

-- PRALL --

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 evolvement 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.

December 2010
Pat Wardell
130 Crestview Drive
Englewood, FL 34223
the.wardells@gte.net
(I prefer e-mail correspondence)

Prall, Abraham

Abraham Prall
son of Peter Praal &
Maria Christopher
b. 13 Oct 1706
d. 28 Sep 1775

m. (1) 9 May 1731

Alida Hegeman

dau. of John Gerritszen Hegeman &
Elizabeth Gysberts
b. 16 Oct 1702
d. 15 Sep 1781

In his will, he wrote: February 23, 1773. I, Abraham Prall, of Staten Island, being in perfect mind. All debts to be paid. I leave to my wife Aleda the best room in my house, and the best bed and bedstead, and all furniture thereto belonging, and her choice of my negro wenches, and her choice of two cows, with pasture and hay, and the best cupboard and chest, and her firewood brought to her door, and as much as she shall want. And my three sons, Benjamin, Peter, and Abraham, shall pay her each £6 yearly. I leave to my 3 sons all my lands and tenements, woodland and meadows. "And they shall each of them separately pay to Joshua Mersereau, son of my daughter Maria, £10, when he is of age, and £10 to each of his brothers, Abraham and John Mersereau, and £10 to their sister, Alida Mersereau, to whom I also give a negro wench, when she is of age." I leave the rest of my movable estate to my three sons, and I make my sons, Benjamin and Abraham, executors. Witnesses, David Cannon, Abraham Cannon, Aaron Van Name. Proved, October 4, 1775, before Benjamin Seaman.

---children of Abraham Prall & (1) Maria Christopher:

- **Benjamin Prall**, b. 9 Aug 1732
- **Peter Prall**, b. 9 April 1737; m. (prob 2) 1815 Elizabeth Perrine, widow of **David Mersereau**, and dau. of Daniel Perrine & Elizabeth Poullon.
- **Abraham Prall**, b. 11 Jan 1741; d. 1820; m. **Mary Eliza Stillwell**. She was b. 1749; d. 1811.
- **Maria Prall**, b. 19 Oct 1734; m. **John Mersereau**
- **Catherine Prall**, b. 1 Nov 1736

---Sources: Information online May 1999 from WayneLII@aol.com citing Pelletreau, William S., *Abstracts of New York Wills*, Vol VIII 1771-1776, pages 307 & 308; Information

online Sep 1999 from Arline J. Sarver" <arlinesarver@worldnet.att.net>;

Prall, Abraham

Abraham Prall
son of Abraham Prall &
Alida Hegeman
b. 1740
d. 1820

m.

Mary Eliza Stillwell

dau. of
b. 1749
d. 1811

---children of Abraham Prall & Mary Eliza Stillwell:

• **Daniel Prall**, b. 1773; d. 1837; m. **Ann Mercereau**. She d. 1813.

---Sources: Genealogical record, Saint Nicholas Society of the City of New York, 1905, p. 123, online at <<http://historical.library.cornell.edu/cgi-bin/cul.nys/docviewer?did=nys059&view=50&frames=0&seq=5>>

Prall, Abraham

Abraham Prall
son of

m. 4 Aug 1776
St. Andrews P.E. Ch,
Richmond, Staten Island

Sarah Cannon

dau. of

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

Prall, Abraham

Abraham Prall
son of

m. 11 June 1796
NYC (*Ladies Weekly Museum*,
18 June 1796)
16 June 1796 NYC Ref Ch

Maria Masterson

dau. of

b.

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

Prall, Arent Jansen (Arendt Jansen Van Naerden)

Arent Jansen Prall
son of Jan Arentsz Van Heerde [Prall] &
Barentje Jans
b. about 1646/1647
bp.
d. before 4 Nov 1725 Staten Island, NY

m. (1) (banns 3 June 1670
Kingston Ref Ch)
(Wildwyck Court records¹)

Marie Billiou

dau. of Pierre Billiou &
Francoise DuBois

b.

bp. 3 March 1650 Leyden Walloon Ch

d. before 1699 Staten Island, NY

Elizabeth Mackelnor (Madlenor)

m. (2)

Marie Billiou accompanied her aunt and uncle, Catherine Blanchan and Louis DuBois, to Kingston, and settled there.

From Court Records of Wildwyck: June 3, 1670. Banns registered: Arendt Jansen Van Naerden and Maria Biljouw, of Leyden, being authorized by Lowies Du Booys, uncle of the maiden.¹

Arendt Prall, called Ramaker in 1663, and Arent Rademacker in 1672 (i.e. the "wheelwright"), in the records of Wiltwyck (Kingston) he was called Arent Jansen van Naerden when banns were registered at the First Dutch Church in connection with his marriage to Marie "Biljouw" (NYG&B 27:190). He was Assessor in 1702, Staten Island Supervisor in 1705.

In his will, he wrote: ...I, Arent Prall of Richmond County, wheelwright, being sick and weak. All my house and lands, and moveable estate, are to be sold. I leave to my eldest son, Peter Prall, £10 in full of all claim as heir at law; I having heretofore sufficiently provided for him. I leave to my wife Mackelenor £4, 10s, and one cow. I leave to my son, Arent Prall, my wheelwright tools, also 115 acres of land, situate at Cuckolds Town, in the County of Richmond. I leave to my son, John Prall, £200, which is intrusted to my son Arent, and Oreck Hopper, and my son in law, Stoefel Christophers, and the interest to be used for him, and his support during his life. If he dies, then it is to go to my children, Arent, Mary, wife of Johanes Le Compt; Borache, wife of Oreck Hopper; and Frances, wife of Charles Morgan, "and the children of my daughter Matthews." I leave to my daughter Sarah £10, and to her two children, Lenor and Mary, that she had by Tice Swain, her first husband, £10 each. To the children of my daughter Frances £40; To my daughter Mary, wife of Johanes Le Compt, £60; To my daughter Borache, wife of Hopper, £60; To my daughter Matthew's children £60. I make my son Arent, and my son in law, Oreck Hopper, executors. Dated October 14, 1721. Witnesses, Phillip Merall, Abraham Shaffnell, Richard Merall. Proved, November 4, 1725. [NOTE.--In the above will, the name given here as "Oreck Hopper," is spelled apparently in so many different ways as to make the true name uncertain. In one place it seems to be "Onke Horbe," in another, "Heifer."--W. S. P.]¹

---children of Arendt Jansen Van Naerden Prall & (1) Maria Billeau:

• **Peter Arentsz Prall** (Capt.), b. 5 May 1672; d. 21 Oct 1748; m. (1) about 1697, **Maria Christopher**; m. (2) (poss) about 1712 **Aeltje Gerretsen**, widow of **Joshua Cresson** and **Abraham LaRoe**, and dau. of Jan Gerritsen [de Haes] & Elizabeth Gysberts.

• **Maria Prall**, bp. 21 July 1674 Kingston Ref Ch (wit: Cornelius Barentsen Slecht, Wyberdt Jansen, Eyken Albertse); m. **Johannes LeCompt [DeGraff; De Camp?]**, son of Laurens Jansen Le Compte & Elsie de Mandeville.

• **Francyntje Praal** (Frances), b. 25 Aug 1676; m. **Charles John Morgan**.

• **John Praal**

• **Barentje Pral**, bp. 18 May 1679 at Amersfoort, rec. Flatbush Ref Ch (wit: Isaak Zij) (parent: Arent Pral; no mother's name in bp. record)

- **Barendije Pral**, bp. 22Aug 1680 at Utrecht, rec. Flatbush Ref Ch (wit: Isaak Sie, Hester Sie); m. **Oreck Hopper**.
- **Matthews Prall** (Christiante; Martha), m. (1) **Johannes Swame** (Swaim); m. (2) **Christophel Christopher** (Stoffel).²
- **Arent Arentsz Praal**, b. 1685; d. 1748; m. (1) **Antje Staats**; m. (2) **Marytje Bouwman**; m. (3) **Tryntje/Catherine Barents**, widow of Hans Christoffel/Christopher.
- **Sarah Prall**, m. (1) **Matthys Swame** (Tice Swain); m. (2) **Simon Van Namen**

---Sources:

[1] 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. II 1708-1728, pp. 323-324;

[2] Information online Sep 1999 from Arline J. Sarver" <arlinesarver@worldnet.att.net>; Information online May 1999 from "The Horwats" <ardnas@sprint.ca>; information online Sep 1999 from <dlear@epix.net> citing 1897 Year Book of the Holland Society of New York, "Names of Dutch Settlers in Esopus." [Court Records of Wildwyck], by Dingman Versteeg; Information online Jan 2000, Dutch-Colonies List, from Jeanne Larzalere Bloom, Chicago, IL <jebloom@mcs.net> citing Heidgerd, William, *The American Descendants of Chretien Dubois of Wicres, France*, DuBois Family Association, Huguenot Historical Society, New Paltz, N.Y., Inc.; New Paltz: 1968; Voorhees, David William, *Records of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Flatbush, Kings County, New York, Vol. I, 1677-1720*, Holland Society 1998

Prall, Arent (Aaron; Aron Praal, Jr.)

Arent Prall
son of Peter Arentsz Prall &
Maria Christopher

b.
d.

m. 30 March 1713
NYC Ref Ch

m. (2)
m. (3)

Antje Staats (Hanna)
dau. of Pieter Pieterszen Staats &
Lysbeth Aertszen
b. about 1686
d. before 1730

Marytje Bouwman
Tryntje/Catherine Barents [Blom]
(widow of **Hans Christopher**)
dau. of Barent Janszen Blom &
Styntje Pieters (Christina)
bp. 22 Dec 1647 NYC Ref Ch
d. 1703-1706

---children of Arent Prall & (1) Antje Staats:

- **Elisabeth Praal**, b. 21 May 1715; bp. 6 June 1715 Ref Ch Port Richmond, Staten Island (wit: Pieter Staats and wife Elisabeth) (no mother's name in bp. record)
- **Haron Paraal** (Aron?), bp. 17 April 1717 Ref Ch Port Richmond, Staten Island (wit: Symon Van Namen, and wife Sartje)
- **Anna Praal**, bp. 14 Feb 1720 Ref Ch Port Richmond, Staten Island (wit: Abraham Staats, Agneta Staats)
- **Pieter Prall**, bp. 20 Sep 1724 Port Richmond Ref Ch, Staten Island (wit: Nicolas Lageler [Lazelier?], Esther Lakeman)

---children of Arent Prall & (2) Marytje Bouwman:

- **William Jorize Praal**, bp. 7 June 1730 Port Richmond Ref Ch, Staten Island (wit: Willem Jorisz Bouwman, Maria Praal)
- **Henricus Praal**, bp. 7 Oct 1733 Port Richmond Ref Ch, Staten Island (no wit)
- **Henderske Praal** (Hendrickje), bp. 11 May 1735 Port Richmond Ref Ch, Staten Island (no wit)

---children of Arent Prall & (3) Tryntje/Catherine Barents:

• **Mary Prall**

---Sources: *Staten Island Church Records*, Collections of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, Vol. IV, 1909; Information online Sep 1999 from Arline J. Sarver <arlinesarver@worldnet.att.net>; *Marriages from 1639 to 1801 in the Reformed Dutch Church, New Amsterdam-New York City, 1940* (Vol. IX of Collections of the New York Genealogical & Biographical Society), reprinted 1997 by Heritage Books

Prall, Aaron C. (Arent)

Aaron C. Prall
son of Peter Prall &
Maria Christopher

b. 1698

m. (1)

m. (2) 1 Hune 1728
Kingston Ref Ch

-?-
dau. of

b.
Marytjen Wittiker (Whittaker)
dau. of James Whittaker &
Lysbeth Titsoort

---children of Aaron C. Prall & (1)

• **Alida Prall**

---children of Aaron C. Prall & (2) Marytjen Wittiker:

- **Edward Prall**
- **Cornelius Prall**, m. **Rebecca Garrison**
- **James Prall**
- **Elizabeth Prall**
- **Benjamin Prall**
- **Jemima Prall**

---Sources: Information online Sep 1999 from Arline J. Sarver <arlinesarver@worldnet.att.net>;

Prall, Benjamin (Praal)

Benjamin Prall

m.

Sara Sweem

---children of Benjamin Prall & Sara Sweem:

- **Abraham Praal**, bp. 2 Nov 1754 Port Richmond Ref Ch, Staten Island (wit: Abraham Praal, Alida Praal)

- **Johannis Praal**, bp. 26 Aug 1766 Port Richmond Ref Ch, Staten Island (no wit)
---Sources: [Staten Island Church Records](#), Collections of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, Vol. IV, 1909

Praal, Benjamin

Benjamin Praal m. 12 June 1779 **Margaret Simonson**
son of Moravian Ch, Staten Island dau. of
---Sources: [Staten Island Church Records](#), Collections of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, Vol. IV, 1909; New York #2, 1740s-1880s Marriage Index online at genealogy.com

Praal, Cornelius

Cornelius Praal m. **Esther -?-**
son of Peter Praal & dau. of
Maria Christopher
b. about 1699
d. 8 Oct 1733

Praal, Cornelius of Hunterdon Co, NJ, yeoman, in his will dated 23 Feb 1732/3 names wife Esther. Executors: wife and brother Aaron Praal leaves only an unborn child as heir. Witnesses: James Laroe, Edward Whitaker, Daniel Laroe. Lib 3 p. 377. Probated 8 Oct 1733.

[no date] Inventory (£59.0.6) includes guns and sword. Made by Thomas Lake and Daniel Laroe.

1736, March 11. Petition of Simon Kinney, of Hunterdon County, yeoman, sheweth that he married Esther, widow of Cornelius Praal; that the child mentioned in the latter's will was born, a daughter named Mary. Petitions for guardian.

Esther m. (2) **Simon Kinney**, of Hunterdon Co., NJ; m. (3) about 1765 Readington, NJ, **Abram/Abraham Post**.

---*children of Cornelius Praal & Esther*

- **Mary Praal**, b. 1733

---Sources: Information online Sep 1999 from Arline J. Sarver <arlinesarver@worldnet.att.net>; Information online Aug 1999 from Cathy DiPietro <vdpcem@warwick.net>; [Calendar of New Jersey Wills](#), Vol. II, 1730-1750 (online at Ancestry.com), p. 385 (estate of Vornelius Praal)

Praal, Daniel

Daniel Praal m. **Ann Mercereau**
son of Abraham Praal & dau. of
Mary Eliza Stillwell
b. 1773
d. 1817

---*children of Daniel Praal & Ann Mercereau:*

- **William Praal**, b. 1795; d. 1825; m. **Ann Egbert**. She was b. 1792; d. 1853.

---Sources: [Genealogical record, Saint Nicholas Society of the City of New York](#), 1905, p. 123, online at <<http://historical.library.cornell.edu/cgi-bin/cul.nys/docviewer?did=nys059&view=50&frames=0&seq=5>>

Praal, Isaac

Isaac Praal m. **Maria DuBois**
son of Peter Praal & dau. of Louis Dubois &
Maria Christopher Esther/Hester Grasset
b. 1710
bp. 25 July 1710 Port Richmond, Staten Island
d. 1774

In his will, Isaac Praal of Staten Island, dated 15 Aug 1770 and probated 7 Feb 1774, mentions wife Mary, interest of £300 yearly, furniture of a room, two feather beds, use of two bedrooms, negro woman Hagor, two cows and a horse and her fire woods as long as she lives on his farm or Lot #5, also pasturing on Lot #6 and one half of the meadow within bounds of Woodbridge, N.J. at the "sunken Marsh" also a negro boy and a silver cup; to son Peter, a negro boy; to son Lewis, all my farm and Lot No. 6 and 7? of my meadow within the bounds of Woodbridge, Middlesex Co. NJ at the Sunken Marsh, a negro boy & a silver cup; son Isaac all his farm or plantation known as Lot #5 on Staten Island, and one half of his salt meadow at Woodbridge, N.J. in the "sunken Marsh", also a negro boy and a silver tankard; all the rest of the estate to five daughters, Mary, Esther, Catherine, Altie, and Margaret, but the share of daughter Margaret to be left at interest for her as long as she remains the wife of James Forrest, but after his death she is to her part; after death of wife, £300 to daughters. Executors: Benjamin Seaman, John Micheau, Cristopher Bilings. Witnesses: John Hillyer, Jr., Praal Micheau, David LaFarge.

---*children of Isaac Praal & Maria DuBois:*

- **Esther Praal** (Hester)
- **Maria Praal** (Mary); m. **Thomas Warne, Jr.**
- **Catherine Praal**, b. 1741
- **Petrus Pral** (Peter), bp. 21 May 1744 Port Richmond Ref Ch, Staten Island (wit: the parents)
- **Altje Prael** (Alcha), bp. 16 Sep 1746 Port Richmond Ref Ch, Staten Island (no wit)
- **Maragritye Praal** (Marguerite Praal), bp. 19 July 1748 Port Richmond Ref Ch, Staten Island (no wit); m. **James Forrest**.
- **Cornelius Praal** (Charles)
- **Lowies Prael** (Lewis Praal), bp. 28 July 1751 Port Richmond Ref Ch, Staten Island (no wit)

• **Isaac Prall**

---Sources: Information online Sep 1999 from Arline J. Sarver <arlinesarver@worldnet.att.net>; Information online Dec 1999, Dutch-Colonies List, from Jeanne Larzalere Bloom <jebloom@mcs.net> citing Heidgerd, William, *The American Descendants of Chretien Dubois of Wicres, France*, DuBois Family Association, Huguenot Historical Society, New Paltz, N.Y., Inc.; New Paltz: 1968, Part I, pg. 63; 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, Liber 29, pp. 208 (Will of Isaac Prall of Staten Island); *Staten Island Church Records*, Collections of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, Vol. IV, 1909

[Prall], Jan Arentsen van Heerde (poss. Jan Arentsen van Kampen)

Jan Arentsen van Heerde [Prall] m.

Barentje Jans

Jan Arentsen van Heerde and Barentje Jans were settlers on Staten Island around 1650 and survivors of the massacre resulting from the 'Peach War'. Jan and Captain Post's wife were sent back to Zutphen to report on the massacre after families were relocated. [see Colonial History of the State of NY, Vol. 13, p. 74-5.]

Jan Aertsen was also known as "Jan of the Ferry." He arrived unaccompanied in 1661 on "De Trouw" (The Faith). This particular "Jan" has often been confused with Jan Aertsen Middagh b. 1662 in Brooklyn who married Geertje Theunisse Claerwater.¹

---*children of Jan Arentsen van Heerde [Prall] & Barentje Jans:*

• **Arent Janszen [Prall]**, b. about 1646/1647; d. 1725m. (1) 1670, **Marie Billiou**; m. (2) 1690, **Elizabeth Mackelnor**

• **Wolfert Jansen Prall**, d. 1702

• **Jan Jansen Prall**

• **Marritje Jans Prall**, m. 1677 **Laurens Hendrickszen**

• **Brentje/Barentje Jans Prael** (Van Haert [Heerde]), m. 1677 **Pieter Meyer**

• **Lysbeth Jans [Prall]**, m. **Pieter Staats**

• **Jacob Janszen Prall**. He was named in Asser Levy's account book, with Arent Prall.

• **Magdalena Jans [Prall]**, m. 1678 **Barent Thijsen Swaim**

• **Hendrickje Jans [Prall]**, bp. 23 Sep 1657 NYC Ref Ch (wit: Hester Simons, Hillegond Megapolensis); m. 1680 **Pieter**

Barentzen Cool/Coel

---Sources:

[1] Information online Nov 2000, Dutch-Colonies List, from Wayne <WayneLII@aol.com>;

Information online Nov 2000, Dutch-Colonies-List, from "Terry Prall" <TPrall@desoto.net>; *Baptisms in the Reformed Dutch Church, New York [City]*, 1901 (Collections of the NY Genealogical & Biographical Society, Vol. III)

Prall, Johannes

Johannes Prall m.

Aeltie DuBois (Bas)

son of Peter Prall &
Maria Christopher

dau. of

b. 1709

b.

---*children of Johannes Prall & Aeltie DuBois:*

• **Aaltje Praal**, bp. 11 Oct 1719 Ref Ch Port Richmond, Staten Island (wit: Pieter Praal, Aaltje Gerrits) (no mother's name in bp. record)

• **Aeltje Prall** (Rebecca)

• **Peter Prall**

• **Johannes Prall**

---Sources: Information online Sep 1999 from Arline J. Sarver <arlinesarver@worldnet.att.net>;

Praul, John

John Praul m.

Jane

d. before 27 June 1777

d.

In his will, he wrote: John Praul, of Middletown, Yeoman. August 13, 1777. Proved June 27, 1777 (Bucks Co., PA). Wife Jane. Son John and son-in-law John Vandegrift, exrs. Sons John and Peter. Daus. Mary, wife of John Vandegrift and Jane Praul. Plantation in Southampton bought of Thomas Tomlinson to son Peter. Wit: Daniel Larew, Junr., Elizabeth Larew, Jane Vansant.

---*children of John Praul & Jane*

• **John Praul**

• **Peter Praul**

• **Mary Praul**, m. **John Vandegrift**

• **Jane Praul**

---Sources: Wright, F. Edward, *Abstracts of Bucks Co., PA, Wills, 1685 - 1785*, Bucks County, PA, wills executed 1685-1785, originally abstracted under the auspices of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1995, Bucks Co. Wills, online at http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/_glc_/7259/7259_1.html (will of John Praul)

Praa, Peter (Prae) (See also: Pia, Pierre, poss. identical?)

Peter Praa m. (1)

Marie Philippe

son of

dau. of

d. 6 March 1663^{1,2} Cripplebush, Brooklyn

m. (2) 1659²

d.

Catharina Lethie (Laitie; Lothie)

dau. of Abraham Lethie &

d. about 1678

Pierre Prat joined the Walloon Church at Leiden in Dec 1645 with letters from Vlissingen (Flushing), Netherlands. Peter Praa, a Huguenot from Dieppe, Picardy, a seaport in France on the English Channel, came to this country in 1659. On 10 April 1661, Pieter Prae, from Dieppe, and Catharina Lethie, with an attestation from Midwout, were accepted into membership of Brooklyn Ref Ch.

He signed his name "Pierre Prat."²

Pieter Praa died 6 March 1663 and on 18 April 1663 his widow, Catherine Lethie, was reprimanded by the court for proclaiming marriages banns too soon after husband's death.

Catharina Lethie, widow of Pieter Praa, m. 10 June 1663 Brooklyn Ref Ch, **Joost Casparszen [Springsteen]** "from Groeningen." He was son of Caspar Springsteen & Geesje Jans.

---children of Peter Praa & (1) Marie Philippe:

- **Pierre Prat**, bp. 3 May 1643 Walloon Ch., Leiden; d.y.
- **Pierre Prat**, bp. 17 May 1646 Walloon Ch, Leiden; d.y.
- **Samuel Prat**, bp. 9 June 1647 Walloon Ch., Leiden
- **Marie Prat**, bp. 30 May 1648 Walloon Ch, Leiden
- **Catharine Prat**, bp. 23 June 1650 Walloon Ch, Leiden
- **Anna Praa** (Annatje), bp. 4 Feb 1652 Walloon Ch, Leyden, Holland; d. about 1700; m. (1) **Andries Jeuriaens** [Andriess], son of "skipper" Juriaen Andries & Jannetje Jans; (2) 1683, **Jan Jansen Staats**. According to the Orphan records of the Brooklyn Ref Ch (p. 197), on 18 April 1663, Annetie Prae was placed in the custody, for six consecutive years, of Jan Martijn van Campen, of Brooklyn.

---children of Peter Praa & (2) Catharina Abrahams Lethie:

- **Peter Praa**, bp. 17 March 1658 Walloon Ch, Leiden; m. (banns 15 March 1684 Flatbush Ref Ch) **Maria Hay**, widow of Philip Johns Lieuw & Joost Molenaer, and dau. of Jacob Hay & Christina Cappaens. He settled in America.
- **Adam Praa**, bp. 6 Feb 1661 Brooklyn Ref Ch "at the Creupelbosch" (wit: Adam Brouwers, Trujntie Hadders); d. 8 Feb 1661
- **Abraham Praa**, bp. 5 March 1662 Brooklyn Ref Ch "from the Creupelbosch" (wit: Adam Brouwer, Maria Fredericks) (parents in bp. record: Pieter Praa, Catrina Abrahams)

---Sources:

[1] van der Linde, A.P.G. Jos., *Old First Dutch Reformed Church of Brooklyn, New York First Book of Records, 1660-1752*, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1983, p. 67;

[2] Totten, John Reynolds, "Praa-Bennet Family Notes" in *New York Genealogical & Biographical Record*, Oct 1934 (Vol. 65, No. 4), p. 308;

[3] "Additions and Corrections [Praa]" in *New York Genealogical & Biographical Record*, Vol. 69, No. 4, Oct 1938, p. 394;

Riker, James, Jr., *The Annals of Newtown, in Queens County, New York*, 1852, p. 382; *Genealogies of New Jersey Families*, Volume I, Online at Genealogy.com, "The Staats Family," by Richard W. Cook, p. 813, 815; van der Linde, A.P.G. Jos., *Old First Dutch Reformed Church of Brooklyn, New York First Book of Records, 1660-1752*, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1983; *Genealogies of Long Island Families*, Volume II, Praa-Bennet Family Notes, p. 27

Praa, Peter (Capt.)

Peter Praa
son of Peter Praa &
(2) Catharina Lethie

m. (1) banns 15 March 1684
Flatbush Ref Ch

Maria Jacobs Hay (Marritje Heij; Heys; Heyd)
(widow of **Philip Johns Lieuw &
Joost Adriansen [Molenaer]**)
dau. of Jacob Hay &
Christina Cappaens

b. 1655 Leyden
bp. 17 March 1658 Walloon Ch, Leiden
d. 1740 Bushwick, Kings Co., NY

b.
bp. prob. 4 June 1651 NYC Ref Ch
d.

In the record of their marriage banns, they were: "Peeter Pra: J.M. van Leiden in Holland; woonende onder Newthowne; met Maria Hay; laatst weduwe van Joost Adriaansz Molenaar; woonende onder Boschwijk; & getrouwd" Ondertrouwd Den 15 Marti 1684 - [Date of marriage blank in original.]

Peter Praa lived in Newtown, L.I., N.Y. at the time of his marriage, but spent most of his subsequent life at Bushwick.

Captain Peter Praa, the testator in the will below, was the son of Peter Praa (or Praah), a French Huguenot, who fled to Leyden and from thence to New Amsterdam in 1659, and died there March 6, 1663. Captain Peter Praa was born in Leyden in 1655, and became a prominent citizen in Newtown, L. I. He married, March 15, 1684, Maria Hay, daughter of Jacob Hay and Christina Coffoens. (She was at that time the widow of Joost Adriansen Molenaer, by whom she had a daughter, Sara.) Their daughter Christina married David Provoost, 1712, and had a son, Peter Praa Provoost, and other children. The houses and lots in New York, left to his grand-sons, are probably the southwest corner of Pearl and Pine streets.¹

Captain Pieter Praa was a man of great prominence in the history of the Town of Bushwick. He easily ranks as the greatest man from its earliest days to the time of its merger with the City of Brooklyn two centuries later. Captain Praa was of Huguenot extraction and was born in Leyden, Holland, 1655. His parents were from Dieppe in France on the English Channel. Like other Huguenots they were expelled from their native land owing to religious persecution. It was during their temporary stay in Holland, a refuge to the oppressed of all nations, that Pieter was born. When he was five years old his parents emigrated to the new world and settled first in Newtown and then in Bushwick near the intersection of Flushing Avenue and Broadway.³

After his marriage to Maria Hay, Captain Praa and his wife lived in a stone house on their Green Point farm, which was located on the meadow's edge at Freeman Street just east of Oakland Street. This house was destroyed by fire in 1832. His history is another evidence of the loss to France that came as a result of the expulsion of the Huguenots. Pieter Praa was not only captain of militia but was magistrate as well. He was influential in both local and provincial politics. He was a magnificent horseman and a genuine sportsman. He was easily the leader in public affairs of the community. He added largely to his original land possessions and purchased from the sons of Dirck the Norman all their remaining Green Point land. In 1687 he bought from Anneke Jan Bogardus of New Amsterdam, a tract of about 130 acres of land at the mouth of Maspeth kill. This

tract, known as Dominie's Hoek, later as Hunter's Point and Long Island City, consisted of two or three low hillocks rising out of a sea of encompassing marshes valuable for their salt hay for cattle. In addition to the above Captain Praa owned some 40,000 acres of land in New Jersey. Captain Praa's death occurred in 1740, He left no son to perpetuate his name, but he had numerous progeny through his four daughters, many of whom have played prominent parts in business and politics in Green Point and in larger spheres of action. These four daughters were Elizabeth, who married Jan Meserole; Maria, who married Wynant Van Zandt; Christina, who married David Provoost; Annetti, who married William Bennett. At the time of the Revolutionary War (1775-1783) there were but five families on Green Point, all of them lineal descendants of Pieter Praa. The heads of these families were as follows: (1). Abraham Meserole (son of Jan Meserole) and grandson of Pieter Praa, who lived on the banks of the East River, between what are now India and Java streets. Later the house in which he lived was occupied by Neziah Bliss, whose wife was a granddaughter of the above named Abraham Meserole. This house was demolished about 1875. It was at this period that nearly all the old relics gave place to the necessities of modern industrial developments. (2). Jacob Meserole (another son of Jan Meserole), who resided in the southerly part of Green Point, near Bushwick creek meadows (between the present Manhattan avenue and Lorimer street 'near Norman avenue) not far from the residence, still standing, of his grandson, the late Adrian Meserole. His farm included the entire southerly portion of Green Point. (3). Jacob Bennett (son of William Bennett, whose wife Annetti was a daughter of Pieter Praa), who dwelt in a house in the northerly portion of Green Point, near the present Clay street, midway between Franklin street and Manhattan avenue. His farm was later known as the "Griffin Farm" and for many years was owned by the trustees of Union College. (4). Jonathan Provoost (son of David Provoost, whose wife Christina was a daughter of Pieter Praa), who lived on the east side of Green Point in a stone house on the edge of the meadows, formerly the residence of Pieter Praa. Later this house was occupied by the late James W. Valentine, whose wife was a great-granddaughter of the above named Jonathan Provoost. The old Provoost burying ground near the northeast corner of India and Oakland streets was removed about 1875 and no trace of it remains. (5). Jacobus Calyer (whose wife Janitie was a daughter of Jan Meserole and granddaughter of Pieter Praa), who occupied the house referred to and described in previous pages, near the mouth of Bushwick creek and built by Dirck the Norman. These five families at the time of the Revolutionary War constituting the entire population of Green Point.³

In his will, he wrote: In the name of God, Amen. I, Peter Praa, of Bushwick, in Kings County, "being in pretty good health." I leave to my wife Maria, the use of all my estate while she remains my widow, "for her better support and maintenance." I leave to my two grand-sons, Peter Praa Van Zandt and Johanes Van Zandt, my 2 dwelling houses and ground on (???) street, in the north ward of New York. I leave to my daughter, Elizabeth Meseroll, all that tract of land and meadow which I purchased of Dirck Volkertse, adjoining the land I now live on, upon the west side, and east by the land of John Meseroll, and to run north, as the fence stands, and on the south, east, and west by ditches to the river. After my wife's decease, then to my children. I leave to my daughter Annettie, wife of Daniel Bodee, a piece of land and meadow on the east side of Maspeth Kill or creek, commonly called Dominie's Hook (except the little island in the piece, which I will that my old negro Jacob shall have so long as he lives to maintain himself). I give to my daughter, Christiana Provoost, the dwelling house and ground she now lives in; Also two houses and ground I now have by lease from Mr. John Harperdinck, for life, and then to her children. Of the rest of my estate I leave 1/4 to my two grand-sons, 1/4 to my daughter, Elizabeth Meseroll, 1/4 to my daughter, Anattie Bodee, and 1/4 to Christiana Provoost. I make my two grand-sons, and John Colier and Isaac Bergen and Johanes Albertse, executors. Dated August 6, 1739. Witnesses, John Vanderspiegel, Abraham Lodge, Bartholomew Cornell. Proved, September 5, 1740.¹

---children of Peter Praa & Maria Hay:

- **Catharine Pra**, bp. 4 Sep 1685 NYC Ref Ch (wit: Jan ---, Christyntje Capoens); d. before 6 Aug 1739 (not mentioned in father's will)
- **Maria Pra**, b. 1688; bp. 30 Sep 1688 Brooklyn Ref Ch (wit: Kasper Joosten, Annitje Pra); d. 17 Oct 1709; m. 17 Aug 1705, **Wynant Van Zandt**. He m. (2) 30 Junw 1710, Catharina Ten Eyck.
- **Lysbeth Prae** (Elizabeth), bp. 13 May 1691 NYC Ref Ch (wit: Johannes Van der Spiegel, Lysbeth Van der Spiegel); m. **Jan Meserole**
- **Anna Prae**, bp. 14 Nov 1694 NYC Ref Ch (wit: Jacobus Van der Spiegel, Anna Sanders); m. (1) **William Bennet**; m. (2) **Daniel Bodee/Bodet/Bordet** (Burdett)
- **Cristina Para** (Christiana Praa), bp. 1 May 1698 Brooklyn Ref Ch (wit: Juriaen Anderiesse, Lijsbet Anderiesse); m. (1) **David Jonathan Provost**; m. (2) (Rev.) **John Aronda/Arondeus**².

---Sources:

[1] Pelletreau, William S., *Abstracts of New York Wills*, Vol III 1730-1744, p. 311;

[2] Stiles, *History of the City of Brooklyn, New York* Volume II, p. 324;

[3] Historic Greenpoint - By William L. Felter, 1915, online at <http://ragette.org/greenpoint%20history/felter1915.htm>;

[4] Totten, John Reynolds, "Praa-Bennet Family Notes" in *New York Genealogical & Biographical Record*, Oct 1934 (Vol. 65, No. 4), p. 312; Ibid, Jan 1935 (Vol. 66, No. 1), p. 58;

Riker, James, Jr., *The Annals of Newtown, in Queens County, New York*, 1852, p. 382; *Baptisms in the Reformed Dutch Church, New York [City]*, 1901 (Collections of the NY Genealogical & Biographical Society, Vol. III); an der Linde, A.P.G. Jos., *Old First Dutch Reformed Church of Brooklyn, New York - First Book of Records, 1660-1752*, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1983; *Genealogies of Long Island Families*, Volume II, Praa-Bennet Family Notes, p. 27;

Prall, Peter (Capt.)

Peter Prall

son of Arendt Jansen Van Naerden Prall &

(1) Maria Billiou

b. 5 May 1672

d. 21 Oct 1748

m. (1) about 1697

m. (2)

Maria Christopher

dau. of Hans Christoffel &

Tryntje Barents Blom

b.

d. 1711

Aeltje Gerritson (Elizabeth)

(widow of **Joshua Cresson** & **Abraham LaRoe**)

dau. of Jan Gerritsen (de Haes) &

Elizabeth Gysberts

In his will, he wrote: I, Peter Prall, of Richmond County, being in good health. Having by deeds already provided for my sons, Johanes, Aaron, Peter, and Cornelius, they are to have none of my present estate, except that Johanes, my eldest son, shall have a negro woman and my large Dutch Bible. I leave to my son Isaac all that Plantation which I bought of John Crecheron and David Conger, in Woodbridge, and where he now dwells. I leave to my son Abraham, all lands and meadows on Staten Island, and he is to pay £500. I leave to my wife Elizabeth, £200 in lieu of dowry, as by an agreement before marriage, and a room in my house or some other small dwelling house, and she is to have a cow. I leave to my grand daughter Alida, daughter of my son Aaron, £50. My son Abraham is to pay £250 to his brothers and sisters, Johanes, Aaron, Peter, Irene, Catharine, and Anne. I leave my apparell to my sons, and the rest of my movable estate to all my children. I earnestly recommend my children to live amicably together as brethren and friends. I make my sons Peter and Abraham, executors. Dated January 8, 1742/3. Witnesses, Peter Van Name, Mary Wright, Andrew Wright. Proved, November 25, 1748.

---children of Peter Prall & (1) Maria Christopher:

- **Arent C. Praal** (Aaron C. Prall), bp. 1698 Ref Ch Port Richmond, Staten Island (wit: Thomas Stillewel, Frenck Stillewel); m. (1) **-?-;** m. (2) **Marytjen Wittiker**.
- **Cornelius Prall**, b. about 1699; d. 8 Oct 1733; m. **Esther -?-.**
- **Peter Prall**, b. 1700; m. **Sarah** (poss Grandain; Grandin)
- (poss) **Abraham Praal**, bp. 1705 Ref Ch Port Richmond, Staten Island (wit: Arent Praal, Jr., Styntie Christoffels) (no mother's name in bp. record)
- **Mary Prall**, b. 1701-1705
- **Abraham Prall**, b. 13 Oct 1706; d. 28 Sep 1775; m. **Alida Hegeman**. She was b. 1702; d. 1781.
- **Antie Praal**, b. 1707; bp. 21 Oct 1707 Ref Ch Port Richmond, Staten Island (wit: Aert Simonszen, Antie Simonszen) (no mother's name in bp. record); m. **Daniel LaRue**. He was b. 1697.
- **Catherine Prall**, b. 1708; m. **Daniel Laine**
- **Johannes Prall**, b. 1709; m. **Aeltje DuBois** (Bas)
- **Isaac Prall**, b. 1710; bp. 25 July 1710 Ref Ch Port Richmond, Staten Island (wit: Jan Van Woggelum, Jr., and wife Blandina) (no mother's name in bp. record); d. 1774; m. **Maria DuBois**
- **Irene Prall**, b. 1711

---Sources: [Staten Island Church Records](#), Collections of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, Vol. IV, 1909; Information online Sep 1999 from Arline J. Sarver <arlinesarver@worldnet.att.net>; Information online May 1999 from WayneLII@aol.com citing Pelletreau, William S., [Abstracts of New York Wills](#), Vol IV 1744-1753, pages 199, 200; [Staten Island Church Records](#), Collections of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, Vol. IV, 1909

Prall, Peter

Peter Prall m.
son of Peter Prall &
Maria Christopher
b. 1700

Sarah (poss Hegeman? or Grandain, Grandin?)
dau. of
b.

---children of Peter Prall & Sarah

- **Peter Prall**
- **Abraham Prall**
- **Aaron Prall**
- **John M. Prall**
- **Sarah Prall**
- **Mary Prall**
- **Sarah Prall**
- **Catherine Prall**
- **Isaac Prall**

---Sources: Information online Sep 1999 from Arline J. Sarver <arlinesarver@worldnet.att.net>;

Prall, Peter

Peter Prall m.
son of

Elizabeth Van Horn
dau. of Pieter Van Horn &

Pieter Van Hooren, in his will dated 12 Feb 1749/50 (proved Bucks Co., PA), mentioned his daughter, Elizabeth, wife of Peter Prall.

---Sources: Wright, F. Edward, [Abstracts of Bucks Co. PA. Wills, 1685 - 1785](#), Bucks County, PA, wills executed 1685-1785, originally abstracted under the auspices of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1995, Bucks Co. Wills, Book 2, online at http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/_glc_/7259/7259_1.html (will of Pieter Van Hooren)

Praal, Peter

Peter Praal m.
son of
d.

Elizabeth Larzelere
dau. of Nicholas Larzelere &
d. before 1 Sep 1774

Nicholas Larzelere, of Richmond County, in his will dated 1 Sep 1774, mentioned "my granddaughter Mary Praal, daughter of my daughter Elizabeth, deceased, who was wife of Peter Praal."

---children of Peter Praal & Elizabeth Larzelere:

- **Mary Praal**

---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, page 335 (will of Nicholas Larzelere)

Prall, Peter

Peter Prall

m.

Abigail

In his will, he wrote: ...The 22nd day of January, 1782. I, PETER PRALL, of Staten Island, Richmond County, being sick and weak of body. For the payment of my debts my Executors are to sell the necessary part of my moveable estate, and with the same and with what monies I shall have, or be owing to me at my decease, to pay my said debts. My wife Abigail shall have the benefit and income of all my land during her life or widowhood for the maintenance of my children during their minority, but if she die or marry then my land to be sold and the proceeds to be divided amongst my three daughters, Mary, Elizabeth and Abigail, viz.: to Elizabeth £100 more than to her two sisters, to be paid them as they shall severally arrive at the age of eighteen. My wife to have the furniture of her room for life, but if she marry then it to be sold and divided among my three daughters or the survivors of them. I make my wife and Isaac Prall, Executors. Witnesses, John Totten, Joseph Totten (yeoman) Isaac Prall. Proved, Richmond County, January 4, 1786.

---children of Peter Prall & Abigail

• **Mary Prall**

• **Elizabeth Prall**

• **Abigail Prall**

---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. 262 (will of Peter Prall)

Rall, Peter

Peter Prall

son of

m. 19 May 1782
Moravian Congregation,
Richmond, Staten Island

Elizabeth Ridgway

dau. of

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

Prall, Peter

Peter Prall

son of Abraham Prall &

(1) Maria Christopher:

b. 9 April 1737

d. 28 Feb 1822

buried Ref Chyd Port Richmond, Staten Island

m. (1)

m. (2) 1815

-?-

dau. of

b.

d.

buried

Elizabeth Perrine

(widow of **David Mersereau**)

dau. of Daniel Perrine &

Elizabeth Poullon

b. 20 Jan 1741

d. 17 June 1826

buried Ref Chyd, Port Richmond, S.I.

---Sources: Perrine, Howland Delano, Daniel Perrin "The Huguenot", South Orange, New Jersey: Privately Printed, 1910, p. 45

Prall, Wolfert

Wolfert Prall

d. before 30 Oct 1702

Whereas, Wolfert Prall, late of the County of Richmond, planter, lately died intestate. His nephew, Peter Prall, his heir at law, is appointed administrator, October 30, 1702.

---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 I 1665-1707, p. 344 (estate of Wolfert Prall)