

Notes on Bolhuis - Pluis Pedigree.

Bolhuis

The province of Groningen never knew a deucal nobility. A feudal nobleman does not own the land, but has it on loan from the German emperor, who is the actual owner. The emperor (or the nobleman as his representative) appoints dignitaries. In Groningen, where the land was owned by the farmers they appointed the officials like judges etc. A farm had the right to appoint e.g. the judge for a period of one year. According to a complicated scheme; the next year another farm could appoint the judge and so until the first farm had its turn again (which could be after 100 years or more in some cases). Other appointments were for a period of three years. Again other nominations (e.g. the village priest) had to be made by those entitled to nominate together. This right was connected to so called "edele heerden" (gentry farms). In order to qualify as edele heerd, criteria such as size applied.

Bolhuis was an edele heerd, located in Equart (modern: Eekwerd) in the village of Wirdum. A wierde is an artificial hill erected to protect the people from the sea. Eekwerd can be translated as "oak-weirde". Bolhuis is referred to as the first, or principal house on Eekwerd. "House" (huis in Dutch) often refers to those farms that originally were edele heeren. It is also used as an indication of a castle (do not think of something like Windsor, but more as a stone house, perhaps a keep. It is not sure if Bolhuis was just a farm or a stone house.

In the name Van Bolhuis. The Dutch word van can have two meanings: of (like in the Prince of Wales) or 'from'. The usual meaning in Dutch names is 'from', also in this case.

Abbreviations

* - born
~ - baptised
x - married
= - died
dv - daughter of
zv - son of

I.1.a Eppo tho Equart, * ± 1440, = on or before 1496, living in Wirdum, most likely already on Bolhuis (II.1).

Eppo tho Equart is also entitled to the rights connected to another edle heerd in the north-east of the province (De Hommernheerd in Bierum)

II.1. Children of Eppo tho Equart (I.1.a):

Abel Eppens tho Equart, x 1513 Alith WerumeÜs, dv Henric Henric Lambert van Wierum (III.1).

III.1. Kinderen van Abel Eppens en Alith can Wierum (II.1.a):

b. Eppo Abels tho Equart, living oon Bolhuis, = 12.10.1545 (plague) on the same day as this third wife. His second wife was Eeke Tammen, dv Sicco Tammen and Baewe in Zeerijp (IV.1).

Their son Abel Eppens writes in his chronicle (biz 105):

Then also my father Eppo Abels at Equart together with his third wife on the same day October 12th died in God from the plague, while I was brought home by my father being ill, but recovered. I was 12 years of age and had one sister and two half sisters, Our house was then sold for f700, but is had a value of f1500.

IV.1. Kinderen van Eppo Abels tho Equart en Eeke Tammen (III.1.b):

c. Abel Eppens tho Equart, * at Bolhuis ± 29.3.1534, = in exile summer 1590 after April, x Enselens 10.5.1562 Frouwe Louwens, * Enselens ± 1540, = Wirdum 1626, dv Louwe Haveickes and Etgijn Waalcko's Elama (V.1),

Abel Eppens studied in Leuven and Wittenburg. In the last place he was taught by Melancton and attended his funeral. He wrote a chronicle for his children analysing the history of his time and the causes. As reason for the war he indicates the lack of observance of Gods law by the people. He was Calvinist. As owner of a big edele heerd, he attended the sessions of the parliament of Groningen and was elected in its board. When Groningen as a consequence of betrayal by its governor turned Spanish (it is the time of the Dutch independence war) Abel Eppens flees to East Friesland.

His wife Frouke Louwens manages the farm in his absence. She writes on 24.6.1588 a petition for lower taxation. The soldiers have stolen the cattle, even took away the horses during ploughing (she had to buy them back on the spot). Eekwerd is conveniently situated between both enemies, meaning that both parties plunder and tax. In three years the taxes are more than the value of the farm. Some time, when suppression from the Spanish side mounts and they try to arrest the important leaders of the other party (or in their absence their family) also Frouke Louwens, her children and her mother go to East Friesland.

V.1. Kinderen van Abel Eppens en Frouke Louwens (IV.1.c):

d. Popko Abels, * 1571, = 1625, living at Bolhuis, farmer, churchsteward in 1605, mentioned as such till 1623, member of parliament 1617-1623, x 1. Claeske, x 2 Bewe Clasen, = after 24.4.1651, who remarries Johan Allerts (VI.3),

Abel Eppens replaces the Roman Catholic priest in Wirdum by a Protestant minister. As owner of an edels heerd he is entitled to do so. But when the country is liberated things have changed. The nobility usurpates the rights of the edele heerden. Popko Abels as churchsteward objects against the appointment of a minister by the castle (mansion) in Wirdum. Finally the Synode (highest church gremium in the province) confirms the opinion of Popke, but as the minister is already there, he may stay for one year and the church can still decide if they want to appoint him. Before the year is over, however, the minister withdraws from his office and starts a bar.

VI.3. Kinderen van Popko Abels en Claeske (V.1.d):

a. Abel Popkes, * ± 1590, = Middelbert 1670, farmer, gezwoene (official who is not the judge, but takes part in the sessions of the court), x 1626 Geessien Jans, dv Jan Peters and Hille in Middelbert (VII.3),

VII.3. Kinderen van Abel Popkes en Geessien Jans (VI.3.a):

d. Harmen Abels, - Middelbert 1637, = 1693, farmer, diacon in 1677 and 1678, later presbyter, x Middelbert 20.3.1664 Marritien Benes, from Enumatil previously married (Middelbert 30.2.1655) to Hinkrik Allerts, dv, Bene en Jantien (VIII.5),

Harmen Abels rents a farm of about 33 acres in Middelbert, perhaps more.

VIII.5. Kinderen van Harmen Abels en maritien Benes (VII.3.d):

d. Abel Harmens van Boluis, 21,3,1695 confession (note: the *f* has the old english sound of sh.) Middelbert, farmer, x 1699 Grietien Jans Berghuis, 20.12.1699 confession Middelbert, dv Jan Sywerts en Trijnien Jacobs (IX.6).

The size of the farm comes to 40 ha. rented from a charity institution in Groningen.

IX.6. Kinderen van Abel Harmens van Bolhuis en Grietien Jans Berghuis (VIII.5.d):

i. Popke Abels van Bolhuis, ~ Middelbert 27.12.1724, = Groningen ± 6.5.1778, farmer, x Groningen 6.5.1749 Harmtien Alberts (shchram), ~ Engelbert 11.7.1728, = ± 1795, dv Albert Teis en Maria Schram (X.II).

Albert Teis x Engelbert 1.9.1726 Mary Schrams. He is "schout" (say: head of police) 19.4.1734 elected as church steward. Obviously Mary's family owns money. The farm Popke Abels run has a size of about 37 ha.

XII. Kinderen van Popke Abels van Bolhuis en Harmtien Alberts (IX.6.i):

b. Maria Popkes van :Bolhuis, ~ (Hoornschedijk nr 126) Groningen 30.5.1762, = Groningen 24.3.1834, x Groningen 30.4.1785 Steven Gerrits Buirema, from Hoornschedijk, = ± 1801, koemelker (cowmilk), zv Gerrit Buirma en Margje Ebbing, x2. Groningen 25.7.1802 Robbe Geerts (Pluis), van Eelde, = before 1831.

Maria Popkes van Bolhuis marries Steven Boerma. They exploit a small cattle farm. The marriage lasts for 15 years and in that time they have accrued only *f*300. Maria inherited from her parents *f*2000, but seems that only Maria brought money with her.

As a widow Maria has two minor children. She remarries rather soon with Robbe Geerts Pluis. How long this marriage lasted is not known. At the end of her life Maria has to live from social welfare.

XI. Children of Maria Popkes van Bolhuis en Robbe Geerts Pluis (X.11.c):

Popko Robbes Pluis, * 11.7.1804, x 13.10.1833 Annette Harmannus Heerdt, * 24.9.1811. (Information supplied by you)

In 1831 Popko Robbes is as a consequence of conscription in the army. His mother requests the authorities to lift this obligation as she needs him for support (she is 74). This is refused, then she requests the social welfare, her only means of living to be increased from *f* 1.50 each week to *f*2.50. Also refused.

History Bolhuisen

The name Bolhuis is quite famous. It is most common in the province of Groningen. That's where the name comes from.

In the 15th century was in the vicinity of Appingedam, on the south side of the mound Eekwerd "The Bolhuis," the committee hearth. The first known resident is Eppo to Equart, 1450 (?) - 1496. His grandson Abel Eppens 1534 - 1590, was a learned man in Groningen, Leuven and Germany studied. He wrote the family chronicle: Der Vresen Cronicom. This book was edited in 1911 by jhr.JAFeith and dhr.H.Brugmansand can be seen In the state archives in Groningen. (The State Archives is located directly behind the Martini).

Eppo to Equart already conducted a weapon (In 1495 After the reconstruction the vaulted ceiling is ornamented with paintings, Groningen's Martini Church has scenes from the life of Christ, but in Der Aa Church the artist depicts the resurrection and the afterlife: the Emmaus Pilgrims, the Ascension, the Descent of the Holy Ghost. In the side aisles Arma Christi i.e. the Weapons of Christ. The paintings were completed in 1495. It is located in a window of the Martini Church in Groningen. Amidst 16 other weapons, being the guarantors of Groningen in the 18th century.

Connection with the Bolhuis family name can be demonstrated through both the male and female lines. We know the name has 2 variations. Bolhuis and Van Bolhuis. In the last century there were several forms, Bolhuys, Bolhuus, Bolhuis-Lieftinck.

The name Thijs Harm is first mentioned in 1796, the name Harmen already in 1637. Thijs Harm comes from the so-called Frisian branch. His grandfather Geert 1863 -1907, born in Groningen / Haren, was as baker to Friesland. Eke Vroom married there and lived on the farm, which is still in the family. Brother Klaas is now the owner. Eke sister has done the necessary work to get. Frisian family card Pake Geert young deceased, and two daughters, tuberculosis, making family stories stalled.

To my knowledge there is still work to genealogical research on sex Bolhuis. Last known mailing address is me Jan van Bolhuis who works in Switzerland. In the national archives in Groningen is a collection of genealogical PJCElema and J. van Bolhuis (same?) from 1976. Very interesting.

Finally: Where does the name come from Bolhuis? There are several theories. The most appealing to me are: the home of Bole. A man's first name. Also: commander or messenger. Bolhuis and Hill House. The house stood on a mound.

Tjiddy Bolhuis-Land

Original text

Temidden van 16 andere wapens, zijnde de borgen van Groningen in de 18e eeuw.

Contribute a better translation

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