

JAAP JACOBS (ED.)

# A firm peace *and sincere* friendship?

FOUR CENTURIES  
DUTCH-AMERICAN STORIES

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Inkijkexemplaar

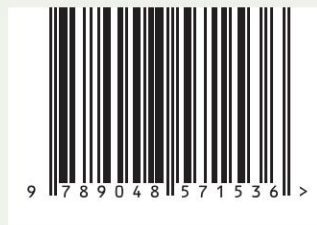
For four centuries, people from the Netherlands traveled to America by boat or plane, to explore, trade, colonise, settle, to do business, to find a new future or simply to visit the country as tourists. And for four centuries, Americans, of diverse backgrounds, of native, African or European descent, have come to the Netherlands. These are their stories.

The stories are about encounters with each other, with another culture, with the unknown; about peace and friendship, about hope and expectation, feelings of admiration and liberation. But also about conflicts, oppression of Native Americans and about the Dutch role in American slavery. Success stories are interspersed with black pages.

With contributions from Jeremy D. Bangs, Mineke Bosch, Jaap Jacobs, Lavada Lahon, Dennis J. Maika, Dik van der Meulen, Russell Shorto and Annejet van der Zijl.

**Dr. Jaap Jacobs** is an Honorary Research Fellow at the University of St Andrews. He specialises in early American history and early modern Dutch expansion, particularly in North America. He previously published *The Colony of New Netherland: A Dutch Settlement in Seventeenth-Century America*.

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Inkijkexemplaar

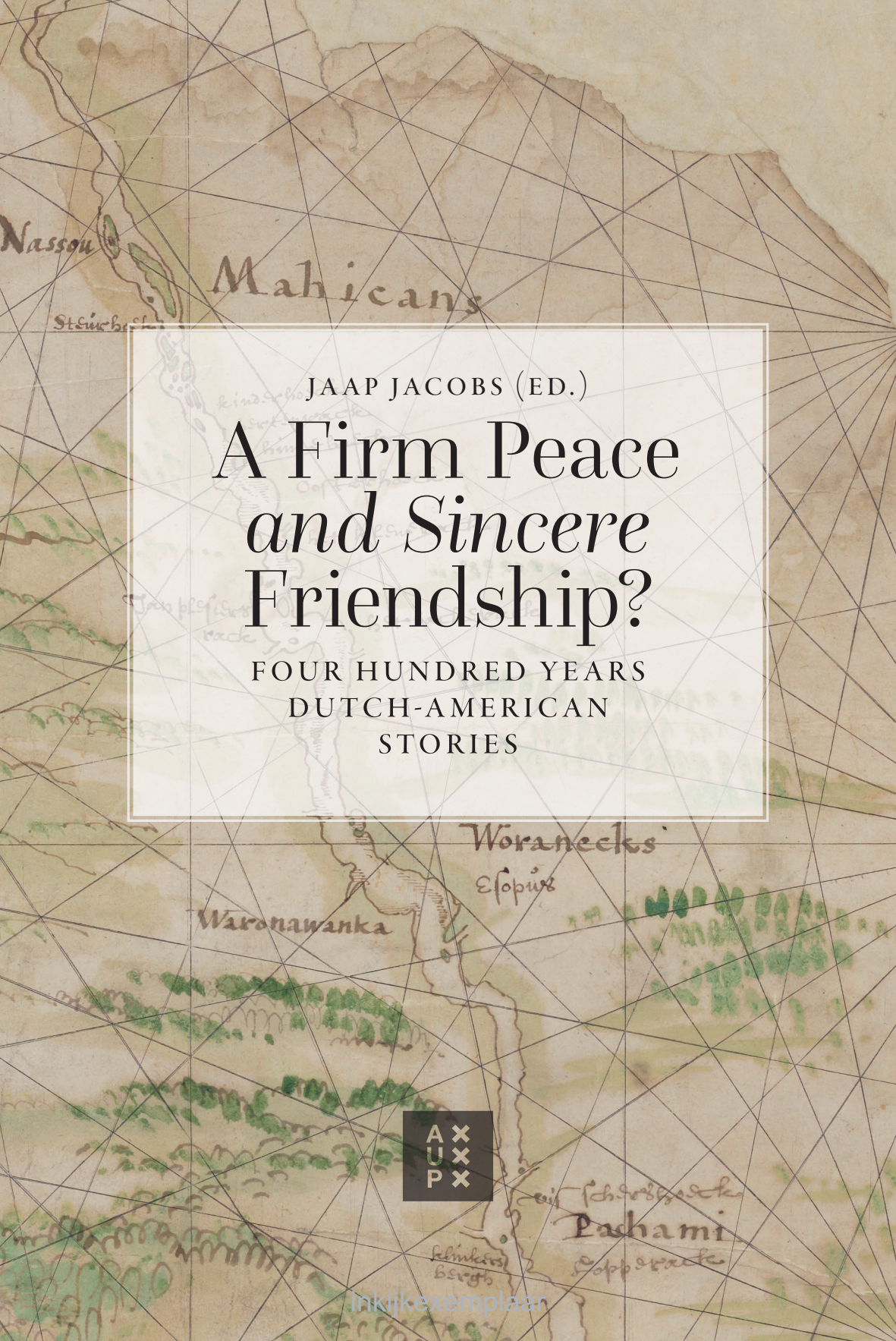
A Firm Peace  
*and Sincere*  
Friendship?

Maquaas

Canoomakers

Versc water

Sennecas



JAAP JACOBS (ED.)

# A Firm Peace *and Sincere* Friendship?

FOUR HUNDRED YEARS  
DUTCH-AMERICAN  
STORIES



Inkijkexemplaar

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This book cites and paraphrases archival documents that contain colonial, racist, and non-inclusive language. As these may be perceived as offensive, please be forewarned.

## Dutch Culture USA

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FUTURE 400, a 2024/2025 initiative of the Netherlands Consulate General in New York, endeavors to honor 400 years of Dutch-New York history with honesty and integrity, creating space for others who share this common heritage to voice their feelings and experiences at this monumental moment. Partners from cultural to commercial fields, from the New York area to the Netherlands will come together to create new work and new opportunities that will continue to write the next chapter of our shared story, our collective...FUTURE 400

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# Preface

by the  
United States Ambassador  
to the Kingdom of the Netherlands

The United States and the Netherlands share over four centuries of history linking our two countries, as well as a commitment to inclusive democracy and human rights. On a visit to the National Archives of the Netherlands earlier this year, I was truly impressed with the Archives dedication to sharing the stories of our joint successes, alongside careful examination of more challenging aspects of the relationship between our two countries.

From Henry Hudson's voyage of discovery to the more than five million Americans today of Dutch ancestry, our relationship is vibrant and enduring. Although, our story is woefully incomplete if we exclude the Transatlantic slave trade. The first ship of enslaved people arriving in 1619 to the British colonies in America was flying a Dutch flag.

Like the Netherlands, we in the United States are actively introspecting and deliberately facing the legacies of slavery, even as we consistently and conscientiously work to reflect our democratic ideals more fully.

Democracy is hard, purposeful work, and the United States and the Netherlands are genuine friends committed to stepping forward

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together towards the light... towards accomplishing the hard work together.

The stories contained in this book reflect that aspirational goal. I encourage you to explore these fascinating narratives and learn more about our vibrant and complex shared past.

Affectionately,

*Shefali Razdan Duggal*

United States Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands

June 2024