

# File Research Report

## Simpson/Sympson/Simson Families of Long Island – 1600s

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### RESEARCH OBJECTIVE

Collect all evidence to show early Simson/Sympson/Simpson families in Gravesend and nearby locations (Kings County, New York) in the 1600s and early 1700s. See if any could be family of Alexander Simson (c.1665-1721).

### ITEMIZED RESEARCH RESULTS

This is a listing of all documented events, so far located, relating to the Simson family of Kings County, New York in the 1600s and 1700s. Some are from original records but many are derivative sources and the originals have not been consulted. Many of the originals are not microfilmed and reside at The Holland Society in New York City as well as at other New York area historical societies and libraries – a future research trip, perhaps. Various authors have commented on the inadequate early translations of the early records of the Dutch Reformed Church of New York and how these translated documents can't be relied on. This is why access to the originals is so important and it's a shortcoming of this research that the originals have not been examined except in a few cases.

Spellings of the surname that have been used in searches include:  $Sx_1msx_2n$  and  $Sx_1mpsx_2n$  where  $x_1$  could be "i" or "y" and  $x_2$  could be "e", "i" or "o". This appears to cover all the variations observed in the records.

#### 1. Peter Simson of Gravesend

1	19 Dec 1645	<p>Peter Symson was one of the associates who had land in Gravesend when Governor Kieft granted the first town patent to "Lady Deborah Moody, Sir Henry Moody, John Tilton, Sergeant James Hubbard, Lieut. George Baxter, and their associates".<sup>1</sup></p> <p><i>This suggests that he was at least 21 years of age, born before 1625. There is no listing of a Simson (of any spelling) in the records of the Great Migration (1620-1635), after the Mayflower landing, so Peter came from England perhaps closer to 1640 as a young</i></p>
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		<i>man. However, the Great Migration Project is not yet complete for surnames beginning with "S" so more information may eventually turn up on the immigration of a Simson from England.</i>
2	1650	Peter Simson was a freeholder of Gravesend. <sup>2</sup>
3	4 Mar 1650	Peter Simson was granted a plantation lot in Gravesend. <sup>3</sup>
4	2 Aug 1650	Peter Simson married Grietje ---. <sup>4</sup>  <i>Assuming age 25 at marriage this would place his birth about 1625. Also, Margariet (Anglicized as Margaret) is seen as Grietje in Dutch [the -ie- is pronounced as -ee-].</i>
5	26 Mar 1653	Ambrose London (or Lonnen; supposedly English) bought Wm Teller's plantation in Gravesend from Peter Symson, agent of Wm Teller. <sup>5</sup>
6	18 Apr 1653	Gerret De Mof (or Muffe) bought part of Peter Sympson's plantation in Gravesend, per town record. <sup>6</sup>
7	25 Mar 1654	Pieter Symson and others delivered a letter, signed in behalf of the town of Gravesend by John Tilton (clerk), to the court at Fort Amsterdam pertaining to the election and confirmation of the Schout[administrators] and Magistrates of Gravesend. <sup>7</sup>
8	1657	Peter Symson had 13 morgens [about two acres per morgen as used in Holland] of tillable land in Gravesend; name appeared on a "list of what land every man hath in tillage ter yeare in Gravesend." <sup>8</sup>
9	26 Apr 1657	Peter Simson bought, or was allotted by town authorities, plantation lot #27 in Gravesend, with the improvements. <sup>9</sup>
10	28 Mar 1659	Peeter Sympson witnessed (by his mark) a lease by William Teller of his house and plantation in Gravesend to John Greekes. <sup>10</sup>
11	7 May 1659	Willem Teller bought plantation lot #27 in Gravesend from Peter Symson for the use of his son Andrew Teller, per Gravesend record. <sup>11</sup>
12	24 Oct 1659	Peeter Sympson and John Tilton witnessed a nine-year lease by John Griggs from William Teller; property was "twoe Lotts or Plantacions

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		lyeing and being heare in Greavesand of ye number 37: and: 2". <sup>12</sup>
13	27 Dec 1661	Peter Simpson and seven others signed a petition on behalf of the town of Gravesend: "We have received a writing whereby the subscribers forcibly insist on robbing us of another portion of our land, so that we English should have no profit therefrom, neither for horse, nor cow nor any another creature, free of danger, under pretence of Gysbert van Dyck's right to Coney Island, which we opposing say and testify that we have a right thereto, as appears and can be made manifest by our privilege and land brief (patent) signed and sealed by the then governor, Willem Kieft, whereof we by experience feel and think better and more valuable than that title you would give us by right of Gysbert van Dyck's ground brief, or that you should obtain in a week or month's time with his council and secretary by whom such things were done. What regards your pleasure, we shall not heed but send back as an answer our meaning in your own words – That you quit our land and do not molest us there neither by horse, nor ox, nor cow, nor hog nor any other creature, for Coney Island belongs to us in property. Therefore before we should lose it we have something further to say in the matter. The 27 December 1661. In the name and on the behalf of the entire Town of Gravesend". <sup>13</sup>
14	1668	Peeter Symson testified that he appraised crop damage in the year 1668 – part of the town records of Gravesend wherein John Griggs sued William and Obadiah Wilkins for crop damage caused by their cattle. <sup>14</sup>
15	c.1670	Peter Sympson appeared on a listing of tillable land for all inhabitants of Gravesend at a town meeting about 1670. <sup>15</sup>
16	17 Mar 1676	Peter Simson bought a house, lot and garden in Brooklyn from Albert Cornelise Wantenaer (per Vol. 1 of Land Papers, page 68). <sup>16</sup>

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		<i>It is not clear if this is the same Peter Simson of Gravesend or another Peter; however there is no other record of a second Peter.</i>
17	19 Jun 1677	Peter Simpson was sworn to the jury at Court of Sessions held at Gravesend in the West Ryding of Yorkshire on Long Island [the West Riding included Staten Island, today's Kings County and today's town of Newton; Yorkshire included Staten Island, Long Island and what is today Westchester County]. <sup>17</sup>
18	19 Dec 1677	Peter Simpson was sworn to the jury at Court of Sessions held at Gravesend in the West Ryding of Yorkshire on Long Island. <sup>18</sup>
19	19 Jun 1678	Peter Simpson was sworn to the jury at Court of Sessions held at Gravesend in the West Ryding of Yorkshire on Long Island. <sup>19</sup>
20	18 Dec 1678	Capt. Stillwell, and others, of the inhabitants of Gravesend, complained against Capt. Hubbard and Peter Simpson, for not maintaining the general fence. <sup>20</sup>
21	1683	Peter Sympson appeared on a Gravesend accounting of the persons, lands and cattle that were ratable [taxable]. He had six cows, two horses and 44 acres. <sup>21</sup>  <i>Peter was a farmer in Gravesend.</i>
22	1683	Peter Simson appeared on the assessment roll of Gravesend. <sup>22</sup>
23	2 May 1687	Peter Sympson of Gravesend, with consent of wife Greta Symson, deeded to Reyneer Van Sickland of Amesfoort [Nieuw Amersfoort - Flatlands] lot number 7 in the town of Gravesend with house, garden and orchard; along with two horses, one wagon plow and tack, and various animals for 7000 guilders of ten payments. Peter and wife to be allowed to use four acres of land that he exchanged with Theofilus Johnson for their lives. Signed Peter Sympson (his mark P), Greetie Sympson, Reyneer Van Sicklyn. Witnesses Stoffle Jansen, Adam Machiell, John Tilton Senr, John Tilton Junr. <sup>23</sup>
24	1696	Grietje, Peter's wife, resided in Gravesend. <sup>24</sup>

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25	20 Dec 1696	<p>Peter Simson died before 20 Dec 1696.<sup>25</sup></p> <p><i>Peter died after 2 May 1687 and before 29 Dec 1696, based on conveyance records. It appears that the conveyance of 2 May 1687 may have been a preparation for Peter's old age where he used the four acres for the rest of his life – perhaps he was unwell or infirm at the time.</i></p>
26	29 Dec 1696	<p>A receipt of payment for property stated: Greetie Sympson, widow of Peter Sympson of Gravesend received payment from Reyneer Vansycklyn of Gravesend for one of two indentures made by Peter Sympson and Greetie his wife with Reyneer Vansycklyn on 2 May 1687. She signed with her mark. Witnesses were Nicholas Stillwell, Henry Fillsin, Jochem Gulick, John Lake (his mark X), Nicholas Stillwell Junr.<sup>26</sup></p>
27	c.1698	<p>The name “Margaret Simson” appeared on the census of Kings County (town of Gravesend) that was taken about 1698. There was only one female in the household. There was no (E) beside her name, which indicated she was Dutch; as noted elsewhere, many residents of Gravesend were English.<sup>27</sup></p> <p><i>There is no further mention of Margaret or Grietje in the records. Based on her given name and the census of 1698, Grietje was of Dutch origin.</i></p>
28		<p>Peter Simson made his mark to documents.<sup>28</sup></p>

**Summary for Peter Simson:** He was born before 1625, but not much earlier, and was English. He married Margariet [-?-], of Dutch origin, 2 Aug 1650 and died between 2 May 1687 and 29 Dec 1696, living in Gravesend all his life. Margariet was his only wife, outliving him and dying after 1698. Assuming Margariet was approximately his age, they would have had children between about 1651-1670.

**2. Elisabeth Simson of Brooklyn**

1	bef. 11 Jun 1677	<p>Elisabeth Pietersen Simpson married Willem Brouwer, son of Adam Brouwer Berchoven and</p>
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		<p>Magdalena Jacobs Verdon. They had children Magdalena, Lysbeth, Adolphus, Johannes, and Catharina.<sup>29,30</sup></p> <p><i>Willem married his second wife before 1702 so Elisabeth likely died before that date. Elisabeth may have been born about 1657 or before, based on her marriage date and this is consistent with the dates that Peter and Margariet likely had children.</i></p>
2	11 Jun 1677	<p>Lijsbeth Pietersen, wife of Willem Brouwer, is on “Second List of Members” of the Dutch Reformed Church in Brooklyn.<sup>31</sup></p>
3	12 Oct 1681	<p>Willem Brouwer and wife Lysbeth baptized daughter Lysbeth at the Reformed Dutch Church of New Amsterdam. Witnesses were Jacob Leydsler and Elsje Thymens.<sup>32</sup></p>
4	10 Aug 1684	<p>Adolphus Brouwer (son of Willem Adams and Elizabeth Simpson) of Brooklyn was baptized.<sup>33</sup></p>
5	5 Oct 1690	<p>Willem Brouwer and Lysbeth Simpsons[sic] baptized daughter Catharyn with witnesses Barent Janszen and Marritje Brouwers, at the Reformed Dutch Church in New York.<sup>34</sup></p>

**Summary for Elisabeth Simson:** She was born about 1657 or somewhat before and was the daughter of Peter Simson and Margarite [-?-]. She married Willem Brouwer before 11 Jun 1677, had five children, and died before 1702.

**3. James Simson of Flatbush**

1	1690	<p>James Simson was constable of Flatbush.<sup>35</sup></p> <p><i>This suggests he was probably at least 21 at the time so James was born before 1669.</i></p>
2	c.1698	<p>The name “James Simson (E)” appeared on the census of Kings County (town of Flatbush) that was taken about 1698. There were one male, one female, five children and four slaves in the household. The (E) indicated English as opposed to Dutch; most residents of Flatbush were Dutch and not English.<sup>36</sup></p>
3	16 Jul 1699	<p>Jeems Simson and Martha, his wife, were witnesses to the baptism of Lysbeth, daughter</p>

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		of Michiel Parmentier and Neeltjen, at the Reformed Dutch Church of Brooklyn. <sup>37</sup>  <i>Neeltjen was sister to Martha.</i>
4	1700	James Simson was keeper of the courthouse and jail in Flatbush. <sup>38</sup>
5	20 Jan 1701/2	Jeems Simson was one of the names that appeared on a drawing of the lots of Flatbush. <sup>39</sup>
6	14 Jan 1703/4	James Sympson of Flatbush, with consent of wife Martha, sold to Samuell Phillips of the City of New York 200 acres in New Castle [then part of Pennsylvania] on the west side of the Delaware River near the head of Apoquinamy Creek [today Apoquinimink Creek] for 740 pounds, 16 shillings, 8 pence. [This property would be in the vicinity of Blackbird State Forest based on the description in the indenture]. James signed and Martha made her mark. <sup>40</sup>
7	22 Nov 1704	The will of James Sympson stated: James Sympson of Flatbush bequeaths to wife Martha all houses and lands in New Castle County, Pennsylvania or elsewhere. She has full power to sell property to support herself and James' children. If she chooses not to sell then the property goes equally to his children (only son Peter and daughter Elizabeth) and his wife's four children by her former husband John Remsen (Sophia, John, Rem, Jonica) after the decease of his wife. James gives to Martha all his goods and chattels during her life and, after her decease, whatever remains is to be divided equally among the six children. James' eldest son Peter to obtain his smith tools before any division be made. Martha is named executrix. Signed James Sympsin. Witnesses Henry Filkins, Daniell Rapalie, Jeronimus Remsen. <sup>41</sup>
8	7 Nov 1705	An affidavit by members of the Low Dutch Reformed Congregation, Vlackbos [Flatbush], Long Island, stated that they consent to obtaining a minister from Holland and will contribute to his support. James Sympsen was one of 47 names. <sup>42</sup>

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9	20 Dec 1706	James Sympson was assessed for 39 acres in Flatbush. <sup>43</sup>
18	9 Apr 1707	Machieil Parmentier of Dutchess County and Neltije his wife, one of the daughters and coheirs of John Damon, late of Flatlands; Martha Sympson of Flatlands, daughter and coheir of John Damon; Peter Uziell and Cornelia his wife of Dutchess County, daughter and coheir of John Damon; Samuella Phillips and Aelkie his wife of the city of New York, daughter and coheir of John Damon; Lucas Skermorhorne and Elizabeth his wife of Dutchess County, daughter and coheir of John Damon; Frans Koning and Selia his wife of Dutchess County, daughter and coheir of John Damon; Phillip Cazier (Cashier) of Richmond County, heir to his mother Lyshir deceased who was a daughter and coheir of John Damon; and Russia Damon of Flatlands, daughter and coheir of John Damon sell to Daniell Remsen of Flatlands a house and land in Flatbush containing 8 acres, formerly the property of John Damon, deceased; bounded east by the highway through Flatbush, west by the land of Daniell Remsen, south by the lane leading from Flatbush to New Utrecht, and north by the land of said Daniell for 118 pounds. Signed Neltije Parmentier (her mark X), Peter Uziell, Cornelia Uziell (her mark C), Lucas Skermorhorne, Frans Konin, Martha Sympson (her mark O), Phillip Cazier, Russia Damon (her mark V). Witnesses Henry Filkin, Jacob Hendrickse. <sup>44</sup>

**Summary for James Simson:** He was born before 1669 and died after 20 Dec 1706 and before 9 Apr 1707. He married a woman unknown and had one son, Peter, and at least one daughter, Elizabeth (Peter was eldest - both children were alive at the time of James's will in 1704). He married (before 16 Jul 1699) second, Martha Damon, widow of John Remsen, who had at least four children by John and apparently none by James. Martha was baptized 24 Jul 1661 and married John Remsen at age 20.<sup>45</sup> There is no direct evidence that James is the son of Peter of



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Gravesend but he is of the right age, his eldest son was named Peter and he resided in Flatbush, near Gravesend.

Although there is the possibility that James could be a brother of Peter, and thus born much earlier, say about 1625-1630, he does not appear in any of these early records (unlike Peter who appeared in many records). His first appearance was in 1690 suggesting that he was of a later generation than Peter, likely his son since there was no alternative Simson family in this area at the time.

#### 4. Alexander Simson of Flatlands

1	28 Jan 1688/9	<p>The will of Jan Martens Schenck of Amesffortt left “all estate to wife Jannettie Stephens until, youngist child shall be of age, or come to marriage” Children named were Stephen Johnson (youngest son), Jannetie Johnson, Willemtie Johnson, Neeltie Johnson. Will proved on 2 Apr 1689. (Recorded in Liber 1 of Conveyances, page 140).<sup>46</sup></p> <p><i>Jan Martense Schenck was Jannetje’s first spouse.</i></p>
2	27 Feb 1690	<p>A marriage record at the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Flatbush stated: “Alexsander Symson, young man from Gravesend, with Jannetie Stevensen, widow of Jors Martense Schenck, residing at Amersfort.”<sup>47</sup></p> <p><i>If Alexander were age 20-25 when married then his birth year would have been 1665-70. He may have been a few years older given that Jannetie was probably about age 30. He was “of Gravesend” and, based on wording used in the Reformed Dutch Church records, this meant that he was born there; otherwise, if he were born in England the wording would have indicated he came from Old England, for example. See entry 18, 10 Oct 1709, for an example.</i></p>
3	27 Feb 1690	<p>“Alex Symson married Janetje Stevensen (V Voorhees) wid of Jno Martense Schenck” at the Reformed Dutch Church of Flatbush.<sup>48</sup></p>
4	29 Feb 1690	<p>Alexander Simson/Sympson married Jonica or</p>

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		Jannetje Stevense (Van Voorhees). <sup>49,50</sup>
6	1692	Alexander Simson was grand-juryman (town not stated). <sup>51</sup>
7	28 Nov 1693	Albert Albertson of New York conveyed to Pieter Nevius a lot in Flatlands situated at the east side Alexander Simson and at the west side Gerrit Courten and at the south side the highway, containing about three acres. <sup>52</sup>
8	8 May 1697	Alexander Simson and others (Lucas Slecht, John Sprungh, Albert Stevense, John Kiersted, Barne Vrianse, and Albert Terhune) conveyed 26 acres in Flatlands to Gerret Coerte (Voorhees). <sup>53</sup>
9	8 May 1697	“Garrett Coerten and wife Williamke of Flatlands, deed Alexander Sympson of the same place, land there bounded by that of Simon Janse and Helena Aertsen formerly in possession of Hendrick Peterse and Stephen Coerte also house and lot there bounded by property of Helena Aertsen, Lucas Stevense and Claes Peterse also a lot on Mutilaer’s Island. Signed by Garrett Koerten but not by his wife. Wit. By John Terhuynen and John Hansen.” <sup>54</sup>
10	8 May 1697	Coert Stevense, Lucas Stevense, John Stevense, Albert Stevense, John Kierstead, Barne Vrianse, Alexander Sympson, and Albert Terhuynen, all of Kings County sell to Garrett Courte of Kings County 26 acres in Flatlands bounded east by land of Simon Janse, west by Hendrick Peterses, north by the ditch of a meadow and south by the flats; also 40 acres in Flatlands bounded east by said Hendrick, west by Lucas Stevense, north by the ditch aforesaid and south by the flats; both formerly in the possession of Steven Coerte and others, now in the possession of the said Coert Stevense and others as abovesaid; and also a house and home lot containing 14 acres in Flatlands bounded south by the Kings Highway, north by the land of Lucas Stevense, east by Helena ?? land, west by Clais Peterse; one whole lot of meadow on Mutilaers Island in Flatlands Township called

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		lot number 7; one lot of meadow in the great meadow of Flatlands called lot number 3; two half-lots in the great meadow, numbers 6 and 13; an orchard in Flatlands bounded north by the Kings Highway, south by Tunis Janse, east by Hendrick Peterse and west by Cloisse Wyckoff. Signed by Coert Stevense, Lucas Stevense, John Stevense, John Kierstead, Barne Vrianse, and Alexander Sympson (his mark O). <sup>55</sup>
11	8 May 1697	Coert Stevense, Lucas Stevense, John Stevense, Albert Stevense, John Kierstead, Barne Vrianse, Alexancer Sympson and Albert Terhuynen deed Garrett Courte lad in Flatlands . . . formerly in possession of Stephen Coerte and other . . . and another lot . . . also a lot on Mutilaer's Island[now Bergen Island] . . . and also another lot in Flatlands . . . .” Alexander signed by mark. <sup>56</sup>
12	14 May 1697	Alexander Sympson of Flatlands sells to Albert Coerten of Kings County a half lot of meadow in the great meadow of Flatlands, called lot number 13, bounded between Roeloff Martinse and John Bakers Meadow, the east end thereof joined to the creek and the west to the ditch for a certain sum of lawful money. Signed Alexander Sympson (his mark O). Witnesses Henry Filkin, John Ternuynen. <sup>57</sup>
13	14 May 1697	Alexander Sympson of Flatlands with consent of Jonica his wife sells to Evah van Sycklyn, wife of Ferdinando van Sycklyn of Flatlands a house and garden spot in Flatlands bounded on the south by Kings Highway, north by said Alexander, east by Jacob Tysen and west by Peter Nevins; also firve morgan [one morgan is just over two acres - the "land that can be plowed in a morning"] of land called the flats in the Flatlands bounded on the north by Peter Brewer's lot, on the east end of John the shoemakers land and on the west by the plains or flats of Flatlands; one lot of meadow on Mutilaer's Island [this became Bergan Island and was filled in as Bergan Beach today] in

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		Flatlands, number 9 for a certain sum of lawful money. Signed Alexander Sympson (his mark O), Jonica Sympson (her mark U or V). Witnesses Henry Filkin, John Terhuynne. <sup>58</sup>
14	c.1698	The name “Alexandr Simson (E)” appeared on the census of Kings County (town of Flatlands) that was taken about 1698. In his household were one male, three females and six children. The (E) indicated English as opposed to Dutch, which most residents of Flatlands were. Alexander was unique in being the only English person in Flatlands. <sup>59</sup>  <i>There is no evidence that allows knowledge of who the females and children were, or even if the children were all his.</i>
15	c.1698	The census document summarized the populations of the towns of Kings County. For example, in Flatlands there were 47 men, in Gravesend 31, and in Flatbush 62. <sup>60</sup>
16	20 Dec 1706	Alexandr Sympson was assessed for 98 acres in Flatlands (Evah Van Sycklyn had 2 acres, Steven Schenck [likely stepson] had 20 acres, Martin Schenck [likely stepson] had 103 acres). <sup>61</sup>
17	20 Dec 1706	John Lake was assessed for 124 acres in Gravesend. <sup>62</sup>  <i>John Lake is associated with Alexander’s second spouse, Martha Lie, but I’m not sure of a relationship. Examination of extensive research published on the Internet does not show any connection.</i>
18	10 Oct 1709	“Alexander Simson, Wed <sup>t</sup> V. N. Amelsfoort, met Metthe Lie, Wed. V. London in O. Engle <sup>t</sup> .” Alexander Simson, widower of New Amelsfoort [Flatlands], with Metthe Lie, widow of London in Old England. The registration was made 7 Sep 1709. <sup>63</sup>  <i>This was his second marriage. Jannetje died between 14 May 1697 and 7 Sep 1709.</i>
19	1710	Alexander Simson was resident of Flatlands in

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		1710. <sup>64</sup>
20	1 Aug 1711	Alexander Simson was a deacon of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Flatlands when he signed a petition (with his mark) by the churches of Flatlands, Flatbush and Brooklyn requesting a charter to establish each of the churches separate from the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of the City of New York. <sup>65</sup>
21	5 Sep 1713	Alexander Simson prepared his will on Staten Island, naming his wife Martha Simson as executrix and leaving her one-third of his lands, meadows and mill. He gave to his son John Simson two parts of the remaining two-thirds of his property and gave to his daughter Sarah Simson the third part of the remaining two-thirds of his property. Sarah also received one-half his pewter, pots and kettles. His wife Martha also received Alexander's Negro boy. In a codicil made the same day, Alexander gave to Martha two cows, half his sheep and half his hogs. He gave to John two horses, a mare and colt, a cow and three calves, the plough wagon and tack, half the sheep and half the hogs. He gave to Sarah one cow and one calf. <sup>66</sup>  <i>When Alexander prepared his will in 1713 he must have thought he was about to die, but he lived another seven or eight years and had two daughters with Martha.</i>
22	1715	Alexr Simpson and John Simpson were members of the Richmond County Militia, South Company commanded by Captain James Pollion. John Lake was also a member of the company. <sup>67</sup>
23	12 Jun 1716	Alexander Simson baptized his daughter Tabeta at the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Staten Island. Witnesses were John Simson and his wife (unnamed). The original record is: Sande Semson Sÿn Doghtor genaemt tabeta gedoopt Den 12 June int Jahr 1716 De gotuÿgen Jan Semson en Syn huÿs Vrouw. <sup>68</sup>

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		<i>John Simson was Alexander's son.</i>
24	28 Jan 1719/20	Alexander Simson and Martha Lee baptized daughter Jannetje at the Reformed Dutch Church in New York. Witnesses were James Lee and Justina Lee. <sup>69</sup>
25	28 Mar 1721	Marta Simson[sic] was one of the names on a record of lots in Flatbush. <sup>70</sup>  <i>This suggests that Alexander died before 28 Mar 1721 and after 28 Jan 1719/20.</i>
26	8 Jun 1723	James Sibbit, a widower from London, married Martha Lie, widow of Alex <sup>r</sup> Simson of New York, at the Reformed Dutch Church in New York. Both James and Martha lived in New York. <sup>71</sup>
27	30 Jan 1723/4	Martha Simson and John Lake were witnesses to the baptism of Thabitha, daughter of James Lee and Justina Witvelt, at the Reformed Dutch Church in New York. <sup>72</sup>
28		Alexander Simson made his mark to documents. <sup>73</sup>

**Summary for Alexander Simson:** He was probably born about 1665-1670 or possibly a few years sooner in Gravesend, and married Jannetje Stevensen in 1690 (they had two children, John and Sarah). He owned quite a bit of land in Flatlands over the years, often in concert with members of his wife's family, selling and buying property – by 1706 he had 98 acres. He married a second time to “Metthe Lie” 10 Oct 1709, after the death of Jannetje, and they had two children, Tabitha and Jannetje. He lived his life in Flatlands, dying between 28 Jan 1719/20 and 28 Mar 1721. There is no direct record of his parents although Peter and Margariet Simson of Gravesend fit both the location and the time. There is no record of an alternative Simson family in Kings County at this time.

**5. Tabitha Simson**

1	12 Jun 1716	Alexander Simson baptized his daughter Tabeta at the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Staten Island. Witnesses were John Simson and his wife (unnamed). The original record is: Sande Semson Sÿn Doghtor genaemt tabeta gedoopt Den 12 June int Jahr 1716 De
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		gotuÿgen Jan Semson en Syn huÿs Vrouw. <sup>74</sup>  <i>John Simson was Alexander's son.</i>
2	8 Jul 1738	Tabita Simson married Willem Hyer and had children Gerrit, Walter, and Alexander. <sup>75</sup>
3	6 Dec 1738	Willem Heÿer and Tabitha Simson baptized son Gerrit at the Reformed Dutch Church in New York. Witnesses were Gerrit Heÿer and Sara Bossÿn, his wife. <sup>76</sup>
4	16 Sep 1741	Willem Heÿer and Tabitha Sibbet baptized their son Alexander at the Reformed Dutch Church in New York. Witnesses were Baltus Heÿer and Sara Burger, his wife. <sup>77</sup>  <i>Sibbet was the name of Tabitha's stepfather..</i>
5	26 Aug 1744	Willem Heÿer and Tabitha Simson baptized son Walter at the Reformed Dutch Church in New York. Witnesses were Petrus Heÿer and Sara Heÿer , an unmarried woman. <sup>78</sup>
6	27 May 1756	Tabita Simson, widow of Willem Heyer, with certificate New York – member of Reformed Dutch Church in the City of New York. <sup>79</sup>

**Summary for Tabitha Simson:** She was baptized 12 Jun 1716 and married, first, Willem Heÿer on 8 Jul 1738. Her father was Alexander Simson. She and Willem had sons Gerrit and Walter. She died after 27 May 1756, at which time she was widowed.

**7. Gerson Simson**

1	20 Aug 1749	Gerson Simson, young man, born in Elizabeth Town, married at the Reformed Dutch Church at Smithfield, Pennsylvania, Catharina Brinck, born at Shippeconk, both dwelling at Pechoqually. <sup>80</sup>  <i>Assuming age 25 at this marriage he would have been born about 1724.</i>
2	25 May 1751	Gerson Simson and Cathrina Brinck baptized daughter Geertje at the Reformed Dutch Church at Smithfield, Pennsylvania. Witnesses were Benjamin VanCampen and Geertje Brinck. <sup>81</sup>

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3	4 Feb 1753	Gersom Simson and Cathrina Brinck had their son John baptized at Walpeck Congregation (the Reformed Dutch Church situated on the east side of the Delaware River at Walpeck, Sussex County, New Jersey). Witnesses were John Brinck and Cornelia Brinck. <sup>82</sup>
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**Summary for Gerson Simson:** He may have been born about 1724, and he was born in Elizabeth Town. He married Cathrina Brinck 20 Aug 1749 and had daughter Geertje and son John in 1751 and 1753, respectively. He may be the son of John Simson who married Magdalene Chine about 1715 and then moved to Elizabeth Town about 1721 – there is no other Simson family in Elizabeth Town that would qualify.

**6. Others**

1		Peter Simson had son Robert <sup>83</sup> .  <i>Not substantiated by any other record.</i>
2	29 Oct 1727	The widow of Rob <sup>t</sup> Simson of New York, Margrita Nicols, married Thomas Hikey, an unmarried man of London, at the Reformed Dutch Church in New Amsterdam and New York. Both resided in New Amsterdam. The original stated: Thomas Hikdy, j.m.v. Lond <sup>n</sup> met Margrita Nicols, Wed. v. Rob <sup>t</sup> Simson v. N. York, beide woonen alhier. <sup>84</sup>  <i>Unknown whether this is the Rob<sup>t</sup> Simson, presumed son of Peter, in the above item.</i>
3	7 Feb 1728/9	Jan Simson, with wife Magdaleantje, of Richmond County sold to Henry Johnson for 70 pounds land on the south side of the county of Richmond, adjacent to land of Henry Johnson, and adjacent to land formerly belonging to James Clemons. John signed and Magdaleantje made her mark. <sup>85</sup>  <i>Jan / John is son of Alexander Simson who died in 1721 on Staten Island.</i>
4	13 Dec 1740	A marriage registration at the Reformed Dutch Church in New Amsterdam and New York



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		<p>stated: Benjamin van Water, j. m. v. T. Lang Eyl<sup>d</sup> met Jannetje Simson, j. d. van N. York, woonende alhier. Benjamin van Water, an unmarried man from Long Island with Jannetje Simson, an unmarried woman of New York, both residing here.<sup>86</sup></p> <p><i>Jannetje was the daughter of John Simson who married Magdalene Chine about 1715.</i></p>
6	11 Feb 1750	<p>Tabita Sebit, wife of Wm Heÿer, and Pieter Heÿer were witnesses to the baptism of Sara, daughter of Gerrit Jansse and Sara Heÿer, at the Reformed Dutch Church in New York.<sup>87</sup></p> <p><i>Unsure of any connection to Simson family.</i></p>

**CONCLUSIONS**

Peter and Margariet had a daughter Elisabeth and most likely were the parents of Alexander and James. Besides there being agreement with their likely birth dates and the child-bearing age of Margariet, the location is in agreement and there was no alternative Simson family from which they might have come.

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### ENDNOTES

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- <sup>2</sup> Peter Ross, *A History of Long Island: From Its Earliest Settlement to the Present Time*, 3 vols. (New York: Lewis Publishing Company, 1902), 1: 772; FHL microfilm 874,111. Digital image on-line at <http://www.ancestry.com> (subscription).
- <sup>3</sup> Teunis G Bergen, *Register, in Alphabetical Order, of the Early Settlers of Kings County, Long Island, N. Y., From Its First Settlement by Europeans to 1700* (1881; reprint Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1998), 263. Digital image on-line at <http://books.google.com>.
- <sup>4</sup> Teunis G Bergen, *Register, in Alphabetical Order, of the Early Settlers of Kings County, Long Island, N. Y., From Its First Settlement by Europeans to 1700* (1881; reprint Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1998), 263. Digital image on-line at <http://books.google.com>.
- <sup>5</sup> Teunis G Bergen, *Register, in Alphabetical Order, of the Early Settlers of Kings County, Long Island, N. Y., From Its First Settlement by Europeans to 1700* (1881; reprint Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1998), 189. Digital image on-line at <http://books.google.com>.
- <sup>6</sup> Teunis G Bergen, *Register, in Alphabetical Order, of the Early Settlers of Kings County, Long Island, N. Y., From Its First Settlement by Europeans to 1700* (1881; reprint Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1998), 92. Digital image on-line at <http://books.google.com>.
- <sup>7</sup> Barthold Fernow, editor, *The Records of New Amsterdam from 1653 to 1674 Anno Domini, Vol I: Minutes of the Court of Burgomasters and Schepens 1653-1655* (1897, reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1976), 178.
- <sup>8</sup> Teunis G Bergen, *Register, in Alphabetical Order, of the Early Settlers of Kings County, Long Island, N. Y., From Its First Settlement by Europeans to 1700* (1881; reprint Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1998), 344. Digital image on-line at <http://books.google.com>.
- <sup>9</sup> Teunis G Bergen, *Register, in Alphabetical Order, of the Early Settlers of Kings County, Long Island, N. Y., From Its First Settlement by Europeans to 1700* (1881; reprint Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1998), 263. Digital image on-line at <http://books.google.com>.
- <sup>10</sup> Perry Streeter, "The Griggs Family of Gravesend and New Jersey," *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, 136 (2005): 243-252, specifically 247. The author cited: *Gravesend Town Records; Book 2: Deeds, Leases: 1653-1670*, Town Records of Kings County Translations/Transliterations, 51; copy at library of The Holland Society of New York.
- <sup>11</sup> Teunis G Bergen, *Register, in Alphabetical Order, of the Early Settlers of Kings County, Long Island, N. Y., From Its First Settlement by Europeans to 1700* (1881; reprint Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1998), 297. Digital image on-line at <http://books.google.com>.
- <sup>12</sup> Perry Streeter, "The Griggs Family of Gravesend and New Jersey," *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, 136 (2005): 243-252, specifically 247. The author cited: *Gravesend Town Records; Book 2: Deeds, Leases: 1653-1670*, Town Records of Kings County Translations/Transliterations, 57-8; copy at library of The Holland Society of New York.
- <sup>13</sup> E. B. O'Callaghan, translator, *The Register of Salomon Lachaire, Notary Public of New Amsterdam, 1661-1662*, New York Historical Manuscripts: Dutch series, Kenneth Scott & Kenn Stryker-Rodda, editors (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1978), 91-2. This is indicated as a translation, from the original Dutch manuscript.
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- <sup>15</sup> Teunis G Bergen, *Register, in Alphabetical Order, of the Early Settlers of Kings County, Long Island, N. Y., From Its First Settlement by Europeans to 1700* (1881; reprint Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1998), 219. Digital image on-line at <http://books.google.com>.
- <sup>16</sup> Teunis G Bergen, *Register, in Alphabetical Order, of the Early Settlers of Kings County, Long Island, N. Y., From Its First Settlement by Europeans to 1700* (1881; reprint Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1998), 263. Digital image on-line at <http://books.google.com>.
- <sup>17</sup> Kings County, New York, Conveyances Liber 1: 23 (page number stamped in left column); FHL microfilm 1,413,189.
- <sup>18</sup> Kings County, New York, Conveyances Liber 1: 25 (page number stamped in left column); FHL microfilm 1,413,189.
- <sup>19</sup> Kings County, New York, Conveyances Liber 1: after page 167; FHL microfilm 1,413,189.

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- <sup>21</sup> E B O'Callaghan, *The Documentary History of the State of New York; Arranged Under Direction of the Hon. Christopher Morgan, Secretary of State*, 4 vols. (Albany, New York: Weed, Parsons & Co., Public Printers, 1849-51), II: 508.
- <sup>22</sup> Teunis G Bergen, *Register, in Alphabetical Order, of the Early Settlers of Kings County, Long Island, N. Y., From Its First Settlement by Europeans to 1700* (1881; reprint Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1998), 263. Digital image on-line at <http://books.google.com>.
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- <sup>26</sup> Kings County, New York, Conveyances Liber 2: 154; FHL microfilm 1,413,189.
- <sup>27</sup> E B O'Callaghan, *The Documentary History of the State of New York; Arranged Under Direction of the Hon. Christopher Morgan, Secretary of State*, 4 vols. (Albany, New York: Weed, Parsons & Co., Public Printers, 1849-51), III: 137.
- <sup>28</sup> Teunis G Bergen, *Register, in Alphabetical Order, of the Early Settlers of Kings County, Long Island, N. Y., From Its First Settlement by Europeans to 1700* (1881; reprint Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1998), 263. Digital image on-line at <http://books.google.com>.
- <sup>29</sup> Barbara A Barth, "The Van Sant Family of New Utrecht and Bucks County, Pennsylvania," *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, 127 (1996): 226-234, specifically 232.
- <sup>30</sup> William J Hoffman, "Brouwer Beginnings – The First Three Generations of the Adam Brouwer Berchoven Family," *The American Genealogist*, 23 (April 1947): 203-206, specifically 204.
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- <sup>34</sup> "Records of the Reformed Dutch Church in the City of New York, Baptisms," *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, 11 (1880): 137-144, specifically 142.
- <sup>35</sup> Teunis G Bergen, *Register, in Alphabetical Order, of the Early Settlers of Kings County, Long Island, N. Y., From Its First Settlement by Europeans to 1700* (1881; reprint Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1998), 262. Digital image on-line at <http://books.google.com>.
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- <sup>37</sup> Dingman Versteeg, "Church Records of Breukelen from 1660 – and Flatbush L. I. Commencing p 320: Register of Baptized Children at Breukelen Beginning October 31 1660" p. 81; FHL microfilm 1,016,558 item 3. Copied from the original records by Dingman Versteeg; microfilm of handwritten transcript in the possession of the Holland Society of New York, New York City.
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- <sup>39</sup> Frank L Van Cleef, *Flatbush Town Records as Copied in Volume 100 in the Office of the Commissioner of Records Kings County, New York, as Made by Frank L Van Cleef and Sworn To by Him 10 May 1911 as Being a True and Literal Transcription in the Original Language and a Literal Translation of All Instruments Contained in the Liber Known as Liber A Flatbush Town Records Comprising Deeds, Leases and Wills 1670-1708: Copied and Arranged by DeWitt Van Buren in Memory of Elizabeth R Van Buren* (n.p.: n.p., n.d.), 14; FHL microfilm 17,663. This is a typescript and, despite its title, does not contain all the material in Liber A of the Flatbush Town Records.
- <sup>40</sup> Kings County, New York, Conveyances Liber 2: 359-62; FHL microfilm 1,413,189.
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- <sup>42</sup> Kings County, New York, Conveyances Liber 3: 134-5; FHL microfilm 1,413,189.
- <sup>43</sup> Kings County, New York, Conveyances Liber 3: 91-5; FHL microfilm 1,413,189.

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- <sup>47</sup> David William Voorhees, *Records of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Flatbush, Kings County, New York: Vol 1, 1677-1720* (New York: The Holland Society of New York, 1998), 269.
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- <sup>64</sup> Teunis G Bergen, *Register, in Alphabetical Order, of the Early Settlers of Kings County, Long Island, N. Y., From Its First Settlement by Europeans to 1700* (1881; reprint Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1998), 262. Digital image on-line at <http://books.google.com>.
- <sup>65</sup> Henry R Stiles, *A History of the City of Brooklyn Including the Old Town and Village of Brooklyn, the Town of Bushwick, and the Village and City of Williamsburgh*, 3 vols. (Brooklyn, New York: published by subscription, 1867-70), 1: 180-1; on-line digital image (<http://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/moa/> " accessed 8 Nov 2008).
- <sup>66</sup> Alexander Simson will (5 Sep 1713), Vol. 9, 1718-1724: 310-12 (pages 260-62 in original will book), Surrogate's Court, New York City; FHL microfilm 874,518.
- <sup>67</sup> *Second Annual Report of the State Historian of the State of New York* (Albany and New York: Wynkoop Hallenbeck Crawford Co., State Printers, 1897), 549; (<http://books.google.com> : accessed 6 Nov 2008).
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- <sup>70</sup> Frank L Van Cleef, *Flatbush Town Records as Copied in Volume 100 in the Office of the Commissioner of Records Kings County, New York, as Made by Frank L Van Cleef and Sworn To by Him 10 May 1911 as Being a True and Literal Transcription in the Original Language and a Literal Translation of All Instruments*



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Contained in the Liber Known as Liber A Flatbush Town Records Comprising Deeds, Leases and Wills 1670-1708: Copied and Arranged by DeWitt Van Buren in Memory of Elizabeth R Van Buren (n.p.: n.p., n.d.), 12; FHL microfilm 17,663. This is a typescript and, despite its title, does not contain all the material in Liber A of the Flatbush Town Records.

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<sup>84</sup> Samuel S Purple, *Records of the Reformed Dutch Church in New Amsterdam and New York: Marriages from 11 December, 1639, to 26 August, 1801* (1890; reprint, Bowie, Maryland: Heritage Books, 1997), 146; Transcription of entries available on-line ([http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~rbillard/na\\_marriages\\_1639-1801.htm](http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~rbillard/na_marriages_1639-1801.htm)).

<sup>85</sup> "Richmond Count Deed Records, Vol. C 1719-1734: 328-30, Richmond County Courthouse, St. George, New York; FHL microfilm 941,489.

<sup>86</sup> Samuel S Purple, *Records of the Reformed Dutch Church in New Amsterdam and New York: Marriages from 11 December, 1639, to 26 August, 1801* (1890; reprint, Bowie, Maryland: Heritage Books, 1997), 166; Transcription of entries available on-line ([http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~rbillard/na\\_marriages\\_1639-1801.htm](http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~rbillard/na_marriages_1639-1801.htm)).

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