

WESTERFIELD

The use of consistent surnames by Dutch families was not customary until the 19th century or so, so exactly when this family began using "Westervelt" is not clear – perhaps it coincided with the family's move to America. Most available compiled records attach it to Lubbert, the earliest known ancestor in this line, but that may be only because no other surname (based on his father's name, say) is known.

Lubbert Van Westervelt

10-g grandfather

Lubbert Van Westervelt is no more than a name, perhaps listed in the birth or other record of his son, Lubbert Lubbertsen, or inferred from his son's name.

Sources and Related Information

- Daniel D. Tuck correspondence
- Jim Hume genealogy website
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Ancestral File

Lubbert Lubbertsen and Gessie Roelise

9-g grandparents

Lubbert Lubbertsen was born about 1620 in Meppel, Holland. He became a farmer.

Gessie Roelise is also presumed to have been born in Holland. Her parents are unknown.

They married about 1645 and reportedly had six children:

- Margrietje Westervelt
- Maritie Westervelt
- Roelof Westervelt
- Lubbert Lubbertse Westervelt
- Jurrien Westervelt
- Jan Westervelt

In 1662, the family sailed from Amsterdam on the ship "De Hoop" (The Hope) to New Amsterdam, now New York, arriving on June 29. The passenger list showed Lubbert, his wife and four children – the two "missing" children could have not yet been born or could have died young. An older child might even have married.

Dutch Names

First Names

It is common for Dutch first names to be appended with a suffix such as "je", "tje", "ie" or "ke" to change a male name to female (like Paul to Paula) or create an "endearing" nickname (like Bob to Bobby).

Child Naming Customs

Many Dutch families followed a custom of naming the first two boys after their grandfathers and the first two girls after their grandmothers. The paternal grandparent was usually honored first.

Surnames

Before surnames were mandated in the Netherlands by the French emperor Napoleon in 1811, names could and did change from generation to generation. For example, Jan Lubbertse might be so called because he was the son of Lubbert but *his* son might use the last name Jansen (son of Jan). The same person might even use two surnames over the course of his life. The son of a shoemaker might be called Shoemaker early in life, using the same name as his father but later, if he himself became a carpenter, might be called Timmerman. Other surnames used reflected geographic origins or physical attributes (for example, De Groot means "the big").

Sources

"Dutch Names and Nicknames" from olivetreenealogy.com

"Dutch Surnames" by Miriam Klaasen

They settled in Flatbush on Long Island where Lubbert applied for a building plot in December 1662. Later, in 1670, he purchased a house from a man named Jan Miserol. He obtained some farm lands in 1672 but sold them the following year.

The “Low Dutch”

Low Dutch was a name adopted by early colonists whose ancestors arrived from Holland, or the low countries of Europe, to distinguish themselves from the Germans of the high countries. Some were of French descent but they had come to this country by way of Holland or had made early connections with the Dutch when they arrived. A close-knit group whose main bond was the Dutch Reformed Church, they arrived in New Netherland in the 17th century and their descendants migrated to New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. In hopes of establishing a community for future generations, many Low Dutch families made the difficult journey to the Kentucky frontier in 1780. By the early 1800s many had become discouraged and moved to Indiana.

Source: rootsweb.com

At some point, Lubbert and Gessie moved to New Jersey as they joined the Hackensack Reformed Dutch Church in Bergen County, New Jersey in 1686. Lubbert is presumed to have died in Hackensack but details of his death are not known.

Gessie was still alive in December 1696 as she was a witness at her grandson's baptism. No record of her death has been found.

Sources and Related Information

- Daniel D. Tuck correspondence
- Jim Hume genealogy website
- "The Genealogy of the Westervelt Family," compiled by the late Walter Tallman Westervelt, Revised and Edited by Wharton Dickinson, 1905
- Passenger List, “De Hoop”, 1662

Lubbert Lubbertse Westervelt and Hilletje Pouluse

8-g grandparents

Lubbert Lubbertse Westervelt was born in Staplehorst, Holland, probably around 1661. Shortly after his birth, his family emigrated to America on the ship “De Hoop”.

A DECADE IN BRIEF The 1680's

France claims the lower Mississippi River lands and call them “Louisiana” ▫ William Penn signs a treaty with the Delaware Indians and makes payment for Pennsylvania lands ▫ Peter the Great becomes Czar of Russia ▫ Sir Isaac Newton publishes a paper on his principle of universal gravitation ▫ J.S. Bach and Gabriel Farenheit are born

About the same time, Hilletje Pouluse was born in New York, New York to Pieter and Tryntje Pouluse.

They were married at the Bergen Reformed Dutch Church on March 14, 1680 and had four known children:

- Pieter Westervelt
- Aeltie Westervelt
- Jan Westervelt, born in 1686
- Andries Westervelt

Lubbert died about 1694 in Hackensack, Bergen County.

Hilletje later married a man from England named Jan Loots. Nothing is known about her death.

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- Daniel D. Tuck correspondence
- Jim Hume genealogy website

- "The Genealogy of the Westervelt Family," compiled by the late Walter Tallman Westervelt, Revised and Edited by Wharton Dickinson, 1905
- Passenger List, "De Hoop", 1662



The "Old Bergen Church" hosts the longest continuous congregation in New Jersey. Services were first held in a log schoolhouse in 1660. In 1680, an octagonal sandstone church was built which served for over 90 years until the congregation built a second church in 1773. A third building, still standing today, was dedicated in 1842.

Jan Lubbertse Westervelt and Dirckie Huyberse Blauvelt

7-g grandparents

Jan Lubbertse Westervelt was baptized on March 27, 1686 in Bergen County, New Jersey. He was the son of Lubbert Lubbertse Westervelt and Hilletje Pouluse.

Dirckie Huyberse Blauvelt was born in Rockland, New York and baptized on April 3, 1687 at the New York Reformed Dutch Church. She was one of five children of Huybert Gerretse Blaaeuwveldt and Willemetje Ariens.

The couple married on May 28, 1709 in Hackensack, New Jersey. They had seven children:

- Hillena Westervelt
- Jacobus Westervelt, born about 1712
- Elena Westervelt
- Marritje Westervelt
- Gerrit Westervelt, presumably died young since the name was used again
- Gerrit Westervelt
- Sara Westervelt

Little else is known of this family. Dirckie is thought to have died after 1729.

Sources and Related Information

- Daniel D. Tuck correspondence
- Jim Hume genealogy website
- "The Genealogy of the Westervelt Family," compiled by the late Walter Tallman Westervelt, Revised and Edited by Wharton Dickinson, 1905
- "The Blauvelt Family in Nova Scotia," compiled by Robert Brook Blauveltdt, 1939

Jacobus Westervelt and Debora Van Schyven

6-g grandparents

Jacobus Westervelt was born about 1712 in Hackensack, New Jersey to Jan Lubbertse Westervelt and Dirckie Huyberse Blauvelt.

Debora Van Schyven was born on November 10, 1717, also in Hackensack. Her parents were Jan Wouterse Van Schyven and Geertle Maris.

Jacobus and Debora were married on December 29, 1733 in Schraalenburgh, Bergen County, New Jersey when Debora was just 16. They had four known children:

- Jan Westervelt, born about 1734
- Jacob Westervelt, born in 1737
- Isaac Westervelt
- Direkje Westervelt

Jacobus died about December 1743 in Bergen County, New Jersey. Debora died before 1749 but the details are unknown.

Sources and Related Information

- Daniel D. Tuck correspondence
- Jim Hume genealogy website
- "The Genealogy of the Westervelt Family," compiled by the late Walter Tallman Westervelt, Revised and Edited by Wharton Dickinson, 1905

Jacob Westervelt and Maria Demaree

5-g grandparents

Jacob Westervelt was born on July 1, 1737, reportedly in Rockland, New York, although he was christened in New Jersey.

Maria Demaree was born about 1735, probably in New Jersey.

This couple "Americanized" their names: Jacob was known as "James", Maria is sometimes referred to as "Mary" or "Marie" and their last name is often shown as "Westerfield."

They had several children, including a daughter named Deborah.

The family headed west in 1780 to join other Dutch settlers in Kentucky. The move had tragic consequences, as described in a letter from H.R. Stafford, a descendant, to historian Lyman C. Draper in 1865:

A DECADE IN BRIEF

The 1730's

Benjamin Franklin publishes the first "Poor Richard's Almanac" ✕
The country's first circulating library opens in Philadelphia ✕
George Washington, John Adams and Daniel Boone are born ✕ Georgia, the last of the original thirteen colonies, is founded by James Oglethorpe

My grandfather, James Westerfield was a large man weighing 333 pounds, himself and family ... emigrated to Kentucky by way of Pittsburg to Louisville intending to go to Herrod's Station in now Mercer Co. Ky. Him and company about 30 persons started from Louisville to the Station camped for the night on the waters of Beargrass about 12 miles out and sometime in the night was attacked by a party of Indians while asleep, and but few escaped death. The old man [James Westerfield] and two of his daughters among the number killed. The old lady [Maria Demaree-his wife] saved 3 children by hiding them in a sink hole, one child in her arms and 2 under her clothes to keep them from crying... After killing the Old Man they seemed to think they had killed a giant. Three buttoned themselves in his big coat and danced. Deborah Westerfield and her cousin Polly taken off prisoners to Detroit, then sold to the French as servants, was badly treated and by the sympathy of the same, sold into another family. They remained until exchanged and finally got home ... respectfully narrated as I learned it. H. R. Stafford, Carroll Co., March 28, 1865"

Evidence suggests that Maria lived to see Deborah again but no specifics are known of her death.

Sources and Related Information

- Daniel D. Tuck correspondence
- French Tipton Papers, volume V
- Robert Brian Stewart genealogy website
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Ancestral File
- Letter of H.R. Stafford posted by Tommy Craven on genealogy.com

The WESTERFIELD line ends with Deborah Westerfield who married James BAXTER.