

-- BRET --

The family groups represented in this collection may not be complete, because information was entered bit by bit as I found it or happened upon it; I have not done any systematic research on these families. Because they do not compose whole family genealogies, these listings are arranged differently from most genealogical records or histories. Each listing is a family group, and is arranged and filed alphabetically under the name of the head of the family.

Names are generally in alphabetical order (disregarding spelling variations and middle names), then in approx. chronological order. The first sorting is by surname (mixing together any and all spelling variations), then by given name, then by approximate birthdate (when known) in approximate chronological order. For easier reference, surnames in headings are grouped together under the most common spelling usage that evolved in this geographical location, regardless of individualistic spellings in the records themselves. Cross references are used in most cases where surname spellings substantially vary.

Within the quoted records, the individual spellings have been (mostly) retained because they sometimes provide clues (although in general—but with exceptions—they seem to largely reflect the record keeper's particular orthography and not always, at this early period, any special family preference). Those interested can see the variety and evolution of a particular name's spelling and the interesting and sometimes amusing attempts at phonetic reproduction. Keep in mind that before names and spellings were standardized, records reflected the individualistic whim of the particular recorder (often two different spellings of the same name within the same document). In addition, all records were handwritten, and sometimes deciphering a handwritten name in early records can be quite challenging! So expect to search under all possibilities of spelling (for both surnames and given names).

Given names are grouped together without regard for middle initials or middle names. Because middle names and/or initials are sometimes used, sometimes not used in various records, it seemed simplest to arrange entries as if the middle names or initials did not exist. Usually all variations of a given name are grouped together as though spelled one way: Jan, Johannes, John, etc. are all grouped as one (but also look under the other forms).

Sources and references are included with each "family" grouping, but may or may not include sources that are cited (or are obvious, such as baptismal records, etc.) within the narrative or listing itself.

As with any compiled genealogical record, researchers should regard this information as leads and clues, and should verify all data with independent research.

I welcome, and would be grateful for, any additions or corrections, especially with source citations.

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Brett, Cornelius

Cornelius Brett
son of

m. 3 Dec 1765
Poughkeepsie Dutch Ref Ch
(date of license)

Rachel Van Tine
dau. of

---Sources: New York #2, 1740s-1880s Marriage Index online at <genealogy.com>

Brett, Francis

Francis Brett
son of

m.

Vrouwtje Myer
dau. of Johannes Myer &
Sara de Foreest
bp. 10 Dec 1712 NYC Ref Ch

bp.

Vrouwtje, wife of Francis Brett, was mentioned in the will dated 19 April 1752, of her brother, Henry Myer.

---Sources: Pelletreau, William S., *Abstracts of Wills on File in the Surrogate's Office, City of New York*, pub. as *Collections of the New York Historical Society, Vol IV 1744-1753*, p. 385 (will of Henry Myer)

Brett, Francis Rombout

Francis Rombout Brett
son of

m. 5 Oct 1737
Fishkill Ref Ch

Margaret Van Wyck
dau. of Cornelius Van Wyck &
Hannah Thorne

b. 1707 New York

bp.

d. 1787 Matteawan, near Fishkill, NY

---children of Francis Rombout Brett & Margaret Van Wyck:

- **Catherine Brett**, bp. 27 May 1739
- **Cornelius Brett**, bp. 31 May 1741; m. 1765, **Richard Van Tyne**
- **Hannah Brett**, b. 20 Aug 1743; d. 11 Sep 1825; m. 6 Aug 1763, Major **Henry Schenck**, son of Abraham Schenck & Elsie Vandervoort
- **Francis Rombout Brett**, bp. 6 Oct 1749; d. 12 Dec 1813; m. 1768, **Sarah Sonandyke** [Somerendyke?], descended from Francis Cornelissen Sonendyke; or m. 7 June 1764, **Sarah Van Voorhees**, dau. of Coert Van Voorhees & Catharine Filkin
- **George Brett**, b. 1751; m. 1769, **Maria Cooper**
- **Theodorus Brett**, b. 2 Jan 1756 Fishkill, NY; d. 9 Feb 1822; m. 1780, **Maria Wiltsie**, dau. of Martin Wiltsie & Ann Humphreys. In 1775 he was Ensign, Second Regt. Minute Men; 1776 Lieutenant, Second Regt., Westchester Co. Militia.
- **Margaret Brett**, b. 22 Oct 1758; m. 8 April 1779, **Peter Schenck**

---Sources:

[1] Van Wyck, Anne, *Descendants of Cornelius Barentse Van Wyck and Anna Polhemus*, New York: Tobias A. Wright, 1912, p. 73 (online at HeritageQuest);

Brett, Francis

Francis Brett

son of Rogert Brett &

Catherine Rombout

m. 7 June 1764

Sarah Van Voorhees

(widow of **Daniel Van Voorhees**)

dau. of Coert Van Voorhees &

Catherine Filkin

b.

bp.

d. before 1769

---Sources: Information posted online at Rootsweb.com Family Trees, citing Christoph, Florence A., *The Van Voorhees Family in America, The First Six Generations*, 2000, pp. 66-67, pp 185-186;

b. 12 May 1746

bp. 19 May 1746 Fishkill Ref Ch

d. 15 Sep 1777

Brit, Johannis

Johannis Brit

m.

Eva (Evye) (poss. Tinckelbach)

---children of Johannis Britt & Eva

- **Maria Brett**, bp. 22 June 1739 Zion Luth Ch, Athens, Greene Co, NY
- (prob) **Catrina Brit**, bp. 3 May 1747 Tarrytown Ref Ch (wit: Jacobus Sie and his wife) (no mother's name in bp. record); m. (poss) **Stephen Williams**
- (prob) **Johannis Brit**, bp. 25 Oct 1749 Tarrytown Ref Ch (wit: Jan Entens and his wife) (no mother's name in bp. record)
- (prob) **Willim Brit**, bp. 4 April 1752 Tarrytown Ref Ch (wit: Willim Brit and his wife) (no mother's name in bp. record)
- (prob) **Christina Britt**, bp. 26 Oct 1754 Tarrytown Ref Ch (wit: Jacobus Sie and his wife) (no mother's name in bp. record)
- (prob) **Sara Britt**, bp. 6 Sep 1757 Tarrytown Ref Ch (wit: Jan Entens and his wife) (no mother's name in bp. record)
- **Elisabeth Britt**, bp. 7 Sep 1762 Tarrytown Ref Ch (wit: David Storm, Elisabeth his wife)

---Sources: Cole, David, *First Record Book of the "Old Dutch Church of Sleepy Hollow"...* *The First Reformed Church of Tarrytown, NY*, 1901; Zion Lutheran Church of Athens, Greene Co., NY - Baptisms - Extracted from J.B. Beers "History of Greene County", published in 1884, Online at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~nygreen2/zion_lutheran.htm>

Brett, Robert

Robert Brett

m.

-?- (Catharyna DuBois?)

---children of Robert Brett &

• Rumbout Brett

- **Sarah Brett**, m. (1) **Abraham Brinkerhoff**; m. (2) **Isaac Van Wyck**, widower of Elizabeth Van Wyck, and son of Cornelius Van Wyck & Aaltje Brinkerhoff

• Matthew Brett

• Robert Brett

Brett, Roger

Roger Brett

m.

Catharina Rombout

dau. of Francois Rombout &

(3) Helena Teller

bp. 25 May 1687 NYC Ref Ch

d. 1764 Fishkill, NY

bp.

d,

He was a Lieut., R.N. She inherited a very large estate at Fishkill, called the Rombout Patent.

In her will, she wrote: ...I, Catheryna Brett, of Fishkill, Duchesse County, widow, being aged and infirm." I direct all debts and funeral charges to be paid. I leave to my eldest son, Francis Brett, £100, "as Primogeniture," before any division. Also all my right and interest in the Frankfort store house and land. Also all the farm where Thomas Waters lives adjoining his farm on the south side of the Fishkill, containing about 200 acres, with all the improvements and buildings. I also leave him a

negro woman. I also give to my son Francis the 5 following farms, containing 200 acres each, to wit: the farms now in possession of Jacob Wiltsie, Johannes Young's widow, Joseph Dorlin, Jacob Burgee, and Solomon Schulten, as tenants by lease. I leave to the 5 children of my son, Robert Brett, viz., Matthew, Francis, Rombout, Sarah, and Robert the five following farms, each containing 200 acres. That is, I leave to Matthew the farm now in possession of Ephraim Schurt by lease. To Francis the farm in possession of Saul Swartwout. To Robert the farm of the widow Lendebeck. To Sarah the farm of John Bedle. To Robert the farm of Roger Haviland. I leave to my two youngest grandsons, Theodorus, son of Francis, and Robert, son of Robert, the farm whereon Timmis Shanton now lives, with the part I rent to Teunis Van Vleckeren, whereon he and Simon Schanten live, with the meadow adjoining. I leave to my son Francis 1/2 of the remainder of my estate, real and personal. I leave to my son Robert and his 5 children the other 1/2, each to have 1/6, the children to have their part when of age or married. And whereas, it may so happen that in vindication of my estate, charges may accrue, my executors are to sell land for that purpose. "My executors are to provide for my old negro 'Sam' a comfortable living." I leave to my son Robert's children the wench called "Coban," and if sold she may choose her master, and also my wench "Molly." I make my son Francis and my trusty friends, Colonel John Brinkerhoff, Captain Ebenezer Dubois, and Peter Dubois, of Rombout Precinct, executors. Dated December 13, 1763. Witnesses, Obadiah Cooper, John Bailey, Jr., Catharine Bogardus. Codicil.--"Be it known to all," that whereas, I, Catheryna Brett have made my will, December 13, 1763, I ratify and confirm the same. Whereas, I left to the 5 children of my son Francis five certain farms. I, taking it into consideration that my executors may not be able to sell enough of my other lands as will pay debts and charges, they may sell either of said farms, but the value is to be made up to the owner. December 13, 1763. Proved, March 14, 1764, before Matthew Dubois, Esq., Judge of Common Pleas, and James Duncan and John De Witt, Justices.

[NOTE.--Catheryna Brett was the widow of Roger Brett and daughter of Francis Rombout, who was formerly Mayor of New York. From her father she inherited a large tract of land at Fishkill, called the Rombout Patent.--W. S. P.]

---children of Roger Brett & Catharina Rombout:

• **Francis Brett**, d. before 1769; m. 7 June 1764, **Sarah Van Voorhees**, dau. of Coert Van Voorhees & Catherine Filkin
• **Robert Brett**

• **Thomas Brith**, bp. 11 March 1705 NYC Ref Ch (wit: Thomas Byerly, Henderik Van Baal, Helena Teller, Wed. Van Francoys Rombout)

---Sources: Pelletreau, William S., *Abstracts of Wills on File in the Surrogate's Office, City of New York*, pub. as Collections of the New York Historical Society, Vol. VI, 1760-1766, p. 304 (will of Catheryna Brett); *Baptisms in the Reformed Dutch Church, New York [City]*, 1901 (Collections of the NY Genealogical & Biographical Society, Vol. III)

Brett, Rumbout

Rumbout Brett

son of Robert Brett &

d. before 13 Oct 1773

In his will, he wrote: ...I, Rumbout Brett, of Dutchess County, being sick. I leave to my sister Sarah, wife of Abraham Brinkerhoff, £100. "I leave to my brother's son, Robert Brett the third, £50." "I leave to Catharine Brett, sister of Robert Brett the third, and daughter of Matthew Brett, deceased, £50." I leave all the rest to my brother, Robert Brett. "And my well beloved brother Robert shall keep and decently maintain my Dutiful Father, Robert Brett, Sr., during his life." I make Abraham Brinkerhoff and Robert Brett, Jr., executors. Dated July 25, 1772. Witnesses, Henry Ludinton, Abraham Hyatt, John Porter. Proved, October 13, 1773.

---Sources: Pelletreau, William S., *Abstracts of Wills on File in the Surrogate's Office, City of New York*, pub. as Collections of the New York Historical Society, Vol. VIII, 1771-1776, pub. 1899, p. 138 (will of Rumbout Brett)

Bredt, William

William Bredt

m.

Anne

d. before 8 Oct 1784

d.

In his will, he wrote: ...I, William Bredt, of New York City, yeoman, being in perfect health. I leave to my beloved wife Anna my whole estate, real and personal, during her life, the same after her decease to be divided equally between my brothers, Johannes and Nicholas Bredt, and my sister Margaritta wife of John Romme. To my said brothers all my wearing apparel. I appoint my wife Anna and William Davis and John Anters, both of the Manor of Philipsburgh, Westchester County. Dated November 3, 1764. Witnesses, Evert Pels, John Van Orden, of New York City, yeoman; Gerrard Smith. Proved, Westchester County, September 27, 1784. Administration granted to Stephen Williams, of North Castle, Westchester County, yeoman, the husband of a niece of Willem Bredt, late of the City of New York, yeoman, deceased, whereas William Davis the only surviving executor did by an Instrument bearing date the 29th of March last relinquish the executorship, New York, October 8, 1784.

---Sources: Pelletreau, William S., *Abstracts of Wills on File in the Surrogate's Office, City of New York*, pub. as Collections of the New York Historical Society (Vol. XIII, 1784-1786 and Letters of Admin. 1785, pub. 1904), p. 28 (will of William Bredt)

Unplaced Brett, Britt Women

Catrina Brit, m. 25 April 1747 Tarrytown Ref Ch, **Johannes Jurckse**

Catharina Britt, m. before 1778, **Steven Williams**

Eytie Bret, m. **Benjamin Hildreth**

Martha Brett, m. **John Finch**

