

The instructions of March 30, 1624 to the Governors Island settlers specified that they had to attract the natives and non-believers to God's word through "attitude and by example without however to persecute someone for reason of his religion and to leave everyone the freedom of his conscience."

2

In alle binne gader bedryft andes ges
 Gods dinst weegh als du van godtoer
 indre weighe in manide + gemoording
 hier te lande goewest wort. So danc sijn
 Cristeijch esch. Swaerde de judian + gaudre
 beind mensch tot de koninck Soes sijn
 woort

woort sijn te tuchen sonder westande
 mant ter oorsake was sijn weighe te
 verdoel, maer as yder de vrije was
 sijn conseruac te eate. doe soe somant
 onder ofte gader gebede stande, de maer
 ind Gods ofte onses zalighe. Jesu Christi
 moethwillige eate ende ofte beafpedinge
 de salde. Rebe maer goegoutge door
 de Commande. sijn Radt gestraft words

From the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA. HM 548

An original, historic, quintessential New York liberty is the principle of freedom of conscience and religious tolerance, uniquely delivered first to the New World in 1624 and vital to religious diversity — the basis for New York's polyglot culture ever since.

This precept was based on the Dutch Republic's basic law of 1579, which had decreed that "everyone shall remain free in religion and no one may be persecuted or investigated because of religion."

The above is the original text of the specific instruction of religious tolerance to New York's first colonists. It was read to them upon their departure from the Dutch Republic with the ship New Netherland to a fort on Governors Island on March 30, 1624. Hard copies of Holland's laws and ordinances of the year 1587 to which the settlers had to adhere accompanied them.

Bcc via Postal Service, August 2010: Board of Directors of Trust for Governors Island: **Ronay Menschel**, Chair; **Amanda Burden**; **Elizabeth Berger**; **Doug Blonsky**; **Mark Costello**; **Patti Harris**; **Jeffrey H. Lynford**; **Julie Menin**; **Seth Pinsky**; **David Saltzman**; **Dennis Walcott**; **Carl Weisbrod**; NYC Mayor **Michael Bloomberg**; NYC Council Speaker **Christine Quinn**; Office of the NYS Attorney General: Attorney General **Andrew Cuomo**, Counselor and Chief of Staff **Steven Cohen**, Counsel to the Attorney General **Henry Greenberg**, Deputy Counselor and Special Assistant **Benjamin Lawsky**, Special Deputy Attorney General for Public Integrity **Ellen Nachtigall Biben**, Executive Deputy Attorney General of State Counsel **Leslie Leach**, Solicitor General **Barbara Underwood**, Chief Investigator **Joseph D'Amico**, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs **Lee Llambelis**; NYS Inspector General **Joseph Fisch**; Manhattan District Attorney **Cyrus Vance, Jr.**; Albany County District Attorney **P. David Soares**; Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom: **Judith Kaye**, Esq.; Counsel to the President **Robert F. Bauer**, Special Counsel to the President for Ethics **Norman Eisen**; Principal Deputy Counsel to the President **Daniel Meltzer**; Deputy Counsel to the President **Mary De Rosa**; U.S. Attorney General **Eric Holder Jr.**; Acting Deputy U.S. Attorney General **Gary Grindler**; Interior Department Secretary **Ken Salazar**; S.D.N.Y. Attorney **Preet Bharara**; U.S. Secretary of State **Hillary Clinton**; Secretary of State aides **Anne-Marie Slaughter**, **Huma Abedin**, **Farah Pandith**, **Karen Chandler**, **Alec Ross**, **Jared Cohen**

Bcc via Postal Service, October 11, 2011: NY City Mayor **Michael Bloomberg**, NYC First Deputy-Mayor **Patricia Harris**, NYC Council Speaker **Christine Quinn**, NYC Council President **Bill de Blasio**, NYC Council Majority Leader **Joel Rivera**, NYC Council Minority Leader **James Oddo**, NY Congressman Eighth Congressional District **Jerrold Nadler**, Representative 64th Assembly District **Sheldon Silver**, Senator 25th Senate District **Daniel Squadron**, Manhattan Borough President **Scott Stringer**, Brooklyn Borough President **Marty Markowitz**

Ms. Warrie Price
President, The Battery Conservancy
1 New York Plaza, Concourse Level
NY, NY 10004

November 2, 2007

Dear Ms. Price,

You may remember that I have attempted to hold federal and New York State and City agencies and officials accountable for accuracy with respect to New York's 17th-century history especially as it relates to their web sites. Otherwise, the public would get and remain misinformed forever. Perhaps innocently, these officials just repeat the errors of previous writers but after so many years of repeated efforts, there is no longer an excuse.

I lodged an official complaint about this lack of accountability to Ms. Margaret Spellings, Secretary of Education, in November 2004 (see reverse). After several years now, your web site still states the following today:

1623 Dutch settlers land and established New Amsterdam.

1626 Fort Amsterdam built by the Dutch at the tip of Manhattan Island.

From my previous e-mails on this subject to you and Michael Prete, Joanna Smith and Ira Glazier, you may know that:

- (1) Dutch settlers did not establish New Amsterdam in 1623
- (2) Fort Amsterdam was not built in 1626.

In its simplest form you could write:

- (1) Delivery of the Dutch Republic's jurisprudence by the first settlers founded the juridical entity of New Netherland in 1624 on Governors Island, NY State's birthplace and its year of birth.
- (2) Fort Amsterdam was started at the tip of Manhattan Island in 1625, the year of birth of NY City.

Previously I had given you longer versions of these events:

1624 Thirty families disembark from the ship New Netherland under the command of Cornelis Jacobsz May as New Netherland's first director and settle on Governors Island. Pierre Minuyt is among them as volunteer. Their arrival transforms New Netherland into a juridical extension of the Dutch Republic from, earlier, a territory for exploration and private trade since its discovery by the East Indian Company in 1609.

1625 Second director Willem Verhulst and his New Netherland Council (in a Governors Island fort) select Manhattan Island as the place for Fort Amsterdam. Land surveyor and civil engineer Cryn Fredericxsz arrives June 1625 on Governors Island and shortly thereafter lays out Fort Amsterdam at Manhattan's tip with Verhulst and his council.

1625/26 As per April 1625 Instructions, the Manhattan Indians received goods in appreciation for letting the settlers live among them in peace. And/or by signing an amicable accord in their manner, the natives undertook to leave ownership and possession of Fort Amsterdam and the outlying farms agreeably to the settlers. Fredericxsz and Verhulst depart on September 23, 1626 - Minuyt now third director.

I hope that this information may help you in correcting the time line of your web site.



National Heritage Triangle

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Joep de Koning'. The signature is stylized and written over a blue line.

Joep de Koning
President@TolerancePark.org
www.GovernorsIslandToleranceMonument.com

Bcc via Postal Service, August 2010: Board of Directors of Trust for Governors Island: **Ronay Menschel**, Chair; **Amanda Burden**; **Elizabeth Berger**; **Doug Blonsky**; **Mark Costello**; **Patti Harris**; **Jeffrey H. Lynford**; **Julie Menin**; **Seth Pinsky**; **David Saltzman**; **Dennis Walcott**; **Carl Weisbrod**; NYC Mayor **Michael Bloomberg**; NYC Council Speaker **Christine Quinn**; Office of the NYS Attorney General: Attorney General **Andrew Cuomo**, Counselor and Chief of Staff **Steven Cohen**, Counsel to the Attorney General **Henry Greenberg**, Deputy Counselor and Special Assistant **Benjamin Lawsky**, Special Deputy Attorney General for Public Integrity **Ellen Nachtigall Biben**, Executive Deputy Attorney General of State Counsel **Leslie Leach**, Solicitor General **Barbara Underwood**, Chief Investigator **Joseph D'Amico**, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs **Lee Llambelis**; NYS Inspector General **Joseph Fisch**; Manhattan District Attorney **Cyrus Vance, Jr.**; Albany County District Attorney **P. David Soares**; Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom: **Judith Kaye**, Esq.; Counsel to the President **Robert F. Bauer**, Special Counsel to the President for Ethics **Norman Eisen**; Principal Deputy Counsel to the President **Daniel Meltzer**; Deputy Counsel to the President **Mary De Rosa**; U.S. Attorney General **Eric Holder Jr.**; Acting Deputy U.S. Attorney General **Gary Grindler**; Interior Department Secretary **Ken Salazar**; S.D.N.Y. Attorney **Preet Bharara**; U.S. Secretary of State **Hillary Clinton**; Secretary of State aides **Anne-Marie Slaughter**, **Huma Abedin**, **Farah Pandith**, **Karen Chandler**, **Alec Ross**, **Jared Cohen**
Bcc via Postal Service, October 11, 2011: NY City Mayor **Michael Bloomberg**, NYC First Deputy-Mayor **Patricia Harris**, NYC Council Speaker **Christine Quinn**, NYC Council President **Bill de Blasio**, NYC Council Majority Leader **Joel Rivera**, NYC Council Minority Leader **James Oddo**, NY Congressman Eighth Congressional District **Jerrold Nadler**, Representative 64th Assembly District **Sheldon Silver**, Senator 25th Senate District **Daniel Squadron**, Manhattan Borough President **Scott Stringer**, Brooklyn Borough President **Marty Markowitz**

Ms. Margaret Spellings
Presidential Advisor for Domestic Policy
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

November 27, 2004

LIFEBLOOD-OF-AMERICAN-LIBERTY

Dear Ms. Spellings,

In your upcoming position as Secretary of Education we were wondering whether you could or would be interested in the **educational** value of the National Heritage Triangle of America's fundamental values.*

Specifically, we are seeking your support and help with the correction of various "official" websites which as government-supported educational promulgations to the world contain gross omissions and distortions.

Since 1997, we have actively pursued federal, state and city politicians and their appointees with regard to their deliberate oversights and misrepresentations of the historical facts with regard to Governors Island. Their conduct in the matter has been reprehensible and unethical to say the least.

Naturally, now, as Secretary of Education, you could fulfill an important role in getting those websites corrected to reflect the historical truths based on factual, primary source materials.

Doubtless, you are familiar with our efforts of the last seven years. If there is anything else you could do to help the tolerance park's regional (state) and local (city) political approval, we would be immensely grateful (for example, your endorsement as Secretary of Education?).

I would be willing to meet with you anywhere at your convenience, when or if appropriate, to discuss this further.

Looking forward to hearing from you, we are.



National Heritage Triangle

Sincerely,



Joep de Koning
President@TolerancePark.org
www.NationalHeritageTriangle.com
www.TolerancePark.org



The jurisprudence of [religious] tolerance—so delivered onto Governors Island in 1624—was unique to the New Netherland province when compared to its adjoining regions of Virginia and New England.



New York City was founded by a deliberate decision of the New Netherland governing council which—seated [in a fort] on Governors Island—selected Manhattan Island in the year 1625 as the principal place for permanent settlement by starting construction of Fort Amsterdam as New Netherland's capitol and the adjacent village of New Amsterdam as the province's capital.

BRIEF HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Tolerance Park[®] on Governors Island

Historical facts support **1624 as the year of birth of New York State** and the year in which the New York Tri-State region (named New Netherland as of 1614) ceased to be a territory for private traders under patents issued by the States General (i.e., the Parliament of the Dutch Republic) and where only the law of the ship had sufficed in matters of justice (Legislative Resolutions No. 5476 and No. 2708).

The year 1624 was the year in which the territory was transformed to a **juridical entity** by specifically delivering the laws and ordinances of the Dutch Republic to North American soil. As of that year, the territory was administered as a provincial extension of the Dutch Republic under the sovereignty of the States General by way of the delegated authority of the West Indian Company.

These laws and ordinances were delivered by the first settlers to Governors Island – the birthplace of what is now the sovereignty of New York **State** – and were responsible for the jurisprudence and culture of toleration as the basis for ethnic diversity and for the tradition of inclusiveness in the region. This distinctive regional personality and ethos of tolerance is still the identity of what is now called the New York Tri-State region.

At the time, the principle of tolerance was unique to the New Netherland region when compared to its adjoining regions on the east coast of North America. These three regions – Virginia, New Netherland and New England – metamorphosed ultimately into the Original Thirteen.

The vibrant precept of tolerance – together with its complementary, fraternal twin liberty – thus became the foundation of what now denotes the conception of American freedom. It is America's ultimate virtue of tolerance which therefore is responsible for dynamically defining and defending American freedom.

The following year, **in 1625, NY City was birthed** by the deliberate decision of the New Netherland governing council – seated [in a fort] on Governors Island – which selected Manhattan Island as the permanent, principal place of settlement as well as for the construction of **Fort Amsterdam as capitol of New Netherland**. Cryn Fredericxsz – surveyor and fortification engineer – had disembarked on Governors Island in 1625 with specific instructions to build the fort that was to be named "Amsterdam." In addition, he was to build the civic houses necessary for the settlers and to lay out the farms outside of Fort Amsterdam in which and around of which they commenced to settle in 1625. That village named **New Amsterdam as capital of New Netherland** grew subsequently into a town and city with its own municipal rights in 1653.

Hence, the year 1625 was the year in which Fort Amsterdam and the village of New Amsterdam on Manhattan Island came into being. The name was [provisionally] changed in June 1665 to the City of New York upon re-incorporation under English occupation.

Yet, the town's original 1625 personality never changed materially – not with the granting of municipal rights in 1653; not during unlawful and provisional possession of New Netherland by the English from 1664 to 1672; not upon definitive transfer to English sovereignty in 1674; and not upon realizing the Original Thirteen as an independent republic in 1776.

This can still be observed today.



GOVERNORS ISLAND, ICONIC AMERICAN SYMBOL* – WWW.TOLERANCEPARK.ORG
 Tolerance Monument THE TOLERANCE PARK FOUNDATION
 139 EAST 79TH STREET, 15TH FLOOR
 NEW YORK, NY 10075, U.S.A.
 (212) 737-3216 T

WWW.NATIONALHERITAGETRIANGLE.COM

The Hon. Andrew M. Cuomo
 Governor, New York State
 State Capitol
 Albany, N.Y. 12224

December 9, 2011

New York State's Oldest Laws

Dear Mr. Governor,

Within the context of the 1624 birth on Governors Island of what is now the sovereignty of New York State, the Island carries a judicial message of historic substance and 21st-century pertinence.

As a man of the law, you may appreciate that **New York State's oldest laws** were delivered with the first settlers to Governors Island in 1624 and 1625. They were instructed to use the laws and ordinances of the States of Holland and Zeeland which applied to the entire NY Tri-State territory between 38 and 42 degrees latitude thus. These instructions transformed that region into the juridical entity of New Netherland in 1624 (now the sovereignty of New York State) from previously a place for private trade where just the law of the ship applied to private traders only.

Those injunctions were the colonists' sole legal guidance until October 13, 1629, and contained specifically a prohibition "to pass any new laws or ordinances or to sanction any new custom" and to "observe and obey"..."the ordinances and customs of [the provinces of] Holland and Zeeland and the common written law qualifying them." Settlers were to follow "the administration of justice, in matters concerning marriages, the settlement of estates and contracts" and "intestate estates, the placard issue by their great Mightinesses the States of Holland in the year 1587."

In addition to these explicitly stated regulations, **all such laws and ordinances had been incorporated by reference in the Instructions which were accompanied by some hard copies as noted in the statement that "some copies of which are sent to him herewith."**

I hope you will understand that New York State's oldest laws and ordinances included the jurisprudence of religious tolerance which affected New York's culture uniquely.

May the year 2012 be the year in which you will recognize New York State's birthplace in the year 1624 as the North-American source of the universal value of [religious] tolerance.

Governors Island is imbued therefore with tremendous symbolic meaning to humanity. **Only you can help break thirteen years of legislative silence.**



National Heritage Triangle

cc: NYS Senate Majority Leader Dean G. Skelos; NYS Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver; Lieutenant Governor Robert Duffy; U.S. President Barack Obama; U.S. Vice President Joseph Biden Jr.; Interior Dept. Secretary Ken Salazar; NPS Director Jonathan Jarvis; NPS NE Director Dennis Reidenbach; NPS NYC Superintendent Patti Reilly; Education Secretary Arne Duncan; Commerce Secretary Gary Locke; Secretary of State Henry Clinton; Hon. Chair, Preserve America, First Lady Michelle Obama; ACHIP Chairman Milford Wayne Donaldson; ACHIP Executive Director John Fowler; NTHP President Stephanie Meeks; 12 members NYS Executive Office; NYS Attorney General Eric Schneiderman; State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli; U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder Jr.; U.S. Attorney S.D.N.Y. Preet Bharara; Manhattan District Attorney, Cyrus R. Vance, Jr.; Albany County District Attorney, P. David Soares. Oct. 2012: NY State Joint Commission on Public Ethics; Its 14 members

Best wishes for the holidays and for 2012,

Joep de Koning
www.ToleranceMonument.org
www.TolerancePark.org
www.ToleranceWall.com
www.NationalHeritageTriangle.com
www.GovernorsIslandNationalSymbol.org

* THE TOLERANCE PARK FOUNDATION IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION WHICH SEEKS TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL HERITAGE TRIANGLE ENCOMPASSING AMERICA'S THREE PRIMARY VALUES IN NEW YORK HARBOR. ITS CORE MISSION IS TO PROTECT GOVERNORS ISLAND—NEW YORK STATE'S BIRTHPLACE—AS THE NATION'S OLDEST NATURAL HISTORIC, THEMATIC SYMBOL (1624) BY RESTORING THE ISLAND TO ITS HISTORICAL INTEGRITY AND SUSTAINING ITS VITAL MESSAGE OF TOLERANCE AS AN ETHICAL FORCE AND MORAL DYNAMIC FOR THE BENEFIT OF FUTURE GENERATIONS: **THE LIFE BLOOD OF AMERICAN LIBERTY.**



GOVERNORS ISLAND, ICONIC AMERICAN SYMBOL* – WWW.TOLERANCEPARK.ORG
 Tolerance Monument THE TOLERANCE PARK FOUNDATION
 139 EAST 79TH STREET, 15TH FLOOR
 NEW YORK, NY 10075, U.S.A.
 (212) 737-3216 T

The Hon. Michael R. Bloomberg
 Mayor of the City of New York
 City Hall
 New York, N.Y. 10007

October 28, 2011

**RE: BIRTH CERTIFICATE OF NEW YORK CITY
 originally named New Amsterdam**

Dear Mr. Mayor,

This is a follow-up on our letter to the MTA of October 15 (see the reverse) and to you of October 11 in which we asked you to help correct a historical wrong by having Peter Minuit Plaza renamed to **Willem Verhulst Plaza**.

The historical reality in support of this name change lies at the Huntington Library in San Marino, California, where most of the original documents with regard to the founding of the juridical entity of New Netherland, 1624, and the town of New Amsterdam, 1625, (later renamed New York) are kept.

(1) At the Huntington Library you will find the West Indian Company's instructions to the first colonists of the years 1624 and 1625. They include **New York City's original Birth Certificate** in the form of "*Document E, Specific Instruction for Crijn Fredericksz. 25 April 1625.*" On that date, April 25, 1625, it commanded fortification engineer and surveyor Cryn Fredericxsz to promptly carry out the following:

"Immediately after the ring ditch is finished, director Verhulst and his Council shall undertake the fortification according to concept No C which shall be named Amsterdam and is to be dug by as many people as can be missed from the farmers, sailors and colonists of where the defence is erected."

(2) You may agree that **New Amsterdam (New York City)** on Manhattan was born with the start of construction of Fort Amsterdam and its surrounding farms in 1625. This was achieved at the direction and under the leadership of second New Netherland director **Willem Verhulst – the founding father of New York City**. Peter Minuit was irrelevant to founding New York City (1625) or New York State (1624) – he also didn't buy Manhattan.

If you have any further questions or comments, please let me know.

I look forward to having your advice on how to proceed.



National Heritage Triangle

cc: NYC First Deputy-Mayor Patricia Harris, NYC Council Speaker Christine Quinn, NYC Council President Bill de Blasio, NYC Council Majority Leader Joel Rivera, NYC Council Minority Leader James Oddo, NY Congressman Eighth Congressional District Jerrold Nadler, Representative 64th Assembly District Sheldon Silver, Senator 25th Senate District Daniel Squadron, Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer, Governor Andrew Cuomo; Lieutenant Governor Robert Duffy; Secretary to the Governor Larry Schwartz; Executive Deputy Secretary Joseph Percoco; Counsel to the Governor Mylan Denerstein; Counselor to the Governor Andrew Zambelli; Special Counsel on Public Integrity and Ethics, Jeremy Creelan; Special Policy Advisor Adam Cohen; Deputy Secretary for Policy and Programs James Malatras; Director of State Operations, Howard Glaser; Appointments Secretary, Leslie Leach, Esq.; Chief Diversity Officer, Yrthya Dinzey; Chief Communications Director Rich Bamberg; Deputy Communications Director Josh Vlasto; NYC Attorney General Eric Schneiderman; NYS Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli; NY Secretary of State Cesar Morales; Mr. David Samson, Mr. Patrick Foye, Mr. Jay Walder, Mr. Andrew Saul, Mr. Andrew Albert, Mr. Jonathan Ballan, Mr. John Banks, Mr. Robert Bickford, Mr. James Blair, Mr. Norman Brown, Mr. Allen Cappelli, Mr. Fernando Ferrer, Mr. Patrick Foye, Mr. Ira Greenberg, Mr. Jeffrey Kay, Mr. Mark Lebow, Ms. Susan Metzger, Mr. Charles Moerdler, Mr. Mark Page, Mr. Mitchell Pally, Mr. James Sedore Jr., Ms. Nancy Shevell, Mr. Vincent Tessitore, Jr., Mr. Ed Watt, Mr. Carl Wortendyke, Mr. Charles Monheim, Ms. Fredericka Cuenca, Ms. Susan Kupferman, Ms. Diana Jones Ritter, Oct. 2012: NY State Joint Commission on Public Ethics; Its 14 members

Sincerely,

Joep de Koning
 (212) 737-3216

www.TolerancePark.org
www.ToleranceMonument.org
www.ToleranceWalk.com

* THE TOLERANCE PARK FOUNDATION IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION WHICH SEEKS TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL HERITAGE TRIANGLE ENCOMPASSING AMERICA'S THREE PRIMARY VALUES IN NEW YORK HARBOR. ITS CORE MISSION IS TO PROTECT GOVERNORS ISLAND—NEW YORK STATE'S BIRTHPLACE—AS THE NATION'S OLDEST NATURAL HISTORIC, THEMATIC SYMBOL (1624) BY RESTORING THE ISLAND TO ITS HISTORICAL INTEGRITY AND SUSTAINING ITS VITAL MESSAGE OF TOLERANCE AS AN ETHICAL FORCE AND MORAL DYNAMIC FOR THE BENEFIT OF FUTURE GENERATIONS: **THE LIFEBLOOD OF AMERICAN LIBERTY.**

WWW.NATIONALHERITAGEGETRIANGLE.COM

State of New York Legislative Resolution



Senate No. 5476

Assembly No. 2708

BY: Senators Marchi, Farley and Johnson

BY: Committee on Rules at the request of M. of A. McEneny, Silver, Canestrari, Englebright, Morelle, Markey, Cahill, Christensen, Colman, Cook, Destito, Farrell, Glick, Gordon, Gottfried, Gromack, Gunther, Jacobs, Lavelle, Mayersohn, McLaughlin, Millman, Ortiz, Prentiss, Schimminger, Seddio, Sidikman, Sweeney, Tonko and Townsend

MEMORIALIZING Governor George E. Pataki to
recognize the official place and date of birth of the State
of New York as being Governors Island in the year 1624

WHEREAS, At the start of the 12-year armistice (1609-1621) between the Seven United Provinces of the Netherlands (the Dutch Republic) and Spain, Captain Henry Hudson, commissioned by the (Dutch) East India Company and aboard the ship Halve Maen (Half Moon), arrived in the River Mauritius (Hudson River) as the first official explorer representing the Dutch Republic; Hudson conducted New York's first recorded commercial transaction in 1609 which formed the basis for ongoing private commercial interests in the fur trade for that region; and

WHEREAS, Various private commercial entities from the Republic had competed for a share in the fur trade in the Hudson River regions since 1610 and, for the purpose of obtaining a fur-trading monopoly, amalgamated into the New Netherland Company on October 11, 1614; and

WHEREAS, The New Netherland Company was the result of the explorations, from 1611 through 1614, of the Amsterdam explorer and private commercial fur trader, Adriaen Block; the first explorer of any country to chart the eastern coast from what is now Marblehead Bay, north of Cape Cod, to the Hudson River, and who named it New Netherland; and

WHEREAS, Upon the end of the armistice and the creation of the (Dutch) West India Company in 1621, the Dutch Republic sought to effectuate a cultural transplantation on the North American continent by way of an eighth province for the purpose of imposing its sovereignty onto the territory, now extending south to the Delaware Bay, through the delegated authority of the West India Company; and

WHEREAS, The West India Company recalled all private commercial parties operating in the New Netherland territory in 1622 and 1623 and invalidated all private commercial interests, thus voiding the law of the ship as the only legal recourse in the region; and

WHEREAS, The Dutch Republic officially established its institutional, administrative and cultural infrastructure onto the New Netherland territory by planting its first colony of 30 families on Noten Eylant in 1624 (renamed Governors Island in 1784); these colonists had disembarked on Governors Island in the summer of 1624 from the ship named "New Netherland" under the command of Cornelis Jacobszoon May (as in Cape May in New Jersey); and

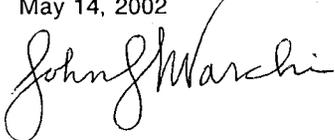
WHEREAS, In June 1625, 45 more colonists disembarked on Governors Island from three ships named Horse, Cow and Sheep which also delivered 103 horses, steers and cows, in addition to numerous pigs and sheep -- thus successfully completing the Republic's first planting of a colony in 1624, and extrapolating the Republic's culture, its 1579 Constitution and legal-political guaranty of tolerance onto the North American continent; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor George E. Pataki to recognize the official place and date of birth of the State of New York as being Governors Island in the year 1624, continuing a heritage from Dutch settlers which will endure even as New York City contemplates possible new uses for the island, such as facilities for The City University of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the New Netherland infrastructure formed the foundation for New York's continuing development and that the cultural imprint of the New Netherland community, upon relinquishing political control to the English in 1674, had a profound and enduring impact on New York's unique cultural heritage; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to George E. Pataki, Governor of the State of New York.

ADOPTED IN SENATE ON
May 14, 2002



ADOPTED IN ASSEMBLY ON
May 30, 2002

By order of the Senate,



Steven M. Boggess, Secretary

By order of the Assembly,



Karen L. McCann, Acting Clerk



Beginning of English sovereignty over New Netherland (now the New York Tri-State)

The Dutch Republic did not surrender New Netherland to the British until March 5, 1674.

To prevent casualties and to preserve their town, New Netherlanders yielded provisionally to the sudden British arrival of four frigates with a force of about 400 men in New Amsterdam Harbor in 1664 at a time when King Charles II and James, Duke of York, were trying to provoke war with the Dutch Republic.

The English surprise incursion happened during peace time between England and the Dutch Republic. Hence, the "*Articles of the Transfer of New Netherland*" of September 8, 1664, stated that New Netherland (not New Amsterdam) was "*conditionally transferred.*" I.e., the transfer of "*this Place and Province*" was subject to the agreement of the "*King of Great Britain*" and the "*States of the United Netherlands.*" The Province was to "*be re-delivered into the hands of said States whenever his Majesty will send his commands to re-deliver it*" – a veiled declaration of war (Condition 20.) The 1664 Articles were not signed by Director-General Petrus Stuyvesant.

Charles and James received their war wish on March 4, 1665 until a temporary "*uti possidetis*" resolution maintaining the status quo between the two countries was signed on July 31, 1667.*

The recapture of the New Netherland Province by the Dutch Republic took place with a fleet of 21 ships on August 24, 1673. After battle, the English capitulated which resulted into the re-delivery of the province under Dutch jurisprudence.

On April 7, 1672, England declared war on the Dutch Republic. The Dutch barely survived that war as it was simultaneously attacked on four sides – the English, the French, the Bishopric of Muenster and the Archbishopric of Cologne. The "*uti possidetis*" solution was made permanent in the Treaty of Westminster on March 5, 1674 which conferred lasting sovereignty over New Netherland to the English.

* "*Uti possidetis* (Latin for "as you possess") is a principle in international law that territory and other property remains with its possessor at the end of a conflict, unless otherwise provided for by treaty; if such a treaty doesn't include conditions regarding the possession of property and territory taken during the war, then the principle of *uti possidetis* will prevail. Originating in Roman law, the phrase is derived from the Latin expression *uti possidetis, ita possideatis*, meaning "may you continue to possess such as you do possess" (lit., "as you possess, thus may you possess"). This principle enables a belligerent party to claim territory that it has acquired by war."



Originally colored engraved map of New Netherland stretching from Cape Cod to the Delaware Bay (published in Amsterdam, 1674): “TOTIUS NEOBELGII NOVA ET ACCURATISSIMA TABULA.”

The map’s baroque cartouche celebrates the restoration of Dutch power over the New Netherland province. A victorious Athena (*goddess of war and peace, guardian of cities*), stands amid her supplicants, Indian and European, with a laurel wreath, symbol of **honor and glory for achievement**, in her outstretched hand. Meanwhile, **Hermes, god of commerce** and messenger to the Olympians, tilts his magic wand, **symbol of office in procession**, in the direction of tribute-bearing Indians.

The 1673 view of New Amsterdam is by the renowned engraver/etcher Romeyn de Hooghe (b. Amsterdam 1645, d. Haarlem 1708.) The text in the view reads: “*New Amsterdam recently named New York and now retaken by the Netherlanders on August 24, 1673*” (“*Nieuw-Amsterdam onlangs Nieuw Jork genant en nu hernomen bij de Nederlanders op den 24 Aug 1673.*”)

The map memorializes the recapture of New Netherland in August 1673 – six years after the 1667 Treaty of Breda had sanctioned the English occupation of the New Netherland province following a surprise English naval action in 1664 that had compelled the New Netherland Council to provisionally cede the New Netherland province to the English. It was one of the reasons for the second Anglo-Dutch war (1666-1667.)

The map shows 21 men-of-war – the largest fleet ever assembled in North American waters at that time – with the caption “‘Cornelis Evertsen’s fleet’” and, clearly visible in the view on the right is the wall – after which Wall Street was named – erected in 1653 against the threat of English attack. It also shows Broad Street (as a canal) and Peter Stuyvesant’s “huis” at the end of Whitehall facing the East River, among other.

The map was originally engraved by Hugo Allardt on copperplate in 1655 based on a composite map (land map plus town view) first produced by Nicolaes Jansz Visscher in 1651. Visscher, in turn, had used the 1650 engraved New Netherland map of Joannes Janssonius and the 1650 engraved New Amsterdam town view of Johannes Blaeu (the “Blaeu View”) as prototypes.

These two engraved prototypes had, in turn, been executed from a 1648 manuscript map produced in Manhattan by Adriaen van der Donck, and a 1648 pen-and-ink view of New Amsterdam – drawn on-the-spot – and now in the Albertina collection of the National Library of Austria.

The 1648 manuscript map and town view drawing had been presented as an accompaniment to a historic remonstrance to the States General in The Hague in 1649 by Adriaen van der Donck on behalf of settlers against the New Netherland trade faction as personified by director-general Stuyvesant (see August 2000 Mercator’s World Magazine article.) **It was the first time that the legal right to seek redress of grievances had been exercised in America. This right was 142 years later codified in the First Amendment of the Bill of Rights.**

The map depicted here is the “Restitutio View” of New Netherland, its nomenclature updated from the 1650 Janssonius map (then published without an inset town view and without text on the reverse) to include the latest place names in New Netherland (Latin appellation: *Novum Belgium*) and to include an inset view of “urban” New Amsterdam depicted around 1673.

This was the period of the third Anglo-Dutch war 1672-74 – the historic “disaster years” – wherein the Dutch Republic was simultaneously attacked by the French (Louis XIV), the English and the Bishopric of Munster and the Archbishopric of Cologne.