

Preliminary guide to Dutch manuscripts

Dutch Reformed Church records

Bergenfield True Reformed Protestant Dutch, NJ [MC 603]

The Reformed Church of Schraalenburgh was organized around 1724 and shared ministers with worshipers at Hackensack from 1737. In 1748 a second minister was called, and the two individuals (one 'conservative' and one 'progressive') preached alternately at Schraalenburgh and Hackensack.

- Records concerning the founding and building of the church of Schraalenburg, and arrangements with the church of Hackensack, including petitions, subscriptions, resolutions, and correspondences, 1725-1790 (3 folders)
- Loose records of marriage, baptism, and membership, 1724-1749 (1 folder)
- Minutes of the consistory, 1784-1827 (p. 1-66, 83-87) until 1798 in Dutch; list of church members 1786-1827; register of marriage, 1813-1827; church accounts 1827-1832 (1 volume)

Marbletown Reformed Church, Ulster County NY [Ac. 731]

- Correspondence and documents concerning the shared ministry of the consistories of Marbletown, Rochester, and Wawarsing (holographs and copies), 1751-1757
 - Call from the elders and deacons of the three consistories for Jacob Frelinghuysen to be pastor of the congregations upon his ordination in the Netherlands, with letters from Jacob Frelinghuysen from the Netherlands, and notification from Theodorus Frelinghuysen about the death of Jacob Frelinghuysen and his brother during the journey back, 1751-1753 (4 items)
 - Correspondence, minutes and documents, mainly concerning the call of Henricus Frelinghuysen to fill the vacancy, 1754-1757 (5 items)

New Brunswick First Reformed Church, NJ [Ac.2749]

- Register of baptisms (1717-1794); elections of officers (1717-175); minutes of the consistory at Raritan, NJ., 1736-1738; pew records, 1735?-1742; ledger accounts, 1735-1743 (all entries in Dutch).

N.B. available online at <https://rucore.libraries.rutgers.edu/rutgers-lib/38385/>

Family and personal papers

Dewitt, Magtild van Kinswilder papers [Ac.1474]

- Inventory of her estate, including plantations „Sorgvliet“ and „De Knip“, jewelry, household goods and slaves, Curacao, 1747

N.B. The inventory has been used as a scrapbook for newspaper clippings, starting 1826, which obscure many of the details. Slaves are listed for the estate of the widow Dewitt and widow Ferrarius, and sometimes include family names in addition to first names, as well as children. One of the slaves is listed as „onder de Biscoenders gevangen (caught under de Biscoenders“); two others „in't bosch wegh geloopen“ (run away into the woods).

Fisher, Hendrick Papers [Ac. 787]

Hendrick Fisher (born Hendrick Visscher, 1697-1779) was elected as member of the Colonial Assembly from Somerset County, NJ in 1745 and served until he was almost 80 years of age. He was chairman of the standing committee of Correspondence and Inquiry (1774), president of the first Provincial Congress of New Jersey (1775), and founder and first president of the Board of Trustees of Queens College, NJ (1769).

- Miscellaneous letters received (in Dutch), 1736-1776 (10 items)
 - Correspondents include Zeger van Oostveen (Tienhoven, the Netherlands), 1747, 1757 and Theodorus Frelinghuysen concerning the death of his brother, [1754].

Frelinghuysen Family Papers [A (Frelinghuysen)]

- Family papers, 1699 and not dated [18th century]
 - Agreement with Hendricus Foreest concerning a piece of land in Riswijck, Kings County, NY, 28 April 1699
 - Religious notes and drafts of letters (unsigned), 18th century
- Theodorus Frelinghuysen, 1725 and not dated
 - Resolution by representatives of the five Raritan congregations to send Theodorus Frelinghuysen to the Netherlands and get reimbursed after being called, circa 1742

Hardenberg Family Papers [A (Hardenbergh)]

- Dina Van Bergh Hardenbergh (1725-1807)

Dinah Van Bergh emigrated from Amsterdam to New Jersey in 1750 after her marriage to Johannes Frelinghuysen, minister of the consistories of Raritan, Millstone, and North Branch (Readington), where he also taught students from home. Two years after his death in 1754 Dinah Van Bergh Frelinghuysen married his former pupil Jacob Rutsen Hardenbergh.

- Diary of Dina Van Bergh, Amsterdam, 1746, with letter to her brother-in-law Henricus Frielinghuysen (Henry Frelinghuysen), 1755, and religious poem and two letters in different handwriting, undated and unsigned [Ac. 979]
- Letters from Dina Van Bergh Hardenbergh to her daughter Rachel Wijnkoop, 1796, 1803, and to her parents-in-law Johannes Hardenbergh and Maria Dubois 1760, [Ac. 730]

N.B. For a transcription of these materials see J.H. de Bank, *De leiding van des Heeren liefde met Dina van den Bergh (Amsterdam 1725 - New Brunswick 1807): Aantekeningen, dagboek en brieven.* (Houten: Den Hertog B.V., 1994), which includes her 1749 diary and letters kept at the Gardner A. Sage Library of New Brunswick Theological Seminary, New Brunswick (translated at).

- Jacob Rutsen Hardenbergh (1736-1790)

Jacob Rutsen Hardenbergh, son of Colonel Johannes Hardenbergh (1706-1786), was a Dutch Reformed clergyman who became the first president of Queen's College (Rutgers University)

- Handwritten sermons in Dutch and English by Jacob Rutsen Hardenbergh, circa 1773-1776 (bound)

Hardenbergh, Johannis G. Farm Ledgers [Ac. 2002]

Johannis Gerardus Hardenbergh (1731-1812) was a signer of the Articles of Association and a member of the Committee of Safety and Observation during the Revolutionary War, and held various local offices through his life. He built a farmhouse in 1762 at Kerhonksen, 16 miles from Kingston, known as the "Old Fort" where he lived with his family and slaves.

- Farm ledgers of Johannis G. Hardenbergh, Ulster County, NY, 1763-1794 (2 volumes)
 - Vol. "A," 1763-1773
 - Vol. "B," 1773-1794 (with index)

Livingston, John H. Papers [MC 987], folders 1-3

John Henry Livingston (1746-1815), born in Dutchess County, New York, studied theology at the University of Utrecht, the Netherlands from 1766 to 1770, when he received the degree of doctor of theology and was ordained by the Classis of Amsterdam. He served as professor of theology and the fourth president of Queen's College (Rutgers University) from 1810 to 1825.

- Letters sent by Livingston (handwritten copies), 1773-1774
- Letters received, mainly in Dutch, partly with transcriptions, 1766-1824
- Miscellaneous documents, relationship with Livingston unclear, 1685, 1688
 - Letter from the widow of Cornelis Steenwyck, New York, about her late husband's estate (unaddressed and unsigned), 1685

- Draft letter to Leiden theologians Jacobus Triglandius, Fredericus Spanhemius, Johannes a Marck and Hermann Witsius, 1688

Rysdyck, Isaac [MC 351]

Isaac Rysdyck (d. 1790), who matriculated from the University of Groningen in 1751, was a Reformed Church clergyman, who served as minister to Hopewell, New Hackensack and Poughkeepsie (1765-1772) and of Fishkill, Hopewell, and New Hackensack (1772-1789). Proficient in Greek and Latin, he was principal of a classical school at Fishkill.

- “Index Rerum,” list of references to passages in the Bible, c. 1764 (1 volume)

Ten Broeck, Cornelius Papers [A (Ten Broeck)]

Cornelius Ten Broeck (1718-1790) was born in Kingston, Ulster County, and married Margaret Louw in 1746, after which he settled in Harlingen, Somerset County, NJ as a farmer. He served as a freeholder of the county in 1779 and again in 1782, and was a member of the state assembly for Somerset County in 1783.

- Family correspondence, 1747-1789 and not dated, mainly in Dutch, with handwritten translations (box 1)
- Miscellaneous papers concerning the building of the Dutch Reformed Church of Harlingen (Millstone), and the appointment of and differences with the Rev. Frymoet after the death of Johannes Frelinghuysen as minister of the consistories of Raritan, Millstone, and North Branch in 1754, with handwritten translations, 1750-1756 (box 2, folder 1)

Vanderlinde, Benjamin [A (Vanderlinde)]

Benjamin Vanderlinde (1719-1789) was the first Reformed Dutch minister ordained in America instead of the Classis of Amsterdam. He was examined and called to Paramus on September 27, 1748.

- Theological study note book, 1746 (1 volume)

Rutgers University Archives

Rutgers Board of Trustees [RG3], box 1, folder 6

- Copies and extracts of resolutions at the General Synod of the Dutch Reformed Church in New York, October 1784, concerning a professorate of theology at Queens College, New Brunswick [Not dated, 4 items]

- Letter from Jacob Rutsen Hardenbergh to the ministers assigned by the Synod to supervise the founding of a seminary in Schenectady, NY, with apologies for not being able to attend the meeting and his thoughts about the matter, November 1, 1784

Documents originating from the Dutch Republic

Nederlandsch Hervormde Kerk, Synode van Noord Holland (Dutch Reformed Church, Synod of North Holland) [Ac. 430]

- Proceedings of the synod meeting at Enkhuizen, July 25-August 3, 1786 (handwritten, 1 volume)

Brodhead, John Romeyn Papers [A (Brodhead)], oversize box

John Romeyn Brodhead (1814-1873) was a historical scholar and collector who was appointed by New York governor William Seward to procure transcriptions of documents relating to the early history of the state from various Dutch, English, and French archives. The edited transcriptions were published by the state as Documents relative to the colonial history of New York: procured in Holland, England, and France (15 vols., 1853-1883). Brodhead was also the author of the History of the state of New York (2 vols., 1853-1871). In addition to miscellaneous transcriptions from 17th Dutch manuscripts the papers contain the following materials in Dutch:

- Correspondence, 1842-1843, 1856
 - Letter from J.A. de Zwaan Czn., National Archives, The Hague, concerning a promotion he received by royal decree because of his work with Brodhead in 1841, with copies of the decree and a letter from Minister W.A. Schimmelpenninck van der Oye, 1842-1843
 - Notification of the election of John Romeyn Brodhead to the Maatschappij der Nederlandsche Letterkunde (Society of Netherlands Literature), Leiden, with certificate, 1856
- Autograph letters and documents from naval commanders, stadtholders, and politicians concerning administrative matters relating to the Dutch wars with Spain, France, and England, originating from the Archives of the Admiralties of Zeeland, Rotterdam, and Amsterdam 1613-1677, 1781 (25 items)

Brodhead presumably purchased these documents after the fire on January, 28, 1844 at the Ministry of Naval Affairs building in The Hague, where the admiralty archives were kept. The smoldering archives were thrown out of the windows and scattered through the city. Only part of the burnt materials was returned and is now kept in the National Archives. Other materials ended up in the hands of collectors.

1. Johan van Oldenbarnevelt, States General, The Hague, to unknown admiralty: Request to provide Pieter Willemszn. Jager a position, when a vacancy arises, for reasons explained in Jager's petition.
May 9, 1613
2. Johan van Oldenbarnevelt, States General, The Hague, to the Admiralty of Rotterdam: Letter concerning sending Capiteyn Vinck with a good warship carrying letters from Johan van de Veken.
August 6, 1613

3. Maurits, Prince of Orange, Earl of Nassau, Marquis [of Veere and Vlissingen], to the [Admiralty of Zeeland]: Request to allow French ambassador D'Espesses, returning to France, the use of a warship to reach Calais without hindrance after having done important business for the country.
December 25, 1624
4. Johan Evertsen, from the ship [illegible] to unknown admiralty: [contents illegible].
May 30, 1629
5. Admiral Johan Evertsen, ship "Vlissingen" in the anchorage of The Downs, to the Admiralty of Zeeland: Letter concerning the announcement of British admiral John Penington that the King of England has ordered the Spanish ships to leave, with request to send fireships and warships.
October 2, 1639
6. M[aaarten] Harpertzoon Tromp, ship "Amelia" at Grevelingen, to Admiralty of Zeeland: Request to send forty big bundles of breaming rope for distribution among the ships, with report of progress against the French.
June 19, 1644
7. Joan Braemse and Cornelis de Witte, [fort] Lillo (North of Antwerp), to the Admiralty of Zeeland: Notification that skipper Harman Barentsen Haaechman from Amsterdam had not declared four large quarters of syrup to be shipped to the enemy and was therefore taxed for this.
July 9, 1644
8. Cornelis de Witt from warship at Zwemershouck to [Admiralty of Zeeland]: Letter accompanying a list of all ships and goods that have passed the warship in the past two weeks during the blockade of the Flemish coast.
June 8, 1645
9. [Maarten Harpertzoon Tromp], ship "Amilia," to unknown admiralty: Request to send warships to prevent the opening of trade to Flanders following negotiations after the capture of Bourbourg by the Duke of Orleans.
August 5, [1645]
10. [Willem II], Prince of Orange, The Hague, to Admiralty of Zeeland: Request to allow Mr. De Bregij, French Ambassador to Poland, the use of a warship for transport to France when he arrives in Zeeland.
December 27, 1649
11. Michiel de Ruyter, ship "De Neptunis:" Resolution of the Commander and Council of War to capture or at least destroy the fleet of Admiral George Ayscue during its retreat for repairs while they are not expecting it and before they are able to get assistance after losing the battle of Plymouth.
August 28, 1652
12. [Admiral] Witte Cornelisz de Witt, ship "Princesse Longsou," to the Admiralty of Zeeland: Letter concerning men who are sent back with Captain Jan Pouwells, because they are unable to serve in Vice Commander De Ruyter's squadron, with request to provide them with appropriate means at the place they sailed from.
October 4, 1652
13. Admiral Johan Evertsen, ship "Holland" at Blanckenbergen, to [Admiralty of Zeeland]: Request to send extra sailors with his son Captain Cornelis Evertsen the Younger to supplement the number of sailors on the rolls of Captain Adriaen Bancker.
December 5, 1652

14. Admiral Witte Cornelisz de Witt, ship "Lieuwaerden" at Schoonevelt, to the Admiralty of Zeeland: Request to allow new water supplies for Jan van Acker's ship after taking twenty-seven casks of water for the use of other ships, of which eight still have to be returned.
April 26, 1653
15. Johan de Witt, States General, The Hague, to [the Admiralty of Zeeland]: Letter accompanying the resolution of the Estates General concerning the deployment of the fleet of [rear admiral] Cornelis Evertsen [the Older].
September 5, 1658
16. Johan de Witt, States General, The Hague, to unknown admiralty: Request to notify the States General about the whereabouts of the warships and their requested meeting in Terschelling, as stipulated in the resolution of September 4, 1658.
September 9, 1658
17. Aert van Nes, ship "Princess Louise" behind Pontal, Brazil, to the Admiralty of Rotterdam: Account of the ship's journey sailing with Captain De Liefde from July 27 to Pontal via Cadiz, Portugal, where they met with Vice-Admiral Michiel de Ruyter and eight ships.
August 21, 1661
18. Egbert Meeuwisz Cortenaer from the ship "Prins [Maurits]" to Admiralty of Rotterdam: Account of ship's journey visiting Falmouth, cruising with Captain Mangelaer's ship, and being held up by many storms, with request for provisions.
September 27, 1661
19. John Maurice, Prince of Nassau-Siegen, Cleve, to the Admiralty of Rotterdam: Letter of recommendation on behalf of skipper Lammerts, arrested at Rotterdam because he did not declare certain goods other than iron thread.
July 1, 1664
20. Godefroi, count d'Estrades (French ambassador) to the Estates General: Request to release the ship "La Margueriette" carrying goods from Scotland, captured at sea and held for a long time in the Rotterdam harbor, as it is against the rules of free trade (letter in French).
June 18, 1665
21. Jan de Liefde, ship "Groot Hollandia" at Bommershoofd near Bergen, Norway, to [Admiralty of Rotterdam?]: Account of a meeting with the Admiralty's deputies about accompanying the ships from the Dutch East India Company and other Dutch ships after altercation with the English; and the supply of water, beer, and food.
August 29, 1665
22. Michiel van Gogh, Dutch ambassador to England, Oxford, to admiralty [of Zeeland]; Letter concerning the capture and imprisonment of Andries de Mister and Jan Roeloffs, who have been allowed to stay with van Gogh in his lodgings after his intercession.
October 19, 1665
23. [William III], Prince of Orange, Kwartier tot Alphen, to Admiralty of Zeeland: Intercession on behalf of the Grand Duke of Tuscany concerning the ship "the Constantinople" of skipper Steven Dring, from London to Livorno, held up at Vlissingen while carrying certain goods (listed).
February 10, 1673

24. Jan van Nes from het Nieuwe Diep, Texel, to unknown admiralty: Account of arrival at Texel and request to receive orders, with notice of additional recruits and the absence of Captains Pieter van de L[illegible] and C. van der Hoeve.
June [8], 1677
25. William, Prince of Orange, to the Admiralty of Amsterdam: Letter in support of the request by Johan Christoff Munsterman, who was employed by vice Admiral Zoutman and lost his left arm during the battle on August 5, to pay him a silver ducat a week as compensation throughout his life instead of the promised three hundred and fifty guilders.
November 17, 1781

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