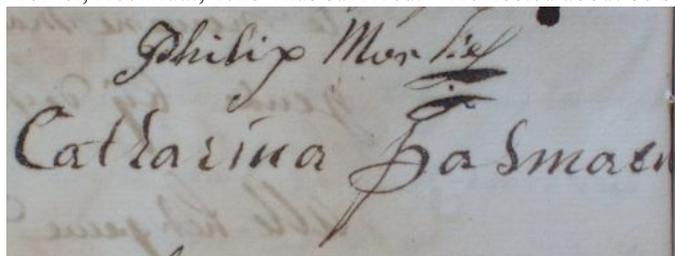


Die Bos - Altena Morkel Ancestors

Stamouer Philip Morkel came from Germany to the Cape as *Konstabel* (artillerist) on board the VOC ship *Oosterstijn* in 1708. He married Maria Biebow in 1708 but she did not live long after the birth of their daughter Elizabeth in 1710. Philip married Catharina Pasman in 1713. The family farm *Onverwacht*, was inherited in 1713 from his sister-in-law, Margaretha Pasman who, with her husband Claas Elbertsz died of small pox. The farm remained in the family until it was absorbed into urban sprawl in the 1990s. My father, Dan was born on the original farm, which by then was known as *Die Bos* or *The Bush*. Several of the Morkel wives came from neighbouring farms, including *Morgenster* (Malan), *Vergelegen* (Theunissen), and *Parel Vallei* (Mijburgh).

*Symbols used: * born; ~ baptized; x married; xx second marriage; † died.*
Children surviving as adults only: b = boys, g= girls.

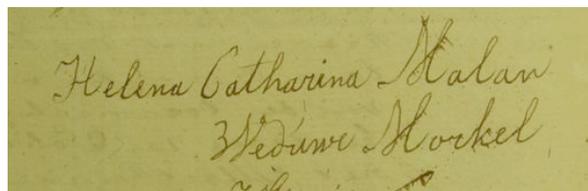
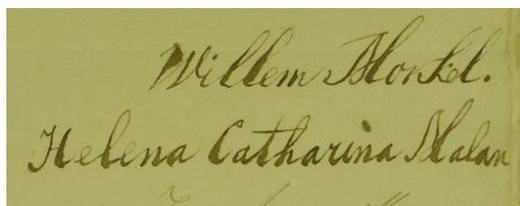
- a1 Philip Morkel *27.2.1677 (Date uncertain) Hamburg Germany, † *Onverwacht, Hottentots Holland* 12.4.1735 x 25.3.1708 Maria Biebow ~25.3.1708 † 1713 xx 17.11 1713 Catharina Pasman ~ 17.8.1691 +29.3.1764.** Philip was Heemraad (councillor) of Stellenbosch and elder of the Church of Stellenbosch. A windowpane from the Stellenbosch church inscribed “Philip Morkel, Heemraad, 1723” has survived. He hosted about 80 shipwrecked sailors of the



Schonenberg on *Onverwacht* in 1722. The event is documented in the “*Liefdekrans*”, an epic poem composed by a grateful survivor and printed in 1725. Children with Maria: 1g. With Catharina: 1b, 1g.

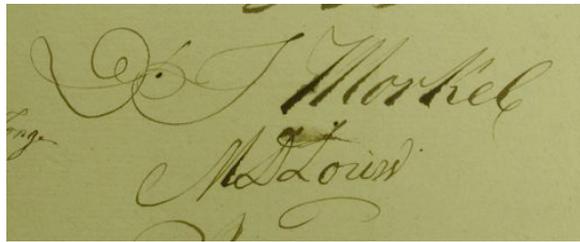
Signatures: Philip Morkel and Catharina Pasman

- b3 Willem Morkel ~25.12.1718 † *Onverwacht* 1788 x 11.5.1749 Sara van Brakel ~ 11.11.1716 † 28.3.1759 xx 22.7.1759 Helena Catharina Malan (*Morgenster*) ~ 11.3.1736 † 27.10.1825.** Willem was 17 when his father died. He took over the farm under guidance of his mother. He became heemraad and an elder of the Stellenbosch church. He built the big house at *Onverwacht*. He was a man of means who was able to provide farms for each of his four children. Children with Sarah: 1g; with Helena: 4b, 1g



Signatures: Willem Morkel and Helena Catharina Malan

- c6 Daniel Johannes Morkel ~ 2.9.1764 † Onverwacht 15.8.1825** x Hester Sibella Keeve ~ 17.12.1676 † 13.1.1792 xx **6.9.1793 Maria Dorothea Louw ~17.12.1775 † 1807** xxx 25.8.1808 Sophia Alida Brink ~2.10.1768 †19.11.1824. Maria Dorothea Louw was the granddaughter of Elizabeth Morkel, daughter of Philip Morkel (a1) and Maria Biebow. Daniel heemraad, together with brothers Philip and Willem and neighbour M.W. Theunissen of *Vergelegen*, served in the citizen's military service (Krygsraad) and were active against the British occupation in both 1795 and 1806. Lord Macartney of the first occupation stationed 10 dragoons at *Onverwacht* (as also with several other farmers in the district) to watch over the rebellious locals. Daniel, Willem and M.W. Theunissen served with General Janssens in resisting the 2nd British occupation in 1806. In 1819 Philip, Willem and Daniel, and M.W. Theunissen petitioned Lord Charles Somerset to

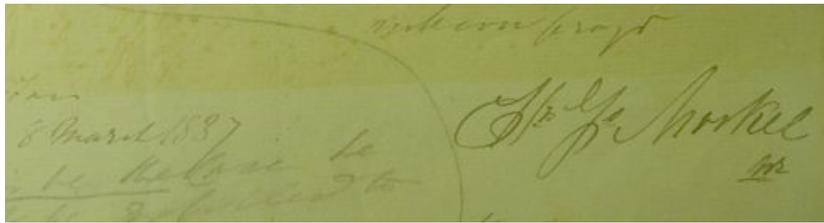


found the town of Somerset West and they guaranteed the purchase of the organ for the Church. The dovecote in Cape Dutch style (ca 1810) would have been built during Daniel's time. Children with Maria Dorothea: 3b, 1g

Signatures: Daniel Johannes Morkel and Maria Dorothea Louw

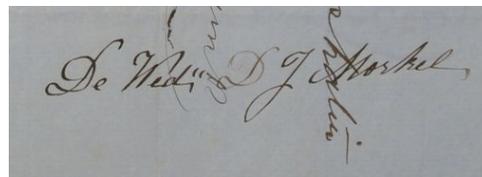
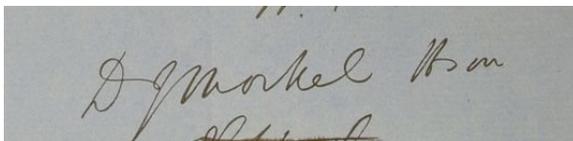
- d7 Hendrik Johannes Morkel *1798 ~23.1799 † Onverwacht 14.2.1859 x 10.6.1821 Catharina Jacoba Theunissen (Vergelegen) ~ 18.9.1803 † Dec 1831** xx 2.6.1832 Esther Elizabeth Morkel, ~ 1.8.1813 † 31.12.1880. M.W. Theunissen had a sideboard made from one of the camphor trees at *Vergelegen* as wedding presents for wife Catharina Jacoba and her sister. These trees, planted by Governor Willem Adriaan van der Stel in the 1690s were later declared national monuments. Hendrik's second wife was a second cousin Esther Elizabeth, daughter of Willem Morkel, son of Willem a1b3c5, and Esther Leonora Louw, younger sister of Maria Dorothea Louw who was Hendrik's mother. During Hendrik's time the family agreed to a plea to help neighbour Col. Stanford of the farm *Gustrouw* (present day Gordons Bay) to supply starving convicts on the Neptune, anchored in Simons Town and bound for Tasmania. The British government in London planned to place convicts at the Cape at that time and this was fiercely resisted by the locals, leading to a pledge not to supply food to convict ships. Col. Stanford was pressured by the Governor desperate to feed the convicts and send them on their way. Stanford asked neighbour Hendrik Morkel to help. They ran the blockade and were subsequently ostracized in the community with both families suffering severe financial hardship. Lord Adderley pleaded the Cape's case and no convicts were landed at the Cape. Children with Catharina: 4b, 1g; with Esther: 4b, 1g.





**Photo and signature: Hendrik Johannes Morkel 8 March 1837
(Catharina Jacoba Theunissen's photo and signature are not available)**

e1 Daniel Johannes Morkel * 15.7.1822 ~ 25.8.1822 † Onverwacht 12.8.1879 x Emmerentia Elizabeth Malan *4.6.1822 † 25.9.1902. The family went through tough times during the second half of the 19th century. Daniel's wife, Emmerentia was known as "ouma" Bremsie and with her careful parsimony the family managed to survive a tough financial period in the 1860s and 1870s. The family still felt the effects of ostracism (the Neptune affair), the Cape had a depression and the vineyards had to be replanted with wild rootstock because of the phylloxera pest. Part of the farm (later *Altena*) close to the Strand was sold, and I suspect it was during this period.
Children: 1b.



**Photos and signature Daniel Johannes Morkel Emmerentia Elizabeth Malan as De Wed. (Widow)
D.J. Morkel**

**f4 Hendrik Johannes Louw Morkel * 6.5.1854 ~25.6.1854 † Onverwacht 6.5.1926 x 28.5.1878
 Helena Catharina Philippina Mijburgh (Parel Vallei) * 22.3.1860 † 21.11.1940.** My grandparents. Hendrik Johannes Louw was known as “Hennie Bos” after the farm “Die Bos” or “The Bush”. He was respected in the community and the family managed to emerge from the financial hardships of the late 1890s during his time. Because of the likeness he had a nickname of “Bismarck”, after the German Chancellor. He bought back the portion near the Strand that was sold, which went to my father, and where I grew up. I remember my grandmother as a very old lady who could not remember our names and who died in 1940 when I was 8 years old.
 Children: 2b, 6 g.

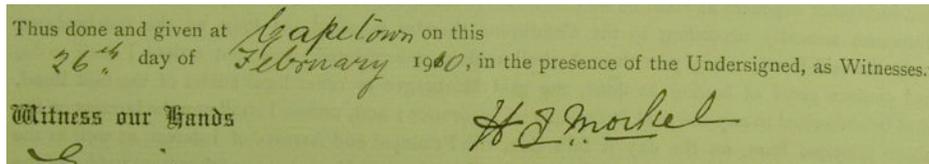
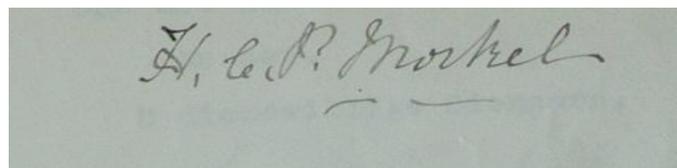


Photo and signature (26 Feb 1910): Hendrik Johannes Louw Morkel (Hennie Bos)



Signature: Helena Catharina Philippina Morkel (née Mijburgh)

g9 Daniel Johannes Morkel (my father, Dan - Altena) * 30.9.1895 Onverwacht ~ 30.9.1895 † 16.7.1945 x 28.6.1924 Catharina Elizabeth Theron (my Mother, Kitty) * 15.3.1899 † 10.7.1980

My father Dan was born on the old family farm, Die Bos (Onverwacht) but as the younger son had to leave. He first tried farming at Brandfort in the Orange Free State and then returned to farm at *The Lodge*, a part of the old farm close to The Strand that was sold and repurchased by his father. The farm was renamed *Altena* (lit “all to close” – to the Strand). Considered uneconomic, Dan made it pay as a milk producing farm. Dan played rugby for the dominant Somerset West team and together with our mother Kitty, were Boland (Western Cape country towns) tennis champions. He was a natural leader in sports, politics and community affairs. He died young at 49 from a

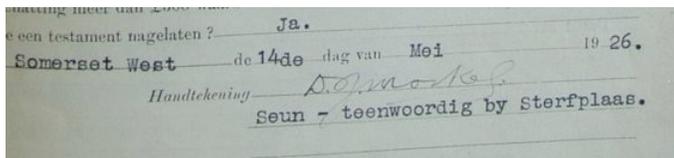
massive stroke while in Johannesburg representing the Western Province milk producers at a national conference. Kitty was born in Langlaagte, a suburb of Johannesburg at the outbreak of the Anglo Boer war. Her birth certificate got lost in the turmoil which caused problems throughout her life with bureaucrats when she applied for documents such as passports. She worked as a primary school teacher first at Vryburg in the northern Cape before coming to the Strand. She met my father at the tennis club and together they were active leaders of the club for several decades. After my father's death she remained active with the tennis club and in the community. She married again in 1973 to Barend Boucher, a retired bank manager who had lost his wife some years earlier. Children: 4b.



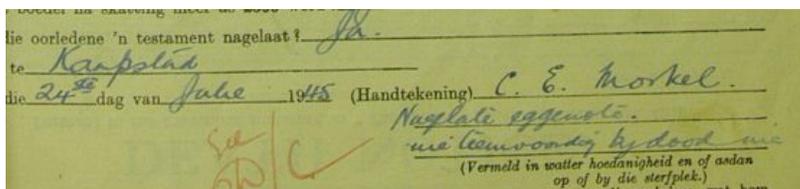
Daniel Johannes Morkel (Dan)



Dan and Kitty Morkel at the time of their wedding



Signature: Dan Morkel



Signature: Kitty Morkel

Compiled by André T. Morkel. November 2008

Data from PW Morkel 1961 *The Morkels. Family History and Family Tree* and other sources
 Photos of signatures in the Cape Archives by Daniel Jacobs
 Photos from Die Bos and our family.