Rev. Fr. Hector L. Bolduc 500 Morrill Street Gilford New Hampshire 03246

USA

Uw brief van: 10-01-1991 Uw kenmerk:

Ons kenmerk: 19.637

Datum: February 5, 1991

Onderwerp:

Bij antwoord datum en ons kenmerk vermelden

Dear mr. Bolduc,

In reply to your letter of January 10th:

There is no book about the history of 's-Hertogenbosch (Bois le Duc, Bolduc, Herzogenbusch) written in the english language. However, there is a book about our famous Saint John's Cathedral, written in three languages (english, french and german). The price is about 15/20 dollar (without the costs af sending it to the USA). In this book you can read also a lot about the history of the city itself.

The adress of the publisher is: Boekhandel Adr. Heinen, Kerkstraat 27, 5211 KD 's-Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands.

I don't know (I looked for it in the thelephone-book) anyone bearing the name Bois le Duc of Bolduc. Centuries ago you got such a familyname when you left the city. In the 'new' city where your were going to live; those persons were called "John of 's-Hertogenbosch", or -shorter-: "John of Den Bosch". So you don't find persons with that family-name in 's-Hertogenbosch itself. The name and adress of the local newspaper is: Het Brabants Dagblad, Stadsredaktie, Emmaplein 25, 's-Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands.

We are interested in your ancestors, when they really came from 's-Hertogenbosch. Can you send us your roots (names and dates about you, your father, your grandfather...a.s.o.), from the USA back to 's-Hertogenbosch?

Your truly,

for the keeper of the records,

(P.J. van der Heijden)



ARCHIEF VAN 's-HERTOGENBOSCH

's-Hertogenbosch, 1 st May 1974
Stadhuis
04100 - 25111, toestel 241, 242 en 243

Nummer : 9833

Bijlagen : 1

Typ. Bk.

Uw brief , 20 th April

Onderwers: The coat of arms

of 's-Hertogenbosch

Maison de St. Pie X
50 Route de La Vignettaz

→ Fribourg 1700

SUISSE

Dear Mr. Bolduc,

In reply to your letter of April 20th last I send you a picture of our city's coat of arms with its heraldic description:

sable a tree or with a quartered free quarter:

1 and 4, sable a lion or,

2 and 3, argent a double-tailed lion gules; a shield-heading or, surmounted by a two-headed eagle sable having the coat-armour of Habsburg, being "gules a fesse argent", before its breast.

Explanation:

The tree is the token of 's-Hertogenbosch as it has existed in the seal of the town before 1250 already. The guilds of 's-Hertogen-bosch, among others that of the smiths, marked their products with a tree to prevent imitation.

In 1356 the duchess of Brabant Johanna granted to the town the privilege of bearing in its coat of arms four lions with the tree. The four lions in the free quarter constitute together the coat-armou of the dukes of Brabant, for the city of 's-Hertogenbosch was one of the four county-towns of the duchy Brabantine. (The others were: Brussels, Louvain and Antwerp.)

The lion Brabantine (gold on a black field) is represented in the

1 2 squares 1 and 4, the double-tailed lion Limburg (red on silver field

3 4 in the squares 2 and 3.

The lion Limburg has been inserted in the coat because duke Jan I of Brabant conquered the duchy of Limburg in the battle of Woeringen (1288), which duchy then was joined with Brabant in a personal union

The emperor Maximilian of Austria granted to the town the privi-

In 1477 he had married Mary of Burgundy (duchess of Brabant, countess of Flanders, Hainault, Holland and so on). After her death in 1482 he became a regent over the Burgundian Netherlands (1482-1493 and 1506-1515). The two-headed Habsburgian eagle (black on gold) is having before his breast the Habsburgian family-arms, colours: red-white-red.

Yours truly

The keeper of the records

(drs.P.Th.J.Kuyer)





Shopping

Most shops open until 18.00 on weekdays and 17.00 on Saturdays, but are closed Monday mornings. Late shopping on Thursday until 21.00. Much of the city centre is a traffic-free shopping precinct.

Specialised shops sell a wide range of mens' and ladies' clothes, craftwork, antiques, gold and silver, ceramics and

household goods.

Covered parking at Burg. Loeffplein (near Markt), Visstraat and Wolvenhoek.

Information

The VVV Tourist Office can provide you with information on all parts of The Netherlands, as well as book you hotels and theatres.

Address: Markt 77, P.O. Box 1039, 5200 BA 's-Hertogenbosch.

Telephone: 073-123071.

Open: Weekdays from 09.00 to 17.30. Saturdays from 09.00 to

16.00, from June to August to 17.00.

Happy Memories...

The following things are characteristic of Den Bosch and it is hoped that they will give you happy memories of your visit. Bosse Bollen are a local delicacy consisting of light pastry balls covered with chocolate and filled with whipped cream. They are delicious, but remember your figure too.

Zoete lieve Gerritje ('Dear sweet Gerritje') was a happy farm girl from the Meierij, the country area round Den Bosch. As a symbol of her cheerfulness, Den Bosch erected a statue. Get a miniature from the VVV Tourist Office, or take a photograph of the real thing.

The drummerboy is one of the little stone mannikins swarming over the flying buttresses of St. Jan's Cathedral. The VVV sells a model of him.

St. Mary's Porch of the cathedral depicts the infant Jesus in his mother's arms - but he has Napoleon's face.

The Clockwork Horsemen who appear on top of the Townhall when the carillon chimes to remind you of the time.

The 53rd Welsh Division plaque reminds you of the men who liberated Den Bosch in the Second World War.

The Great Organ in St. Jan's Cathedral will remind you that the composer of the British National Anthem was John Bull.

Published by the VVV Tourist Office, 's-Hertogenbosch, 1986 Printed in the Netherlands Reg. nr. 20019886 L.E.





What is there in a name? Quite a lot when the name spells out 's-Hertogenbosch because it includes centuries of history as well as the origin of the town itself... 'in the Duke's Woods'. The name 's-Hertogenbosch is quite a mouthful for anybody to pronounce and the locals shorten it to simply Den Bosch which is said like 'Den Boss'.

The History of Den Bosch started with its municipal charter granted in 1185 by Henry I, Duke of Brabant. In fact, the town grew from a village on the Duke's wooded estate alongside the River Maas, hence its name. Nowadays, Den Bosch is the provincial capital of North Brabant; however, the whole of Brabant was an independant state in those early days. In 1430, Brabant became part of Burgundy which was later annexed by France as part of the Spanish Hapsburg Empire.

William of Orange, who is called the Father of the Netherlands, was made a member of the Spanish Council of State in 1555, but later he supported the struggle for independence from Spain. The Eighty Years War followed and Den Bosch was eventually liberated in 1629. Then, Brabant joined the Republic of the United Provinces which existed until it was occupied by the forces of Napoleon and it became part of the French Empire in 1810.

The Kingdom of The Netherlands was created in 1814 including all the Low Countries; soon afterwards, Belgium separated and Brabant was divided into two parts. South Brabant with Brussels became Belgian and North Brabant with Den Bosch remained Dutch.

The Netherlands was neutral in the First World War, but it was vanquished by Germany in the Second World War and the Brabant lifestyle was altered yet again. The fortunes of the people of Den Bosch have changed several times throughout history and this is reflected in the diverse architecture of the city buildings and the cosmopolitan character of the people themselves; they have continually adapted to the times and maintained friendly relations with their neighbours.