

THE PENDERIS FAMILY TREE AND THE ORIGINS OF THE PENDERIS FAMILY NAME

3 April, 2020

The story as we have been able to fathom it so far

(The first time that a name appears in the following notes, it is presented in bold type)

According to Debrabandere (1), the names **Pender(s)**, **Pander**, **Penners**, **Pendris**, **Pendaries** and **Penri(s)** are all derived from an occupation and have their origin in central Netherlands. The names mean “brouwer” or “naar de broupan” - in other words the name is derived from the occupation of a brewer.

An investigation of where and when the name in its many forms were first found, shows that:

- 1354 - **JAN PENDER** lived in Leuven (in Belgium, east of Brussels)
- 1374 - **JAN DE PENDER** lived in Geraadsbergen (Grammont)
- 1557 - **JAN SMITS PENRE** worked “int panhuys (a brewery) te Leuyt” (Leut)
- 1561 - **WILLEM PENRIS** lived in Sittard (near Maarstricht in present-day Netherlands)
- 1664 - **MAES PENDERIS** lived in Mechelen-Maas (between Antwerpen and Brussels in central Belgium)
- 1721 - **CLEMENT PENDRIS** lived in Elslo

On 28 August 1767, **JAN PENRIES** (given as **JOHANNES PENRIS** on his marriage certificate), born in 1735 in SITTARD (which is about 24 km NE of MAARSTRICHT in the SE of the Netherlands in the province of Limburg, close to the present-day German border in the east and the present-day French border in the south), swore an oath of allegiance, the so-called “POORTER EED”, to the city of AMSTERDAM, and paid the “Poorter gelt” due. In 1769 he married **MARGARETHA KUELKENS** (born 1746) in Amsterdam. He was 34 years of age at the time and she was 23. They were both Roman Catholics.

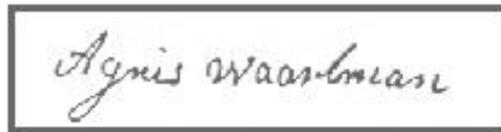
We assume that he had moved from Sittard to Amsterdam. A Poorter is a “erkende burger van een stad; hy genoot krachtens die hoedanigheid zekere rechten. Het verwerven van poorterschap was aan voorwaarden (soms betaling) gebonden”.(2). In Northern Netherlands (i.e. the Netherlands of today, Southern Netherlands refers to present-day Flanders and Belgium) there was a differentiation between a “burger” and a “poorter”. A “burger” was in this case someone who had obtained citizenship of a city by reason of birth while a “poorter” was one who only obtained full citizenship at a later stage because he came from elsewhere and then could only obtain citizenship after having lived in the city for some time and after having paid the “poorter geldt” and having sworn the “poorter eed”. We

know that Sittard has only been part of the Netherlands since 1815 while between 1830 and 1839 it was part of Belgium

On 25 July 1801, 34 years later, his son, **HENDRIK PENRIES**, who, according to the "Poorter Eed" documentation was born in Amsterdam ("Poorter alhier, is een ingebooren Poorter"), and was a shoemaker by trade, also took the "Poorter Eed" of the city of Amsterdam. On this document there is no mention of any monies paid over. On the birth certificate of his son, in 1816, HENDRIK PENRIES' name had been changed to PENDERUS. His occupation was still given as "schoenmakersknecht".

Prof C de Jong (personal communication, 1998) informs me that the son of a Poorter was normally also required to take the oath even though he (the son) was born in the city. The income thus derived was an important part of the city's revenue.

On 15 May 1816 **HERMANUS PENDERUS** (son of HENDRIK PENDERUS and **ANGENIS WAARTMAN**) was born in Amsterdam. On her son's marriage certificate in 1843, ANGENIS WAARTMAN (who was widowed by then) signed her name "AGNIS" WAARTMAN:

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Agnis waartman".

Her occupation on this marriage certificate is given as "turfverkoopster".

We have no details at present of other children born to this marriage except that one Johanna Maria Margaretha PENDERUS was born on 15 March 1800 in Amsterdam. At this stage the identity of her parents has not been established.

HERMANUS PENDERUS married **MARIA WESSELMAN** on 19 August 1843.

According to the notes made by ERNA VAN GINKEL from data supplied by her father, PHILIP SACHSE, who was the son of Hermanus and Maria PENDERUS' youngest child and only daughter, AGNES, MARIA WESSELMAN had been taken to an orphanage as a baby. According to him, from the clothes worn by the child and from information supplied by her mother when she was left at the orphanage, she was from royal descent. At this stage this "royal" connection has not been confirmed.

Her marriage certificate states: " ... en Maria Wesselman, diensbode, geboorteplaats onbekend, wonende alhier, oud agt-en-twintig jaren, meerderjarige dogter van onbekende ouders "

HERMANUS PENDERUS and MARIA WESSELMAN had three children :

- **HERMANUS HENDRICUS PENDERUS**, born in Amsterdam on 26 June 1844
- **JOHANNES HENDRICKUS AUGUSTINUS PENDERUS**, born on 26 May 1846
- **AGNES PENDERUS**, born on 10 April 1851

On 29 June 1850, HERMANUS PENDERUS and MARIA WESSELMAN paid “Een Gulden en 50 Cents” to have their two boys, who at that stage were 6 and 4 years of age taken up at the “Burger Wees-Huis” or city orphanage in Amsterdam (“Bewijs van Inschrijving” of “Burger Wees-Huis” in Amsterdam, Register number 3 page 181). Note that this was before the birth of their daughter; she was born 10 months later.

The spelling of the second son’s second name, Hendrickus is given as such on his gravestone but variously as “Hendricus” and “Hendrikus” on archive documents relating to his death and his will.

We don’t at this stage have any details of why the parents would have sent their sons to the orphanage. It appears that the word “gearresteerd” on the document is misleading to us and actually means “besluit” in this context. In other words, the couple paid the fee that was prescribed (“vasgestel” or “besluit”) by the city council in the regulation of 16/8/1822 which deals with the admission of children to the orphanage.

The two boys were on the third ‘expedition’ of a total of five that sailed from the Netherlands between 1854 and 1860 with a total of 378 children of between 11 and 18 years of age. The third expedition was on board the ‘Henriette’ which sailed on 9 August 1858 and arrived in Cape Town two months later on 19 October 1858.

Their ‘baas’ (sponsor) was PD MYBURGH (possibly Paul Daniel MYBURGH b. 7 April 1817) from the Klapmuts area. The entry for JHA PENDERUS also notes: ‘gedrost in 1863’.

The terms of their service contract with the ‘Nederlandse en Kaapstadse Commissie’ of 1855, was that they would work for their sponsor until their coming of age. To compensate for the cost of the passage and keep, for the first 2½ years they would not be paid for their work but only receive board and lodging. Thereafter their pay would be £5 per annum of which £4 would be paid into a savings account to which they would have access on reaching the end of their contract period at age 21. (4)

The surname of these two young immigrants and the offspring of the elder, was spelled as either “PENDERUS” or “PENDERIS” on various documents. It was spelled “PENDERUS” in 1869 on the baptismal certificate of the eldest son of Hermanus Hendrikus PENDERUS and Johanna NIJHOFF, namely Hermanus Johannes (born 23 March 1869), and again on the baptismal certificate of Adriaan Jacobus (born 30 March 1887 in Worcester), on the baptismal certificate of Johannes Stephanus (born 11 August 1895 in Oudtshoorn) and on the baptismal certificate of Susanna Wilhelmina (born 25 September 1895 in Oudtshoorn). Whereas on the baptismal certificate of their second son, Johannes Hendrikus Augustinus (born 15 March 1871), the surname is spelled “PENDERIS”.

HERMANUS HENDRICUS PENDERIS was raised in the Worcester district at Breede River on the farm BOSJESMANSVALLEI also called BOESMANSVLEI, which in 1868 was owned by Pieter Barend

BOTHA (the farm was subsequently subdivided into WILGEVLEI or HERVAT and BO ERF. Wilgevlei is currently the property of Mr Pietman Hugo - personal communication).

HERMANUS HENDRICUS PENDERIS married **JOHANNA MARIA NIJHOF** (born 17 August 1846) on 22 June 1868 in St Stephens Church in Cape Town. The minister was Rev. Robertson (Golden wedding anniversary invitation).

There was a farm school in the area that opened in 1868 and recently closed after 117 years. This school's name was originally WABOOMSRIVIER and later BOTHA LAERSKOOL. There is no reference in the school's records to anyone with the name of Penderis having attended the school. Mr Pietman Hugo told me that there was a family BOTHA on BO ERF who raised a number of children.

HENDRIK GERHARDUS KAREL PENDERIS, the third youngest son of HERMANUS HENDRICUS PENDERIS was born on the farm Wilgevlei. We need to investigate whether HERMANUS HENDRICUS was the owner of or a "bywoner" on the farm at any time.

JOHANNA NIJHOF was a child immigrant who came to South Africa from Utrecht. She was born in Lunteren, in the Ede municipality, Gelderland province to **DERKJE NIJHOF** who was unmarried and unemployed at the time. The identity of her father is unknown. The child's name is given as Jantje on her birth registration document. She left Rotterdam aboard the ship "Joan" on 1 August 1857 and arrived in Table Bay on 16 November 1857, one of a group of 56 boys and 14 girls, who, after their arrival in South Africa were placed with families in and around Cape Town by a commission set up for this purpose. She was eleven years of age at the time (3). Her sponsor ("baas") in South Africa was R C JURGENS from Klapmuts.

HERMANUS HENDRICUS PENDERIS and JOHANNA MARIA NIJHOF had eleven children of whom eight, six boys and two girls, survived into adulthood:

- **Hermanus Johannes (Maans) PENDERIS** b.23 March 1869 d.1955
 - **Johannes Hendrikus Augustinus (Jan) PENDERIS** b.15 March 1871 d.1938
 - ***Teodoor Karel PENDERIS** b.1 March 1874 d.6 April 1876
 - ***Maria Johanna PENDERIS** b.30 March 1876 d.4 April 1876
 - **Johanna Maria (Duckie) PENDERIS** b.7 April 1877 d.October 1965
 - **William Theodore (Willie) PENDERIS** b.28 February 1879 d.16 May 1949
 - **Sara Agnes PENDERIS** b.16 March 1881 d.11 January 1955
 - **Hendrik Gerhardus Karel (Hennie) PENDERIS** b.21 May 1883 d.28 September 1944
 - ***Pieter Jacobus PENDERIS** b.16 July 1885 d.22 October 1885
 - **Adriaan Jacobus (Attie) PENDERIS** b.30 March 1887 d.12 February 1965
 - **Thomas Edmund (Tom) PENDERIS** b.18 March 1892 d.22 February 1985
- (* - Died as children)

JOHANNES HENDRICKUS AUGUSTINUS PENDERIS, was reported to have lived in Johannesburg near Ferreira mine where he had a shop ("boerewinkel"). He was married to **SARA VAN DE SANDE**. He died on 3 December 1896 and was buried at Braamfontein cemetery (Plot No 6270).

It was believed at one stage that JOHANNES HENDRICKUS AUGUSTINUS PENDERIS was killed in the famous Braamfontein dynamite explosion (HENRY PENDERIS, Johannesburg, 1998,

personal communication). However the explosion was on 19 February 1896. He therefore did not die in the explosion but of course it is possible that he died as a result of the explosion.

According to the records in “Nederlandse Emigrasie na Suid-Afrika 1800 - 1900” (3), **JEREINTJE DE DIE** (or **DE DRIE**), the widow of VAN DE SANDE, emigrated to South Africa with her seven children. They left Groede in Seeland on 14 November 1861 aboard the ship “Johannes Christiaan” and arrived in Table Bay on 19 February 1862. Her occupation is given as “winkelier” and the reason for her emigration was given as “ekonomiese verbetering”. She was 44 years of age at the time. The names and birth dates of her children are supplied and among these was SARA born on 26 January 1846 in Nieuwvliet. She died in 1929 in the Cape.

*They had no children of their own (information on death certificate in Pretoria archives) but raised a daughter, **MARIE PENTZ** (information from notes in possession of Mrs June Wailling, UK from HERMANUS JOHANNES “Maans” PENDERIS, eldest son of HERMANUS HENDRICUS and JOHANNA NIJHOF).*

AGNES PENDERUS (born 10 April 1851) stayed on in Holland and on 10 February 1875 married **PHILLIP CHRISTIAN SACHSE**. She had four sons (the youngest, Hendrik, died as a 2-year-old) and one daughter. In 1891 (when AGNES was 40 years old) the whole family moved to South Africa and settled near where her brother lived and had a shop - at Ferreira mine in present-day Johannesburg. Their surviving children were:

- **Philipp Christian SACHSE** b.4 November 1875 d.16 December 1955
- **Hermanus Hendricus SACHSE** b.31 January 1878 d.5 July 1957
- **Johann Ludwig Wilhelm SACHSE** b.3 February 1880 d.27 April 1968
- **Agnes SACHSE** b.6 November 1884 d.22 August 1967

References:

- (1) Debrabandere, Frans (1983): Verklarend Woordenboek van de Familienamen in België en Noord-Frankrijk. Two volumes, Brussels.
 - (2) Woordenboek der Nederlandsche Taal, Vol 12, 1949
 - (3) Ploeger, Jan & de V de Kock, Gideon (1989): Nederlandse Emigrasie na Suid-Afrika 1800 - 1900. University of Port Elizabeth, Dept Computer Science.
 - (4) Sicking, Ivo (1995): In het belang van het kind; Nederlandse kinderemigratie naar Zuid-Afrika in de jaren 1856-1860, Vakgroep Geschiedenis der Universiteit Utrecht, Utrecht, ISBN 9072131282
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