

The origin and meaning of the name “Gesthuysen”.

This surname is a good example of a name which represent the region or town of origin. The families surname is Gesthuysen while they all come from the hamlet Gesthuysen! For more information see “Studien zur Geschichte der Stadt Xanten, 1228-1978” (Alders 1983).

De meaning of the name probably will be explained by the Dutch and German word „geest“ which means „sandy ground, high and dry“ (Van Berkel & Samplonius 1995, Van Veen & Van der Sijs 1997). A logical explanation seams that the farms of the hamlet Gesthuysen are build on the somewhat higher situated sandy grounds which never inundate during the numerous floods of the river Rhine.