

Jacob Walichsen [van Winkle] 1599 to 1657: A Founding Settler of New Amsterdam in 1624



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Jacob Walichsen [van Winkle] was among the very first settlers of New Amsterdam. He was a farmer on one of the first eight farms (*bouwerie*) established in 1624 in New Amsterdam.^{3, 4, 5}

Jacob Walichsen [van Winkle] is listed as Person Number 23 in the list of “Early Settlers” on the website New Netherland Settlers 1609-1640.⁶

Jacob Walichsen [van Winkle] was born in Winkel,⁷ Noord Holland, Netherlands in about 1599. He was the son of Jacob Walichs and Tryntje Willems. The Walichs family appears as landowners of considerable extent in the village of Winkel as early as 1326, when their lands were bounded in part by the Walichsdyke.

In his youth, Jacob Walichsen [van Winkle] appears to have been a sailor and an adventurer. There are those who believe that he visited New Netherland as a deckhand on a Dutch vessel in about 1618 (at age 19 years), but there is no documentation yet.

In 1621 the newly incorporated Dutch West India Company (the Westindische Compagnie or WIC / DWIC) obtained a twenty-four-year trading monopoly in America and Africa and sought to have the New Netherland area formally recognized as a province. Once provincial status was granted in June of 1623 the company began organizing the first permanent Dutch settlement in New Netherland. On March 29, 1624, the ship, *Nieu Nederlandt* (New Netherland) departed with the first wave of settlers, consisting not of Dutch but rather of thirty Flemish Walloon families. The families were spread out over the entire territory claimed by the company. To the north, a few families were left at the mouth of the Connecticut River, while to the south, some families were settled at Burlington Island on the Delaware River. Others were left on Nut Island, now called Governor's Island, at the mouth of the Hudson River, while the remaining families were taken up the Hudson to Fort Orange (Albany). Later in 1624, and through 1625, six additional ships sailed for New Netherland with colonists, livestock, and supplies.

New Netherland settlers did not come to America because of religious or political persecution, nor were they destitute. They came with the hope of making money. The majority were single males, primarily tradesmen or farmers. The West India Company negotiated to bring these people over because the company felt they would be useful in building an economy that would turn a profit for the company. Also, these individuals felt this was an opportunity whereby they could make their fortune.⁸

Jacob Walichsen [van Winkle] was not one of the people who arrived on the first seven ships. He actually *preceded* that group of settlers! He was one of the adventurers who had arrived in New Amsterdam between 1621 and 1624 with the hope of making money. In 1624, Jacob Walichsen was about 25 years of age, an adventurer, ready for anything!

The [West India Company] retained ownership of the cultivated lands, the buildings, and the stock and installed the colonists as tenants. ... [Between 1624 and] 1630 [and later] some eight

¹ *Jacob (Walichs) Walichsz (abt.1599-1657) | WikiTree FREE Family Tree*

² *Jacob Walingse Van Winkle Notes (poeland.com)*

³ *Manhattan: 1624 – 1639*, Edward Van Winkle, 1916, pp.6-8.

⁴ *"The Dutch": Bouweries and Early Settlement in New Amsterdam — The Gotham Center for New York City History*

⁵ *The Rise and Fall of New Netherland - Martin Van Buren National Historic Site (U.S. National Park Service) (nps.gov)*

⁶ https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Space:New_Netherland_Settlers_1609-1640

⁷ “Winkel” is also spelled “Winkle”.

⁸ *A Brief Outline of the History of New Netherland*

bouwerijen (boweries, farms) were set up on Manhattan, consisting of a farmhouse, a haystack, a barn, and fifty *morgan* of land, about 100 acres.⁹

By good fortune (or by knowing the right people), Jacob Walichsen [van Winkle] was assigned one of the farms. In fact, Jacob Walichsen (and his partner, Claes Cornelissen Swits) were the tenants of Bouwerie No. 5 for twelve years, from about 1624 until 1636.

When Jacob Walichsen became the tenant of Bouwerie No. 5, he ceased to be an adventurer and he became a founding settler of New Amsterdam!



Detail of a map of Manhattan from 1639, showing the location of Bouwerie No. 2, 3, 4, and 5 near the southern tip of the island

On 02 Jul 1631 Patroon Kiliaen Van Rensselaer submitted a 01 May 1630 inventory that listed by each farm and tenant name an inventory of farm animals present at that date. Jacob Walichsen [Van Winkle] and his partner's Bouwerie No. 5 had 6 saddle horses, 2 stallions, 6 cows, 2 bulls, 22 sheep, and it noted that they were "successful in breeding cattle" there.¹⁰

The following is abstracted from: *Jacob (Walichs) Walichsz (abt.1599-1657) | WikiTree FREE Family Tree*

Jacob Walichsen [van Winkle] and his brother Symon Walichsen were sent aboard the ship den Soutbergh (the Salt Mountain) to arrive in The Netherlands in April of 1633 by Patroon Kiliaen Van Rensselaer to get more stock for the DWIC farms. The Patroon must have held the brothers in high esteem as it seems curious that he sent tenant farmers on such an errand.

At Hoorn, the brothers joined the Dutch Church, for the time they were in The Netherlands, on 18 December 1633, by certificate from their New Netherlands church.

⁹ *The Colony of New Netherland: A Dutch Settlement in 17th Century America*, Jaap Jacobs, Cornell University Press, 2009, page 119.

¹⁰ *Manhattan: 1624 – 1639*, Edward Van Winkle, 1916, p. 44.

Jacob Walichsen [Van Winkle]'s partner Claes Cornelissen Swits managed the farm on Manhattan Island at Bouwerie No. 5 in his absence. Jacob Walichsen [Van Winkle] returned to New Netherlands in 1635 aboard the ship *de Konig David*.

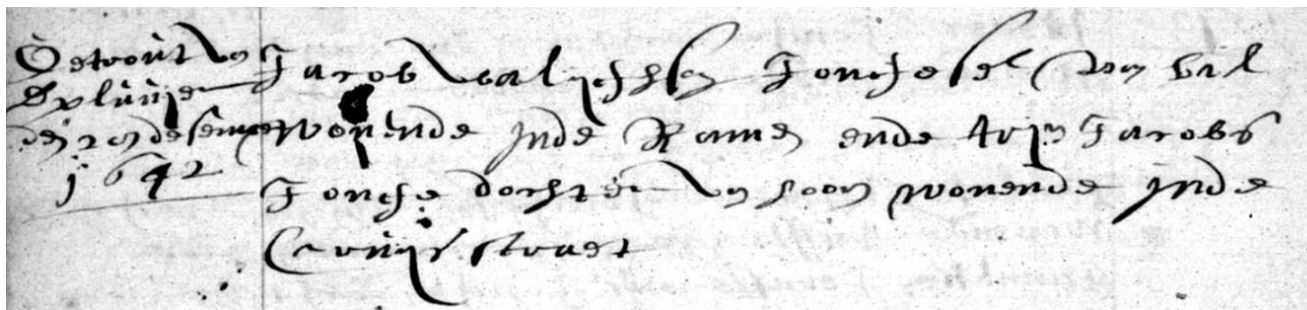
Jacob Walichsen [Van Winkle], after the lease at Bouwerie No. 5 ran out in 1636, signed a contract with Patroon Kiliaen Rensselaer on 15 August 1636 to settle and farm at Rensselaerswyck (later Greenbush) which was up the Hudson River 150 miles from Manhattan and on the opposite shore from Albany. It is unclear how long Jacob Walichsen [Van Winkle] farmed at Rensselaerswyck, but it is apparent that he was away from the farm for periods of time.

He was at New Amsterdam on 12 January 1639 to testify concerning the captain's behavior on the trip back from The Netherlands in 1635 aboard the *de Konig David*. Included in his testimony was that he was 40 or 41 years old at that time and that he was a resident of New Netherland.

On 29 August 1641 Jacob Walichsen [Van Winkle] was selected as one of the Twelve Men representing Manhattan, Breuckelen (Brooklyn), and Pavonia to advise Governor Kieft at Manhattan concerning Indian matters. This board existed for only about a year.

In 1642 it is likely that Jacob Walichsen [Van Winkle] made another trip back to The Netherlands (it may have been protracted for some currently unknown reason) and he seems to have returned to New Netherland by about 1648. Records for these voyages have not yet been found.

During this visit to The Netherlands, Jacob Walichsen [Van Winkle] married Tryntje Jacobse on 28 Dec 1642 in Hoorn, North Holland, Netherlands. At the time of their marriage, Jacob was 43 years of age, and Tryntje was about 22.



Marriage record of Jacob Walichsen [Van Winkle] and Tryntje Jacobse on 28 Dec 1642 in Hoorn, North Holland, Netherlands

Jacob and Tryntje had the following children: ¹¹

Marretje Jacobse van Winkle, b. before 1643, Hoorn, North Holland, Netherlands

Grietje Jacobse van Winkle, bap. 11 Oct 1643, Hoorn, North Holland, Netherlands

Walling Jacobse van Winkle, bap. 13 Feb 1648, Hoorn, North Holland, Netherlands¹²

Jacob Jacobse van Winkle, b. 1650, Albany New Netherland; bap. 10 Oct 1650 in the Fort Church in New Amsterdam, New Netherland

Simon Jacobse van Winkle, bap. 24 Jul 1653, Pavonia, New Netherland

Annetje Jacobse van Winckel, bap. 02 Jan 1656, New Amsterdam, New Netherland

¹¹ See also: *A Genealogy of the Van Winkle family by Daniel Van Winkle.pdf* (archive.org)

¹² *Walling Van Winkle - Wikipedia*

In 1649 Jacob Walichsen [Van Winkle] petitioned the DWIC for permission to settle on the Fresh (Connecticut) River and was, sadly, refused such permission. On 28 July 1649 there was a demonstration concerning this New Amsterdam court petition reported.

On 12 May 1650 Jacob Walichsen [Van Winkel] was at the Rensselaerswyck farm with his family and he was preparing to move out of that colony. Perhaps he was ready to leave the tenant or leasing system of the DWIC and look into owning his own land. Patroon Kiliaen Van Rensselaer reportedly offered Jacob Walichsen [Van Winkle] his choice of several farms as he tried to entice him to stay in the Rensselaerswyck Colony, but Jacob Walichsen [Van Winkle] was determined to go. He got permission to move to Manhattan on 01 October 1650 and his infant son Jacob Jacobsen [Van Winkle] was baptized there at the New Amsterdam "fort church" on 10 October 1650.

Also, in 1650 Jacob Walichsen [Van Winkle] and his wife joined the New Amsterdam Dutch Reformed Church. Their 6 children all initially went by the name "Jacobsen", but later went by "Van Winkle".

On 23 October 1654 Director-General Peter Stuyvesant issued a patent or grant of 25 morgens [50 acres] of land to Jacob Walichsen [Van Winkle] at Pavonia¹³ "across the North River, between Gemoenpa and the Kil van Kol" (now Bergen Point, Jersey City, NJ), and Jacob Walichsen [Van Winkle] and his family soon settled there. This grant was confirmed for Jacob Walichsen [Van Winkle]'s heirs by Governor Carteret on 31 March 1668 (this document listed the original owner as "Jacob Wallingen Van Hoorn"). Pavonia was destroyed by Indians in September of 1655 and Jacob Walichsen [van Winkle] and his family went to Fort Amsterdam to wait for the Indian trouble to settle down.

Jacob Walichsen [van Winkle] was admitted as a lesser burgher of New Amsterdam on 17 April 1657. The family is believed to have gone back to Pavonia in 1657.

Jacob Walichsen [van Winkle] died in 1657 (probably) in Pavonia.

Some additional information on the van Winkle Family

On 16 October 1657 widow Tryntje Jacobse [van Winkle] petitioned for appointment of guardians for her minor children [as was required before she could remarry]. Michiel Jansen and P. L. Vandergrift were appointed as guardians for the children.

Widow Tryntje Jacobse married second to Jacob Stoffelsen on 17 August 1657 and they settled at the Ahasymus, Pavonia property he had inherited from his first wife, Vrouwtje Idese (died 1641) who was the widow of Cornelis Hendricksen Van Voorst.

Tryntje Jacobse and Jacob Stoffelsen had 2 children and both of them died very young. They were granted 8-10 morgens of woodland at Ahasymus on 21 January 1664.

Tryntje Jacobse was one of the first members of the Bergen Dutch Reformed Church (DRC) in 1664. Tryntje Jacobse appeared in court for Jacob Stoffelsen on 06 June 1666 as he was too ill to attend. Jacob Stoffelsen's and Tryntje Jacobse's 01 Jan 1667 lease on the Ahasymus farm (called "Duke's Farm" by the English) was confirmed to Tryntje Jacobse on 31 March 1668 after Jacob Stoffelsen's death and this confirmation listed the farm as "between Communipaw and Kill van Kil".

Widow Tryntje Jacobse married third on 08 June 1668 at Bergen DRC Michiel Tadesen [Van Yderstynne] and they lived at Ahasymus, NJ together until he died in 1670.

¹³ *Pavonia, New Netherland - Wikipedia*

Widow Tryntje Jacobse married fourth on 15 March 1671 at Bergen DRC Caspar Steynmets who brought 9 children including a one-year-old into this marriage. Their wedding was a double wedding, with Tryntje Jacobse's son Walich Jacobsen van Winkle as he married his stepsister Catharyna Michielse Van Yderstyne. On 10 November 1677 Tryntje Jacobse's title to 6 acres at Ahasymus, NJ where she gardened and kept her orchard were confirmed to her and to her heirs by Casper Steynmets.

Son Walich Jacobsen Van Winkle (1648-1728) inherited Pavonia land from his father.

On 03 January 1658 Governor Stuyvesant formally purchased disputed Pavonia land from the Indians and this included Jacob Walichsen [van Winkle]'s land that son Walich Jacobsen van Winkle inherited.

On 16 August 1660 Bergen was founded (in 1871 it became Jersey City, New Jersey) and it included what had been Pavonia (houses inside palisades and farms outside palisades). This is the first permanent organized settlement in what would become New Jersey.

In 1664 the English took over the government and named the area that included Bergen "the province of New Jersey". The Jacob Walichsen [Van Winkle] grant at Pavonia/Bergen/NJ was confirmed by English Governor Carteret on 31 March 1668.

On 15 March 1671 Walich Jacobsen van Winkle married his stepsister, Catharyna Michielse Van Yderstyne (born 1650), in a double wedding with his mother and her fourth groom Caspar Steynmets at Bergen DRC and they settled at Bergen, NJ and began their family. They would have 9 children and the first 2 were baptized at the New York DRC and the next 7 were baptized at the Bergen DRC. The "birth" dates for these children on the Family Group page are actually their baptism dates.

On 15 August 1671 Walich Jacobsen van Winkle was elected schepen (judge) at Bergen, NJ. A schepen was to be honest, intelligent, a landowner, a lover of peace, and a professor of the Reformed Religion. On 28 March 1679 Walich Jacobsen van Winkle and his brother Symon Jacobsen van Winkle were two of the fourteen buyers of the Acquackanok Patent (a large tract of land in the vicinity of present-day Passaic and Paterson) from Indian Chief and Sachem Captahem. [This purchase was confirmed on 16 March 1684.

On 06 May 1692 Walich Jacobsen van Winkle conveyed part of this purchase to Cornelisse Van Waggim and on 14 October 1702 he conveyed part of this purchase to son-in-law Hermanus Gerritsen Van Wagenen.] By 30 June 1682 Walich Jacobsen van Winkle and his family lived at Barbadoes Neck and owned land there (500 acres) on the "east bank of the Passaic, [opposite and below the drawbridge,] where he had an extensive farm [embracing much of the present Rutherford]". This was probably part of Acquackanok at this time [as the bounds of Acquackanok then were sometimes construed to extend across the river into the present Bergen County] and may have been part of the Acquackanok Patent.

In 1692 Walich Jacobsen van Winkle represented Acquackanok (elected 02 March 1692) at the General Assembly of the Province of New Jersey and in 1693 he represented Barbadoes Neck there. On 30 June 1695, his home is listed as New Barbadoes, Essex, NJ. Walich Jacobsen Van Winkle was one of the founders of the Acquackanok Dutch Reformed Church (later the First Reformed Church of Passaic) and he was named as elder there in May of 1696 and on 20 May 1701.

Walich Jacobsen Van Winkle's will was dated 01 November 1707, and it was proved 12 September 1729 (Trenton, NJ, liber B, p.133). It lists Acquackanok as his home and gives his land to his sons with the provision that they pay their sisters appropriately. He stipulates that "all my children shall divide my said estate equally".

Granddaughter Sara Walichse van Winkle (born 1688), daughter of Walich Jacobsen van Winkle (1648-1728), married Gerrit Corneliusen van Voorst (1689-1785) at New Barbadoes, NJ and they raised 9 children there.