

From: “**Studien zur Geschichte der Stadt Xanten, 1228-1978**” 1983. Verlag Rheinland, Köln. ISBN 3-7927-0749-7. Alfons Alders: Vynen, Die „Königlichen“ Höfe, page 345 and 346.

GESTHUYSEN: the original farm, which probably came into being during the time of Charlemagne and which soon afterwards was divided up into Wertshof and Lamershof, to which Heyershof was later added (hof = farm). The royal GESTHAUSERHOF and the Maashof came into existence in the 11th century. The aldermen (jurymen) from Gesthuysen, who are often mentioned since 1467, are described as Lamert/Lamberts van G. (from the Lamershof), Maes van G. (from the Maashof) and Gerloch/Geirlich van G. (presumably Wertshof or Heyershof). The people besides them, named only "van Geisthuysen", for example in 1467 Heinrich van G., in 1528 Johan van G., in 1568 Gerit van G. and in 1622 Johan van G., probably came from the main farm, which has disappeared. That main farm had a size of 41 morgen and 531 ruten *. Later occupants: in 1700 Johan Gesthuysen and Johanna Tenort etc., see under Wertshof.

LAMERSHOF (2001: Joseph Kösters), klev. “Leibgewinnsgut”, purchased in 1484 by the Marienbaum monastery; in its possession up until 1802. Size 32 morgen 383 ruten, tenants: in 1700 Gert Hülskes and Marg. Calenberg, their daughter Johanna († 1772) who married Jan Betray († 1803) in about 1740. Their descendants in Vynen and the surrounding area are very numerous.

HEYERSHOF (2001: Johann Tepferdt), belonging to the crown estates, in 1700 belonging to S. Exc. van Spaen, size ten morgen 538 ruten. Occupants: in 1700 Wilh. Ingenhaeg called Heyers and Aleidis Elbers, in 1763 Johann Paessens and Maria Peters.

WARDTSHOF or WERTSHOF (2001: Frau Schmitz), belonging to the properties owned by Butler. Probably - together with Lamershof - the first Gesthuysen settlement. Size 22 morgen and 262 ruten. Occupants: in 1700 Henr. Wertz, later the Gesthuysen branch, which presumably came from the main farm. In 1700 Johann G. and Joanna Tenort, in 1731 Joh. Heinrich G. and Aleidis Köpp, in 1777 Theodor G. and Maria Hülsken, in 1803 J. Heinrich G. and Wilhelmina van Bernum, in 1838 Engelbert G. and Hendrina Heiming; their son J. Heinrich moves to Haffen through marriage; this branch dies out in Vynen in 1896 with the unmarried "Welmohne".

MAASHOF (2001: Franz Gesthuysen). On 17 March 1364 it is recorded in a deed by judge Elvert v. Vynen and the aldermen of the town that Godert Eliassoen grants a farm in his possession in Gesthuysen to the Maria fraternity in Kalkar. In around 1700 a vicarage in Kalkar. Size 38 morgen and 81 ruten. The next branch occupies the farm in around 1800: before 1700 H. Gesthuysen and Aleidis Koeppen, in 1710 Nikolaus G. and Theodora Broeckmans, called Vienincks, in 1747 Johann G. and M. Th. Billemans from Veen, in 1778 Johann G. and Margarete Terheggen, in 1832 Theodor G. and Joh. Elisabeth Hacks from Issum, in 1869 P. Heinrich G. and Ida Paessens, in 1917 Johannes G. and Klara Verhalen, in 1960 Franz G. and Elisabeth Ebben van Bürk.

Places named: Gesthuysen, 12 km north-west of Xanten (the coordinates are 51° 43' 02 (51.717) N and 06° 22' 98 (6.383) E); Vynen, 8 km north-west of Xanten; Haffen, 15 km north of Xanten across the Rhine; Veen, 5 km south of Xanten; Issum, 15 km south of Xanten.

* Former German measurements are very confusing (Booma 1987, Rockstuhl & Rockstuhl 1997, Trapp 2001, Verderhalven 1968). Measurements even if called the same varied from region to region, province to province and nose to nose. This measurement is the “dutch morgen” on maps from 1705 and 1763 (Alders 1983). Maybe it is the “Amsterdamse morgen”: 1 morgen = 600 ruten = 8129 meter² = 2 acres = 0.3186 sq.mile (Verhoeff 1982).