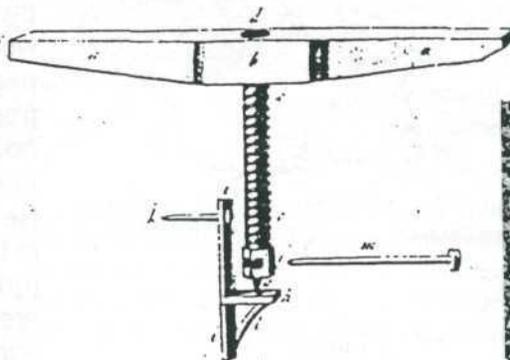


A highlight of the day was our visit with Ab Goutbeek and his wife in the village of Dalfser, north in the province of Overijssel. They are retired from a flower shop business. Among other things, Ab is an accomplished entomologist, a science that depends on careful observation and a passion to understand the differences. Ab brought this to his study of barracks and with Dr. Everhard Jans published in 1988, and now out of print, what may be the best book on the subject Hooibergen in Oost Nederland; Opkomst, gebruik en typologie (ISBN 90-6697-038-3)



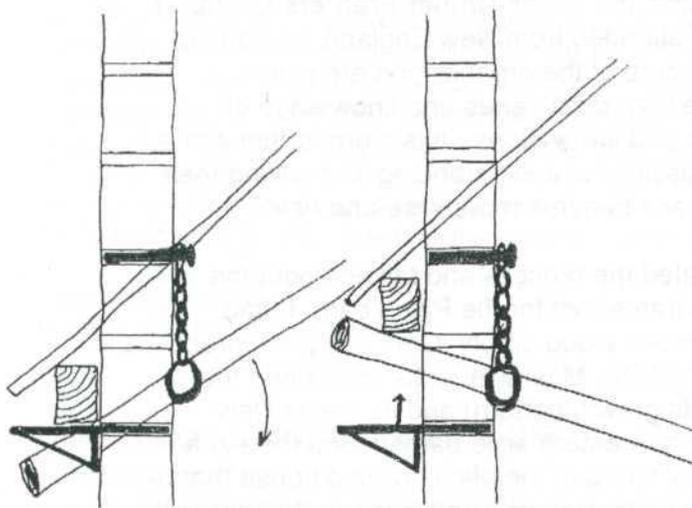
Ab Goutbeek Demonstrates
a Barrack-Screw (*Bergwaag*)



A Barrack-Screw (*Bergwaag*)
illustrated by Francq van Berkhey
1809



Capstan (*heeft*)
used to raise roofs of large barracks.
Martin Jansen Collection



**Raising the Roof of a Barrack
with a sweep and a small piece of chain (*boom en ketting*).**

(left) diagram by Ab Goutbeek, showing the pin inserted in a hole in the pole attached to a short chain and ring that is used as the fulcrum for a long sweep to lift the roof. When it is lifted a triangular iron support (*bergijzer*) is raised a hole higher in the pole. This is repeated at each pole.

(right) photograph by Susan Jurgan, showing the use of the sweep to lift the roof. A second man at the pole resets the *bergijzer* and disengages the *boom en ketting*.





(*) Names of barrack types, parts, hardware and tools are often regional.
 (**) page 8. The Dutch hay barrack, regional differences and other variances, written and published in English for HVVA with 20 pages of text, pictures, captions and drawings, by Suzan M. Jurgens. Suzan is working on the next Hooiberg Book. page 1. "The word hay barrack derives from the Dutch word *hooiberg*, with *hooi* meaning hay and *berg* derived from the Dutch word *bergen*: to store. Nevertheless, not only hay was stored in the barracks, but sheaves of corn (grain). Nowadays, only hay and straw are stored in them, if being used for agricultural purposes at all."

The dotted areas on the map indicate places in The Netherlands explored.

Friday, May 12 I left by car with Bob Hedges for Lennox, Massachusetts, to attend the three day Annual Spring Conference of the **Traditional Timberframers Research and Advisory Group (TTRAG)**. This is a group within the larger **Timber Framers Guild, of North America (TFG)**. 135 TTRAG members attended from New England, all parts of America and several European countries. The core of the organization are active, hands-on restoration people who love to share their discoveries and knowledge of vernacular architecture and its many traditions and innovations. It is a group that came together in the 1970 and 1980 with a young passion for understanding and saving their own historic environment and over the years have become more wise and have expanded into many continents.

Peter McCurdy from England, illustrated the process and talked about the recent reconstruction of the 14th century cruck frame roof for the Pilton barn. It had burned in the 1950's and its impressive stone walls stood empty. Only one photograph of its interior existed. Bill Flynt, from Deerfield Village, Massachusetts, described the history of Dendrochronology (dating wood by its growth pattern) and its use in New England. Paul Otman, from Nevada, spoke of the western aisle barns found there, Jan Lewandoski, from Vermont, described the many forms of the plank framed house that he has found over the years, Rudy Christian, from Ohio, reported on his trip to Sweden with pictures of some odd roof trusses in the attic of the royal palace, and Don Carpentier, from Rensselaer County, New York, recounted his youthfull saga with dismantling the 1st Universalist Church and reconstructing it in Eastfield Village.

The TTRAG meeting for next spring will be held in Salem, North Carolina. An open-air-museum of an 18th century Moravian community, lots of German *frackwerk* (exposed frame) with brick infill and large communal buildings.