

2388/4468. CHRETIEN DU BOIS

Born 1597

Died before 10 Oct 1655

Married 2389/4469.

Born

Died

Probable children (order of birth unknown):

Antoine Du Bois

b.

d.

m. (1) Marie Mesurelles 06 Aug 1653 Mannheim, Germany

(2) Jeanne Scipion Farinau 21 May 1661 Mannheim, Germany

Isaac Du Bois

b.

d.

m.

Known children:

Francoise Du Bois

b. 17 Jun 1622

d.

m. Pierre Billiou 20 Apr 1649 Leiden, Holland

Anne Du Bois

bapt. 30 Nov 1625

d.

m.

1194/2234. Louis Du Bois

b. 21 Oct 1626 Wicres, Artois Province, France

d. 1696 Kingston, Ulster County, New York

m. 1195/2235. Catherine Blanchan 10 Oct 1655 Mannheim, Germany

Jacques Du Bois

bapt. 27 Oct 1628 Wicres, Artois Province, France

d. 1676 Kingston, Ulster County, New York

m. Pierronne Bentyn 25 Apr 1663 Leiden, Holland

The parents of Chretien Du Bois, a Huguenot who resided at Wicres near Lille in Artois Province, Pas de Calais, France, which is French Flanders, have not been proved but he undoubtedly was related to, perhaps a son of, Wallerand Du Bois and Madeleine de Croix who were married in 1583. Chretien was born in 1597 and died before 10 October 1655. (THE AMERICAN DESCENDANTS OF CHRETIEN DE BOIS OF WICRES, FRANCE, William Heidgerd, Huguenot Historical Society, New Paltz, New York, 1968, partial photocopy from Philip C. Ellsworth, Bethany, OK, 1986.)

Wallerand Du Bois was a son of Antoine Du Bois and Philipotte de Landas. Antoine Du Bois was the fifth or sixth generation of the family to be Seigneur de la Bourse, which was near Lille. He became also Seigneur de Beaufermez, which was at Wicres, by his marriage to Philipotte de Landas, Dame of Beaufermez. Antoine Du Bois descended from the Du Bois de Fiennes family by a cadet branch which was founded in the 14th century. By inheritance, Wallerand Du Bois became Seigneur de la Bourse and de Beaufermez. The Billiou (Billau,

Bilyou) family had lands adjoining the estates of the Du Bois family and the Seigneur de Beaufermez at Wicres. Francoise Du Bois, daughter of Chretien, married Pierre Billiou. The farm of Chretien Du Bois at Wicres was still being identified in 1909. (THE AMERICAN DESCENDANTS OF CHRETIEN DE BOIS.)

The register of La Bassee Parish, within which Wicres is located, indicates that Louis Du Bois, born in 1626, was the third son of Chretien. The two elder sons probably were Antoine Du Bois who was married in Mannheim, as was Chretien's son, Louis, and Isaac Du Bois, who went from France to Leiden, Holland, as did Chretien's children, Jacques and Francoise. The baptismal dates of Anne, Louis and Jacques Du Bois are included in a list of the children of Chretien Du Bois: (THE AMERICAN DESCENDANTS OF CHRETIEN DE BOIS.)

Francoise b.	06-17-1622
	m. Pierre Billiou
Anne	bp. 11-30-1625 (sp. Jean Baptiste du Bois)
Louis	bp. 11-13-1626 at Lille, parish church of Wicres
	m. Catherine Blanchan at Mannheim
Jacques	bp. 10-27-1628 at Lille, parish church of Wicres
	m. Pierronne Bentyn

Chretien Du Bois was dead when his son, Louis, a resident of Wicres, near La Bassee, and Catherine Blanchan, daughter of Matthieu, were married at the French church of Mannheim on 10 October 1655. The Du Bois marriages in Mannheim were outlined in a letter by Dr. W. Schwarz from Mannheim dated 06 August 1871: (THE AMERICAN DESCENDANTS OF CHRETIEN DE BOIS, Abstracts of Mannheim Palatinate Records, translation by Louis DuBois, late of Yardley, Pa., 1928.)

In the year 1606, the Elector Frederick IV of the Palatinate, being an Evangelical Prince and foreseeing a religious war, built the fortified city of Mannheim at the confluence of the Neckar and Rhine Rivers. Soon after, in 1618, there broke out the devastating 'Thirty Years War' and then the youthful fortress of Mannheim was taken and destroyed by the Bavarian General Tilly. The persecuted French Protestants were brotherly received in the German Evangelical country, particularly in the Rhineland. The Walloons were likewise welcomed in Mannheim and allowed to establish their own French Evangelical community with their own clergymen. For a time they were united with the German Evangelical Reformed church, which union was made with the understanding that services and Holy Communion should be held in the French language in the Spring and Autumn.

The civil and church records of Mannheim do not go back beyond the year 1621, the date of the city's destruction. It is only at a later date that the records of the French Protestants are to be found inscribed by French clergymen in the German church book of records.

The name du Bois is found for the first time in 1653:

1. Antoine du Bois and Marie Mesurelles were married on the 6th of August 1653.

2. Louis du Bois, son of the late Chretien DuBois, resident of Wicres in the vicinity of La Bassee, of the first part, and Catherine Blanchan, daughter of Matthieu Blanchan, bourgeois of Mannheim, of the second part, were

married at the French church of Mannheim, the 10th of October 1655.

3. Martin du Bois, son of the late Jean du Bois, resident of Wicres in the vicinity of la Bassee, and Jeanne, daughter of Antoine du Rein, bourgeois of Mannheim, were married at the French church on the 20th of August, 1656.
4. Antoine du Bois, widower of Marie Muserol, and Jeanne Scipion, widow of Jean Farinau, were married on the 21st of May, 1661.

There can be found records of Isaac du Bois and of others who went from France to Holland, particularly to Leyden.

There are still members of the du Bois family residing in Mannheim. The unmarried goldsmith Johann William du Bois died there 9 October 1849 aged 84 1/4 years. His sister, Anna Catharine du Bois, also unmarried, died 27 October 1849, aged 82 1/4 years. The relatives of this brother and sister were the Burgher and Goldsmith Johann George du Bois and his wife Helene Catharine, born Beinhauer.

For the truth of this extract, Mannheim, the 6th of August 1871.

(Seal)

Dr. W. Schwarz
The Evangelical Protestant Clergyman.

It was noted, parenthetically, in the body of this transcript that a photostatic copy of the marriage record of Louis Du Bois and Catherine Blanchan was included.

Jean Du Bois, who was dead when his son, Martin, of Wicres, was married on 20 August 1656, may have been a brother of Chretien Du Bois.

Jeanne Du Rein, the wife of Martin Du Bois, undoubtedly was related to Marie Du Rein, who was a sponsor of the baptism of Marie Du Bois, daughter of Jacques Du Bois, at Leiden in 1664. The connection between the Du Bois and Du Rein families substantiates the tradition that the Du Bois of Wicres were a branch of the Du Bois of Fiennes. In 1550 Madeleine, ninth child of Robert de Mailly-Couronel and his wife Jeanne de Beaumont, married Jacques Du Bois, Baron de Fiennes, of Artois, who was one of the twelve barons of the Conte de Guise. The third child of Robert de Mailly-Couronel was Charles, Seigneur du Rein. (THE AMERICAN DESCENDANTS OF CHRETIEN DU BOIS.)

Perhaps Jean Baptiste Du Bois, who sponsored the baptism of Anne Du Bois, daughter of Chretien, on 30 November 1625, (THE AMERICAN DESCENDANTS OF CHRETIEN DU BOIS.) was the father of Martin Du Bois.

Matthieu Blanchan came to America on the Gilded Otter which arrived in New Netherland in June 1660 from England. Louis Du Bois and Catherine Blanchan apparently came to America on the ship St. Jan Baptist (St. Jean Baptiste) from England which arrived at Wiltwyck (Kingston), New York on 06 August 1661. When they arrived their sons Abraham and Isaac were aged 4 and 2, respectively. Louis settled his family at Hurley in Ulster County, New York. They were described as residents of Hurley when they presented their son Jacob to the Dutch Protestant Church in Kingston for baptism in 1661 and they were there in 1670 when son Solomon was born. (HISTORY OF NEW PALTZ, NEW YORK, AND ITS OLD FAMILIES, Ralph Le Fevre, Albany, 1909, reprinted Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1973; BAPTISMAL AND MARRIAGE RECORDS OF

THE OLD DUTCH CHURCH OF KINGSTON, NEW YORK, 1660-1809, Roswell Randall Hoes, De Vinne Press, New York, 1981, reprinted Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1980; WHO WAS WHO IN HARDIN COUNTY, Hardin County Historical Society, Elizabethtown, 1941, photocopy; THE VIRGINIA GERMANS, Klaus Wust, The University Press of Virginia, Charlottesville, 1969; IMMIGRANT ANCESTORS, Frederick Adams Virkus, extracted from THE COMPENDIUM OF AMERICAN GENEALOGY, Volume VII, Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1980; data of Alice Lewis Gunter, Independence, MO, Betty Meredith Peger, Brownsville, KY, and Barry W. Downs, Leitchfield, KY, 1984.)

Louis Du Bois was called Louis the Walloon because he came from the part of Flanders lying between the Scheldt and Lys whose residents were known as Walloons. (HISTORY OF NEW PALTZ.) The Walloons are a French-speaking people of Celtic descent inhabiting southern and southeastern Belgium and adjacent regions of France. The term Walloon comes from the Medieval Latin word Wallo for foreigner or Welshman. (THE AMERICAN HERITAGE DICTIONARY, Houghton Mifflin Company, New York, 1969.)

Lille was in the Province of Flanders in the Spanish Netherlands in 1648 after the Peace of Westphalia, as part of the Holy Roman Empire. This area was conquered by France between 1648 and 1697. (HISTORICAL ATLAS OF THE WORLD, Barnes and Noble Books, New York, 1977.)

Louis Du Bois moved from Wicres to Mannheim on the Rhine River, which was the capitol of the Palatinate or Paltz, a small principality of the Holy Roman Empire in 1648, which was later incorporated into Baden. At this time Mannheim was a refuge for Huguenots seeking to escape persecution in nearby France. Despite the religious freedom granted by the Edict of Nantes in 1598, French Protestants were under constant harassment from the Catholic majority. In Mannheim, Louis Du Bois and Catherine Blanchan met, were married and had two sons, Abraham and Isaac, born there before the family emigrated to America. (HISTORY OF NEW PALTZ.)

Jacques Du Bois and his sister Francoise moved from Wicres to Leiden, Holland, where he was married: (HISTORY OF NEW PALTZ, Leyden town hall records and records of the Walloon church in Leyden.)

April 6, 1663 Jacques DuBois (young man) from near La Basse, accompanied by Phillipe DuBois his cousin, was betrothed to Pierronne Bentyn (young woman) from near Lille and that she was accompanied by her sister Mary Bentyn as witness.

Betrothed April 6, 1663, married April 25, 1663, Jacques DuBois j. h. d'aupres La Bassee (young man from near La Bassee) and Pierronne Bentyn j. d. aupres de Lille (young woman from near Lille).

Phillipe Du Bois was godfather at the baptism of the first child of Jacques Du Bois and his brother Albert Du Bois was godfather at the baptism of a child of Francoise Du Bois. Phillipe and Albert may have been brothers of Martin Du Bois, son of Jean du Bois of Wicres, near La Basse, who married Jeanne du Rien in Mannheim in 1656. Albert Du Bois is referred to sometimes in Leiden records as Albert Van der Bosch. (HISTORY OF NEW PALTZ.)

Five children of Jacques Du Bois and Pierronne Bentyn were baptized in the Walloon church in Leiden: (HISTORY OF NEW PALTZ.)

Maria, 1666; Jacques, 1665; Anna, 1669; Jehan, 1661; Pierre (in English Peter), 1674.

Since the couple were not married until 1663, it is unlikely that Jehan was born in 1661. That date probably should read 1671. The appearance of Jacques birth out of sequence in 1665 suggests another possible error in transcription.

Leaving on record a procuracy for the sale of his house at Leiden and obtaining attestations of membership from the Walloon church there for himself and his wife, Jacques Du Bois emigrated to America with his family in 1675 where another son Christian was born. Jacques died at Kingston, New York, in 1676 and his widow married John L. Pietersy who, in 1677, agreed with Matthieu Blanchan to honor a prior contract between his wife's first husband Jacques Du Bois and Blanchan. He also borrowed some money from Matthieu Blanchan, using as security some land lying at Ryssel in Lille in Flanders which had belonged to Jacques Du Bois.

Jean (Jehan) Du Bois joined the church at Kingston in 1692 and his name appears on church records in 1699 as a contributor. Christian Du Bois only appears in the church records twice, as witness to the baptisms of two nephews, Jacobus, child of Jacobus Du Bois (Boys) and Susanna Leg, on 30 March 1701 and Christian, child of Pieter Du Bois (de Boy) and Jannetje Burhans on 15 November 1702. The limited appearance of the names of Jean (Jehan) and Christian Du Bois in the church records suggest that they died young and unmarried or moved away from the area.

Pierre (Pieter, Peter) Du Bois married Jannetje Burhans in Kingston on 12 October 1697 and Jacques (Jacob, James) Du Bois, Jr. married Susana Legg at Kingston on 26 March 1699: (HISTORY OF NEW PALTZ; BAPTISMAL AND MARRIAGE REGISTERS OF THE OLD DUTCH CHURCH OF KINGSTON.)

Pieter du Boys, j.m., born at Leyden (Leiden), and Jannetje Burhans, j.d., born at Brabant (Brabant), and both resid. in Kingstoun. Banns published but dates not given.

Jacob du Boy, j.m., born in Leyden (Leiden), and Susanna Leg, j.d., born in Kingstoun, and both resid. there. Banns published, but dates not given.

Leiden is the university town in the Province of South Holland and Brabant was a local designation for a part of the old town of Kingston, north of Esopus Creek.

Pierre Du Bois resided in Kingston until 1707 when he moved to Dutchess County, New York. Old records pertaining to the twelve patentees of New Paltz included a paper containing the signature of Peter Du Bois. Peter was the first of the name, Du Bois, to settle in Dutchess County where he founded the churches at Fishkill and Poughkeepsie. The house that he built east of Fishkill in 1710 was still standing in 1909. Pierre is buried at the Dutch Reformed Church in Fishkill: (HISTORY OF NEW PALTZ.)

Here lies the body of Peter DuBois, who departed this life the 22nd day of January, in the year 1737-8, aged 63 years.

There seems to be no information about Anna, daughter of Jacques Du Bois and Pierronne Bentyn, but their daughter Maria (Marie) appears to have married Hendrick Jansen van den Bosch: (OLD DUTCH CHURCH.)

Annetje, child of Henderick Jansen Van den Bos and Marie Du Bois, was baptized 10 June 1688 in the presence of Wouter Jansen Van den Bos and Pieternelle Bentin.

Jacobus, child of Henderik Jansen and Maria du Bois, was baptized on 26 May 1691 with no witnesses named.

Marie (Maria) Du Bois apparently died before 28 June 1702 when Marytje, child of Hendrick Janssen van den Bosch and Ariaantje Keyzers, was baptized in the presence of Gysbert Crom and Geertje Crom.

Pitronella Bentyn was present with Jan Burhans when Petronella, child of Pieter du Boys and Jannetje Burhans, was on baptized on 13 June 1698. Pieternel Bentey was present with William Leg when Sara, child of Jacobus du Boys and Susanna Leg, was baptized on 14 January 1700.

Pieternelle Bentin and Pitronella Bentyn undoubtedly were Pierronne Bentyn, the wife of Jacques Du Bois. Hendrick Jansen van den Bosch may have some connection with Albert Du Bois who was also known as Albert van "der" Bosch.

Francoise Du Bois and her husband Pierre Billiou (Ballou, Biljouw, Billew) emigrated to New York and settled on Staten Island. (HISTORY OF NEW PALTZ.) Francoise Du Bois and Pierre Billiou were married in the Walloon Church at Leiden on 20 April 1649. Their daughter Marie (Maria) was baptized there in 1650. Pierre, Francoise and Marie came to America on the ship St. Jan Baptist on 09 May 1661. In his will, dated 11 September 1699, Pierre Billiou identified his daughter Marie (Maria) as the wife of Arendt Prall (Prael) who had died leaving seven children. Marie married Arendt Prall at Wiltwyck on 03 June 1670. Arendt Jansen Prall was born at Nardy, France, in 1647. He died in 1725 on Staten Island. Pierre Billiou brought four children to America: (SHIPS PASSENGER LISTS NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY (1600-1825), Carl Boyer III, Newhall, CA, 1978, page 234, page 127, Lists of Passengers, 1654 to 1664, excerpted from YEAR BOOK OF THE HOLLAND SOCIETY OF NEW YORK, 1902.)

May 9, 1661. in De St. Jan Baptist (the St. John Baptist),
Captain Jan Bergen.

Pieter Bielliou, from Walslant (Pays de Vaud), wife and four children,
9, 7, 6, and 2 1/2 years old.

Walslant was the Walloon area of southern Belgium and northern France and not the Pays de Vaud. (SHIPS PASSENGER LISTS NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY, page 136.)

A published lineage erroneously identifies the father of Louis Du Bois, the Walloon of New York, who was born on 21 October 1626, as Chretien Maximillan des Fiennes: (COLONIAL FAMILIES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, IV, Mackenzie, quoted in THE AMERICAN DESCENDANTS OF CHRETIEN DU BOIS; A GENEALOGY OF THE DUKE SHEPHERD VAN METRE FAMILY, Samuel Gordon Smyth, The New Era Printing Company, Lancaster, PA, 1909.)

Louis du Bois de Fiennes, b. Oct 1626
m. Catherine Blanchan
Chretien Maximillian du Bois des Fiennes
m. -----
Charles Maximillian du Bois des Fiennes
m. Henrietta de Reignier de Boisleau
Maximillian du Bois des Fiennes
m. Louise Charlotte d'E'tamps
Maximillian du Bois de Fiennes, Seigneur des Querder
m. Catherine Cecil Germand
Marc du Bois des Fiennes, Seigneur des Querder
m. Madeleine d'Ognies

Guislain du Bois des Fiennes, Count de Clermont
 m. Jeanne de Longueville
 Eustache du Bois, Seigneur des Querder and des Fiennes
 m. (1) Gille de Rend
 (2) Jeanne St. Ol
 Charles du Bois, Seigneur des Querder
 m. Claude de Lannoy

This fraudulent lineage was perpetrated upon Mrs. Anna Louise Thompson of Geneva, Illinois, now deceased, by a Frenchman purporting to be a genealogist. Chretien Maximilien du Bois des Fiennes, who was a captain in his father's regiment, died in 1747, aged 21, without issue, His father was Charles Maximilien (1701-1750); his grandfather was Maximilien Francois (1669-1714); his great-grandfather was Maximilien who married Catherine Cecile de Guernonval in 1662; and his great- great-grandfather was Marc who married Madeleine d'Ognies in 1624. (DICTIONARIE DE LA NOBLESSE, Volume VIII, La Chesnay, Desbois and Baider, quoted in THE AMERICAN DESCENDANTS OF CHRETIEN DU BOIS.) Chretien Du Bois, father of Louis the Walloon, was born in 1597 and of the same generation as Marc du Bois des Fiennes. His father Guislain du Bois des Fiennes had no son named Chretien, nor did his grandfather Eustace du Bois, Seigneur des Querder and des Fiennes, nor did his great-grandfather Charles du Bois. (THE AMERICAN DESCENDANTS OF CHRETIEN DU BOIS.)

Du Bois has been called one of the oldest of the noble houses of the Cotentin Peninsula in Normandy. It was founded by Geoffroi Du Bois, a knight-banneret and companion of Duke William of Normandy in the conquest of England in 1066. Jacques Du Bois, Baron de Fiennes, of Artois descended from Geoffroi Du Bois and his wife Sidonie Tesson. The Du Bois family has been called the "Grand Masters of the Forests of France." (THE AMERICAN DESCENDANTS OF CHRETIEN DU BOIS.) Of course, the word bois means forest in French.

The Du Bois de Fiennes descend from Charles Du Bois, Seigneur des Querder, and his wife Claude de Lannoy. The ancestors of this couple include Alfred the Great, William the Conqueror and Charlemagne. Claude de Lannoy was a descendant of Henry VI, Duke of Bavaria, and his wife Agnes, Countess of Palatine. Henry VI was a son of Henry V, Duke of Bavaria and Saxe, and his wife Matilda. Charles Du Bois was a descendant of Macquaire Du Bois, Count de Roussey, who lived in 1110. (THE AMERICAN DESCENDANTS OF CHRETIEN DU BOIS.)

Astremoine Du Bois, a Huguenot who renounced his faith and was restored to the nobility, was identified as a descendant of "la maison du Bois en Artois." (THE AMERICAN DESCENDANTS OF CHRETIEN DU BOIS.)