



WieWasWie: Past the Index

Daniel R. Jones, MS, AG®
FamilySearch

USING WIEWASWIE

WieWasWie is a group of Dutch archives which index records. It includes:

- Birth, marriage, and death records from civil registration (post-1811)
- Church records—baptism, marriage, and burial records (very few, but increasing)
- Other record types (such as East India Company [VOC], others)

Some images are attached. Note: WieWasWie is an **incomplete index** and an ongoing project.

Translating words in WieWasWie and in original records

- Use Google Chrome to open WieWasWie. Right-click on the website, then select **Translate to English**.
- FamilySearch Wiki article: **Netherlands Language and Languages**. To find a word, hold the **Ctrl** key and hit the **F** key. Type in the word you want to find.
- <http://translate.google.com>: select desired language on the left, click on the language you want on the right, and type in the word or phrase. This website uses modern spellings; it may not translate words whose spellings have changed.

Images on WieWasWie

- Look for the camera icon under the **Scan** heading. Click on **View image**.
- Images come from provincial or municipal archives; the images may act differently depending on the archive.
- **Always look at the original image**.

Search tips for WieWasWie

- Upgrade to Premium Subscription (additional search capabilities)
- Use wildcards – asterisk * for single or multiple letters
- Use B (begins with) rather than E (exact)
- Use relationships (Person 2)
 - Use wildcards and Begins with rather than Exact
 - Look for a combination of surnames of the father and the mother
- Check to see if the records are indexed.

Are the records indexed? Do a search with:

- No names
- Specific year
- Specific place

Look at the breakdown of the results. Click on **Document type** and analyze the results.

Not all records are indexed! If WieWasWie does not have an index:

- Provincial or city archives may have separate indexes and images on their own websites.
- FamilySearch has several civil registration indexing projects (including Amsterdam)
- Look for images and handwritten indexes called **tienjarige tafels** – ten year tables – or individual indexes at the beginning or end of the original civil registration books.
- Original civil registration book images are found on FamilySearch for free. The collection is organized by province name, then record type. For example, Noord-Holland, Civil Registration. Be sure to **Browse Images**.

USING FAMILYSEARCH IMAGES FOR WIEWASWIE INDEXES

WieWasWie Indexes with no image: images on FamilySearch

- Use all details (event date, event place, certificate number)

Civil registration book images are found on FamilySearch for free. The collection is organized by province name, then record type. Click on **Browse images**. Select your municipality, then click on the record type and year span you are interested in.

Marriage supplements

- Called **Huwelijksbijlagen**
- Were required by the municipality. They usually contain:
 - Publication of the banns
 - Birth certificates of the bride and groom
 - Death certificates of parents, previous spouses, and sometimes grandparents
 - Groom's military service certificate
- Usually organized by marriage year and record number
- Use information from WieWasWie index or from the marriage record to identify the marriage supplements
- Use the extracts to identify the original records
- Documents are extracts. **Always look at the original record.**