

From Geesteren to Nieuw Netherlands

About one and a half miles north of the town of Borculo, NL is the small town of Geesteren. From Geesteren you need to travel about one mile east through Nederbiel where you will find the Lubberdinck farm. It is on the farm where we first locate the earliest members of the modern day Burklow (and similars) family. There we would have found Jan Bernts Lubberdinck (b. 1606) and his wife Jennecken Ten Olinckhaven (b: 1585). They were married on April 2nd 1617 in Geesteren, Borculo Manor, Zutphen Earldom, Province Of Gelderland.

Jan Bernts and Jennecken produced 6 children:

- Bernt Janszoon b: 1618 in Geesteren, NL
- Wyllem Jansen b: 1621 in Borculo, Guilderland, NL
- Jan Jansz b: 1623 in Geesteren, NL
- Harman Jansen b: Abt 1626 in Geesteren, NL
- Gerrit Janszoon b: 1629
- Geertruijdt Jansd b: 11 Sep 1646 in Mallum, Eibergen, NL

Wyllem had sailed to New Amsterdam by 1658 where he married and begun to establish a life for himself and his wife Cornelia Van Salee. Eventually Wyllem sailed back to The Netherlands to see his family. By this time his brother Harman Jansen was married to Willempe (Willimetie) Warner and had a 5 year old daughter Jannetye and a 4 year old son Reynier Harmans.

In the early months of 1662, Wyllem, Harman with his wife and young children along with a fellow Borculo resident, Adriaen Hendricks, set out on their long journey. Later they would all list their occupations as farmers.

Their journey would have begun by heading west until they reached the frozen waters of the IJssel river. From there they would have followed it north on it's winding journey to the IJsselmeer. Here they would have faced what I suspect would have been a bitter fifteen mile journey to the other side of the IJsselmeer with the goal of reaching Medemblik. From there they would travel south across land to Amsterdam where they stayed for about a month.

The first part of their ocean journey would take them out from the port of Amsterdam north along the Dutch coast to the island of Texel. Arriving at Texel they would find their ship "De Trouw" (The Faith) anchored awaiting favorable winds.

The "Schipper" of Record: Jan Jansz. Bestevaer. On the ship's record, its departure is listed as Amsterdam with a destination of "Nieuw A'dam (New Amsterdam). It is not clear why they joined the ship at Texel. It is possible that by the time they had arranged for their passage the ship had already departed for Texel to wait for favorable winds. This would not be the first trip for De Trouw. Between 1659 and 1664 De Trouw and her "Schipper" Jan Jansz Bestevair would make the crossing six times.

On the De Trouw passenger list their names appear as follows:

- Willem Jansz from **Berckeloo**

- Harmen Jansen from **Berckeloo**, wife and 2 children 5 and 3
- Adriaen Hendricks farmer from **Berckeloo**

This is where we find the origins of the many American variations of the name (Burkelow, Burklow, Bartlow, Barkalow, Bartlow, Barkuloo, Barricklow etc..) The family surname prior to this would have been Lubberdinck (Lubberding). The source of this name would have been their farm located near Geesteren. As was traditional, if they would have relocated to another farm they would have assumed the name of that farm. Having departed their farm they registered as Wyllem Jansz or Harmen Jansen “van Berkeloo” or Wyllem and Harman “From Berkeloo”.

After sailing from Texel on 24 March 1662, they would have crossed the North Sea to the south of England. It would have been traditional to use the southern or “winter route” crossing the Atlantic just north of Bermuda. After passing the coast of Virginia they would have turned north to Nieuw Nederland (New York). Such voyages usually took from 6 to 8 weeks. They arrived in New Netherlands June 12th 1662 as the van Berkeloos.

Six years before their arrival, the settlement of New Utrecht had established itself and began to grow. Records indicate that two years before their arrival there were already eleven “substantial” houses. As with many settlements of it’s time, New Utrecht had a Block K-house with palisades, or defenses established for protection. This small settlement surrounded by the forest home to many Indian which were considered “savages. After being ordered by the Governor to build the defenses they also clear the forest back within gun-shot range for better defense.

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