van Houten, who witnessed the baptism of Adriaan in 1788, and one appearance of Jacobus (without Elizabeth) as a baptismal witnesses at Pompton Plains, where Jacobus Van Houten and Lea Mandeville witnessed the baptism of Jacobus, son of John and Annatje Van Houten, born 21 October 1786.

Adrian is absent from the known children of Isaac⁵ and Maria. Isaac⁵ did have a brother Adrian, but I have previously shown that that Adrian married Jannetje/Jane Roomyn, not an Antje. Adriaan and Antje Van Houten baptised a son, Pieter, born 13 December 1788, at Pompton Plains some time after the baptism of Jacobus' son Adriaan earlier that year, with witnesses Johannis and Maria Van Houten, and also baptised Thomas (born 20 November 1790, witnesses Thomas Sanderse and Lena Cook) and John Roma (baptized 3 January 1796, no witnesses, mother listed as Antje Sanderse) at Pompton Plains. Antje Sanders is alleged by Ackerman to be the second wife of Adriaan⁵, son of Robert⁴ Roeleff³ Helmigh² Roelof¹ Van Houten and Elisabeth Post; however both Jacobus and John are absent from the known children of Robert and Elisabeth. Also, Ackerman attributes one more child to Adrian⁵ and Antje: Edo, citing the 23 December 1793 will of Edow Marselis Sr. who left a bequest to his grandson Adrian Van Houten with instructions for him to pay a sum to his half brother Edo when he reached majority, but this Edo is also his grandson: Edo Vreeland, born 16 March 1783 (and thus age 10 at the time of the will), son of Jannetje Merselis (whose first husband was Adrian⁵ Robert⁴) by her second husband, Enoch Vreeland, who she married on 10 May 1778. Neither of my candidates for John and Maria, Johannis⁵ son of Johannes⁴ Van Houten and Lena Toers who married Mareytje Doremus and Johannes⁵ son of Hendrick⁴

Van Houten and Aeltje Jacobusse who married Maria Berry, are known to have brothers named Adrian or Peter.

The couple John and Annatje Van Houten, father of Jacobus, whose baptism Jacobus Van Houten and Lea Mandeville witnessed, is more promising. This is alleged to be John Peter⁶ Van Houten, born 7 July 1763, baptized as Johannis at Pompton Plains, son of Pieter² Adrian⁴ Pieter³ Helmigh² Roelof¹ Van Houten and Rachel Lyne and his wife, Annatje Roome. While John lacks a known brother Jacobus/James (as do all family groups of his generation save the children of Isaac⁵ Van Houten and Maria Post), he does have a brother Adrian and a sister Mary. While Ackerman alleges that this Adrian married Jannetje Roomyn, I have previously shown that she married a different Adrian (brother of the Isaac who married Maria Post, as mentioned above), and that only one of the children attributed by Ackerman to this Adrian were actually his - Rachel, baptized in 1786, whose mother is not given in the baptismal record, but whose baptism was witnessed by Pieter and Rachel Van Houten. I strongly suspect that this Adrian is the Aaron Van Houten of Tompkins Co., NY (where his parents, Peter⁵ and Rachel, are buried), who married Anna Jayne sometime after the death of her first husband, David Ogden, in 1789, and who is known to have children James (date of birth unknown), Thomas (born about 1792, per his census records in Erin, Chemung Co., NY -- compare to Thomas, born 20 November 1790 above), Rachel, Sally (born about 28 September 1795, per tombstone of Sally Dailey), John R. (born about 1796 -- compare to John Roma, born 3 January 1797 above) and Gilbert (born about 8 May 1798, per his tombstone in Veteran Cemetery, Veteran, Chemung Co., NY.)

This is too close to be coincidence. Two of the three children attributed to Adrian Van Houten and Antje Sanders appear among the children of Aaron Van Houten of Tompkins Co., with ages (where known) closely corresponding. So I conclude that Antje Sanders, rather than being the second wife of Adrian⁵ Robert⁴, is the otherwise unknown first wife of Adrian⁶ Pieter⁵. Jacobus, husband of Elizabeth Berry, is most likely the otherwise unknown son of Pieter⁵ Van Houten and Rachel Lyne, and Johannis and Maria Van Houten, the witnesses of Adrian and Antje's son Pieter, are most likely Adrian's brother and sister rather than being husband and wife. Further, it seems most likely that James Van Houten, husband of Hannah Wisner, is the son Isaac⁵ Van Houten and Maria Post baptized as Jacobus in 1770.

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REPLIES TO QUERIES

Readers are urged to send copies of their replies to the Editor so that this regular forum can prove to be helpful to present and future readers. The following contributors have generously shared their knowledge and comments about questions asked in the previous issues.

2005-25 [Information about Jacob Serven and Catherine De Beer who married 16 June 1744]

The marriage banns were recorded on 16 June 1744 in the Hackensack Dutch Reformed Church for Jacob Server, young man, and Cathrina Beer, young woman. He was born in Tappan and living there. She was born in Hackensack and living there at the time of their marriage. Jacob Server/Servent and Catherine Beyr/Beer/De Beer had at least six children. Four were baptized at Tappan, Jacobus at Schraalenburg, and Abraham at Clarkstown. Here are the baptismal dates and the names of the witnesses:

21 Jul 1745 Cathrina	Jan Perrie, Cathrina (his wife)
18 Oct 1747 Antye	Jacob Eikesen, Susanna (his wife)
27 May 1750 Jacobus	Hendrick Boogert and wife [Grietjen Beer]
16 Mar 1755 Jan	Jan Perrie, Elisabeth (his wife)
27 Mar 1758 Grietye	Petrus Perrie, Elisabeth (his wife)
7 Dec 1760 Abraham	Abraham Servent, Brechje Servent

If we can indentify the baptismal witnesses, perhaps we can discover the parents of Jacob Server. On page 29 of Ethel K. Konight's 1994 *The Ackerson/Eckerson Family in America* we learn that Jacob Eckerson