Table of Contents

Overview of the Records .................................................................................................................. 3
Arrangement .................................................................................................................................. 3
Administrative History ....................................................................................................................... 3
Scope and Contents .......................................................................................................................... 4
Related Information .......................................................................................................................... 4
Other Finding Aids ........................................................................................................................... 4
Use of Records ................................................................................................................................. 5
Access Terms ................................................................................................................................... 5
Overview of the Records

Repository: New York State Archives
Summary: This series consists predominantly of land patents, in Dutch, through which the director-general and council of New Netherland allowed private individuals to take possession of land in freehold, as opposed to the previous policy of only granting permission to hold land for cultivation. Also included are some deeds that record the purchase of land from natives for the West India Company and several patroons.
Creator: New Netherland. Council
Title: New Netherland Council Dutch colonial patents and deeds
Quantity: 0.8 cubic feet
Inclusive Date: 1630-1664
Series: A1880

Arrangement

Chronological by date.

Administrative History

On June 24, 1638, the council of New Netherland issued an order allowing private individuals, via the granting of land patents, to possess land "in freehold" as opposed to the previous policy of only granting permission to hold land for cultivation.
Scope and Content Note

This series consists predominantly of land patents, through which the director-general and council of New Netherland allowed private individuals to take possession of land in freehold. However, book GG also contains "Indian deeds" which record the purchase of land from Native Americans for the West India Company and several patroons. Records in the series span the years 1630-1649, 1651, 1654-1661, and 1664.

During Willem Kieft's tenure as director-general (1638-1647) the entire text of each patent was copied, sometimes requiring two pages to complete; under Petrus Stuyvesant (1647-1664) many patents were abbreviated and two often were copied on one page.

This series originally constituted Dutch record books GG and HH (referred to as HH, Part 2 in E.B. O'Callaghan's Calendar of Historical Manuscripts in the Office of the Secretary of State, Albany, N.Y.). The original records are in the Dutch language.

^ Return to Table of Contents

Related Information

Related Material

A0270Series A0270, Register of the Provincial Secretary, contains additional patents and deeds from the Dutch period

A1882Series A1882, Dutch Colonial Land Deeds, contains deeds from the period 1652-1653. There are also deeds from the period 1653-1665 in the "Records of New Amsterdam" held at the New York City Clerk's office. The Albany County (New York) Hall of Records holds deeds from the Dutch period beginning in 1654.

^ Return to Table of Contents

Other Finding Aids

Available at Repository

Item list: E.B. O'Callaghan's Calendar of Historical Manuscripts in the Office of the Secretary of State (1866).

^ Return to Table of Contents

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**Use of Records**

**Access Restrictions**

There are no restrictions regarding access to or use of the material.

**Alternate Formats Available**

Microfilm is available at the New York State Archives (produced by the New York State Library); however, the film is not fully legible and may be incomplete.

Photostat use copies are available at the New York State Archives.

*New Netherland Council Dutch colonial patents and deeds, 1630-1664*

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**Access Terms**

- Indians of North America
- New York (Colony)--Politics and government
- Issuing land grants
- Real property, Exchange of--New York (State)
- Land grants
- New York (State)--History--Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775
- Deeds
- New York (State)
- Letters patent
- Land settlement
- Letters patent
- Dutch--New York (State)
- Land grants
- Recording
- New Netherland
- Real property, Colonial--New York (Colony)
- Land titles
- Dutch Colonial Records

- Page 5-
• West-Indische Compagnie (Netherlands)