

THE DUTCH CHURCH

1657-1695

The building was a house on the Strand
belonging to **Andries** Hudde in 1657

Andries Hudde

- 1629 - Came to New Netherland.
- 1645-1651 - Served as **Commisary** at Fort Nassau up the river
(site of **Gloucester**).
- 1651 to Nov. or **Dec.** 1654 - Served the Dutch at Fort Casimir;
remained long enough under Rising to make a "map
of the river and other drawings" and returned to
Manhattan.
- 1655 - Came back as "**Secretary** and surveyorⁿ under **Stuyvesant**
at Fort Casimir.
- 1656 - A member of the Council with the Vice-director **Jacquet**.
Retaining office of Secretary and Surveyor.
- 1667 - Continued his office under **Alrichs** when **New Amstel be-**
came the property of the City of Amsterdam.
- 1660 - June 5 - Left **New Amstel** to serve as "**Clerk** and Readerⁿ
for the **West India's Company's town** at Fort Altena
(**Wilmington**).
- 1663 - October - Received his discharge from the **West India**
Company's service - started with his family for Maryland
where he **was** going into business - but died of "a violent
feverⁿ at **Appoqueneme** (Odessa) on the way.

Sits of Dutch Church and Churchvard

- 1666 - November 30 - Grant or confirmation to **Andries Hudde** -
"**one** lot for a house and garden situate on the South
River of **New Netherland** near Fort Casimir being in
number the 16th between the lots of **Jan Andriessen** and
Sander Fenix; it **measures** on the road in front **sixty-**
three feet Rhineland measure and on both **sides** three
hundred feet, at the rear fifty-six feet.

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- 1657 - Andries Hudde "sold the house to the Director, Jacob Alrichs in the presence of the Schepens and municipality, to be used as a church for the benefit of the community, as which it was still used", he said in writing to Stuyvesant in 1662, while still trying to get the balance due him on the house. Alrichs never paid; his successor, Director d'Hinojosa after great pressure paid half - and Hudde is still trying to collect the rest. Fernow - Documents XII, 374.

Church and School

- 1657 - April 25 - The Schoolmaster, Everet Pietersen, arrived in New Amstel with Vice-director Jacob Alrichs; in August he wrote home that he had 25 children in school, "but I have no paper nor pens for the use of the children, nor slates and pencils. As soon as winter begins and they can no longer work on the soil, old and young will come to school and learn to read and write." This is from a letter to Holland requesting supplies and enclosing a list of books etc. required for his work. Translated in Ecclesiastical Records, N. Y. Vol. I, p. 401-03.
- 1657 - Everet Pietersen, the school teacher, was also the "comforter of the sick and reader of the Word of God", until a clergyman was sent over. With 25 pupils and the adults expected it is likely that the house used as a church was also a school house. Andries Hudde may have lent the house for the church and school in April with the teacher came, until he sold it to the director in August.

Church

- 1657 - August 21 - The Rev. Everardus Welius arrived at New Amstel - afterwhich time regular services were held in one of the houses near the fort, which was remodeled with boards from Fort Orange on the Hudson during the winter months. B.B. O'Callaghan, Documents (Historical Records) II p. 114-5, 61, 68. Fernow, Documents (N. Y. Historical Records) XII, 374.
- 1669 - Summer - The Church was enlarged by one-half. O'Callaghan 11, 69, 61, 111; Fernow XII, 352, 363, 431, 474

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1657 - Source of information that the house used as a church was worked on by carpenters in the winter of 1657 - is in a letter of Skipper Jacob Jansen Hays (who brought the boards from Fort Orange to New Castle) - to the commissionere in Holland - "I gave 35 days with my carpenter and pilot; he (Director Alrichs) promised to pay me---but when the work and also the church and guard-house were finished, he put me off and paid me in sweet words; but he paid my carpenter and pilot."
O'Callahan - Documents II 114-15.

Alrich's side of this story is his request to Stuyvesant to pay tho Skipper - because he, Alrichs, did not yet have the beavers at New Amstel to pay - and he doesn't want to give anybody cause for complaining for lack of payment.

Letter of March 30th, 1657 - Fernow, p. 208.

(Carpenters were regularly paid in beavers at New Amstel at this period.)

1659 - Dec. 12 - "The church now consists of sixty members. It has therefore been greatly strengthened, formerly having had only nineteen."

Letter from the congregation of the church to the classes of Amsterdam, translated in Ecclesiastical Records, N. Y. I 457-8.

1660 - June 14-30 - ".....our soldiers and others have told me, that the savages had an entire anker of anise-liquor on the Strand near the church and sat around it-drinkingⁿ

N. Y. Colonial Records XII, 318.
Beekman to Stuyvesant

1662 - May 12 - Beekman to Stuyvesant - "On the 30th of March I went to New Amstel to examine the placard closely, but could not find it, as only one had been posted on the church door, which is said to have been taken off by Mr. Kip at night, who therefore is assailed by the sheriff (who stood in the church with his servant), so that I cannot say with truth whether the interdict concerns only the inhabitants of New Amstel or everybody."

1669 - May 28 - (Original Land Titles, p. 159) - "A confirmation granted to Bernard Eken for a house and garden in Delaware.....whereas there is a certain house and garden in the town of New Castle.....now in the tenure or

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occupation of Bernard Ekon in his own right the said garden containing in breadth **sixty** foot and in length three hundred being bounded to ye west with the church yard, to ye east with Isaac **Fynes** and to the north with the **mart.**"

The original patent is at Dover.

1679 - January - Court Records II, p. 277 - Thomas Harwood, who has been awarded a Judgment of 51 gilders **and** 10 styvers against Jacob Vandever, gives this money toward repairing the old church or building a new church.

Ibid. - p. 287 - Henry Salter is fined 100 gilders in court and ordered to pay this with the costs - for the reparation of the church.

1677 - May 15 - Court Records I, p. 80 - Marten Rosemont, warden of the church having died, Hendrick Williams and John **Harmens** are appointed in his place for a year.

June 4 - Court Records I, p. 210 - The court assigns the settling and regulating of the church affairs to John Moll and Peter Alrichs.

1678 - November - **Moll** and Alrichs are charged with repairing the church, the cost to be raised by tax if no money is still due on the Reader's list.

1678 - ~~December~~ Court Records I, p. 261 - The court ordered that 500 or 600 acres in the most convenient place be laid out for glebe land for a minister with fit **porpor-tion** of marsh (meadow) - and a lot in town 120 x 300 to build a house for the minister; also a lot **"60 feet broad"** for a school; and that a site be chosen for building a church, and for a new churchyard in the fittest and best place. ✖

1680 - November - Court Records I, p. 440 - The court assigns a fine of 6 pounds against a defendant - to the use of the church.

1683 - According to **Penn's** order, the weekly hours and place of posting and receiving mail, in the regular mail service established by him between Philadelphia and **New Castle**, **was** to be posted on the **"meeting house door"** and other public places.

Dec. 3. 1678. A nomination for Elders and churchwardens being delivered in court, "the court this day made the following election"

Elders { *Jan. Jacobs*
Mr. Jan. Jacquet

Wardens { *John Smith*
George J. J.
Benjamin
Samuel
Blanco
Gov. Mill: Souton

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1695 - April 19 - In the will of **Ambrose** Baker, after disposing of his estate, he **says**, "except ten pounds which I give at the decease of my said wife to the poor belonging to the Dutch church in the town of **New Castle**."
N.C.C. "Will Record", **B-1**, 51.

Shows that the Dutch church was still the recognized church. The first Presbyterian is said to have preached in it in 1698.