

Kingdom of the Netherlands - 2009

The seventeenth-century canal ring area of **Amsterdam** within the Singelgracht

NOMINATION DOCUMENT







361

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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State Party	<i>Kingdom of the Netherlands</i>
Province	<i>North Holland</i>
Name of Property	<i>'The seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht'</i>

Geographical coordinates to the nearest second

Property

- centre point longitude **1°5'36,707"E**, latitude **4°22'54,523"N**
- western boundary (minimum X value): **1°4'58,06"E**
- eastern boundary (maximum X value): **1°6'15,842"E**
- southern boundary (minimum Y value): **4°22'14,767"N**
- northern boundary (maximum Y value): **4°23'34,434"N**

Buffer zone

- ⌘ centre point **1°5'45,248"E, 4°22'59,026"N**
- ⌘ western boundary (minimum X value): **1°4'47,664"E**
- ⌘ eastern boundary (maximum X value): **1°6'43,609"E**
- ⌘ southern boundary (minimum Y value): **4°22'3,96"N**

Based on the "Geographical coordinates to the nearest second", the limiting values for the geographical coordinates are:

- ⌘ western boundary (minimum X value): **1°4'47"E**
- ⌘ eastern boundary (maximum X value): **1°6'44"E**
- ⌘ southern boundary (minimum Y value): **4°22'04"N**
- ⌘ northern boundary (maximum Y value): **4°23'54"N**

Textual description of the boundary of the nominated property

The boundary line runs along the building line of the Haarlemmer Houttuinen, down the middle of Buiten-Oranjestraat and Binnen-Oranjestraat and crosses straight over Brouwersgracht to continue down the middle of Willemsstraat,

1^e Goudbloemsdwarstraat and Noorderkerkstraat. It then turns off to join Lindenstraat and go down the middle of 1^e Lindendwarstraat and 1^e Boomdwarsstraat. Cutting across Westerstraat, it continues

down the middle of Violetstraat, Anjelierstraat, 1^e Anjelierdwarstraat, 1^e Tuindwarstraat and 1^e Egelantiersdwarstraat. Turning into the middle of Egelantiersgracht it proceeds to the point where 1^e Leliedwarstraat joins the canal. There it continues down the middle of 1^e Leliedwarstraat and Leliestraat, then turns into 2^e Leliedwarstraat before crossing Bloemgracht and continuing down the middle of 1^e Bloemdwarstraat to Rozengracht. The boundary then runs down the middle of Rozengracht until it turns to go down the middle of 1^e Rozendwarstraat, 1^e Laurierdwarstraat, Laurierstraat and 2^e Laurierdwarstraat, cutting across Lauriergracht to Hazenstraat and 1^e Looiersdwarstraat. It turns south-west to the middle of Looiersgracht, after which it runs down the middle of 1^e Passeerdersdwarstraat and Passeerdersgracht, over the middle of the Raamplein and down the middle of the adjacent Raamdwarstraat. It turns south-west towards the bridge over Leidsegracht, continues down the middle of Lijnbaansgracht, to 'cut through' the buildings level with the Melkweg to Korte Leidsedwarstraat, where it cuts through the buildings to Lange Leidsedwarstraat. From there it continues down the middle of Lange Leidsedwarstraat, where it passes Spiegelgracht. The boundary continues down the middle of 1^e Weteringdwarstraat, crosses over Vijzelstraat and continues down the middle of Noorderstraat, crosses Reguliersgracht, goes on down the middle of Utrechtsedwarstraat until it reaches the Amstel, where it continues down the middle of the river to the point where the Achtergracht joins it. From there, the boundary runs down the middle of Korte Amstelstraat and Nieuwe Achtergracht, turns down the middle of Plantage Muidergracht and the Hortus Plantsoen. At this point it crosses Weesperstraat to pass behind the Jewish Historical Museum complex and through the middle of the A.S. Onderwijzerhof and Turfstraat until it reaches the Blauwbrug. From there it runs along the middle of the Binnen Amstel to the Muntplein. Leaving the Muntplein, it continues down the middle of Kalverstraat, Heiligeweg, Handboogstraat and Spui, to the middle of Spuistraat and Hekelveld to Kattengat, Strommarkt and Haarlemmersluis, over the Singel and back to the Haarlemmer Houttuinen.

A4 size map of the nominated property, showing boundaries and buffer zone

See page D.

Justification Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

Proposed Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

Thanks to its systematically executed geometrical ground plan, regular land parcelisation, set building lines, fixed building heights, rows of canal-side trees, variations in architecture and gable shapes, use of brick and stone and the spatial rhythm created by the arrangement of the buildings (preponderantly town houses) in the enclosed rectangular blocks, the 'seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within Singelgracht' presents a unique and complex 'urban landscape'. This landscape has been preserved down the centuries and has retained its social functions and cultural significance. Worldwide, it is regarded as a landmark achievement in the development of the historic Dutch canal town. The *property* encompasses a collection of almost 4000 listed houses, warehouses, churches, almshouses and historic bridges (the latter in their hundreds). In its size and scale, the canal ring area is unparalleled anywhere else in the world.

The success of the seventeenth-century urban expansions of Amsterdam and the city's evolution into a hub of world trade were due to the effective system of town planning and controlled development instituted and administered by the city authorities, made up of regents, investors and merchants. Many of them established their own homes and businesses within the canal ring area.

The expansions – in particular those in the canal ring area – were based on the principles of practicality (*firmitas*), usefulness to the city (*utilitas*) and beauty (*venustas*). The design of the canal

ring area took explicit account of the Vitruvian concepts of order (*ordinatio*), arrangement (*dispositio*), proportion (*eurythmia*), symmetry (*symmetria*), decoration (*decor*) and distribution (*distributio*). The contemporary knowledge of surveying, civil engineering and the construction of military defences ('fortification theory') provided the tools for their achievement.

In the seventeenth century (and indeed today) the appearance of the city has always been determined – in physical, intellectual, cultural and economic terms – by the constant discrepancy between ambition and economic imperatives, and between geometrical abstraction and the demands of everyday life. The intended hierarchy in the presentation and prestige of the different canals and the buildings that line them still survives. The main canals were the preserve of the merchant and ruling classes, while the radial side-streets housed the small businesspeople and tradesmen.

Although the canal ring area is enclosed and intimate in size and scale, the variety of perspectives, views and architecture give it a 'dynamic' look and feel. This largest of all seventeenth-century urban expansion areas had a direct influence on the way towns were planned or expanded elsewhere in the world.

The creation of the ingenious system of manmade canals without reference to the underlying topography demonstrates a marvellous control of water not merely for purposes of communication and transport, but also to change the 'sculpture of the landscape'. The main and radial canals and the streets alongside them all display the same symmetrical cross-section.

The whole area – the main urban structures, the exteriors and architecture of the historic canal houses, the modest size of the seventeenth-century churches commissioned within the property by the city authorities and the later office buildings – is built on a deliberately human scale.

Criteria under which property is nominated

Criterion (i) *'to represent a masterpiece of human creative genius'*

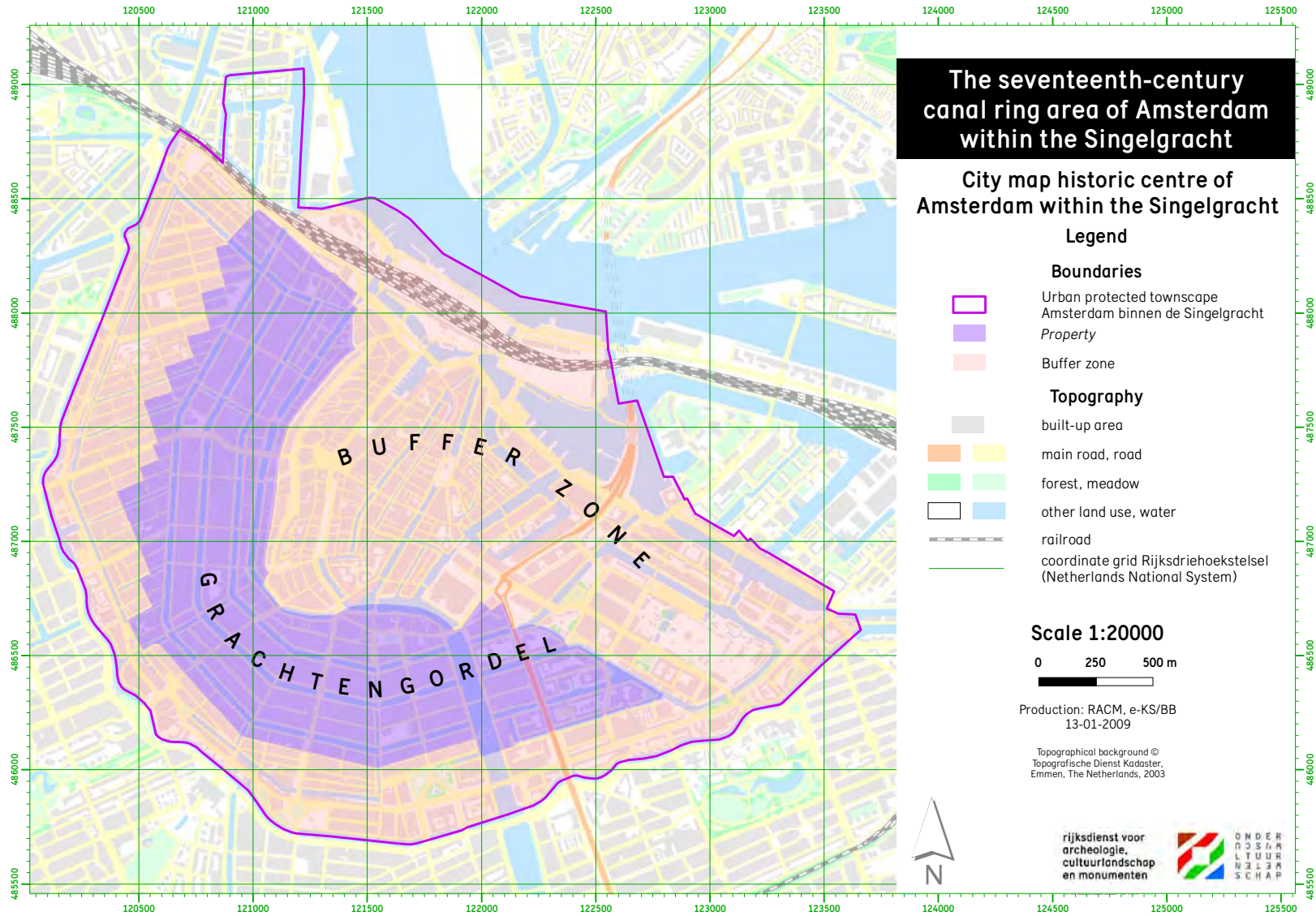
Criterion (ii) *'to exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town planning or landscape design'*

Criterion (iv) *'to be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history'*

Name and contact information of official local institution/agency

Rijksdienst voor de Archeologie, Cultuurlandschap en Monumenten (RACM)/
National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Monuments (RACM)

Broederplein 41
3703 CD Zeist
Tel. ++31 30 69 83 211
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IDENTIFICATION OF THE PROPERTY

1.a Country / State Party: Kingdom of the Netherlands

1.b Province: North Holland

1.c Name of the Property: 'The seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'

1.d Geographical coordinates to the nearest second:

Property

- ⌘ centre point longitude **1°5'36,707"E**, latitude **4°22'54,523"N**
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1.e Maps and plans, showing the boundaries of the nominated property and buffer zone

1. *The seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht.* Amsterdam Location

- Map. [Rijksdienst voor Archeologie, Cultuurlandschap en Monumenten]
2. *The seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht*. Map Amsterdam within the Singelgracht. Scale 1:4,000. [RACM, 12-01-2009]
 3. *The seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht*. Property. Scale 1:4,000. [RACM, 13-01-2009]
 4. *The seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht*. Bufferzone. Scale 1:4,000. [RACM, 13-01-2009]
 5. *The seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht*. Streetnames. Scale 1: 4.000. [RACM, 13-01-2009]
 6. *Protected Townscape Amsterdam (Stads- en dorpsgezichten ingevolge art 20 Monumentenwet)*, Rijksdienst voor de Monumentenzorg. Map 272. Scale 1:5,000
 7. *The seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht*. The protected townscape Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht. Scale 1:20,000. [RACM, 13-01-2009]
 8. *The seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht*. City map historic centre of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht. Scale 1:20,000. [RACM, 13-01-2009]
 9. *The seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht*. Number of listed monuments, Central Borough (State, 6622; municipal, 1162), 1. January 2008

The *property* being nominated by the Kingdom of the Netherlands for inclusion in UNESCO's World Heritage List as a 'group of monuments' in an 'inhabited historic town' is the urban conservation area of the 'seventeenth-century canal ring area' of Amsterdam, situated within the 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' conservation area designated under the Dutch Monuments and Historic Buildings Act (*Monumentenwet*) of 1988. The 'seventeenth-century canal ring area' is the historic heart of present-day Amsterdam: spatially and in terms of its planning and architecture, it is a distinct area within the 'historic urban landscape' of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht.

The nomination has been prepared in accordance with the Format for the nomination of properties for inscription on the World Heritage List, Annex 5 to the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* (WHC.08/01. January 2008).

The Tentative List of properties to be nominated submitted by the Kingdom of the Netherlands in 1995 featured three themes:

The Netherlands – Land of Water

The Dutch Republic in the 17th century

The Dutch contribution to the Modern Movement in international architecture at the beginning of the 20th century.

In 1998 the Netherlands nominated the Beemster Polder under the theme of 'The Dutch Republic in the 17th century' and in 1999 that property was placed on the World Heritage List (C 899). The Netherlands is now proposing the 'seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as its second nomination under this theme.

In 1997, the 'Historic Area of Willemstad, Inner City and Harbour, Netherlands Antilles' was placed on the World Heritage List (C 819). Willemstad was where the Dutch Republic established a trading settlement in 1634.

In 1994 the Kingdom of the Netherlands nominated the former island of Schokland because of its importance as an archaeological site. The nomination was accepted by the World Heritage Committee

in 1995 and 'Schokland and Surroundings' was placed on the World Heritage List (C 739).

The nomination of the 'seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' is intended to relate to two of the themes identified in the Thematic Framework defined in the ICOMOS report *The World Heritage List. Filling the Gaps-an Action Plan for the Future/La Liste du Patrimoine Mondial. Comblent les lacunes-un plan d'action pour le future* (2005). The themes concerned are: 'Expressions of Society' (B. Cultural and Political Associations. 1. Identity) and 'Creative Responses and Continuity (monuments, groups of buildings and sites' (16. Urban settlements, b) Inhabited urban areas).

In terms of the ICOMOS Chronological-Regional Framework, III Europe, 11 (17th-18th centuries), the two 17th-century expansions of Amsterdam expressed advances in the study and knowledge of mathematics, land surveying and hydraulic engineering, and distinctive developments in building and architecture in the Northern Netherlands (Dutch Renaissance and Dutch Classicism). They also reflected an 'ideology of the city' current in the global trading centre that Amsterdam had recently become and the desire of the city's bourgeois ruling, merchant and patrician families for status and prestige.

Within the Typological Framework, the 'seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' is a unique 'urban ensemble'.

The boundary of the *property* marked on the accompanying map [3](#) invariably lies at the mid-point of the surrounding streets and canals. It runs through the Haarlemmerbuurt, the Jordaan, the Spiegelkwartier and Weteringbuurt (Noortse Bos) and goes on to include the urban expansion zone of 1663 (the *Fourth Expansion*) on the other side of the river Amstel. The boundary line then continues through the Hortus Plantsoen, behind the Jewish Historical Museum to the Blauwbrug over the Amstel and onward over the middle of the (Binnen) Amstel, Singel, Spui, Spuistraat and Kattengat to the Haarlemmer Houttuinen/Haarlemmerbuurt to rejoin the boundary line running through the Jordaan. The boundary is drawn in such a way that the property is invariably surrounded by a broad buffer zone of historic townscape (the remaining parts of the 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' conservation area designated in 1999 under the Dutch Monuments Act 1988) [2](#).

Definition of the boundary of the property

The boundary line runs along the building line of the Haarlemmer Houttuinen, down the middle of Buiten-Oranjestraat and Binnen-Oranjestraat and crosses straight over Brouwersgracht to continue down the middle of Willemstraat, 1^e Goudbloemswarsstraat and Noorderkerkstraat. It then turns off to join Lindenstraat and go down the middle of 1^e Lindendwarsstraat and 1^e Boemdwarsstraat. Cutting across Westerstraat, it continues down the middle of Violetstraat, Anjelierstraat, 1^e Anjelierdwarsstraat, 1^e Tuindwarsstraat and 1^e Egelantiersdwarsstraat. Turning into the middle of Egelantiersgracht it proceeds to the point where 1^e Leliedwarsstraat joins the canal. There it continues down the middle of 1^e Leliedwarsstraat and Leliestraat, then turns into 2^e Leliedwarsstraat before crossing Bloemgracht and continuing down the middle of 1^e Bloemdwarsstraat to Rozengracht. The boundary then runs down the middle of Rozengracht until it turns to go down the middle of 1^e Rozendwarsstraat, 1^e Laurierdwarsstraat, Laurierstraat and 2^e Laurierdwarsstraat, cutting across Lauriergracht to Hazenstraat and 1^e Looiersdwarsstraat. It turns south-west to the middle of Looiersgracht, after which it runs down the middle of 1^e Passeerdersdwarsstraat and Passeerdersgracht, over the middle of the Raamplein and down the middle of the adjacent Raamdwarstraat. It turns south-west towards the bridge over Leidsegracht, continues down the middle of Lijnbaansgracht, to 'cut through' the buildings level with the Melkweg to Korte Leidsedwarsstraat, where it cuts

through the buildings to Lange Leidsedwardsstraat. From there it continues down the middle of Lange Leidsedwardsstraat, where it passes Spiegelgracht. The boundary continues down the middle of 1^e Weteringdwardsstraat, crosses over Vijzelstraat and continues down the middle of Noorderstraat, crosses Reguliersgracht, goes on down the middle of Utrechtsewardsstraat until it reaches the Amstel, where it continues down the middle of the river to the point where the Achtergracht joins it. From there, the boundary runs down the middle of Korte Amstelstraat and Nieuwe Achtergracht, turns down the middle of Plantage Muidergracht and the Hortus Plantsoen. At this point it crosses Weesperstraat to pass behind the Jewish Historical Museum complex and through the middle of the A.S. Onderwijzerhof and Turfstraat until it reaches the Blauwbrug. From there it runs along the middle of the Binnen Amstel to the Muntplein. Leaving the Muntplein, it continues down the middle of Kalverstraat, Heiligeweg, Handboogstraat and Spui, to the middle of Spuistraat and Hekelveld to Kattengat, Stromarkt and Haarlemmersluis, over the Singel and back to the Haarlemmer Houttuinen.

1. f Area of nominated property (ha.) and proposed buffer zone (ha.)

Area of nominated property:	ha. 205
Buffer zone:	ha. 479
Total:	ha. 684

(Source: Spatial Planning Department, municipality of Amsterdam)

The total area of the city of Amsterdam is 21,939 hectares, of which 16,672 hectares is dry land (Source: Research and Statistics Department, municipality of Amsterdam, key figures on land use in 2006 in *Amsterdam in cijfers 2007*).

On 1 January 2007, the population of Amsterdam was 743,104 (Source: Research and Statistics Department, municipality of Amsterdam, key figures for Amsterdam and its boroughs on 1 January 2007 in *Stadsdelen in cijfers 2007*).

The population of the property was 23,708 and there were 13,856 residential addresses. The population of the 'buffer zone' was 45,691, living at 27,188 addresses (Source: Research and Statistics Department, municipality of Amsterdam).

The population of Amsterdam includes more than 176 different nationalities (2008 figure). The largest immigrant communities are those of Antillean, Moroccan and Turkish origin. In the inner city, 14.2% of the population are of non-Western origin and a further 23% come from Western countries other than the Netherlands.

On 1 January 2007, the municipality of Amsterdam had 8,597 listed buildings, 7,453 of them designated by central government, 1,142 by the municipality and two by the province of North Holland (Source: Research and Statistics Department, municipality of Amsterdam, key figures on historic buildings by borough and type on 1 January 2007 in *Amsterdam in cijfers 2007*).

90% of the historic buildings listed by central government and the municipality are located in the inner city (*Trendrapport Amsterdam binnenstad 2006-2007*).

Central Borough

In 2002 the municipality of Amsterdam established the Central Borough (*Stadsdeel Centrum*) with its own executive and powers. The Central Borough covers the part of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht and the seventeenth-century expansion areas on the Western Islands (Bickerseiland, Prinseneiland and Realeneiland).

The borough is in charge of public space and adopts land-use plans for its area. Under the relevant bye-law (*Verordening op de stadsdelen*, 2006) (see appendix), it has powers to decide policy on monuments and historic buildings, archaeology and the appearance of buildings within the area under its control. It also has wide powers concerning policies on the arts, sport, recreation and social affairs. It can pass bye-laws containing rules that are binding on the local population and the authorities and it decides on applications for permits, including building permits and permits for work on listed buildings.

The borough covers an area of 809.64 ha, of which 631.40 is dry land, including 272.15 ha of housing and 25.75 ha of green space. 178.24 ha is water (39.1 ha within the property and 99.7 ha within the 'buffer zone' (Source: Spatial Planning Department). The area occupied by housing is 82.5 ha within the property and 145.4 ha in the buffer zone (Source: Spatial Planning Department).

On 1 January 2007 there were 47,511 dwellings in the borough (Source: Research and Statistics Department, municipality of Amsterdam, key figures on the housing stock between 1 January 2003 and 2007 in *Amsterdam in cijfers 2007*). 21% of the dwellings in the city centre have a habitable floor area of under 40m², while 6% have a floor area of over 100m² (more than a third are owner-occupied). On 1 January 2007 the construction dates of dwellings in the borough were as follows: before 1906 – 27,093; 1906-1918 – 373; 1919-1930 – 756; 1931-1945 – 2,446; 1946-1960 – 387; 1961-1970 – 295; 1971-1980 – 1,894; 1981-1990 – 7,031; 1991-2000 – 3,862; and 2000-2006 – 3,374. In the western part of the canal ring area, 86% of buildings date from before 1900 (*Tendrapport Amsterdam binnenstad 2006-2007*). The density of dwellings in the borough is 7,529 per km², and there are around 27,000 properties (Source: Research and Statistics Department, municipality of Amsterdam, key figures on land use in 2006 in *Stadsdelen in cijfers 2007*).

On 1 January 2007 the borough had a population of 80,819 (Source: Research and Statistics Department, municipality of Amsterdam, population figures for 1 January 2003-2007 in *Amsterdam in cijfers 2007*). A year earlier, the population of the western part of the canal ring area – between Brouwersgracht and Nieuwe Spiegelstraat – was 8,464. That of the adjacent part to the south, down to the Amstel, was 4,225. At that time, the Jordaan had a population of 18,890 and the Haarlemmerbuurt one of 7,095 (*Tendrapport Amsterdam binnenstad 2006-2007*).

The borough contains 14,368 commercial and institutional addresses (Source: Research and Statistics Department, municipality of Amsterdam, figures for 1 January 2006 in *Amsterdam in cijfers 2006*). Among them, they employ 84,413 (2008: over 85,000) people, mainly in offices, the retail trade and the hospitality sectors (Source: Research and Statistics Department, municipality of Amsterdam, figures for 1 January 2006 in *Amsterdam in cijfers 2006*). There is a tendency for office-based businesses to move south out of the centre (to the South Axis) when they expand.

In February 2008, the borough had 6,662 buildings listed by central government under the Dutch Monuments and Historic Buildings Act (*Monumentenwet*) of 1988, plus 1,162 listed by the municipality of Amsterdam under its listed buildings bye-law, making an overall total of 7,824 listed buildings (Source: Historic Buildings and Archaeology Department/Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie (BMA), municipality of Amsterdam). Of these, 3,466 State-listed buildings and 443 listed by the municipality are located within the property nominated for inclusion in the World Heritage List. In the surrounding buffer zone, there are 3,188 State-listed buildings and 697 listed by the municipality. Beyond the buffer zone but within the boundaries of the borough, there are a further eight State-listed buildings and 22 listed by the municipality.

The western and eastern parts of the 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' area are more residential than commercial in character whereas the central and southern parts have numerous businesses (offices, shops, department stores, cafés/restaurants and hotels) and cultural or other institutions. The historic city centre of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht – administered by the Central Borough, one of the fourteen boroughs into which the municipality of Amsterdam is now divided – is a vibrant and much-visited cultural centre.

The length of Herengracht from Brouwersgracht to the Amstel is about 2,450 metres; that of Nieuwe Herengracht from the Amstel to Entrepotdok 750 metres; that of Keizersgracht from Brouwersgracht to the Amstel 2,800 metres; that of Nieuwe Keizersgracht (from the Amstel to Plantage Muidergracht) 500 metres; that of Prinsengracht from Brouwersgracht to the Amstel 3,250 metres; that of Nieuwe Prinsengracht from the Amstel to Plantage Muidergracht, some 650 metres; while the Korte Prinsengracht is 250 metres long and Singel, measured from Prins Hendrikkade to the Muntplein, around 1,900 metres long.

The work of drafting the dossier for the nomination of the 'seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' for inclusion in UNESCO's World Heritage List was completed on 1 November 2008.

International cooperation and the preservation of common cultural heritage

The municipality of Amsterdam has a policy of sharing its expertise in many fields with the countries of origin of its immigrant population, with a number of cities in Eastern Europe and with Beijing. This international policy is the context in which the following examples of cooperation with regard to the cultural heritage have been undertaken.

Website, www.amsterdam.nl/internationaal

⌘ Beijing (China)

Amsterdam has been engaged in cooperation with Beijing for many years. In the context of this on-going partnership, two experts on the preservation of historic buildings have been invited to come to Amsterdam from Beijing in November 2008 to spend two weeks working with the municipality's Historic Buildings and Archaeology Department and see for themselves how Amsterdam establishes and implements its policies in this field. In addition, an exhibition exchange agreement has recently been concluded between the Rijksmuseum and the Nieuwe Kerk in Amsterdam and the Capital Museum in Beijing. An exhibition of Chinese art is to come to the Nieuwe Kerk, while an exhibition from the Rijksmuseum will go on show in Beijing.

⌘ Curaçao

Since 2006, Amsterdam's Historic Buildings and Archaeology Department has been working in close collaboration with the National Archaeological and Anthropological **Museum** (NAAM) in Curaçao. Amsterdam's city archaeologist, Professor Dr. J. Gawronski, who works in the department, has worked hand in hand with the NAAM on the development of a digital map of archaeological sites in Curaçao, which can be used by policymakers when planning new urban development projects. A draft policy document on archaeology in Curaçao has also been prepared with help from Amsterdam for the approval of the island government.

World Heritage List

HISTORIC AREA OF WILLEMSTAD, INNER CITY AND HARBOUR, NETHERLANDS ANTILLES (1997), C 819

Justification for Inscription: The Committee decided to inscribe this site on the basis of cultural criteria (I), (IV) and (V), considering that the Historic Area of Willemstad is a European colonial ensemble in the Caribbean of outstanding value and integrity, which illustrates the organic growth of a multicultural community over three centuries and preserves to a high degree significant elements of the many strands that came together to create it.

⌘ Accra (Ghana)

The Project Management Office of the municipality of Amsterdam has worked together with the municipality of Accra, the Dutch Embassy in Accra, Ghana's Ministry of Tourism and Diaspora Relations and Stichting Herstelling (a foundation specialising in the preservation and restoration of historic military structures) in Amsterdam to draw up a plan for the renovation of Old (Dutch) Accra. Old Accra has a number of cultural heritage features, including Ussher Fort and Brazil House. In view of Stichting Herstelling's knowledge and experience concerning the restoration of cultural heritage in the Netherlands and Suriname, it has been agreed that their method will be used for the restoration of the cultural heritage in Old Accra. UNESCO is also closely involved in these renovation plans. Part of Ussher Fort has now been restored using this method. The other former slave forts are on UNESCO's World Heritage List.

World Heritage List

'FORTS AND CASTLES, VOLTA, GREATER ACCRA, CENTRAL AND WESTERN REGIONS' (1979), C 34

Brief description: The remains of fortified trading-posts, erected between 1482 and 1786, can still be seen along the coast of Ghana between Keta and Beyin. They were links in the trade routes established by the Portuguese in many areas of the world during their era of great maritime exploration

⌘ Riga (Latvia)

Cooperative arrangements with the municipality of Riga include the exchange of knowledge and digital documents between Amsterdam City Archives and the Latvian State Archives in Riga. Due to extensive trade in the past, the Amsterdam City Archives possesses the largest collection of records relating to Riga found anywhere outside the city itself and, vice versa, the Latvian State Archives houses the largest collection relating to Amsterdam outside Amsterdam. There are also contacts between Amsterdam's Historic Buildings and Archaeology Department and its counterpart in Riga.

World Heritage List

RIGA (LATVIA) ('THE HISTORIC CENTRE OF RIGA' (1997), C 852

Justification for Inscription: The Committee decided to inscribe this property on the basis of criteria (I) and (II), considering that the historic centre of Riga, while retaining its medieval and later urban fabric relatively intact, is of outstanding universal value by virtue of the quality and the quantity of its Art Nouveau/Jugendstil architecture, which is unparalleled anywhere in the world, and its 19th century architecture in wood.

⌘ Suriname

Cooperation on the restoration of the common built heritage is an important aspect of Amsterdam's

partnership with Suriname (via the Suriname Built Heritage Foundation). As in Ghana, Stichting Herstelling is involved. The organisation has worked with other parties to restore an example of 18th-century officers' quarters within the historic Fort Zeelandia complex. The building now accommodates the Nola Hatterman Art Academy. The courtyard of Fort Zeelandia has also been repaved.

Since May 2008, various departments of the municipality of Amsterdam have been helping to restore the 17th-century Fort Nieuw Amsterdam and turn it into an open-air historical museum of Suriname. This project will take at least three years to complete.

World Heritage List

HISTORIC INNER CITY OF PARAMARIBO (2002), C 940 REV

Justification for Inscription: Criterion II Paramaribo is an exceptional example of the gradual fusion of European architecture and construction techniques with indigenous South America materials and crafts to create a new architectural idiom.

Criterion IV Paramaribo is a unique example of the contact between the European culture of the Netherlands and the indigenous cultures and environment of South America in the years of intensive colonization of this region in the 16th and 17th centuries.

⌘ Turkey

As an aspect of cooperation with the municipality of Kocaeli (Turkey), Amsterdam's Historic Buildings and Archaeology Department ran a project in 2006 and 2007 with Kocaeli's then recently established Department for Historical Environments and Urban Aesthetics. The purpose of the project was to help launch the new department, to develop and set up a database for the registration of monuments and historic buildings, and to contact the owners of such edifices in order to explain Kocaeli's policies on monuments and historic buildings. The project was successfully completed by the end of 2007. Cooperation between the two departments is to continue, with attention now shifting to various restoration techniques and their potential use in relation to Kocaeli's historic wooden buildings.

Websites Amsterdam

⌘ *municipality of Amsterdam: www.amsterdam.nl*

⌘ *official English site: www.amsterdam.com*

⌘ *Central Borough: www.centrum.amsterdam.nl*

2

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY



2.a Description of Property

The 'seventeenth-century canal ring area'

The *property* consisting of the 'seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within Singelgracht', including on the west side of the River Amstel the canals Singel, Korte Prinsengracht, Herengracht, Keizersgracht and Prinsengracht, and the transverse canals Brouwersgracht, Blauwburgwal, Leliegracht, Leidsegracht and Reguliersgracht, and to the east of the Amstel Nieuwe Herengracht, Nieuwe Keizersgracht and Nieuwe Prinsengracht, was built in two phases of expansion (*Third Expansion* (1609/10-1620), from the IJ to Leidsegracht, and *Fourth Expansion* (1656-1668), from Leidsegracht to the Eastern Islands, Kattenburg, Wittenburg and Oostenburg, land developed in that period ¹. 'Amsterdam met de nieuwe vergrootingh'.

The two waves of expansion were necessitated by the city's rapid economic development and the related population growth in the seventeenth century.

The Plantage area (Plantage Middenlaan, viewed towards Muiderpoort, c. 1710 ²) is part of the 'buffer zone'. It comprises the section of the *Fourth Expansion* that was ultimately still not populated by the end of the seventeenth century – its physical planning was finally undertaken in the nineteenth century, with the building of the Artis zoo complex and other construction work.

Singel ³ (Amsterdam's boundary from 1482 until 1585, when this was moved to what is now Herengracht, between Brouwersgracht and Blauwburgwal), Herengracht ⁴, Keizersgracht ⁵ and Prinsengracht ⁶ are regarded as the 'principal' canals. They constitute, within the *property*, the nucleus of the 'seventeenth-century canal ring area'.

For the construction of the city's expansion between Singel and the west side of Prinsengracht, the ground level was raised using the earth dug out to create the canals, and the roads and streets were raised with sand imported from elsewhere (a strip behind the dunes along the North Sea coastline, near Haarlem, and the village of 's-Graveland). Unlike the adjacent, lower-lying, Jordaan, which was built in the *Third Expansion*, the concentric canal ring was integrated into the ground plan of the existing polder area.

The principal canals were linked by radial streets, along which simple, lower buildings were constructed for commercial use ⁷. Some of these streets also served within the *Third Expansion* as a link with the mediaeval heart of Amsterdam (Lijnbaanssteeg/Blauwburgwal/ Herenstraat, Torenstraat/Oude Leliestraat, Keizerrijk/Gasthuismolensteeg, Raamsteeg/Oude Spiegelstraat, Heisteeg/Weide Heisteeg). In contrast, the direction followed by the streets and canals in the Jordaan is not directly aligned with the spatial structure and street plan of the canal ring.

During the *Fourth Expansion*, the new part of the city was linked to the mediaeval centre by a few streets (Leidsestraat, Vijzelstraat and Utrechtsestraat). Kerkstraat runs between and parallel to Keizersgracht and Prinsengracht from Leidsegracht past Amstelveld to the River Amstel, after which it continues as Nieuwe Kerkstraat.

In this period, Reguliersdwarsstraat was constructed as a back street between Singel and Herengracht, leading from the present Koningsplein to what is now Thorbeckeplein. Coach-houses belonging to the houses flanking the canals were built here and along Kerkstraat. ¹

A certain architectural 'hierarchy' exists in the canal ring area. Along Herengracht we find mansions that were frequently used to receive important guests and which radiate an air of distinction, many of them 'double' houses (that is, built on two adjacent plots ²), in contrast to the narrower houses and businesses found on Prinsengracht ³.

The cross-section of each canal is symmetrical and mirrored, with on both sides the linear building line parallel to the course followed by the canal itself and the public road running beside it, the narrow private entry area parallel to the frontage ⁴ (see Appendix 'Private entry areas and kitchen annexes'), a public road, lines of trees traditionally planted on both sides of the canals ⁵, and brick retaining walls on either side of the water in the canal ⁶.

The width and depth of each plot of land was determined by municipal bye-laws ('keuren'): the width of a plot of land on Herengracht was 30 Amsterdam feet (1 Amsterdam foot = 28.31 cm), while along Prinsengracht it was only 22 Amsterdam feet. It was permissible to build to a height of 110 feet and a depth of 190 feet from the building line, behind which it was forbidden to build anything over 10 feet high.

The garden houses ⁷ belonging to canal-side houses, erected within the grounds of each block, were allowed to be at most 12 feet high and 15 feet deep. Fences could be up to 9 feet high. On the north side of Herengracht, near Spiegelstraat, there were several non-standard plots extending as much as 200 feet in depth.

In 1614 (*Third Expansion*), work started on the public sale of the land on the even-numbered side of Herengracht, between Brouwersgracht and Leidsegracht, 124 plots of land in total, each measuring 8.5 x 54.8 metres (30 x 190 Amsterdam feet), with the exception of four of the plots in this area (three of which were sold together). Of these 124 plots, 78 were sold in twos. Since the east side of the oldest part of today's Herengracht, between Brouwersgracht and Blauwburgwal, once lay along the moat-type canal that had been dug out in the course of the *Third Expansion*, this section of the canal has different-sized plots ⁸. In this area, between the buildings on Singel and Herengracht, runs Achterstraat, with its coach-houses and stables, which once belonged to houses on one of these two canals.

Unlike plots sold along the canals, those located on the radial streets could be built over in their entirety, but the maximum height was lower here (side walls up to 30 feet/8.8 metres in height) than along the principal canals. In addition, the rear façade of the upper storeys on these streets had to be blank, with the exception of those along Leidsegracht, to protect the privacy of the canal-side house gardens. There are buildings on both sides of the canals, with blocks in between.





In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, a number of office buildings were erected within the *property*, which harmonised with their surroundings in terms of size, scale, architecture and use of materials ¹.

Corner buildings along the radial connecting streets within the *property* were given accents in the form of domed roofs, extensions or glass façades ².

Over the centuries, the canal ring has remained primarily a residential area, besides which some buildings have been converted for use as offices or hotels. Even today, the majority of shops are located along the radial streets. In the course of the twentieth century, the former warehouses ceased to be used for storage and were converted into apartments ³.

Several historic houses in this area have been turned into museums. Their interest is enhanced by the historical elements of their interiors, such as passageways and staircases decorated with stucco, painted ceilings and wall hangings, fireplaces and panelling: (*Theatre Museum / Dutch Theatre Institute* (Herengracht 168; in use as a museum until the end of 2008) ⁴ Copyright BMA, *Bible Museum / Cromhout Houses* (Herengracht 366-368) ⁵, *Kattenkabinet* ('Cat Collection'; Herengracht 497), *Tassenmuseum Hendrikje* ('Museum of Bags and Purses'; Herengracht 573), *Willet-Holthuysen Museum* (Herengracht 605) ⁶, *Anne Frank House* (Prinsengracht 267), *Pijpenkabinet* ('Clay pipe museum') and *Smokiana* pipe shop (Prinsengracht 488), *Nederlands Instituut voor Mediakunst, Montevideo / Time-based Arts* (Keizersgracht 264), *House of Marseille Museum of Photography* (Keizersgracht 401), *Amsterdam Photography Museum (FOAM) (Fodor Museum)* (Keizersgracht 609), *Museum Geelvinck Hinlopen House* (Keizersgracht 633 (Coach-house)/Herengracht 518, *Museum Van Loon* (Keizersgracht 672).

Blocks and houses

In the rectangular blocks between the canals and side-streets, the houses with their generally narrow front façades stand at right angles to the building line, alternating in several places with houses with 'double-width' façades, most of which were built relatively late, in the *Fourth Expansion*.

Most of the houses with a width of three windows ⁷ are deep, divided into a main or 'front' house (*voorhuis*) and a smaller rear annex (*achterhuis*) separated by an interior courtyard. 'Double' houses ⁸ with the roof structure running parallel to the canal, differ in their floor plans, which are sometimes but not always symmetrical, since the design depended on the period or arose from later renovation.

Façades and their architecture

The architecture of the buildings' façades and gables is highly varied ⁹ *crow-step gables*, ¹⁰ *neck gables*, ¹¹ *bell gables*, ¹² *cornice gables*.

While the original structures of the houses have frequently been preserved, many later changes have been made to the façades in particular, most notably in the eighteenth century, inspired by fashion and taste. The gables are classified typologically and chronologically according to their appearance, from crow-step gable to cornice gable.

The appearance of the seventeenth-century canal ring area does not display a uniform style of architecture. The entire frontage of the buildings along the canal ring is determined by the buildings' height, the use of colour and materials, the rhythm of plot widths, the private entry areas (single or double) ¹, the size and divisions of windows, the diverse gables (e.g. crow-step, neck, bell and cornice gables) the decorations of the gables ² copyright BMA and architecture ³, the slightly forward-leaning ('oversailing') walls ⁴ and the projecting hoist beams.

Most of the houses are built of brick ⁵. However, from the seventeenth century onwards, some of those erected along the principal canals were constructed (as the exception rather than the rule) with the use of sandstone on the street side ⁶.

This *Fourth Expansion* area contains a relatively large number of houses built on 'double' plots along the River Amstel, Herengracht and Keizersgracht, that is, about 15 metres wide, with gables surmounted by wide cornices or balustrades.

In the oldest houses, the front façade ends in a *spout* or *crow-step* gable (in brick, alternating with stone bands and/or slabs) ⁷. The *bell* gable ⁸ was fashionable from 1660 to 1800, especially for narrow houses. Early bell gables were surmounted by a curved pediment and decorated with garlands. The later ones, built in the course of the eighteenth century, were flanked by scroll decorations and sported a crowning crest, reflecting the then dominant influence of the style of Louis XV ⁹.

Neck gables, incorporated into the architecture after designs by Jacob van Campen (1595-1657) or Philips Vingboons (1607/08-1678) (e.g. Herengracht 386, 1663; Herengracht 364/370 ¹⁰; *Cromhout Houses*, 1660/1662; Herengracht 450, 1669/1671, mansion built for Joseph Deutz on a 'double' plot), are characterised by their classicist formal features (pilasters; colossal order). This type of gable is also seen a great deal in the eighteenth century, with Louis XIV decorations, especially surmounting the neck and elaborate stone scrolls.

Flat façades without pilasters were used from 1670 onwards. The *cornice gable* ¹¹ frequently with an attic structure by way of balustrade, was a dominant architectural feature in the eighteenth century, both in mansions with five windows across their breadth and in those with only three, which were endowed with 'raised' cornices.

The gable architecture of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries is characterised here by Historicism ¹² the expressionism of the Amsterdam School ¹³ sometimes by a modified Functionalism, by reconstruction, restoration, ¹⁴ and new buildings in an appropriate style ¹⁵ Singel 428, design by Abel Cahen, G. Girod, 1970).

Canal-side homes

While in the seventeenth century, canal-side houses were often used for a variety of purposes (for storage and offices besides residential use), in the eighteenth century they were primarily residential and were much used to host receptions. Individual rooms acquired more, and more specific, designations (parlour, art gallery, smoking room, ballroom). Each mansion's design and interior were carefully orchestrated from the entrance (vestibule, decorated with sculptures, stucco or paintings; wide passageway with marble floor, stucco on the walls, rhythmically and symmetrically divided into sections or compartmentalised using real or imitation doors and on the ceiling) to a salon, a stairwell with rich stucco decorations (in some cases with a skylight) ¹⁶ copyright BMA, and other grand reception rooms with mantelpieces, double doors, wainscoting, wall mirrors, painted wall hangings ¹⁷ copyright BMA, gilded leather or plush hangings, grisailles, sometimes with ceiling paintings.





Squares

The 'seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' has very few squares: from west to east Herenmarkt, Noordermarkt ¹, Westermarkt, Amstelveld ² and Rembrandtplein.

Alleys

In some cases there are gaps (alleys) in between adjacent houses (see appendix 'Alleys') ³. In the area built during the *Third Expansion*, a number of alleys link the roads along two canals (between Singel and Herengracht there are Gasthuismolensteeg, Romeinsarmsteeg, Dubbeleworststeeg, Wijde Heisteeg ⁴ and Korte Korsjespoortsteeg).

There are very few alleys in the area between Herengracht and Prinsengracht. Alleys differ in many ways. Some provide access to former almshouses or *hofjes* (e.g. Nieuwe Suyckerhofje, between Prinsengracht 363-371, near no. 369). Some alleys have been built over, and others closed off from the public road by fences ⁵.

A number of alleys lead from the mediaeval heart to Singel (Lijnbaanssteeg, Nieuwe Spaarpotsteeg, Torensteeg, Schoorsteenvegerssteeg, Raamsteeg, Vliegendesteeg, Heisteeg). The city had provided that there should in fact be no alleys or slums in among the new buildings within the 'canal ring'.

Bridges and locks

There are several locks and sluices within the *property*: the *Amstelsluizen* sluice-gates in the River Amstel ⁶ (seventeenth-century), *de Haarlemmersluis* ⁷ which connects Singel to the IJ, and the *Eenhoornsluis* ⁸ in Korte Prinsengracht, between Prinsengracht and the IJ (Appendix 'Bridges and locks').

Shipping on the Amstel could reach the open sea by navigating through Nieuwe Herengracht with its lock (*Rapenburgersluis*) near Kadijksplein/Schippersgracht ⁹. At the Amstel, Keizersgracht and Prinsengracht become Nieuwe Keizersgracht and Nieuwe Prinsengracht, which provide access to Plantage Muidergracht. Onbekende Gracht and Nieuwe Achtergracht are in this same area.

St Antoniesluis ¹⁰ links the water of Zwanenburgwal to that of Oude Schans. The River Amstel branches off at Grimburgwal to Oudezijds Achterburgwal and Oudezijds Voorburgwal, after which it passes through the *Oudezijds Kolk* ¹¹ sluice and flows into the IJ. Singelgracht is linked to the IJ by way of Zeeburgerdijk in the east and Haarlemmerplein in the west.

The arched bridges over Herengracht and Keizersgracht ¹², built in brick and stone and dating from the seventeenth century, are near radial connecting streets. In the same period Prinsengracht acquired wooden drawbridges, enabling shipping to pass through from the IJ.

Herengracht and Keizersgracht were primarily residential (although some houses had basements or lofts for the storage of merchandise). The city authorities designated Prinsengracht for markets, businesses with warehouses, and houses for those who could not afford the high price of land on the other two principal canals.

Warehouses

The appearance of the *property* is largely determined by homes. But there are warehouses in between the mansions, especially along Brouwersgracht and Prinsengracht (e.g. the seventeenth-century warehouses (1636) with pointed gables 't *Potaschvat*, *Koning David*, *David*, *Groene Valk*, *Grauwe Valk*, *De Appel* at Brouwersgracht 182-196, the former brewery *De Drie Schulpen*, converted after 1753 into the warehouses known as *Geloof*, *Hoop* and *De Liefde* ('Faith, Hope and Charity') at Prinsengracht 189/193, *D'Arend*, four identical warehouses dating from the late seventeenth century at Prinsengracht 211/217. In the oldest section of Herengracht at nos. 43-45, are the warehouses 't *Fortuyn* and *D'Arke Noach* ¹, the original structures of which date from around 1590. There is a remarkable complex on Keizersgracht nos. 40-44 known as the *Groenlandsche Pakhuizen* ('Greenland Warehouses'; 1621) ² (See Appendix 'Warehouses').

Churches and charitable institutions

Churches (Appendix 'Churches and chapels') and municipal, public charitable institutions were located on Prinsengracht because the land was cheaper there. These include the churches *Westerkerk* ³ and *Noorderkerk* ⁴, and a few almshouses (including *Claes Reinierszhofje* and *Van Brienenhofje* ⁵ (Appendix 'Almshouses').

There are several former clandestine churches within the canal ring, the former Mennonite church 'De Zon', Singel 118 (1663) (* Print, 1663, Interior Mennonite church 'De Son', 010097002681), the Mennonite Church 'Bij 't Lam', Herengracht 431/Singel 452, 454 (1607) ⁶, and the former Remonstrant church (the building now known as 'De Rode Hoed'), Keizersgracht 102 (1630) ⁷. At Amstel 98 stands the former clandestine church 'Aan de Balk in het Oogsteeg' (1750).

Churches built for Reformed Protestant congregations in the seventeenth century include the *Noorderkerk* and *Westerkerk* (both on Prinsengracht, beside the open market squares Noordermarkt and Westermarkt, respectively) (the former built in 1620/23, the latter in 1620/31), the *Oude* (= old) *Luthersekerk* and *Ronde* (or 'Nieuwe'= new) *Luthersekerk* ⁸, ⁹ (both on Singel. *Oude Luthersekerk*, 1632/33; *Nieuwe/Ronde Luthersekerk*, 1668/71, rebuilt 1822). The wooden church *Amstelkerk* (1668/70) was built as a temporary structure in the seventeenth century but still stands today ¹⁰.

Several other churches were built in between the houses in the nineteenth century, some Catholic and others of various other denominations, Singel 446, the *Krijtberg* (*St Francis Xavier*) (1881/83) ¹¹, the former church of *St Ignatius* (1835/37) Keizersgracht 22 ¹², the Redemptorist church *Onbevlekt Hart van Maria* (1852/54) (Keizersgracht 220) ¹³, the orthodox Calvinist church (1888/90) (Keizersgracht 566) ¹⁴, *Adventskerk* (1861) Keizersgracht 676, *De Duif* (or 'St Willibrordus binnen de Veste') (1857) (Prinsengracht 756) ¹⁵.

While most almshouses or *hofjes* for elderly or single persons (generally women) were in the Jordaan, which was also built in the seventeenth century (*Third Expansion*) and Weteringbuurt / *Noortse Bos* (*Fourth Expansion*), some were established along the canals within the canal ring. Some are scarcely visible as such from the main façade (*Hofje 'Liefde is 't fundament*' (*Claes Reinierszhofje*), Keizersgracht 332-346, *Zon's Hofje* ('Het Nieuwe Hofje') ¹⁶, Prinsengracht 159-171, *Nieuwe Suykerhofje*, Prinsengracht 385-393.





Others are clearly visible from the road: *Van Brienhofje* (*Van Brienen's Stichting Hofje 'De Star'*), Prinsengracht 89-133, the *Deutzen Hofje*, Prinsengracht 855-899 ¹, and the residential homes on Nieuwe Herengracht and Nieuwe Keizersgracht (*Corvershof*, Nieuwe Herengracht 6-18 ², *Bestedelinghuis*, Nieuwe Herengracht 20, *Magdalena Hodshonstichting*, Nieuwe Keizersgracht 1b, *Verzorgingstehuis Magdalena Hodshonstichting*, Nieuwe Keizersgracht 9-13, and *Van Brants Rushofje*, Nieuwe Keizersgracht 28-44 ³.

Van Limmikstichting, Nieuwe Keizersgracht 1a ⁴ and *Occo's Hofje ('t Gebouw van Barmhartigheid)* ⁵, Nieuwe Keizersgracht 94 are identified as such in their façades or archways.

Similar social care institutions were built along the River Amstel (*Swigterhofje*, Amstel 86-98, *Amstelhof* (*Diaconie Oude Mannen en Vrouwenhuis*), Binnen-Amstel 62 ⁶.

2.b History and Development

'The great and ancient city, renowned for warfare,
So rich in ships, that controlled the streams and oceans,
That commanded awe of strangers, neighbours and their wealth'
(Vondel, *Gijsbrecht van Aemstel, d'ondergangh van zijn stad en zijn ballingschap*, 1638, translated by Kristiaan P.G. Aercke (Carleton Renaissance Plays in Translation), Dovehouse Editions, Ottawa, 1991)

Origins of Amsterdam and the city in the Middle Ages

The historic area of Amsterdam within the confines of Singelgracht lies on the mouth of the river Amstel and beside the wide waters of the river IJ. These were tidal until the nineteenth century, being directly open to what was then the Zuyderzee (now, since the construction of a barrier dam between 1927 and 1932, a freshwater lake known as the IJsselmeer).

The dam across the Amstel from which the city takes its name is thought to have been built in around 1270. The pre-urban settlement with its ribbon development on both banks of the Amstel occupied the area now covered by Nieuwendijk and Kalverstraat on the one side and Warmoesstraat and Nes on the other. The two banks were mutually accessible via the dam. The town's charter is thought to have been granted in 1300 or 1306.

There is a striking difference in elevation between the Nes, originally a low-lying wetland area on the east bank of the Amstel (Oude Zijde) and the more elevated Kalverstraat, on the west bank (Nieuwe Zijde). Urban development on the west bank was more or less linear because it was dictated by the position of the many straight ditches and intervening plots of land, whereas on the east bank it was more irregular because of the way the terrain had been carved up by repeated tidal flooding in the past.

The section of the Amstel beyond the dam – known since the nineteenth century as the Damrak but earlier called 'Op 't water' ('On the Water') – was used as a harbour for sea-going vessels Nieuwe Brug, seen from the Open Harbour Front, circa 1770-1800, W. Writz, Balth. Frederic Leizelt, ⁷ Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*). Its quay was extended in 1526 up to the 'Plaets' (now Dam Square). In the early fourteenth century, however, this open stretch of the Amstel was reduced in width by filling in a strip approximately 40 metres wide alongside each bank. The strip on Oude Zijde was used to build houses/warehouses (known as '*spiekers*') right down to the water ⁸ while on Nieuwe Zijde it was partly in use as a quay.

It was the Amstel that dictated the development and spatial layout of early Amsterdam. Dykes were built on the ridges alongside the river to serve not only as flood defences, but also as bases for land reclamation and as thoroughfares. Archaeological evidence (from Kalverstraat and Nieuwendijk) shows that the pre-urban settlement must date back to the last quarter of the twelfth century (first habitations on a layer of river clay formed by flooding in 1170 and 1173).

The western side of the Damrak, later to be known as Nieuwe Zijde ('New Side'), was the first to be settled. It was the construction of the original *Oude Kerk* ('Old Church') ¹ shortly after 1300 – until 1334, when it became a separate parish, Amsterdam was part of the parish of Ouderkerk a/d Amstel – that prompted the development of the eastern side. This explains why that area was known until some time in the fourteenth century as 'Kerkzijde' ('Church Side') and only later came to be called Oude Zijde ('Old Side').

In 1452 three-quarters of the town was destroyed by fire (an earlier conflagration in 1421 had affected only Nieuwe Zijde and had destroyed one-third of the town). Within the year, the authorities ordained that the replacement buildings must have brick side walls and 'hard' roofing like tiles or slates. It was 1669 before they ruled that all houses must have brick walls all round.

Comparison of historical maps shows that the city's 75-hectare area remained virtually unchanged between 1425 and 1575 (map by Cornelis Anthoniszoon, 1544, Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*), Splitgerber Atlas, ²).

Mediaeval and seventeenth-century trade relations

In the late Middle Ages Amsterdam acquired a monopoly on imports of German beer, mainly shipped from Hamburg. Via Hamburg, traders came into contact with the Baltic countries, such as Poland and Estonia. This area was sometimes known in the sixteenth century as the *Grote Oost* ('Great East'), as distinct from the *Kleine Oost* ('Little East'), which referred to the coastal zones of Denmark and Germany. Seaborne trade with the Baltic countries was known as the *Ommelandvaart* ('coastal trade') or the *moedernegocie* ('mother trade'). It involved ports like Szczecin (Stettin), Gdansk (Danzig), Elblag (Elbing), Kaliningrad (Königsberg), Klaipeda (Memel), Liepaja (Libau), Riga (1604 house 'Het Wapen van Riga' ('The Riga Arms'), Oudezijds Voorburgwal 14 ³, Tallinn, Narva and – later – St Petersburg. Amsterdam also supplied goods and credit to Stralsund (in Pomerania) (World Heritage List, 'Historic Centres of Stralsund and Wismar', (2002), C 1067, brief description,

The mediaeval towns of Wismar and Stralsund, on the Baltic coast of northern Germany, were major trading centres of the Hanseatic League in the 14th and 15th centuries. In the 17th and 18th centuries they became Swedish administrative and defensive centres for the German territories. They contributed to the development of the characteristic building types and techniques of Brick Gothic in the Baltic region, as exemplified in several important brick cathedrals, the Town Hall of Stralsund, and the series of houses for residential, commercial and crafts use, representing its evolution over several centuries'.)

Amsterdam merchant ships also sailed to Bergen in Norway (World Heritage List, 'Bryggen', 1997, C 59, brief description,

Bryggen, the old wharf of Bergen, is a reminder of the town's importance as part of the Hanseatic League's trading empire from the 14th to the mid-16th century. Many fires, the last in 1955, have ravaged the characteristic wooden houses of Bryggen. Its rebuilding has traditionally followed old patterns and methods, thus leaving its main structure preserved, which is a relic of an ancient wooden urban structure once common in Northern Europe. Today, some 62 buildings remain of this former townscape.)





In the fifteenth century, the Dutch broke the hegemony of the Hanseatic League. The foremost activities in their relations with the Baltic were the transport of and trade in herring, woollen cloth, and French salt and wines.

By the end of the sixteenth century, sea trade with the Baltic was dominated by the Dutch. It was of huge economic importance to Amsterdam. In the late sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, hundreds of ships laden with grain from that part of Europe sometimes arrived in the port of Amsterdam every week. Voyages to the Arctic Ocean also gave rise to trade relations with Russia: by around 1600, a number of Amsterdam trading stations were already established in Archangel.

In the latter half of the fourteenth century, the textile industry became important in Amsterdam. Its rise brought numerous trade links with Brugge (World Heritage List, 'The Historic Centre of Brugge', (2000), C 996, brief description,

Brugge is an outstanding example of a mediaeval historic settlement, which has maintained its historic fabric as this has evolved over the centuries, and where original Gothic constructions form part of the town's identity. As one of the commercial and cultural capitals of Europe, Brugge developed cultural links to different parts of the world. It is closely associated with the school of Flemish Primitive painting.)

and with Northern Germany, Poland, Scandinavia and England.

In 1592, a merchant fleet loaded with grain sailed from Amsterdam to relieve a famine in Northern Italy, thereby breaking the ascendancy of Venice (World Heritage List, 'Venice and its Lagoon', (1987), C 394, brief description,

Founded in the 5th century and spread over 118 small islands, Venice became a major maritime power in the 10th century. The whole city is an extraordinary architectural masterpiece in which even the smallest building contains works by some of the world's greatest artists such as Giorgione, Titian, Tintoretto, Veronese and others.)

as a world trading power. Italy's grain came from the warehouses of Amsterdam. Trade relations between the two cities had long been close but from around the turn of the seventeenth century Amsterdam took over Venice's leading position in international trade ¹.

Amsterdam's trade with the Mediterranean countries was known as the *Straatvaart* ('Straits trade', because seamen talked of the Straits of Gibraltar – first penetrated by a Dutch vessel in 1586 – simply as the 'Straits'). Ships on this run also called at the coasts of the Levant (the eastern Mediterranean, including Egypt, Greece and Cyprus). Amsterdam occupied a major place in this trade too and had a *Levantse Compagnie* (Levantine Company) which brought together merchants who traded with the Middle East.

From 1600 onwards, there was a boom in trade and shipping. The first voyage, organised by the *Compagnie van Verre* (Company of Far Lands), round the Cape of Good Hope to the East Indies (now Indonesia) took place in 1595. In 1596/97, Bereneiland (Bjørnøya or Bear Island) and Spitsbergen were discovered by seamen searching for a northern passage to the Indies.

In 1602, the Dutch East India Company (*Verenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie* or *VOC*) was established to trade with Asia; it survived until 1795/1799 (www.atlasmutualheritage.nl) ². In 1614, the Northern Company (*Noordse Compagnie*), half-owned by Amsterdam, was founded to coordinate whaling activities. And finally, in 1621, the Dutch West India Company (*West-Indische Compagnie* or *WIC*) was set up to trade with the Americas ³; it was to continue in operation until 1781. As the Republic moved into the seventeenth century, therefore, it could soon claim to rule the 'seven seas'.

From the late sixteenth century, following the fall of Antwerp to Spain in 1585, the diamond-cutting

trade moved to Amsterdam, becoming an important industry and expanding rapidly in the first half of the eighteenth century as a result of the discovery of diamond mines in Brazil (the products of which were shipped to Amsterdam).

Republic of the Seven United Provinces

In the seventeenth century, Amsterdam expanded within a few decades to become the most influential city not only within the province of Holland (today's provinces of North and South Holland), but within the whole Republic of the Seven United Provinces.

The Dutch Republic was not a unitary state but a federation of provinces, within which Holland and Zeeland were the most powerful. It was rooted in the Union of Utrecht, signed in 1579 by the provinces of the Northern Netherlands, including Holland. The Union was an act of rebellion against Spain and in it the provinces declared their independence from Habsburg rule.

Religion and ecclesiastical life were placed in the hands of the individual provinces and the provincial states assemblies were given sovereign power. In practice, however, the Republic was first and foremost a federation of towns.


In the seventeenth century, Amsterdam's rapidly expanding network of trade relations in Europe and around the world made the city the most important and powerful centre in Holland, and hence in the Republic, in terms of both finance and governance. Economic control of the world's oceans was concentrated in Amsterdam and the city's economic status turned the Dutch Republic into a global power.

The population grew at an unprecedented rate. Commerce, industry, merchant shipping and naval activity all had to be accommodated within a small urban area enclosed within fortifications, for the Republic was at war – or at least under threat of war – during much of the seventeenth century.

The government of the city was in the hands of burghers: merchants and interrelated 'regent' families in which successive generations were constantly co-opted to membership of the city council or *vroedschap*.

Amsterdam in the late sixteenth and seventeenth century

From the last quarter of the sixteenth century to a point beyond the middle of the seventeenth century, Amsterdam expanded to become the third biggest city in Europe (after London and Paris). Between 1578 and the mid-seventeenth century, the population increased from between 25,000 and 30,000 to between 160,000 and 175,000. Around 1680, the city had a population of between 210,000 and 220,000. In 1730 it was between 230,000 and 240,000. In the two centuries between 1600 and 1800, Amsterdam took in 174,874 immigrants from other parts of Europe and around 150,000 people moved to the city from elsewhere in the Republic.

Following the fall of Antwerp (1585), the city received 30,000 immigrants from the Southern Netherlands, equivalent to around a third of its population. Many of them were clergymen, architects, sculptors, physicians or teachers and some were French-speaking. They were allowed to worship in the former chapel of St Paul's monastery on Oudezijds Achterburgwal, abandoned since the city had converted to Protestantism in the Alteration of 1578 (today's Oude Waalse kerk or 'Old Wallonian Church')  [next page](#). They were followed in the 1660s and after 1685 by large influxes of French

Huguenots who, for a long time, retained their own distinctive place in the life of the city (Hospice Wallone (1669/71), Vijzelgracht/Prinsengracht, designed by Adriaan Dortsman, 1635-1682). Earlier in the seventeenth century, many immigrants had come from Germany (from Schleswig-Holstein, East Frisia, Bremen and later from Lower Saxony) and between 1626 and 1700 a large number of Norwegian mariners settled in the city.

Jewish immigration was also important. From 1595 onwards, many Sephardic Jewish merchants fled southern Europe (Spain and Portugal) to escape the Inquisition. Many came to Amsterdam. The Dutch Republic had a name for tolerance and the Union of Utrecht (1579) had prohibited religious persecution. The Sephardic Jews engaged mainly in wholesale trade. After the start of the Twelve Years' Truce in 1609, many of them – especially those from Portugal – turned their attention to trade with the Iberian Peninsula. Many remained only briefly in Amsterdam before emigrating to Suriname, the Antilles or Brazil. Among them, the Marranos, Sephardic Jews who had been forced to convert to Catholicism in their Iberian countries of origin, occupied an important place. However, the Sephardim were outnumbered by Ashkenazi Jews from Poland and northern Germany, who came to Amsterdam from 1650 onwards after fleeing the pogroms in their countries of origin. They tended to engage in retail trade.

In the mid-seventeenth century, Amsterdam was home to around 1000 Ashkenazi Jews (late seventeenth century: approx. 3,200; late eighteenth century: over 19,000), compared to an estimated 1,400 Sephardim (late seventeenth century: approx. 3,000). The German Jews played a major role in the tobacco industry. They engaged in the tobacco trade and the diamond industry because they could do so without guild membership (from which Jews were excluded). The first synagogue in Amsterdam was inaugurated in 1639.

In 1609 the city authorities set up an Exchange Bank (*Wisselbank*) for the exchange, deposit and transfer of money. Accommodated in the old mediaeval town hall, which was to burn down in 1652, the bank was established following the example of the Banco della Piazza di Rialto founded in 1587 in Venice. It was to play an extremely important international role and was a major factor in the city's becoming the centre of the European money exchange business. Commercial debts and invoices could be settled at the Exchange Bank, while bank credits or loans could be obtained from the Loans Bank (*Bank van Lening*) (Oudezijds Voorburgwal/Lombardsteeg), founded in 1614 [2 next page](#).

Amsterdam in the eighteenth century

The economic growth of Amsterdam began to slow down in around the third decade of the eighteenth century as the city gradually lost its position as the hub of European trade. For the rest of the century, it was regarded as a city of financiers and individuals of private means. The city was also important to the international shipping insurance market. Eighteenth-century Amsterdam was the place to which rulers elsewhere in Europe looked for finance. (Clients included various monarchs, the Austrian emperor and the Bank of England.)

Amsterdam, a city of internationally renowned collections

Travel journals of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries reveal that the city enjoyed an international reputation for the private collections of its citizens. They included, for example, numismatic, natural history, ethnographic, porcelain and mathematical instrument collections. Well-known collectors included the Gerrit brothers (1599-1658), Jan van Reynst (1601-1646) (200 Italian paintings, 300 sculptures from classical antiquity), Jan Jacobszoon Swammerdam (1606-1678)



and his son Jan Swammerdam (1637-1680), and Jacob de Wilde (1645-1721).

Visitors to these collections included illustrious figures like Cosimo de Medici (1668), Czar Peter the Great (1697), Carolus Linnaeus (who published his *Systema Naturae* in Amsterdam in 1736) and Zacharias Conrad von Uffenbach, one-time mayor of Frankfurt (1710).

Amsterdam, a city of cartographers and printers

Through to the early 1680s, Amsterdam was the world's leading centre for the production of nautical charts and the printing of rutters and nautical atlases (more than 500 different editions).

Seventeenth-century cartography was a combination of art, craft and science. There was a great flowering of the activity in Amsterdam and the city came to be of exceptional international importance in this respect. The city's mapmakers included Petrus Plancius (1552-1622), Cornelis Claeszoon (circa 1551-1609) and Willem Janszoon Blaeu (1571-1638). The latter was based in Amsterdam from 1598. He published nautical charts as well as maps of different countries and of the world, taking the place of Cornelis Claeszoon in this regard in the early seventeenth century. Blaeu lived for some time with the Danish astronomer Tycho Brahe (1546-1601), from whom he learned the principles of mathematics. In 1608, he published a marine atlas called *Het Licht der Zeevaart*, later also published in English (*The Light of Navigation*, 1617) and in French. There were also mapmakers for the Dutch East India Company (VOC): from 1633 Willem Jansz. Blaeu, Joannes Jansonius (1588-1664) and from 1638 Joan Blaeu (1596-1673) (mapmaker and from that year hydrographer for the Dutch East India Company).

The VOC's 'secret atlas', comprising 100 nautical charts and panorama drawings is preserved in the Austrian National Library as part of the 29-volume 'Eugenius Atlas' (UNESCO's *Register of the Memory of the World*, 'The Atlas Blaeu-Van der Hem of the Austrian National Library', (2003), brief description,

Representing the entire surface of the Earth, the 50 volume Atlas Blaeu-Van der Hem is often considered the most beautiful and most remarkable atlas ever composed. Containing more than 2,400 maps, prints, and drawings, it offers a pictorial encyclopedia of seventeenth-century knowledge ranging from geography and topography to warfare and politics.

The lawyer Laurens Van der Hem (1621-1678) of Amsterdam, used the largest and most expensive book published in the seventeenth century, Joan Blaeu's Atlas Maior, as the base for an even more ambitious collection of maps, charts, townscapes, architectural prints, portraits, etc., most of them luxuriously painted by well-known artists. Among the most impressive of Van der Hem's additions is the set of four volumes of manuscript maps and topographical drawings that were originally made for the Dutch East India Company (VOC).

Completely preserved and fully intact in the Austrian National Library in Vienna, the Atlas Blaeu-Van der Hem contains a treasure of information whose value is inestimable, not only for the fields of geography and topography, but also in archeology, architecture, sculpture, ethnography, folklore, heraldry, navigation, fortification, and warfare. It also contains portraits of famous persons, technological inventions, public works, and many other aspects of seventeenth-century history and culture).

Seventeenth-century Amsterdam was also renowned as a city of Jewish printers and publishers. It was Menasseh ben Israel (1604-1657) (buried in the Portuguese cemetery in Ouderkerk aan de Amstel) ³ who laid the foundations for this long tradition. He also published the world's first ever Jewish newspaper, the *Gazeta de Amsterdam*.

Urban expansions (Amsterdam within Singelgracht)

First Expansion (1578-1587)

Between 1578 and 1668, Amsterdam experienced four waves of urban expansion. The aim of the *First Expansion (1578-1587)* 'Amsteldam ten tweede mael vergroot is eerst met steene Mueren omvangen inden laere 1482' ('Amsteldam enlarged for the second time was first enclosed by brick walls in 1482') Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*), ¹ 'Amsteldam ten vierdemaal vergroot is versterckt met Aerde wallen en bolwerken in den laere 1585' ('Amsteldam enlarged for the fourth time was fortified with earthen ramparts and bastions in 1585'), circa 1675/76, Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*), ² was to build an earthen rampart (where Oudeschans now lies; formerly known as Montelbaens Burchwal) to safeguard and fortify the area on the eastern edge of the mediaeval city. Known as the Lastage (lying between Geldersekaade and Montelbaanstoren ³) (today's Nieuwmarktbuurt) and Oude Waal (formerly Oudezijds Waal, an old river creek off the IJ, the harbour area between the Schreierstoren ⁴ and the Montelbaanstoren), the area was used for shipbuilding and ship repairs and to accommodate vessels lying up for the winter.

To the west there was an expansion just beyond the moat marking the confines of the mediaeval city – today's Singel (then called Singel or Stedegracht), which ran to today's Kloveniersburgwal and Geldersekaade) – with buildings being erected in the direction of the later Herengracht. At the same time (1585), a ring of fortifications was erected around the city (from the IJ to the Amstel and from there connecting with the earlier earthen rampart of Oudeschans). This turned Singel (of circa 1450) from an outer moat into an inner canal along which houses were built ⁵.

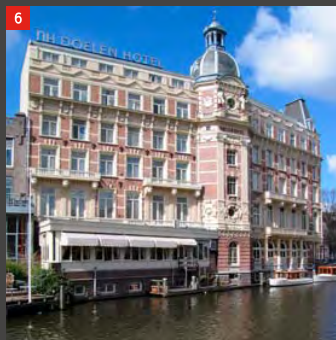
Second Expansion (1592-1596)

At the time of the *Second Expansion (1592-1596)*, the walls to the east were pushed outward from the IJ to the Amstel. Within that area, three islands were created to accommodate shipbuilding and shipping: Uilenburg, where the Admiralty had its wharves, Marken, and Rapenburg, where the Dutch East India Company (VOC) had its shipyard, the 'Peperwerf'.

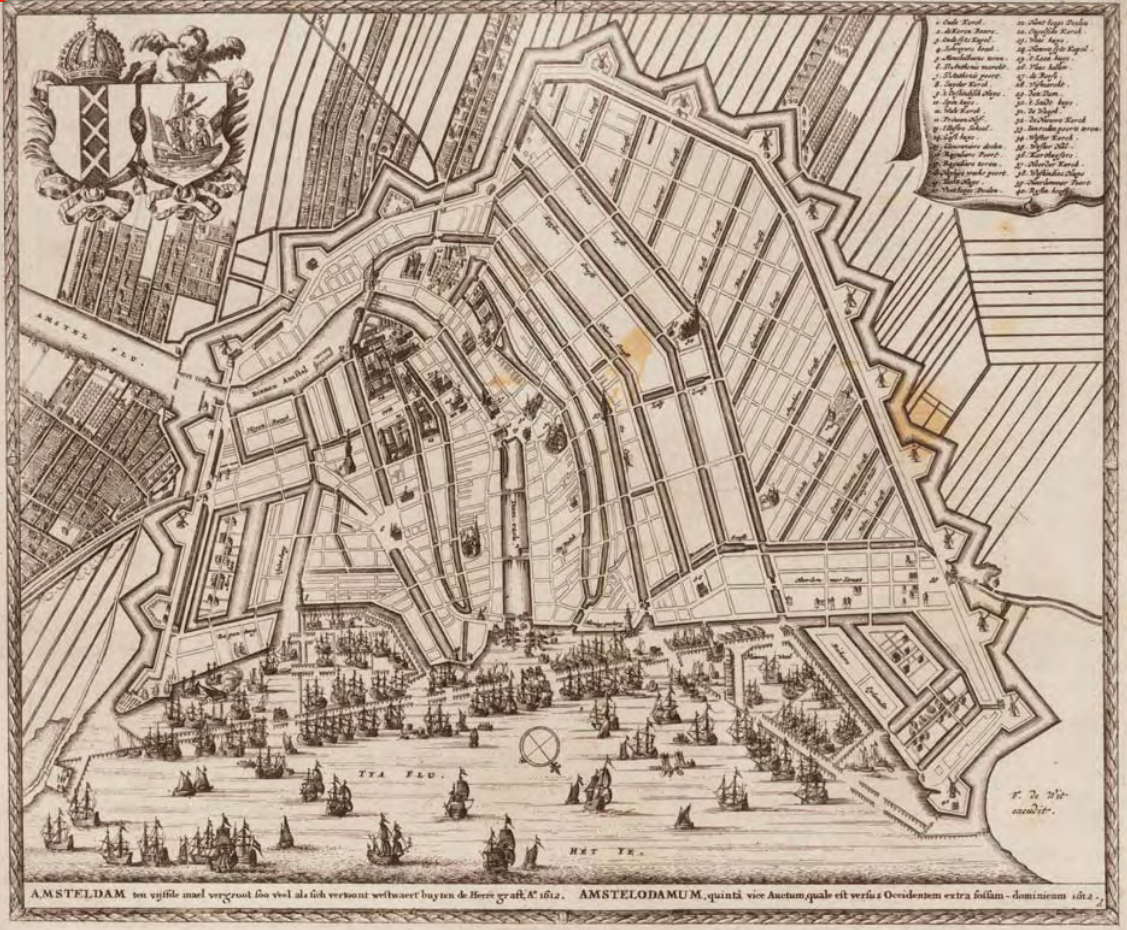
Between the former St Antoniesdijk (on part of which lay St Antoniesbreestraat, now called Jodenbreestraat) and the Amstel, an island called Vlooienburg was constructed (today occupied by the Waterlooplein – called after the Battle of Waterloo (1815) – which was created in 1882 by filling in Houtgracht and Leprozengracht, where today's Stoper town hall-cum-opera house (*Stopera*) was built in 1982/88. The two canals enclosed the former Vlooienburg).

The islands constructed on both sides of Groenburgwal (earlier known as Verwersgracht) between Raamgracht and the stretch of the Amstel between Kloveniersburgwal and Zwanenburgwal came to be occupied by textile mills. This use is recalled by the name of today's Verversstraat ('dyers' street'), while Raamgracht was called after the *ramen* (frames) on which the woollen cloth was dried at a time when Kloveniersburgwal – called after the Kloveniersdoelen, the meeting-place of the militia, where the Doelenhotel ⁶ now stands – still marked the city limits.

Following this second expansion, the city walls of the 1480s (built of brick on a stone base with masonry arches on the inner side) were demolished. Surviving remnants included a gate, the St Antoniespoort, now known as the Waag (Weigh House), begun in 1488, ⁷ and the Schreierstoren.



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Third Expansion (1609/10-1620)

The military purpose of the *Third Expansion* (1609/10-1620) '*Amsteldam ten vijffde mael vergroot soo veel als sich vertoont westwaerts buyten de Heeregracht*' ('Amsteldam enlarged for the fifth time as much as can be seen westward beyond the Heeregracht'), Anno 1612. N. Visscher. Engraving, 24.5x28.5 cm. Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*) ¹ was to construct fortifications well outside the existing walls surrounding the late-mediaeval city centre and in a westerly direction to enclose over 3,300 houses built there illegally outside the previous city limits.

The planned construction of new fortifications to enclose the entire city was postponed. Eleven new bastions were built first. The section from the IJ to the Carthusian monastery (*Karthuizerklooster*) – which then lay outside the city walls (in what would later become the Jordaan) – had five of them to defend the Nieuwe Waal port area, constructed outside the Haarlemmerpoort gate. The Nieuwe Waal was completed in 1612 but declined in importance after around 1670, when new port areas were developed on the eastern edge of the city.

The fortifications planned as part of the *Third Expansion* were built in two stages, beginning with the five bastions between the IJ and the Carthusian monastery (*Karthuizerklooster*). In the course of the seventeenth century, the city was to gain a total of 26 such towers, topped by windmills, and five great gates. The circumference of each bastion was 55 'rods' (over 200 metres). The new fortifications met those constructed in 1585 by the then Heiligewegpoort gate. In front of the new bastions, from the then Haarlemmerpoort, a moat was dug: today's Singelgracht.

The civil purpose of the *Third Expansion* was to create three new urban areas, all very different from each other in terms of planning and function. They were to be located on three islands (the 'Western Islands': Bickerseiland, Prinseneiland and Realeneiland) and in the western part of today's canal ring area and the Jordaan.

The States of Holland gave its consent (*octrooi*) to the plan in 1609 and in 1611 a committee was appointed to examine its economic and legal consequences.

Surveyor Lucas Jandszoon Sinck (also involved in the reclamation of the Beemster polder), Cornelis Dankertszoon De Rey (Sinck's successor, who was city cartographer between 1623 and 1662) and city carpenter Hendrick Jacobszoon Staets drew up the plans (since lost) for the new areas, showing the parcels ('*parcken*') and the way the land was to be divided up into building lots.

Construction began in 1613. Rather than begin at the edge of the mediaeval city and work outwards, work began simultaneously on widening the inner canal to form Heeregracht, digging Keizersgracht and Prinsengracht, raising the ground between the canals and building brick embankments along the canals from Brouwersgracht to Leidsegracht ².

This new area of the city was sometimes called the 'New City' (*Nieu-Stadt*). It comprised the western part of what we now call the 'seventeenth-century canal ring area' (from the IJ to Leidsegracht; Prinsengracht, begun 1614; Keizersgracht, begun 1615) and the creation of the Jordaan (begun 1613). The original name for the latter area was 'New Work' (*het Nieuwe Werck*); it is only since the eighteenth century that it has been known as the Jordaan. It comprises the part of the canal ring area enclosed by Prinsengracht, Brouwersgracht, Lijnbaansgracht and Passeerdersgracht.

The area beside Lijnbaansgracht – then a continuous strip running over today's Leidseplein, Kleine-Gartmanplantsoen, and 'through' Frederiksplein, Maarten Janszoon Kosterstraat, Valckenierstraat and

Plantage Muidergracht – accommodated rope-yards on the inner side of the walls beside Singelgracht.

A new port area was also created (1610) on the western side of the city around the Nieuwe Waal (like the Oude Waal, the Nieuwe Waal was a former river creek off the IJ; it disappeared in the nineteenth century as a result of the construction of the Western Entrepot Dock). This is where the Western Islands – Bickerseiland, Prinseneiland and Realeneiland – with their grid-like ground plan were created (1614/15), together with the unusually wide canals separating them.

The new fortifications met the older city walls where Leidsegracht (1663) now lies. Until the Fourth Expansion, today's Molenpad and Raamstraat ran behind the city walls. At each end of the three principal canal rings was a canal cutting across them at right angles – Brouwersgracht ¹ and Leidsegracht ² – both of them connected to Lijnbaansgracht.

Beemster Polder (World Heritage Site)

1613, when work began on the *Third Expansion*, is also the year in which the Beemster – a large lake north of Amsterdam – was drained ³. This land reclamation project was undertaken primarily on the initiative of Amsterdam notables and with Amsterdam money. The city's merchants and regents (families with names like Bicker, Pel, De Graeff, Trip and De Geer) invested their capital in enterprises like the Dutch East India Company (VOC) and the West India Company (WIC) and in land reclamation schemes like the Beemster (*World Heritage List*, 'Droogmakerij De Beemster/Beemster Polder', (1999), C 899, brief description,

The Beemster Polder, dating from the early 17th century, is the oldest area of reclaimed land in the Netherlands. It has preserved intact its well-ordered landscape of fields, roads, canals, dykes and settlements, laid out in accordance with classical and Renaissance planning principles.)

They also built country villas (*villa suburbana*) in the area around Amsterdam. Around the middle of the eighteenth century, there were more than 600 of them scattered along the Vecht ⁴, Amstel and Angstel rivers and the inland edge of the dunes bordering the North Sea.

In 1614 it was decided to create four bridges over Herengracht and four transverse streets, each 30 Amsterdam feet wide (1 Amsterdam foot equals 28.3 cm) approximately where today's Blauwburgwal, Torenstraat, Gasthuisbrug and Oude Spiegelstraat are located.

Within this newly created area, the older city wall could be demolished as early as around 1613. This made room between Singel and the line of the old wall to widen the inner canal ring to form Herengracht (on the east side of Herengracht (nos. 43 and 45), 't Fortuyn and D'Arke Noach ⁵ warehouses dating from circa 1590, the period of the *Second Expansion*).

The earlier canal, constructed as part of the fortifications of 1585, was excavated to a width of around 30 metres. (In 1614, a broader quay was constructed on the west side than the mediaeval one on the east side.)

Building plots 50 metres deep were laid out on each side of the principal canals. Since it was ordained that the distance between the back walls of the canal-side houses had to be at least 48 metres, there was room behind each house for a garden 24 metres long. Prior to the sale of building plots on Herengracht, the city laid down in 1613 that purchasers of land on the west side of Herengracht (the section between Brouwersgracht and Leidsegracht) should be allowed to build to a height of 110 feet on a plot 30 Amsterdam feet wide and 190 feet deep, but behind that only to a maximum height of 10 feet. On the east side, at the beginning of Herengracht, the plots were about 20 feet wide.





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Keizersgracht was dug more or less on the line of the old city wall and Prinsengracht ¹ was planned 400 Amsterdam feet outside it. In the course of this expansion, Korte Prinsengracht was also dug to provide a direct shipping link to the IJ.

The plots on the east side of Keizersgracht were sold after the end of 1615 and usually measured 30 x 170 feet. The maximum permitted depth of building here was 100 feet (28.30 metres). The area behind was intended for gardens and backyards, although the construction of small garden houses was permitted (Appendix 'Garden Houses').

The plots between Keizersgracht and Prinsengracht were 20 feet wide and 150 feet deep. From building line to building line, Herengracht and Prinsengracht in this part of the seventeenth-century expansion area measure no more than 43 metres. Singel and Keizersgracht are much wider in this area (50 metres).

In several places, purchasers decided to split their plots and fit in two houses. Since the purchaser of one plot had a right of first refusal on the purchase of adjacent plots, three houses of differing breadth and depth could well be built on two adjacent plots.

The *Jordaan* is the early seventeenth-century extension of the city enclosed between Lijnbaansgracht, Brouwersgracht, Prinsengracht and Leidsegracht. The present name (of uncertain origin) has been used only since the eighteenth century; before that, it was called the *Nieuwe Werk* ('New Work'). There is no 'logical' direct connection between the canals and streets of the *Jordaan* and those in the seventeenth-century *Third Expansion* of the canal ring area. The ground plan of the *Jordaan* is like a rather worm-shaped appendage. The area covers approximately 65 hectares and is almost two kilometres long and some 450 metres wide. At present, the *Jordaan* contains around 8,000 houses.

The ground plan of the *Jordaan* was based on the pattern of the original polder drainage ditches. These were simply converted into streets or canals, as were existing paths or tracks (for example, Kaatsbaanpad was excavated to create Lauriergracht ²).

A distinctive feature is the way the streets and canals run diagonally in relation to the principal canals. When it was finished, the *Jordaan* had 11 'islands'. The only open spaces in the area are the Noordermarkt (originally called 'Princenmarkt') and the Carthusian graveyard (*Karthuizerkerkhof*), which remained in use until 1860.

The buildings in the *Jordaan* were erected not by the city, but by speculators. There were class differences between the different streets. For example, the houses and workplaces of the better-off tended to be on Lauriergracht and Bloemgracht. Most of the people who came to live there were Flemish and Walloon immigrants.

After 1648 (when the Eighty Years' War ended with the Treaty of Münster), the city developed a large port area to the east, the *Nieuwe Vaart* (1649), because the IJ was increasingly silting up and a direct link was needed to the Zuyderzee.

Between 1625 and 1660 there was also new development on the east side of the Amstel, in an area stretching from Rokin to the Blauwbrug (now partly occupied by the open space in front of the Stopera).

Elsewhere by the Oude Waal, the fact that the river was silting up was exploited between 1644 and 1646 to create the *Walseiland* ('Waal island'), intended as a location for merchants' houses. (The façades along Binnenkant, Kromme Waal and Oude Waal are still impressive ³).

Some of the defensive towers still survive: the Regulierspoort (known after 1619 as the Regulierstoren; in use from 1672 to 1674 as the mint for the province of Holland and hence known as the Munttoren or Mint Tower) ¹ and the Montelbaanstoren (built shortly after 1512) ².

Fourth Expansion (1656-1668)

The *Fourth Expansion* (1656-1668) was preceded by years of planning and decision-making by the city authorities. In 1662, a plan was finally adopted and before the end of the year the land was reported to have been already marked out for building. The fortification plan drafted by the city engineer, Jan Heijmanszoon Coeck (1591-1667), had been approved in 1660.

This expansion can be divided roughly into three distinct neighbourhoods: the extension of the canal ring area between *Leidsegracht* and *Plantage Muidergracht*, the *Plantage* and the *Eastern Islands* of Kattenburg, Wittenburg and Oostenburg. On *Kattenburg*, the city allocated plots for the construction of shipyards in around 1650 and a decade later for house-building. The naval storage depot (*'s-Landszeemagazijn* or *Admiraliteitsmagazijn*), now the home of the National Maritime Museum ³, was built there in 1656 to a design by the city architect, Daniël Stalpaert (1615-1676) ⁴. Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*), on *Wittenburg* (1649), the city offered plots for housing and private shipyards in around 1660. *Oostenburg* was divided into five islands and is where the Dutch East India Company (VOC) established its shipyards after it outgrew the facilities on Rapenburg. These islands were divided by three waterways: Kattenburgervaart, Wittenburgervaart and Oostenburgervaart (Kattenburgergracht, dug around 1655, Wittenburgergracht, around 1658, and Oostenburgervaart in 1660/61).

The pattern of canals established in the *Third Expansion* was now extended (east of the Amstel, the canals were simply called *Nieuwe* ('New') *Herengracht*, *Nieuwe Keizersgracht* and *Nieuwe Prinsengracht*).

Nieuwe Herengracht joined the IJ by the naval storage depot. *Nieuwe Keizersgracht* ended at the *Plantage*. *Nieuwe Prinsengracht* (partially filled in during the nineteenth century but still to some extent identifiable as the ponds in Artis Zoo) led to the spot where the State Entrepot (*Algemeen Rijks Entrepot*) would be built in 1827 ⁵. *Lijnbaansgracht* was also extended by a section known as *Nieuwe Lijnbaansgracht*. Only *Nieuwe Herengracht* continued right through to the IJ ⁶.

The ground plan of this expansion was similar to that of the *Third Expansion*. It featured the same broad concentric canals running parallel to each other, with radial connecting streets and canals at an angle to them.

Leidsestraat, *Utrechtsestraat*, *Weesperstraat* and *Muiderstraat* were all extended from their beginnings in the mediaeval city centre to become radial streets, leading to the city gates of the time. However, the northern part of the expansion plan (now the *Plantage*), opposite today's *Plantage Muidergracht*, was given a distinctly different lay-out: it became a rectangular area surrounded by a single uninterrupted canal.

This expansion was accompanied by an extension of the walls and fortifications built at the time of the *Third Expansion*. By the time they were completed (1662), they extended so far to the east that Amsterdam had room to grow within them until well beyond the middle of the nineteenth century. By this time, Amsterdam had a harbour front stretching some 4,300 metres from east to west. The city had expanded in area from approx. 430 hectares (*Third Expansion*) to approx. 726 hectares (*Fourth Expansion*) ⁷, Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*)).





In 1663 a bye-law came into force for Herengracht and Keizersgracht laying down that no canal-side house should be deeper than 28.3 metres (100 'Amsterdam feet'), and that any garden house at the rear must be no more than 4.25 metres (15 feet) deep and 12 feet high ¹ copyright BMA. The height of dividing walls between the plots was not to exceed 9 feet.

Restrictions were also imposed on the residential and other use to be made of the new expansion zones. For example, certain trades were banned between the north side of Herengracht and the south side of Keizersgracht: there were to be no smiths, stone-cutters or stone merchants, no coopers and indeed no kind of trade requiring the use of an anvil. Consequently, the area became filled with broad-fronted houses, often built on double plots, with façades of great distinction and restrained magnificence. For Prinsengracht and Lijnbaansgracht there were no such restrictions.

In May 1664 the city was able to proceed to the sale of the prepared building plots. Some purchasers bought two adjacent plots in order to build a 'double' house ². Some also bought ground bordering on the street or canal at the rear, in order to have a deeper garden and space to build a coach house, garden house or bake house (Appendix 'Coach Houses and Stables') ³.

Between Leidsegracht and the Amstel, around 110 'double' canal-front houses were built between 1663 and 1690, half of them on the 'Golden Bend' ('*Gouden Bocht*') in the Herengracht, between Leidsestraat and Vijzelstraat. This is where, particularly on the south side, the most distinguished houses were built, most of them 'double' houses with cornice gables and often with front doors accessed via a perron. ⁴ (Appendix 'The Historic House within Singelgracht').

The area through to the Amstel was to be transected by Leidsegracht ⁵, Leidsestraat, Nieuwe Spiegelstraat and Spiegelgracht ⁶, Vijzelstraat and Vijzelgracht, Reguliersgracht ⁷ and Utrechtsestraat. Kerkstraat was inserted between Keizersgracht and Prinsengracht, its north side originally intended for coach houses, stables and warehouses to serve houses on Keizersgracht.

The city authorities originally planned four squares dotted along Kerkstraat ('Church street') to accommodate four new churches (plan by city architect Daniël Stalpaert, 1615-1676). The street was intended to end at a church, the Oosterkerk (1669/71) ⁸, situated on the Eastern Island of Wittenburg, but now ends in Nieuwe Kerkstraat by Plantage Muidergracht because of the 1682 decision to create the Plantage. As part of Stalpaert's plan, a temporary, wooden church (which still exists today) was built on the Amstelveld (1668/69) ⁹.

Behind Prinsengracht, three working class neighbourhoods ('*volksbuurten*') were created: *Leidsebuurt*, *Noortse Bos* (now *Weteringbuurt*) and *Utrechtsebuurt*. *Noortse Bos* was enclosed by Lijnbaansgracht, Prinsengracht, Reguliersgracht, Spiegelgracht and Weteringschans and bisected by Vijzelgracht (dug between 1660-1670 but reduced in width in 1881 and filled in in 1934). The section between Vijzelgracht and Reguliersgracht is sometimes called the *Looiersbuurt* ('tanners' neighbourhood'). The name *Noortse Bos* ('Nordic wood') comes from the amount of timber that had to be imported, mainly from Norway, to build the houses. After 1670, 400 cottages would be built in *Noortse Bos* to accommodate weavers (the '*Wevershuisjes*', on Nieuwe Looiersstraat/Nieuwe Looiersdwarsstraat) in order to revive the textile industry ¹⁰. There were six blocks, containing a total of 211 dwellings. The original 1672 design, for 14 blocks of houses with two storeys (the second for the looms) plus a loft, was supplied by Philips Vingboons (1607/08-1678) (e.g. *Eerste Weteringdwarsstraat* 70, 56-58, 30-32). Sixty-nine of these houses still survive.

At the end of the seventeenth century, development along the canals was still continuing and the section on the east side of the Amstel, the *Plantage*, was still completely undeveloped.

The *Plantage* ('Plantation') situated between Muidergracht and the earlier Rapenburgergracht, is the last part of the *Fourth Expansion* plan but remained undeveloped at the time because of a decline in population growth. The route between the city centre and what was then an industrial area to the north of the Plantage, Kadijkseiland and the Eastern Islands, was via Prinsengracht and Nieuwe Prinsengracht.

In 1682, the city decided to divide the area between Herengracht and the Muiderpoort into 15 parcels ('*parcken*'), further subdivided into 59 rectangular plots (in a lay-out devised by the city surveyor and engineer Jacob Bosch, circa 1660-1700) and to release them for the creation of kitchen or pleasure gardens. Residential use was not permitted. Among the gardens created was one for medicinal herbs, the *Hortus Medicus/Hortus Botanicus* (Plantage Middenlaan, 1682) print 1693, Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*), ¹ ², and on the edge closest to the old city, a wood was planted. For almost the next two centuries, the Plantage was a favourite area for a stroll among trees and gardens within the city walls.

In the late nineteenth century, however, part of the Plantage became a residential area after the city decided in 1859 to terminate the leases on the gardens in it. Houses and apartments were built, mainly for people working in the diamond industry (because the Plantage was adjacent to the old Jewish neighbourhood).

Through the purchase of former country houses, a new zoological society called *Natura Artis Magistra* managed within a year of its foundation to acquire half of the Plantage and turn it into *Artis* zoo (laid out in 1838 in the area between Plantage Kerklaan, Middenlaan, Doklaan and Muidergracht).

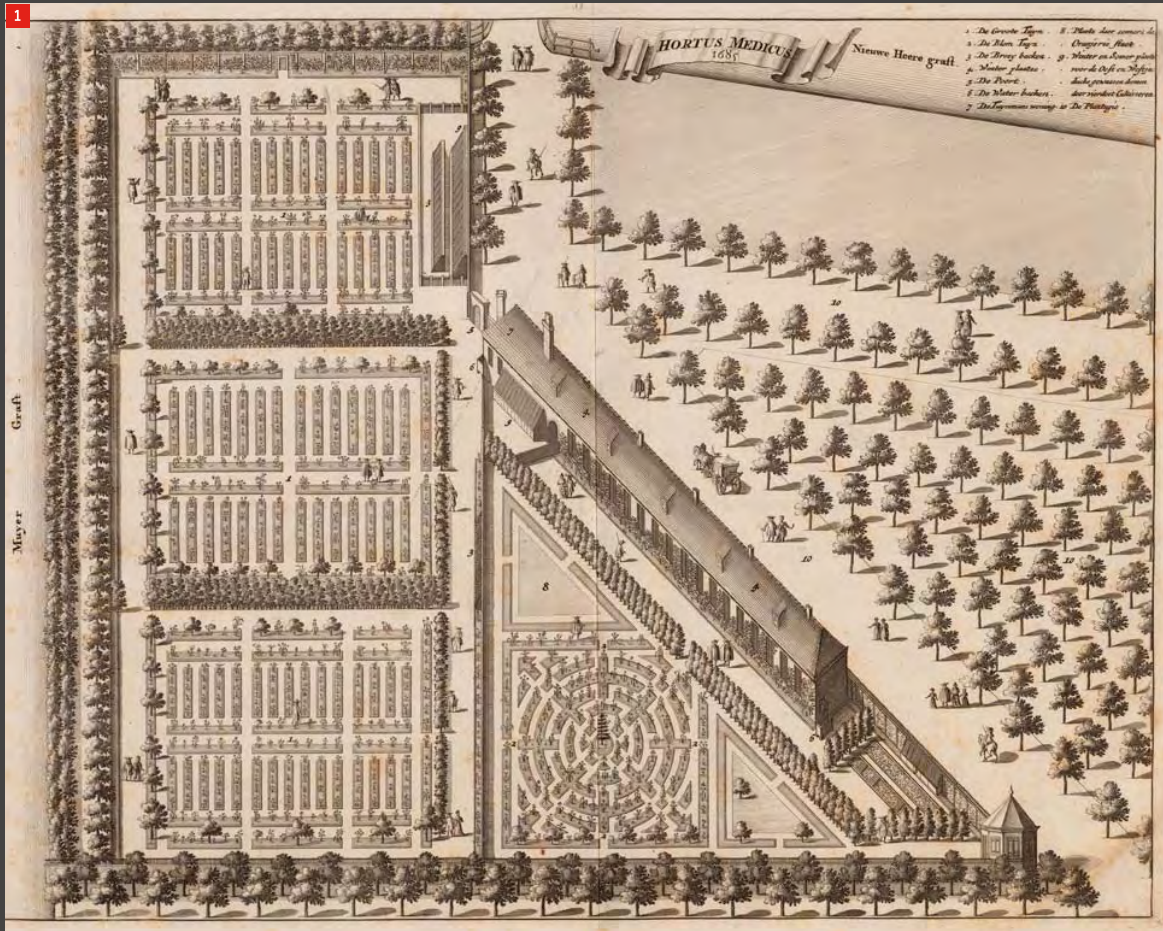
The *Wertheimpark* (the oldest park in Amsterdam, designed by city architect Abraham van der Hart (1747-1820)) ³ was created in 1812 between Nieuwe Herengracht, Plantage Middenlaan and Parklaan.

Various public buildings were also erected in the area: a Panorama, the Aquarium (Plantage Middenlaan, designed by G.B. and A. Salm, 1879-1881), theatres like the *Hollandsche Schouwburg* on the Plantage Middenlaan (designed by C.A. Bombach, 1892, but used in 1942 as a Nazi deportation centre for Jews and now a memorial to the Jewish victims of the Second World War).

In the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century, the east side of the Plantage became surrounded by military buildings (barracks, like the *Oranje-Nassaukazerne* (1747-1820), designed as the *St Charles-kazerne*, or the former national medical stores (*Rijksmagazijn van Geneesmiddelen*) at *Sarphatistraat 112*. (*Sarphatistraat* was named after Dr Samuel Sarphati (1813-1866), a physician, who devised plans for the expansion of the city as well as initiating important social improvements.)

Amsterdam in the nineteenth century

In 1798 the Republic of the Seven United Provinces became a unitary state. In 1806 Louis Napoleon (1778-1846) was made King of Holland by his brother Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821) in Paris. The following year he began moving his seat (the Palace on the Dam; known after 1810 as '*palais impérial*') and that of the national government to Amsterdam. During the period when the country was an integral part of the Napoleonic Empire (1810-1813), the administrations of the seven départements (the former seven provinces) were based in Amsterdam and the city was regarded as the third capital of the Empire, after Paris and Rome.



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Subsequently, Amsterdam became the capital of the United Kingdom of the Netherlands (created in 1814). Until the middle of the century, the city was in a poor state. Its port and docks had suffered as a result of the Continental System introduced by Napoleon in 1806. King Willem I (1772-1843) helped to restore port activities by setting up the Netherlands Trading Company (*Nederlandsche Handelmaatschappij*) in 1824 to revive trade between the Netherlands and the East Indies.

Around 1820 the walls began to be demolished here and there along Singelgracht. The areas where the fortifications had stood were used mainly for public or sometimes military purposes (for example, to accommodate the former Oranje-Nassau barracks (1811), the former prison (1847) and the Amstel Hotel, 1867) ¹.

In some places, Singelgracht was filled in. By around 1870 the dismantling of the fortifications was virtually complete. Along Singelgracht and Lijnbaansgracht, a continuous inner ring of streets was created (Sarphatistraat, Weteringschans and Marnixstraat), to be followed later by another ring consisting of Mauritskade, Stadhouderskade and Nassaukade on the outer side of Singelgracht.

After the 1860s, the port once again became an important motor for the economy (particularly after the opening of the North Sea Canal in 1876 gave Amsterdam a direct navigable route to the North Sea). Amsterdam regained its position as an important player in the international tropical goods market and continued to be a major port for products like tobacco right through into the second half of the twentieth century. The second half of the nineteenth century saw a major wave of immigration into the city.

Towards the end of the century, there was a certain amount of citification as well as an increasing separation of residential and industrial/commercial functions. A number of larger-scale office buildings ², hotels and department stores were erected, especially on Nieuwe Zijde.

Within the ring of canals, new banking institutions clustered along the 'Golden Bend' of Herengracht, between Leidsestraat and Vijzelstraat, and in the area near the Raadhuisstraat between Herengracht and Keizersgracht. Moreover, for several decades in the early twentieth century, Keizersgracht became a centre for the clothing industry (which has now moved out beyond Singelgracht).

As road traffic increased, more room was made for it by demolishing buildings (Raadhuisstraat, 1895/96), filling in canals (like Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal and Martelaarsgracht in 1844 and Elandsgracht in 1891) and widening streets (like Rokin in 1842 and Oude Doelenstraat in 1867/68). Canals were also filled in for public health reasons and for economic reasons (the high cost of maintaining retaining walls and bridges). In 1854, the Supreme Court ruled that the city must henceforth meet the cost of maintaining the more than 81 kilometres of retaining walls along the city's canals. These days, the Central Borough (*Stadsdeel Centrum*) is responsible for the maintenance and restoration of retaining walls and a large number of bridges. The authority plans and budgets this work on an annual basis. The bridges that belong to the municipality are maintained by its Traffic and Transport Infrastructure Department.

Various plans to fill in canals were eventually abandoned. They included plans to fill in the entire Damrak (1857), Oudezijds Achterburgwal (1900) and Leidsegracht (1913).

In the third quarter of the nineteenth century, events elsewhere in the world prompted further urban development and changes to the structure of the city. For example, the opening of the Suez Canal (1869) significantly shortened the voyage between the Netherlands and the East Indies, and railway construction in the Netherlands itself led to the building of Amsterdam Central Station (1881-1889) ³, Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*) on three islands created off the open

harbour front of the IJ (1872-1877). New docks were also constructed (Westerdok and Oosterdok (1832/34), inner harbours closed off from the IJ by a dyke and locks).

In the same period, an acceleration in the pace of urban development produced changes in the city. Early, internationally-oriented development (new offices, shops, department stores, hotels and clubs) took place along Nieuwendijk, Kalverstraat, Leidsestraat and Reguliersbreestraat. From the end of the century, Rembrandtplein started to develop into an entertainment quarter full of hotels and restaurants and in the early twentieth century, the scale of the city began to change in a number of places. For example, Vijzelstraat was widened (1916) and the appearance of Dam Square was changed by a number of new buildings (such as the Bijenkorf department store (1911/13), designed by J.A. van Straaten and B.A. Lubbers, and the Peek & Cloppenburg store (1917), designed by Anton J. Joling).

Amsterdam within Singelgracht in the twentieth century

In the early twentieth century, the municipality began taking vigorous action to control the growth of the city and land use within it. Its main aim was to build new residential areas outside Singelgracht. The policy at that time was to give the inner city a mainly commercial and industrial function. In 1930, a slum clearance and improvement plan was published for the entire city. This *Algemeen plan voor sanering en krotopruijing in de hele stad* rejected the idea of demolishing whole neighbourhoods in favour of the selective replacement of poor-quality housing or blocks of buildings in the Jordaan and Jodenbuurt (Jewish Quarter) and on the Western and Eastern Islands. The first large-scale plans for improving traffic circulation in the city centre were also published (1931, *Voorlopig Schema van Verkeersverbeteringen in de Binnenstad*). The idea was to create ring-roads, if necessary filling in canals and cutting through blocks of buildings. In the same year, the Urban Development Policy Plan (*Nota Stadsontwikkeling*) proposed making way for new roads to ease congestion and make the city centre more accessible. (The Depression of the 1930s and the subsequent outbreak of the Second World War prevented the implementation of this scheme.)

This was followed in 1935 by a General Extension Plan (*Algemeen Uitbreidingsplan*, by C. van Eesteren (1897-1988), L.S.P. Scheffer (1887-1974) and T.K. van Lohuizen (1890-1956) of the City Development Department). This proposed the construction of 'Western Garden Cities', in which homes, work, recreation and traffic would all be firmly separated, in line with the philosophy of the CIAM (Congrès Internationaux d'Architecture Moderne). This plan was largely implemented but only after the war.

The Second World War (1940-1945) left the historic heart of Amsterdam within Singelgracht deeply scarred. The Jewish residents were deported and almost none returned. Between 1960 and 1990, a new inner-city district, the *Nieuwmarktbuurt*, was created on the land where the Jewish community of Amsterdam (*Jodenbuurt*) had lived for centuries, playing a huge role in the diverse social, cultural, intellectual and economic development of the city.

In the Nieuwmarktbuurt, fierce public resistance to plans to demolish houses and streets was eventually followed by suitable new-build projects on an appropriate scale, designed by architects like Aldo van Eyck (1918-1999) and Theo Bosch (1940-1994) ¹.

After the liberation of the Netherlands in 1945, the initial emphasis was on post-war reconstruction. The historic heart of Amsterdam was largely ignored until 1950, when the Reconstruction Act (*Wederopbouwwet*) came into force. Reconstruction plans were proposed for eight neighbourhoods (including the Jordaan, Nieuwmarkt, Eastern Islands and Weesperstraat).

In 1953, four reconstruction plans (for the Nieuwmarktbuurt, Jodenbreestraat, Weesperstraat and

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Eastern Islands) were adopted by the municipal council. The response was a mounting storm of public opposition, whipped up further by the publication in 1954 of the 'Kaasjager Plan' (called after the Chief Commissioner of Police, H.A.J.G. Kaasjager), which called for a number of canals to be filled in and turned into traffic arteries: 15 in all, including Singel, the water of the open harbour front outside Central Station, the open water of Rokin, Kloveniersburgwal ¹, Geldersekaade, Raamgracht, sections of Lijnbaansgracht and the Amstel. Raamgracht and Lijnbaansgracht were to be used as car parks. In the same year, 1954, members of the public formed the 'Committee for the City of Amsterdam' (the '*Comité De Stad Amsterdam*', which later gave birth to the *N.V. Stadsherstel*) with the intention of reversing the decline of the city centre, and an exhibition on the disappearance of features of the historic city (*Verdwijnend Stadsschoon*) opened in the Amsterdam Historical Museum.

In 1955 the Policy Plan for the City Centre (*Nota Binnenstad*) identified the problems of the inner city (ageing buildings, the need to safeguard the aesthetics and character of the townscape, residents' flight to the suburbs and road traffic).

This provided the starting point for urban renewal. It was also recognised that residents' flight and making way for new roads were incompatible with the desire to preserve the small-scale historic heart of the city. In the longer term, since the 1970s, the existing historic building line ² and traditional skyline have increasingly dictated town-planning attitudes in the part of Amsterdam within Singelgracht.

The earlier post-war Reconstruction Plans were converted into separate land-use plans, which were the basis for the Preliminary Draft Second Document on the City Centre (*Voorontwerp Tweede Nota Binnenstad*) of 1968. Key policies in this were encouraging residential use of the city centre, deterring road traffic and building an underground rail system. The draft document roused so much opposition that it never went any further.

In the 1960s, opposition to the idea of large-scale clearance plans produced the slogan '*Bouwen voor de Buurt*' (literally, 'building for the neighbourhood'): the idea that redevelopment should be focused on the real needs of existing neighbourhood communities. In 1968, current thinking about the future development of the inner city was recorded in the Second Policy Plan for the City Centre (*Tweede Binnenstadsnota*). The document gave priority to the quality of the residential and working environment. To safeguard this, car traffic should 'give way' to public transport.

There were large-scale redevelopment plans for the *Jordaan* (housing in the northern part, plenty of green space, new offices and multi-storey car parks in the southern part; half of the 8,700 dwellings in the *Jordaan* were to go).

The plans were never implemented. The *Jordaan* remained a residential area, with the worst housing being replaced, gaps being filled in with new housing and large-scale renovation of old houses.

For *Bickerseiland* (one of the Western Islands created in the seventeenth century), there were plans in the late 1960s for large-scale demolition and the construction of big office blocks and business premises. In the early '70s there was an experimental housing project between Bickersgracht and Bickersstraat which was supposed to improve the existing housing stock as well (with the endorsement of the Ministry of Housing). Of the planned office blocks, only one – known as the *Walvis* (whale) – was eventually built.

In Amsterdam, as in port cities elsewhere in the world, the age-old relationship between the city, water and the harbour has changed since the 1960s. In the 1970s, following the decision to move the port area from the east side of the city to the west, the city began work on the first plans for the

redevelopment of the *South Bank of the IJ* (www.ijoevers.nl). The area comprises, from west to east, the *Houthavengebied*, the *Silodam*, *Westerdokseiland*, the *IJDock* on the *Westerdoksdiijk*, *Westelijk Stationseiland*, *Stationseiland*, *Oosterdokseiland* and *Oostelijke Handelskade* (completed in 1883). In other words, the planned development area runs from the Houthavens (Houthaven, opened in 1880) west of the historic heart of Amsterdam to *IJburg*.

IJburg ¹ Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*) is the newest district in the city. It lies to the east and has been under development since 2002 on a series of manmade islands in the IJsselmeer. The first new island was Steigereiland. By the end of 2015, there will be seven of them, accommodating some 50,000 residents in 18,000 new homes. The project to redevelop the banks of the IJ will restore the original visual and spatial relationship between the historic city centre and the waters of the IJ, interrupted by the construction of Central Station in the late nineteenth century.

The Amsterdam canals in the 'seventeenth-century canal ring area'

The semi-circular seventeenth-century canal system was designed for both residential and commercial use. Unlike those associated with the mediaeval city, the canals were not designed for defence. The cross-section of each canal (whether semi-circular or radial) was identical: front façade/steps, public way, row of trees (elm), quayside, canal, quayside, row of trees (elm), public way, steps/front façade.

In the seventeenth and eighteenth century, both town planning and architecture in Amsterdam were governed by symmetry, proportion and mathematical principles. Down the centuries, the building line invariably marked a sharp division between the public and the private sphere, between the street and the house or warehouse.

One of the distinctive features of the canal ring area is this dividing line between private ground and public space, where doorsteps, chains, stone or cast iron posts, perrons and kitchen annexes mark the transition from one to the other, or indeed project the private sphere into public space, offering a vigorous note of diversity in the historic street scene ².

Many features help to produce the impression of a complex historic urban landscape and architectural ensemble: the division ³ of the deliberately slightly forward-leaning façades into plinth/base (with the basement, entrance and external steps), the ground-floor, the number of upper storeys with usually vertical windows and (until the nineteenth century) progressively diminishing ceiling heights, the articulation of the front elevation by the verticality of the window embrasures (three, five or sometimes seven in the 'double' houses) and intervening masonry, the multiform gables (often surmounting the opening to the loft where merchandise was stored), the mix of houses and warehouses and the varying breadth of the buildings (between 5.60 and 8.50 metres (20/30 Amsterdam feet) for 'single' houses and 14.70 metres (52 feet) for 'double' houses).

The morphology of Amsterdam within Singelgracht

The seventeenth-century expansion of Amsterdam is regarded as the greatest feat of town planning in the Western world of that time. Right through to the nineteenth century, the city had no further need to expand beyond the boundary marked by Singelgracht.

The expansion gave the area of Amsterdam within Singelgracht its unique ground plan, which has survived to the present day: a mediaeval heart surrounded by a concentric, semi-circular set of canals connected by a web of linear parallel canals and radial transverse streets, plus the adjacent seventeenth-century 'neighbourhoods' of the *Jordaan*, *Leidsebuurt*, *Noortse Bos* (where many



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Huguenots settled after 1685) and *Utrechtsebuurt*, the former *Jodenbuurt*, home to the city's Jewish community until the Second World War. The latter originally encompassed the Jodenbreestraat, the Vlooienburg (now Waterlooplein) and, at the end of the seventeenth century, the islands of Marken and Uilenburg; at the time of the *Fourth Expansion*, wealthier Jews settled between Amstel, Rapenburgergracht (now Entrepotdok), along the new stretches of Herengracht and Keizersgracht) and on the Eastern Islands.

In the area protected by the river dykes built along the IJ, a chain of urban 'islands' was developed (around fifty in all) surrounded by manmade canals. Outside the dykes, directly beside the IJ, three more islands were created as part of the *Third Expansion* (the Western Islands of *Bickerseiland*, *Prinseneiland* and *Realeneiland*) to accommodate noisy and smelly industrial enterprises, while on the east side of the city the islands of *Kattenburg*, *Wittenburg* and *Oostenburg* were created as part of the *Fourth Expansion* to accommodate the Admiralty, private shipyards and the Dutch East India Company ¹.

The ground plan of the mediaeval heart straddling the Amstel is regular in pattern, with canals (now the 'burgwallen') alternating with streets, created by regular outward expansion from the original core of the city: Nieuwendijk, Kalverstraat and Warmoesstraat and Nes.

In the later expansions – almost always paralleling the existing pattern – moats ('burgwallen') ² of the past lost their defensive function and came to be used for drainage and navigation.

Transverse streets and alleys follow the structure and slanting pattern of the original polder divisions (established in the twelfth and thirteenth century).

The late sixteenth-century expansion shows a more regular and rational (geometrical) arrangement of streets and canals (for example, in the *Lastage* and on the islands of *Uilenburg*, *Marken*, *Rapenburg* and *Vlooienburg*, or the strip between Singel and what would later become Herengracht).

The seventeenth-century expansion areas, with their bridges, canals, houses and warehouses, exhibit precisely the combination of practical utility on the one hand and 'beauty' (*cieraet*) and prestige on the other that the city authorities envisaged.

The land on either side of Haarlemmerstraat (the name of which dates from 1593, when the Haarlemmerdijk was extended into the city to meet the Korte Prinsengracht) and Haarlemmerdijk – known as the *Haarlemmerbuurt* – was redivided at the time of the Third Expansion into a pattern of geometrical blocks.

By contrast, the ground plan of the *Jordaan* – developed as part of the same expansion – is based on the pre-existing pattern of parallel ditches and older paths and tracks (filled in to create streets or transformed into canals ³).

The three 'principal canals' (*Herengracht*, *Keizersgracht* and *Prinsengracht*) and *Lijnbaansgracht*, built parallel to Singelgracht, follow the line of the old moat of 1585. *Lijnbaansgracht* ran parallel to the fortifications and once had an almost continuous line of rope-yards beside it.

The ground plans of the three *Western Islands* (*Bickerseiland*, *Prinseneiland* and *Realeneiland*) – regular rectangles separated from each other by broad canals – 'repeated' those of the three earlier *Eastern Islands*, (*Uilenburg*, *Marken* and *Rapenburg*), created from around 1650 onwards, and that of Funen.

The economic and administrative heart of the city remained in the old mediaeval area. The semi-circular ring of canals surrounding the mediaeval core gave an impression of visual and spatial unity because of the series of generally narrow houses and warehouses, all of virtually equal height. The office blocks built in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century were deliberately matched to the dimensions and scale of

the seventeenth-century architecture and were designed to be sympathetic in style ¹. Another feature of the canal ring area is that almost no two buildings have wholly identical front elevations.

In the *Third* and *Fourth Expansions*, it was geometry – not the geography or geomorphology of the underlying landscape (water management infrastructure, hydrology and peaty soil) – that was the organising principle of the linear, mathematical ground plan of the canal ring area, with the enclosed blocks of houses inserted between canals and radial transverse streets that are still such a dominant feature of the urban fabric of Amsterdam.

In the sixteenth and seventeenth century, town planning theory was based largely on fortress-building and treatises on the '*città ideale*' (the city as a work of art and the seat of worldly and religious power). However, a second line of thought can be traced in parts of Europe under Protestant rule. This philosophy of urban planning was based on mathematical rules, geometry and symmetry, theoretical grammars of design and architecture, and conventions relating to proportional and modular systems, harmony, true beauty, artistic sense, spatial and social planning, composition, presentation and prestige. The laws of perspective and theories of proportion were the basis for the design, environmental structure and architecture of towns and cities in these Protestant areas. Accordingly, their ground plans and organisation were based on the straight line, circle, quadrant, polygon, diagonal, parallelism – the seventeenth-century Cartesian coordinate system – even where the city was thought to have metaphysical significance, as a reflection of the universe (an idea expressed in the decoration of Amsterdam's seventeenth-century Town Hall, now the Royal Palace, on Dam Square) ². In the end, it was the ever-present discrepancy between ambition and economic status, between geometrical abstraction and the needs and conditions of everyday life that determined the appearance of the seventeenth-century city (physical, spiritual, cultural and economic).

Amsterdam's canal ring area as we know it today is the result of two waves of expansion (the *Third Expansion* of 1609/10-1620 and the *Fourth Expansion* of 1656-1668) carried out within a ring of bastions in the seventeenth century (the period of Dutch history known since the eighteenth century as the 'Golden Age'). It was designed in accordance with a planned, mathematical, rational, functional and, indeed, hierarchical scheme of distinctive urban areas or 'urban landscapes' (from west to east:

Haarlemmerbuurt, the *ring of principal canals* – Herengracht, Keizersgracht and Prinsengracht – with its concentric structure and linear pattern of other canals within it, the *Jordaan*, *Leidsebuurt*, *Weteringbuurt/Noortse Bos*, *Utrechtsebuurt* and – east of the river Amstel – the *Plantage*), the design, development and lay-out of which were all intended to feature practicality ('*ten dienste*') (*firmitas*), usefulness to the city ('*tot profijte deser stede*') (*utilitas*) and beauty ('*tot cieraet*') (*venustas*).

The creation of the canal ring area was based explicitly on the Vitruvian concepts of order and proportion (*ordinatio*), arrangement (*dispositio*), grace and proportion (*eurhythmia*), symmetry (*symmetria*), decoration (*decor*) and distribution (*distributio*).

As a city affected by the recent Reformation in the United Seven Provinces and a town which grew within a few decades into a city of world standing, seventeenth-century Amsterdam united in its very fabric two different value systems: those of the 'cosmic city' and the 'mechanistic city'.

Lewis Mumford has described the plan for the canal ring area as follows,

The Plan of the Three Canals was a miracle of spaciousness, compactness, intelligible order. It accepted all that was valid in baroque planning, with just sufficient variation in the individual units, combined with the rich tracery of trees bordering the canals, to take the curse off the military regimentation of baroque classicism' (The City in History (Harmondsworth, 1966), p. 504).

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Since Amsterdam lies below sea level, it must have a system of canals and drainage channels. Its waves of urban expansion in the seventeenth century were determined partly by practical and military considerations, partly by considerations of presentation, prestige and profit, but also partly by a particular idea of beauty (*venustas*). The waves of expansion reflected economic growth and immigration.

The toolbox for the two distinctive seventeenth-century urban expansions (the *Third* and *Fourth Expansion*) surrounding the late-mediaeval urban heart of Amsterdam were the contemporary knowledge of surveying, civil engineering and the construction of military defences ('fortification theory'). Two schemes come together in the expansions: the radial fortified town of Daniel Speckle (*Architectura von Vestungen*, 1589) and the orthogonal trading city of Simon Stevin (1548-1620) (*De Stercktenbouwing* (1594), *Materiae politicae, burgherlicke stoffen*, 1650, ed. Hendrick Stevin). They comply with the classical ideal of the 'broken concentric rings of the radial city' and the paradigm of the 'ideal city' ('volcomen stadt').

The ring of bastions surrounding the city and its canals was determined both by the regular polygonal military field of fire and by the natural curve of the river bend at this point. The rectangles within the ring of canals with its intervening residential blocks fan out around this bend and around the mediaeval heart of the city. The canal ring system links these various blocks by means of obtuse angles. The main axis of the city is therefore the river Amstel ¹. The plots of land in the mediaeval city centre were arranged at right angles to it and the boundary ditches eventually turned into transverse streets and alleys.

There is a striking difference between the pattern of streets and alleys on the western side of the mediaeval town and that on the eastern side. On the western side, Nieuwe Zijde, the pattern is regular; on the eastern side, it consists of a string of separate 'islands'. A distinctive feature of Oude Zijde is the existence of wide, parallel urban spaces running north-south and marking the location of earlier canals and moats ('*burgwallen*'), with a dense network of alleys, lanes and dykes running east-west between them. Today's Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Achterburgwal still preserve the atmosphere of the fifteenth-century merchant community, as does the sixteenth-century area by the Groenburgwal and the Lastage (the early fifteenth-century port area in which shipyards, rope-yards, warehouses etc., were arranged around a natural river creek on the eastern edge of the mediaeval town).

The canals in the mediaeval heart are different from those in the seventeenth-century expansion areas. Since the mediaeval canals were dug for defensive purposes, they are asymmetrical in cross-section with an outer side and an inner side. By contrast, the seventeenth-century canals always had a symmetrical cross-section composed of buildings, street, canal, street and buildings.

Unlike large-scale urban development projects in other European countries – for example, Sweden (Kristianstad, 1614, founded by Christian IV of Denmark (1588-1648)), France (Versailles, begun 1682), Russia (St Petersburg, begun 1703) – the two successive waves of urban expansion in Amsterdam were not inspired or determined by the state or ecclesiastical ideology of any royal house or church. They were driven by the pragmatic, mechanistic 'ideology of the city' of Protestant burghers – regents, investors and merchants – acting in their role of governing patricians, and by their vision of Amsterdam's 'cosmic' position and significance within the world as they knew it (as illustrated by the iconography of the Town Hall on Dam Square, at the time of its construction (1648-1697) the greatest public building in Europe).

The seventeenth-century expansion of Amsterdam is the example *par excellence* of bourgeois baroque urban development within a Protestant community. As such, it contrasts with town planning schemes undertaken in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries by worldly or spiritual rulers, where the *trivium* of wide avenues was the organising principle (e.g. Rome's Popolo *trivium*, the Piazza del Popolo, and Banchi *trivium*, Via de' Banchi; Versailles; St Petersburg).

Unlike London, Paris, Vienna and Berlin, Amsterdam retained its mediaeval heart even when the city expanded in the seventeenth century. That expansion occupies a unique place in the international history of town planning. It influenced the planning of new towns and urban expansions elsewhere (for example, New Amsterdam/New York; St Petersburg; Punda/Willemstad).

In his *The city shaped. Urban Patterns and Meanings Through History* (London, 1991), Spiro Kostof (Professor of Architectural History at the University of California, Berkeley), writes,

Amsterdam is a special case. This great northern port, which always exercised a remarkable element of public control over city-form, borrowed the best of the 'organic' system and the grid, to ensure a rational, long-range development... ..The 1607 plan simply took the canals that then formed the city's edge, and retraced them in three encircling canals across empty land.....Each of these canals was to serve as the new city edge during successive enlargements of the urban core.....The narrow strips between the canals were gridded, but because of their concentric disposition a good proportion of the blocks were trapezoidal. The city itself decided the position of the three canals, but the development between them and the new walls beyond was left to private enterprise..... (p. 136).

Amsterdam within Singelgracht – construction and architecture

In bourgeois domestic architecture, expression was confined to the front elevation of the house and the way it was arranged. This evolved only slowly over time.

Around the middle of the seventeenth century, the width of houses was usually 20 to 30 Amsterdam feet. They had one or two upper floors and normally cellars (used on the street side for storing merchandise and often let for this purpose) and a loft. The ground floor and the floor above it accommodated living quarters and working areas.

On the ground floor was the working area, consisting of several rooms known as the *voorhuis* and a side-room known as the *comptoir* (office); behind the *voorhuis* lay the living quarters, sometimes a large parlour looking out onto a small courtyard that served as a light shaft and separated the *voorhuis* from the rooms at the rear of the house (*achterhuis*), with kitchens, bedrooms, sometimes a large *salon* (*saal*) with other living quarters on the floor above them, and up there storage and drying laundry. Fuel was stored right at the top of the house, in the roof space.

Any lofts for storing merchandise were relatively low-ceilinged and goods were hoisted in and out of them via an opening with double doors or shutters in the middle of the façade. In the seventeenth century, it became common for houses to have a residential basement, a ground floor with an entresol and upper floors, as can still be seen from the façades of many buildings all over the relevant parts of the city.

Because the brick walls were thin, the façades could not be elaborate but they could be given individuality by the timber mouldings around the windows and by decorative stonework. For more than a century, it was customary to enliven the front elevation with inserted stone blocks or bands. The façades were also topped by decorative gables, stepped gables initially being the most common (sixteenth-century) ¹.





The *stepped gable* with cross-casement windows is the earliest type of brick façade, later followed by the *neck gable*. The brick *bell-shaped gable*, accentuated by a narrow border of stone and sometimes an eye-catching decorated crest is also common, while the *straight gable* is found mainly on warehouse façades.

In the second half of the seventeenth century the 'double' canal-houses also started to flaunt *cornice gables*, sometimes with balustrades. In the eighteenth century, extra storeys are sometimes simulated under the cornice ¹.

In the early seventeenth century, the structure and appearance of buildings were dictated primarily by the actions of the carpenter, bricklayer or stonemason. At the beginning of the century, the emphasis in architecture was on enlivening and articulating buildings by means of sculpted stone decoration on the façades ² or portals or by introducing decorative fireplaces and chimney breasts in the interior.

In the second decade of the century, the influence of Palladio and Scamozzi started to make itself felt. Architectural design was moving in the direction of Dutch Classicism – a distinctive branch of international Classicism that developed in Amsterdam ³.

In Dutch Classicism, the master builder became an architect and building became an art rather than a craft.

The emphasis in the more prestigious types of building was on 'age', 'truth' and 'dignity'. 'Age' refers to earlier examples, from the Bible and Antiquity. 'Truth' relates to mathematical principles, which also apply to the understanding of heaven and earth, with 'beauty' being seen as the result of the harmony created by correct proportions. 'Dignity' relates to public esteem. Architecture and building design were governed by mathematical rules governing, for example, the achievement of correct proportions through the right sequence of the five classical orders.

This form of seventeenth-century architectural Classicism is found in public buildings like the Town Hall on Dam Square (now the Royal Palace) and in the houses and mansions commissioned by regents, patricians and merchants (Kloveniersburgwal 95, 1642; Trippenhuis, Kloveniersburgwal 27, 1660/62) ⁴.

Seventeenth-century Amsterdam had a municipal building department ('*stadsfabriek*'). Artisans could rise to the position of master builder/architect. The classics were analysed as sources of 'true architecture', then interpreted and converted into a distinctive local idiom. Private contractors were involved in the Amsterdam building industry and surveyors played a part in both urban expansions, for example marking out the gridded pattern of building plots.

Between 1720 and 1750, the main impact on the architecture of Amsterdam came from the French-influenced ideas of artisans and contractors. The architecture of the 'seventeenth-century' canal ring area as we see it today is in fact largely the result of the way the façades of the buildings were modified, updated or rebuilt in more fashionable styles in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Behind those façades, the seventeenth-century structure of the houses tended to remain unchanged, although the interiors were modernised in line with changing tastes and fashions.

In Amsterdam, perhaps more than elsewhere, it was the clients with their lay interest in architectural theory and the craftsmen themselves who interpreted descriptions and illustrations of foreign examples to produce new architectural designs. The design was then implemented by building contractors and the tradesmen they employed (carpenters and bricklayers), and by artists, draughtsmen (*dessinateurs*) and sculptors.

Whereas in the seventeenth century canal-side houses had frequently had an additional business use or uses, in the eighteenth century they were used purely for residing in and for entertaining. Rooms increasingly acquired a specific designation (parlour, art gallery, smoking room or ballroom). Floor plans and interiors were carefully 'orchestrated' from the moment of entry (vestibule, with sculpture, ornamental stucco or paintings; a wide passageway with a marble floor ¹ copyright BMA walls adorned with stucco work, rhythmically divided into panels or by the – real or imitation – doorways and the ceiling) to the main reception room, stairwell (with or without skylight), and other elegant reception rooms with ornamental chimneypieces, double doors, panelling, wall-mounted mirrors, painted wallpapers ² copyright BMA, gilded leather or plush wall coverings, grisailles and sometimes ceiling paintings ³ copyright BMA. The seventeenth-century canal-side mansion built by a merchant or regent became a tradition observed throughout the next two centuries.

The eighteenth-century interior was especially luxurious ⁴ copyright BMA. Ideally, it constituted a single architectural and decorative entity. The rafters were concealed behind stucco ceilings. Corridors and stairwells were designed with perspective in mind. Ornamental stucco was widely used on the vestibule walls and ceiling, in the passageways and stairwells (with or without skylights), and in the principal apartments. Stucco – sometimes in the form of allegorical or secular scenes – also features over doors, as *dessus de portes*, and on chimney breasts. In the eighteenth century, passageways and stairwells were, wherever possible, arranged symmetrically, if necessary using fake doorways to achieve a mirror image. The passageway would have a pale marble floor and wall-panelling, above which the stucco work was divided into panels or by blind niches.

Interiors of the late seventeenth and eighteenth centuries (especially during the third quarter of the latter) frequently featured separate 'painted hangings' of paper or canvas, sometimes referred to as 'painted mats' (*geschilderde tapijten*). These disappeared in the second quarter of the nineteenth century.

Amsterdam within Singelgracht in words, maps and pictures

Ever since the beginning of the sixteenth century, there has been a constant flow of written descriptions (Appendix 'Historians of Amsterdam/Amsterdam in accounts (*Beschryvinghen*) and Guidebooks), maps and pictures of old Amsterdam (within Singelgracht) (Appendix 'Maps of Amsterdam').

These can be used to trace the development of the city and its buildings over time. Cityscape paintings, with topographic and iconographic themes, were regarded as expressions of civic pride and sense of community.

Down the centuries, until the early twentieth century, the main emphasis was on topography, followed by images of the city (in the form of drawings, prints, oils or water colours) in the eyes of some artist (foreign artists who portrayed Amsterdam in this way included Claude Oscar Monet (1840-1926), Maxine Lalanne (1822-1886) and Auguste Lepère (1849-1918) from France, Max Liebermann (1847-1935) from Germany, the American James McNeill Whistler (1834-1903), and Sir Francis Seymour Haden (1818-1910) from Britain). Later, similar records of the city were made by Dutch photographers like Pieter Oosterhuis (1816-1885), who took stereoscopic pictures of Amsterdam between 1857 and 1865, Jacob Olie (1834-1905), the painter/photographer George Hendrik Breitner (1857-1923) and Bernard F. Eilers (1878-1951).

In the seventeenth century, cityscape painting became a distinct specialism of artists in Amsterdam, Haarlem and Delft, with great emphasis being placed on topographical precision. In the late nineteenth



century, artists like George Hendrik Breitner (1857-1923) and Isaac Israëls (1865-1934) produced more impressionistic paintings intended to convey the picturesque atmosphere and character of the city and its street scenes.

By the early twentieth century, foreign art historians were becoming interested in Dutch cityscape painting of the second half of the seventeenth century (Rolf Fritz, *Das Stadt- und Strassenbild in der holländischen Malerei des 17. Jahrhunderts*. Berlin (1932), later followed by W. Stechow's *Dutch Landscape Painting of the Seventeenth Century*. London, 1966).

Seventeenth-century artists who painted Amsterdam cityscapes include, for example, Gerrit Adriaenszoon Berckheyde (1638-1698), Jan van der Heyden (1637-1712), Hendrick Vroom (circa 1563-1640), Reinier Nooms (1623-1667/68), Ludolf Bakhuizen (1631-1708), Jacobus Storck (who worked in Amsterdam between 1660 and 1680) and Jacob van Ruisdael (1628/29-1672).

Amsterdam is described in innumerable historical travel books and journals. There were guidebooks to introduce visitors and tourists to the city and help them understand its treasures (Appendix 'Historians of Amsterdam/Amsterdam in Accounts (*Beschryvinghen*) and Guidebooks'). For example, the French artist and writer Eugène Fromentin (1820-1876) visited the Netherlands and other countries in 1875 and wrote articles about his experiences in the *Revue des deux mondes* under the heading 'Les maîtres d'autrefois'. In the course of his quest to discover the surroundings in which the Dutch Old Masters once painted and sought inspiration, he described the picturesque views of the city in his own day. Earlier accounts by travellers include one by Jean-Nicolaas de Parival (1605-1669) called *Les délices de la Hollande* (1651), translated into Dutch in 1661 as *De vermaeckelijckheden van Holland*. It went through at least 15 editions by the middle of the eighteenth century. Or one by Sir William Temple (1628-1699) called *Observations upon the United Provinces of the Netherlands* (1673). Another of great historical importance is the *Descrittione di tutti i Paesi Bassi* (1567) by Ludovico Guicciardini (1521-1589). Descriptions of the city have continued to be published right down to the present day.

Amsterdam – the historic city centre of Amsterdam within Singelgracht

Since the late nineteenth century the old centre of Amsterdam has been cherished as a 'historic city centre'. It comprises the whole area within Singelgracht as protected townscape: the mediaeval heart that once lay inside the old moat or 'Vest' (now known as Singel, which continues east of the Amstel as Kloveniersburgwal and Geldersekade), the seventeenth-century *canal ring area*, and the *Jordaan*, *Leidsebuurt*, *Weteringbuurt* (*Noortse Bos*) and *Utrechtsebuurt*. It covers a total area of about 8 km² (approx. 800 ha).

Interest in the picturesque, historic townscape developed in Amsterdam during the closing decades of the nineteenth century. Its emergence was due in part to the influence of foreign visitors and residents, such as Frenchman Henri Havard (1838-1921), a merchant and art critic who wrote a number of books on the Netherlands (*La Hollande Pittoresque: Voyage aux villes du Zuyderzee*, 1874; *La Hollande Pittoresque-les frontieres menacées*, Paris, 1876; *Amsterdam et Venise*, 1876; and *Les Capitales du Monde*, Paris, 1892). He wandered around Amsterdam with the painter Claude Monet (1840-1926) and in his book *Amsterdam et Venise* explicitly compared Amsterdam with Venice. The American-born artist James McNeill Whistler (1834-1903) likewise produced etchings inspired by the picturesque street scenes in the Jordaan and elsewhere in the old city centre.

Foreign architects also visited the city in search of inspiration (Richard Norman Shaw (1831-1913), 'Dutch Gables', Cadogan Square, London (Chelsea), 1881; Sir Ernest George (1839-1922); Harold Peto

meer lijdelijke schuld, maar de lessen die men uit deze dingen had kunnen trekken, de lessen, door de aanplemping van het schoone Y gepredikt, droegen allermint vrucht, het wegmoffelen van de scheepvaartbelangen is meedogenloos doorgevoerd, en bijna al wat er in Amsterdam in de laatste twintig jaar bedorven en geschonden is, bleef het konsekwente uitvloeiSEL van die ééne magistrale fout. O, dat prachtige open Y van vroeger!

... hadden wij 't in ons behoed genomen.

„Het waer met Amsterdam zoo verre noit gekomen!“

Het Damrak en de N. Z. Voorburgwal moesten nu dadelijk mede boeten. Er behoorden grootsteedsche avenues geschapen te worden; langs die smalle waterkanten mocht men immers de aanstroomende vreemdelingen de wereldstad niet laten binnendringen — dat kon een kind begrijpen! Wat het dempen van den N. Z. Achterburgwal, de tegenwoordige fatale Spuistraat, toen reeds ter maning aanbod, werd wonderlijk genoeg, geheel voorbijgezien. De N. Z. Voorburgwal lag dus, in 1883, aan de beurt; dat ook toen reeds het Oudheidk. Genootschap zich per adres bij den Raad beklagde, bleef zonder eenige gevolgen.

Breed is de ontstane avenue ongetwijfeld geworden. Leelijk, omdat die bij de kantige kaden van een echte Amsterdamsche gracht passende teekenachtige huizen, op de leegte breedte van de geforceerde straat platgeslagen leken, en elkaar nog altijd als versuft staan aan te kijken — ongelooflijk leelijk werd zij eveneens. Maar om het even, er was een avenue geschapen, de drommen, die van het Centraal-Station kwamen binnen-



(1854-1933), Harrington and Collingham Gardens, London (Kensington)). Ludwig Willem Reymert Wenckebach (1868-1937) popularised the historic city centre in 1907 by producing a series of 100 townscapes of old Amsterdam as a free gift for new subscribers to a daily newspaper *Herengracht/Spiegelgracht*, Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*)).

Amsterdam within Singelgracht – an ‘urban landscape’ celebrated worldwide

In the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, there was much debate about the possibility of improving access to the city centre by filling in canals, widening streets (Nieuwe Spiegelstraat, Leidsestraat and Utrechtsestraat) and carrying out selective demolition (Raadhuisstraat, 1896; Vijzelstraat, 1907). The turning-point was the 1901-1907 battle over the proposal to fill in Reguliersgracht. The word ‘desecration’ was used (*Stedenschennis*, D.C. Meyer and Jan Veth. Koninklijk Oudheidkundig Genootschap, Amsterdam, 1901) [1 previous page](#) Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*)), just as writer J.A. Alberdingk Thijm (1820-1899) had employed the word ‘vandalism’ in his writings about the historic city centre in the period between 1847 and 1866. The Reguliersgracht was saved.

Interest in the historic city centre continued to grow in the twentieth century. In 1911, the new municipal building bye-law referred to the aesthetic appearance of areas of the city and ‘the ideal right of the community to visual harmony in its surroundings’. In the same year, an unofficial committee of members of antiquarian societies interested in urban aesthetics (*Commissie voor het Stadsschoon*) began work. It had been set up on the initiative of the Amstelodamum historical society and its secretary was architect Jan de Meijer (1878-1950), an expert in building restoration. These moves were followed in 1915 by the appointment of an aesthetic control committee (*Schoonheidscommissie*) under the Housing Act (*Woningwet*) of 1901, which provided for building regulations and expansion plans to be adopted, slums to be designated as unfit for human habitation and new house building to be subsidised by the state. The two committees were to merge in 1924.

The demolition in 1918 of two houses (on the corner of Keizersgracht and Westermarkt) designed by the seventeenth-century architect Hendrick de Keyser (1565-1621) prompted the establishment of the Hendrick de Keyser Association (*Vereniging Hendrick de Keyser*).

The first municipal bye-law on historic buildings was adopted in 1927 and entered into force on 27 March 1928 (*Verordening tot behoud van monumenten in de gemeente Amsterdam*. 9 December 1927. Gemeentebblad, part 3, no. 34). The first objective was to draw up a list of historic buildings in need of protection (draft list completed in 1932). The basis was a provisional nationwide list of buildings of historical and artistic interest produced by central government in 1928 (*Voorlopige Lijst der Nederlandsche monumenten van geschiedenis en kunst*. Afdeling A der Rijkscommissie voor de Monumentenzorg. The Hague, 1928). Volume V of this offered a list of 4,000 buildings in Amsterdam, including a number of (mainly seventeenth-century) buildings on Singel, Herengracht and Keizersgracht. A statutory measure introduced in 1940 gave the buildings on the provisional nationwide list legal protection. In response to this approach, a number of voices were raised stressing the need to concentrate more on the importance of the block – rather than the individual historic canal-side house – to the historic townscape.

The municipal bye-law on historic buildings prohibited not just demolition and modification, but also maintenance and restoration work, without the consent of the municipal executive. The executive was advised in this respect by the aesthetic control committee. The municipality thought in terms of the

'soul' or 'atmosphere' of the city, seeing the seventeenth-century Golden Age street scene as the ideal. Houses were restored to what was presumed to have been their appearance in the Golden Age (for example, three 1642 houses on Bloemgracht, restored at this period by architect Jan de Meijer). A feature of the policy was the re-use of sculpted gable elements from demolished structures in new buildings (what are now called Van Houten buildings, see section 4a). The practice of re-cycling architectural styles of the past in new buildings was also popular.

Amsterdam within Singelgracht – a protected conservation area

At the end of the twentieth century (1999), the historic city centre within Singelgracht was designated as a conservation area under section 35 of the Dutch Monuments and Historic Buildings Act (*Monumentenwet*) 1988. This provided an extra layer of protection for the thousands of historic buildings there listed by central government and the hundreds listed by the municipality.

In its explanation (*Toelichting*) of the reasons for designation, central government writes as follows concerning the features in need of protection,

.....the various stages of construction are still apparent in the present spatial structure. The historic spatial structure of the area, still surviving virtually in its entirety, is recognisable by the planned and, in comparison with the mediaeval city, spacious and large-scale appearance of watercourses, streets and blocks of buildings the historic value of the townscape is still very great The trees lining the quays on each side of the canals are a dominant element in the structure of the canal cross-section and in the townscape. The building façades, with their flights of steps, often of stone, are a distinctive feature in the cross-section The more or less crescent-shaped course of the canals creates short sightlines, giving them a private and closed-in feel, despite their often wide cross-section'.

In the section on the legal consequences of designation, it writes,

.....The purpose of designation is to recognise the distinctive, historically significant structure and spatial quality of the area as a major consideration in any further development within the area. In that respect, the designation is intended to provide a basis for a form of spatial development which responds to, exploits and complements the existing qualities of the area.

Amsterdam within Singelgracht – a summary of features

- ⌘ The development of today's historic city centre within Singelgracht, whose patron saint was once St. Nicholas, can be subdivided into the story of 'Amsterdam as a mediaeval town' and the development of the 'world city' of the seventeenth century.

The history of Amsterdam, which evolved from the sixteenth century into an international trading port and hub of international shipping, is also sometimes subdivided into that of the 'market town' (1000-1600), 'international trading centre' (1600-1800), 'capital city' (1800-1900), 'industrial city' (1900-1960) and 'service industry centre' (1960-2000). Another feature of Amsterdam down the centuries has been the cultural and multicultural diversity of its population.

- ⌘ In 2007, the Committee for the Development of the Dutch Canon presented the official *Canon of the Netherlands*: a chart with 50 'windows' and texts presenting an outline of Dutch history. Amsterdam features in no less than twelve of them, illustrating its important place in the history of the country.

One of the 'windows' is entitled 'The Canal Ring. Urban expansion in the seventeenth century'. There are also 'windows' for the Beemster Polder, the Dutch East India Company (VOC), Rembrandt, Blaeu's Atlas Major, Baruch Spinoza, etc. (www.entoen.nu).

⋮ In September 2008, Amsterdam issued its own Canon, presenting the history of the city in 50 'windows'. Once again, the canal ring is included (<http://www.canonvanamsterdam.nl/vensters>), together with other related features of the city's seventeenth-century history: the Dutch East India Company (VOC), the Exchange Bank, the Canal Ring, the Westerkerk, Athenaeum Illustre ¹, Rembrandt's Night Watch (Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam), the former Town Hall on Dam Square (now the Royal Palace), publishing house Blaeu, the German and Portuguese Synagogues ² and the Suriname Society.

⋮ In the sixteenth century, Amsterdam was already intensively engaged in trade and shipping with the Baltic. It supplanted Venice as the leading trading power in the Mediterranean. Within the Dutch East India Company (VOC) – a federation of six regional chambers in the provinces of Holland and Zeeland, to which in 1602 the Republic granted a monopoly of trade in Asia – the Amsterdam Chamber held a majority of seats in the executive (*Heren XVII*) ³. Amsterdam also had a majority on the board (*Heren XIX*) of the later Dutch West India Company (*Verenigde West-Indische Compagnie* or *WIC*), founded in 1621 (Appendix 'The Dutch East and West India Companies'). In the course of the seventeenth century, the Republic of the United Provinces became a global economic power, which dominated world trade for decades.

The Dutch East India Company (VOC) is regarded as the first ever multinational, the 'world's first large joint-stock company'. Right through to the end of the eighteenth century, it conducted an intensive maritime trade both within Asia and between Asia and Europe. The Company also constituted a 'cultural route': the most important channel for two-way cultural, artistic and scientific influence and exchange between the two continents. In Amsterdam, Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-1669) painted the portraits of numerous directors of the VOC.

In 2003, the VOC archives (*Archives of the Dutch East India Company*) were included in UNESCO's *Memory of the World Register* after being recommended by India, Indonesia, South Africa, Sri Lanka and the Netherlands.

⋮ The name 'Amsterdam' is (or was) used in many other parts of the world to designate historic forts and trading posts, islands and plantations (Appendix 'Amsterdam elsewhere in the world').

⋮ Amsterdam's international trade in the seventeenth century led to the establishment of international financial institutions, as well as to the construction of shipyards and hundreds of brick-built warehouses all over the city and along the canals.

⋮ The Republic's expanding world trade in the seventeenth century attracted mapmakers and publishers to Amsterdam. They came to map the new regions and seas discovered during the search for shorter, faster routes to the Indies and to help in the further exploration of the globe. Among these cartographers was Willem Janszoon Blaeu (1571-1638), later succeeded by his son Joan (1596-1673). Maps published by their company are depicted in various paintings by Johannes Vermeer, such as 'Officer and Laughing Girl' (1665/1660, Frick Collection, New York) and 'The Geographer' (1669(?), Städelsches Museum, Frankfurt).





∴ From the sixteenth century, the city had an international reputation for offering refuge to philosophers, writers and publishers. Thinkers unable to live or publish in their own countries – writers like John Milton (1608-1674) and Sir Thomas Browne (1605-1682) from England, and philosophers like Baruch Spinoza (1632-1677) and René Descartes (1596-1650) – turned to Amsterdam printers and booksellers to get their work issued. Major works published in the city included: the 1735 *Systema Naturae*, written by the Swedish scholar Carolus Linnaeus (1707-1778), who had come to the Republic from Rome in 1734; the 1655 *Museum Wormianum (Musei Wormiani Historia)* by the Dane Ole Worm (Olaus Wormius) (1588-1655); and musical works by various Italian composers, such as Pietro Antonio Locatelli (1695-1764), Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741) and Tommaso Albinoni (1671-1750).

∴ Many artists came to work in Amsterdam, helping greatly to expand the international trade in Dutch paintings. The Amsterdam artists set a trend with their cityscapes, militia paintings (group portraits of members of the civic guard), portraits of the governors of charitable institutions or leaders of craft guilds, 'anatomy lessons' and marine paintings. Before Rembrandt there was a school of history painters and Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-1669) ¹ himself worked in the city from around 1630 to the end of his life. All over the world, museums and private collections regard seventeenth-century paintings from the Northern Netherlands as some of their greatest treasures.

Painters who worked in Amsterdam during this period included Hendrick Corneliszoon Vroom (circa 1566-1640) (maritime subjects), Roelant Savery (1576-1639) (mythological landscapes), Hendrick Avercamp (1585-1634) (winter landscapes), Bartholomeus van der Helst (1613-1670) (militia paintings), Ferdinand Bol (1616-1680) (portraits), Emanuel de Witte (1616/18-1692) (interiors), Willem Kalf (1619-1693) (still lifes), Jacob van Ruisdael (1628/29-1682) (landscapes), Gabriël Metsu (1629-1667) (genre paintings) and Pieter de Hooch (1629-1694) (interiors).

Printmaking was also important. The topography of Amsterdam featured in more prints than that of any other city apart from Rome, while the cityscape of St Petersburg – whose design, ground plan and construction by Czar Peter the Great from 1703 on was directly influenced by the seventeenth-century expansions of Amsterdam – was represented in prints showing its cross-section, panoramas and street plan in exactly the same way.

∴ Thanks to the intensive Baltic trade sustained by the province of Holland and Amsterdam in particular, seventeenth-century Dutch Classicism influenced architecture in that region of north-eastern Europe.

Various examples can be cited. Justus Vingboons (1620/21-1698) designed the Riddarhus in Stockholm in 1653-1656), Peter Willer worked in Danzig (Gdansk) in the second half of the seventeenth century and Louis de Geer (1587-1652) built his influential home (Götgatan 16, Stockholm) in 1643/46 in accordance with the architectural grammar of Dutch Classicism. Twenty years later (starting in 1668), Louis de Geer the younger (1622-1695) is thought to have built his country house Finspong, north of Stockholm, to a design by the Amsterdam-based architect Adriaen Dortsman (circa 1635-1682). Following the building of De Geer's house, other Dutch Classical edifices appeared in Stockholm, designed by Nicodemus Tessin the Elder (1615-1681). Drawn by the economic prosperity of Sweden, various people emigrated there from the Dutch Republic and settled in Söderalm, where they had their houses built in Classical style.

Architecture in England was also influenced. Examples include Hugh May's Eltham Lodge (1633/34) (Eltham, Kent) and the architecture of Robert Hooke (1635-1703). In 1666, following the Great Fire of London, Hooke designed a new grid-based ground plan for the rebuilding of the city. He also worked with Sir Christopher Wren (1632-1723) on his French-based reconstruction of London. English interest in Dutch seventeenth-century architecture proved enduring, as can be seen from the illustrations of Dutch gables in Sydney R. Jones, *Old Houses in Holland* (1913).

Seventeenth-century churches and towers by Hendrick de Keyser (1565-1621) (architect of Amsterdam's Noorderkerk, Zuiderkerk and Westerkerk) and the designs of Jacob van Campen (1595-1657) (*Coymans House*, Keizersgracht 177 ¹, and the Town Hall on Dam Square) influenced Wren's architecture. Moreover, the Englishman Nicholas Stone (1586/87-1647), who worked under Hendrick de Keyser and adopted his procedures, was later appointed master-mason by Inigo Jones (1573-1652) for the building of the Banqueting House (1619/22, Whitehall, London) and was involved in the creation of the portico of St Paul's Cathedral (1634/42).

∴ The development, appearance and grandeur of seventeenth-century Amsterdam was not the result of the efforts or influence of any court, aristocracy or church. It was the bourgeoisie – merchants, regents and patricians – who, governing Amsterdam's affairs on the basis of an 'ideology of the city' and 'urban politics', expanded the city and spread its reputation overseas, all over the known world of their time. Amsterdam's historic buildings are examples of bourgeois architecture and are generally the product of the skills of generations of tradesmen (carpenters and building contractors). The Amsterdam they created is a city of town houses (merchant homes and patrician mansions), warehouses, charitable institutions (almshouses and social care institutions), plus a scattering of seventeenth-century Protestant churches, and – most of all – a complex of tree-lined canals and bridges (more than 250 in the historic city centre, the oldest of them – bridge no. 9, the Torensluis – still surviving from the seventeenth century) ².

The historic city centre is built on some 90 'islands', separated from each other by around 100 kilometres of canals and linked by bridges. In 1850, the city centre was divided into 50 neighbourhoods, each designated by a letter; it had 12 squares, 700 officially named streets and alleys and 70 canals. The total combined length of the principal canals (Singel, Herengracht, Keizersgracht and Prinsengracht) is almost 13 kilometres. Their average depth is 2.40 metres and their average width 27 metres, plus an 11-metre-wide quay on each side.

∴ Within Singelgracht there are few open spaces in the form of squares. Dam Square was known until around 1550 simply as 'die Plaetse' ('the Square') because it was adjacent to the actual dam in the Amstel; it was the main forum for the city administration (Town Hall), the church (Nieuwe Kerk) ³ and trade (the Weigh House, demolished in the nineteenth century). Leidseplein, by the former Leidsepoort gate, was once – like Haarlemmerplein and Frederiksplein – on the outskirts of the city; it was used as a wagon park, because until the nineteenth century farmers were not allowed to take their carts further into the city. Rembrandtplein, by the former Regulierspoort gate, is also a former wagon park; Nieuwmarkt originated as a marketplace after the St Antoniespoort lost its dual role as a gate and fortification in 1614. Westermarkt and Noordermarkt are associated with seventeenth-century churches, the Westerkerk and Noorderkerk respectively, Amstelveld with a seventeenth-century wooden church and Herenmarkt with the headquarters of the Dutch West India Company (WIC).

∴ With the exception of the former Town Hall on Dam Square (now the Royal Palace), there are no vast palaces built to impress by reason of their size and grandeur. The most impressive buildings in terms of size, scale and architecture are a number of (generally seventeenth-century) churches and some former social care institutions (such as orphanages and old people's homes) dating from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

After 1664, various wealthy regents, merchants and directors of the Dutch East India Company (VOC) built 'double' houses (houses built on two adjacent plots) beside certain canals, particularly Herengracht (the 'Golden Bend', by Spiegelstraat) ⁴, Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*).

Amsterdam's seventeenth-century canal ring area within Singelgracht



⋮ What is now described as the 'seventeenth-century canal ring' is not the result of a single overall design or predetermined plan. Little survives of the original drawings. Other than the records of decision-making by the city administration, there is no surviving written evidence of what happened.

Using contemporary street plans – (Johannes Isacius Pontanus, *Rerum et urbis Amstelodamensium historia* 1611), *Handvesten [en] Privilegien.....der Stadt Aemstelredam* (1613) and Pontanus, *Historische Beschrijvinghe der seer wijt beroemde Coopstadt Amsterdam* (1614) – and sources preserved in the Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*), it is possible to gain some impression of successive changes in plans for the construction of new fortifications, projects for digging canals, the intended distribution of buildings between the canals and plans for the radial streets connecting the canals and for the pattern of the *Jordaan* to the west and other neighbourhoods to be developed within today's Singelgracht (the *Leidsebuurt*, the *Weteringbuurt* or '*Noortse Bos*' and the *Utrechtsebuurt*).

The reasons why Amsterdam acquired its distinctive crescent shape in the seventeenth century (with its concentric rings of parallel canals connected by radial canals and side-streets) were both military and logistical: it was vital for the expansion areas to have easy access to the city's main artery, the waters of the IJ.

The city did not expand gradually outwards but sprang suddenly outside its bounds in the seventeenth century, creating new spatial structures (the linear pattern of canals and originally narrow building plots at right angles to them) with no direct visual connection or spatial relationship with its mediaeval heart.

The seventeenth-century expansions were long believed to have sprung from a single stroke of genius. Research and developing understanding have revealed, however, that there was no overall plan; rather, there was a succession of plans, modifications and step-by-step implementations over time, inspired by economic and political conditions, aspirations and ideas, which in the end produced the unique historic townscape that we call the 'seventeenth-century canal ring area'.

⋮ The principles underlying this great seventeenth-century urban expansion area, unparalleled anywhere else in the Western world of its time, were practicality (*firmitas*), usefulness to the city (*utilitas*) and beauty (*venustas*).

The construction of the canal ring area was based on the Vitruvian concepts of order (*ordinatio*), arrangement (*dispositio*), proportion (*eurythmia*), symmetry (*symmetria*), decoration (*decor*) and distribution (*distributio*).

⋮ The series of almost 4,000 listed buildings – houses and warehouses, churches, charitable institutions and almshouses – and hundreds of historic bridges within the '*property*' show great architectural diversity. The '*property*' is surrounded by a 'buffer zone', which likewise contains almost 4,000 listed buildings. Together, they form the conservation area of 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht' which was designated in 1999 by central government under the Dutch Monuments Act 1988.

3

JUSTIFICATION FOR INSCRIPTION

3.a Criteria under which inscription is proposed (and justification for inscription under these criteria)

Criterion (i) 'to represent a masterpiece of human creative genius'

The urban areas created during the seventeenth-century expansions of Amsterdam were invariably planned, geometrical in ground plan, and functional in purpose and use. They were commissioned by the merchants, investors, regents and patricians who made up the government of the city. This was in the hands of burghers: merchants and interrelated 'regent' families in which successive generations were constantly co-opted to membership of the city council or *vroedschap*.

The government of the city determined the nature, size and layout of each of the expansion areas and the apportionment of building land within it. The expansions followed periods of economic growth and immigration.

Amsterdam was able to undertake such large urban expansions because of its advanced contemporary knowledge of surveying, civil engineering, hydraulic engineering and construction techniques. Its practice of town planning was based on mathematics, knowledge of architectural treatises, fortification theory, and thinking about the '*città ideale*' (ideal city).

The successive waves of urban expansion in seventeenth-century Amsterdam were inspired partly by practical and military considerations and partly by considerations of presentation, prestige and profit, but also partly by the desire for effectiveness, efficiency and beauty. The design, development and layout of the expansion areas were intended to exhibit practicality ('ten dienste', *firmitas*), usefulness to the city ('tot profijjt deser stede', *utilitas*) and beauty ('tot cieraet', *venustas*).

The creation of the canal ring area was based explicitly on the Vitruvian concepts of order and proportion (*ordinatio*), arrangement (*dispositio*), grace and proportion (*eurythmia*), symmetry (*symmetria*), decoration (*decor*) and distribution (*distributio*).

The expansions unite two different models: the radial fortified town of Daniel Speckle (*Architectura von Vestungen*, 1589) and the orthogonal, gridded trading city of Simon Stevin (*De Stercktenbouwing* (1594), *Materiae politicae, burgherlicke stoffen*, 1650, ed. Hendrick Stevin). They comply with the classical ideal of the 'broken concentric rings of the radial city' and the paradigm of the 'ideal city'.

Even in the seventeenth century, foreign visitors (like Cosimo de Medici in 1668 and Czar Peter the Great in 1697) were amazed and impressed by the canal ring area. Today its historic 'urban landscape' is internationally regarded as a landmark achievement in town planning and the epitome of the Dutch canal town as it developed in the seventeenth century, a period when the Dutch Republic was for decades a world power and Amsterdam occupied a powerful and distinctive place within it.

The area's distinctive layout and present appearance are dominated by the consistently maintained geometrical pattern of parallel concentric canals crossed by radial canals and narrow connecting

streets, with the intervening enclosed blocks of historic houses and warehouses surrounding open yards and *keurtuinen* (gardens designated as such by the city authorities at the time they were built). The urban structures (canals and blocks of buildings), the architecture of the historic canal houses, and the modest seventeenth-century churches within the *property* are all on a deliberately human scale.

The canal ring area was designed along rational, functional lines for mainly residential use. It reflects a certain planned social and architectural hierarchy. Herengracht was intended for exclusively residential use; further away from the centre, in Keizersgracht and Prinsengracht, uses became increasingly mixed (houses mixed with business premises and warehouses). Herengracht is lined with distinguished 'double' houses, often with deliberately prestigious architecture; Prinsengracht has narrower houses interspersed with business premises.

The formal and rhythmic variety of the front elevations impressed contemporaries, as they still impress us today. Especially in the case of the 'double' houses, built on two adjacent building plots, they were designed to give a display of unostentatious affluence and inspire a feeling of confidence in the respectability and reliability of the merchant or regent who lived in them. The architectural wealth of the façade expressed, as it were, the credit-worthiness of the owner.

The rationally planned canal ring area constitutes a unique milestone in the history of town planning. The architectural and decorative diversity of the collection of almost 4,000 listed houses, warehouses, churches, almshouses and bridges within the area, as well as its size and scale, are unparalleled anywhere in the world. It was the largest urban expansion in seventeenth-century Europe and it influenced town planning not just on the continent, but far beyond (for example, in New Amsterdam (Lower Manhattan)/New York, settled by the Dutch from 1614 onwards; in Punda/Willemstad on Curaçao, controlled by the Dutch West India Company (WIC) from 1634 onwards; in Göteborg, founded in 1621; and in St Petersburg, founded in 1703).

There is no other site like it in any of the Tentative Lists submitted by the states signatory to the World Heritage Convention.

Unlike large-scale urban development projects in other European countries, the two successive waves of seventeenth-century urban expansion in Amsterdam (the *Third Expansion* of 1609/1610-1620 and the *Fourth Expansion* of 1656-1668) were not inspired by a state ideology laid down by a monarch, aristocracy or church. They were driven by the pragmatic, mechanistic 'ideology of the city' of Protestant burghers – regents, investors and merchants – acting in their role of governing patricians, and by their vision of Amsterdam's 'cosmic' position and significance as a commercial centre within the world as they knew it.

The seventeenth-century expansions of Amsterdam are the example *par excellence* of bourgeois baroque urban development within a Protestant community. As such, they contrast with town planning schemes undertaken in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries by secular or spiritual rulers, where the *trivium* of wide avenues was the organising principle (e.g. Rome's Popolo *trivium*, the Piazza del Popolo, and Banchi *trivium*, Via de' Banchi; Versailles; St Petersburg).

Criterion (ii) 'to exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town planning or landscape design'

In the course of just a few decades in the seventeenth century, Amsterdam expanded to become the

third greatest city in Europe, after Rome and Paris. The city's economic development, freedom of establishment and declared tolerance and freedom of thought and religion rapidly attracted many new residents from various parts of Europe (the Southern Netherlands; Sephardic Jews from Portugal and Spain; Ashkenazi Jews from central and eastern Europe; French Huguenots).

Many writers like John Milton (1608-1674), Sir Thomas Browne (1605-1682), Voltaire (1694-1778) and Charles de Montesquieu (1689-1755), philosophers like Baruch Spinoza (1632-1677) and René Descartes (1596-1650), scholars like Carolus Linnaeus (1707-1778), and composers like Pietro Antonio Locatelli (1695-1764), Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741), Tommaso Albinoni (1671-1750) and Francesco Ricci (1732-1817) spent periods in Amsterdam or had their work published in the city. John Adams (1735-1826) ¹, the first President of the United States, lived in Amsterdam for a time and Czar Peter the Great both lived and worked in the city and purchased collections there (those of apothecary and collector Albertus Seba (1665-1736) and of botanist and anatomist Frederik Ruysch (1638-1731)).

Artists came to work in Amsterdam, helping greatly to expand the international trade in Dutch paintings. Amsterdam artists set a trend with their townscapes, militia paintings (group portraits of members of the civic guard), portraits of the governors of charitable institutions or leaders of craft guilds, 'anatomy lessons' and marine paintings. Before Rembrandt there was a school of history painters and Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-1669) himself worked in the city from around 1630 to the end of his life. All over the world, museums and private collections number seventeenth-century paintings from the Northern Netherlands among their greatest treasures. Painters who worked in Amsterdam during the period included Hendrick Corneliszoon Vroom (circa 1566-1640) (maritime subjects), Roelant Savery (1576-1639) (mythological landscapes), Hendrick Avercamp (1585-1634) (winter landscapes), Bartholomeus van der Helst (1613-1670) (militia paintings), Ferdinand Bol (1616-1680) (portraits), Emanuel de Witte (1616/18-1692) (interiors), Willem Kalf (1619-1693) (still lifes), Jacob van Ruisdael (1628/29-1682) (landscapes), Gabriël Metsu (1629-1667) (genre paintings) and Pieter de Hooch (1629-1694) (interiors).

Printmaking was also important. The topography of Amsterdam featured in more prints than that of any other city ² (copyright Municipal Archives) apart from Rome, while the townscape of St Petersburg – whose post-1703 design, ground plan and construction by Czar Peter the Great was directly influenced by the seventeenth-century expansions of Amsterdam – was represented in prints showing its skyline, panoramas and street plan in exactly the same way.

The expansion of the Republic's world trade in the seventeenth century attracted cartographers, mapmakers and publishers to Amsterdam. They came to map the new regions and seas discovered during the search for shorter, faster routes to the East Indies and to help in the further exploration of the globe. Among them was Willem Janszoon Blaeu (1571-1638). Maps published by him are depicted in various paintings by Johannes Vermeer, such as *Officer and Laughing Girl* (1665/1660, Frick Collection, New York) and *The Geographer* (1669(?), Städelsches Museum, Frankfurt). He was succeeded by his son Joan (1596-1673).

In the sixteenth century, Amsterdam was already intensively engaged in trade and shipping with the Baltic. It went on to supplant Venice as the leading trading power in the Mediterranean. In the course of the seventeenth century, the Republic of the United Seven Provinces – in practice, the provinces of Holland and Zeeland – became a global economic power which dominated world trade for decades. The Dutch East India Company (VOC) (*Vereenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie*) (VOC), founded in 1602, is regarded as the first ever multinational: the 'world's first large joint-stock company'. Its board was dominated by Amsterdam. Right through to the end of the eighteenth century, it conducted an



extensive maritime trade both within Asia ³ [previous page](#) and between Asia and Europe. The Company also provided a 'cultural route': the most important channel for two-way cultural, artistic and scholarly influence and exchange between the two continents. Amsterdam also had a majority on the board of the later Dutch West India Company (WIC) (*Geoctrooieerde Vereenigde West-Indische Compagnie*) (WIC), founded in 1621. Directors of both companies lived in the canal ring area and invested their money there.

Amsterdam has a wide range of historical and cultural links and ties with World Heritage Sites elsewhere. The list includes the seventeenth-century 'Beemster Polder', Netherlands (1999) (C 899), financed by Amsterdam merchants/regents; 'Historic Area of Willemstad, Inner City and Harbour', Curaçao (1997) (C 819); 'Historic Inner City of Paramaribo', Suriname (2002) (C 940 rev); 'Historic Centre of Saint Petersburg and Related Groups of Monuments', Russian Federation (1990) (C 540); 'Old Town of Galle and its Fortifications', Sri Lanka (1988) (C 451); 'Historic Centre of the Town of Olinda', Brazil (1982) (C 189); 'Forts and Castles, Volta, Greater Accra, Central and Western Regions', Ghana (1979) (C 34); 'Churches and Convents of Goa', India (1986) (C 234); 'Kronborg Castle', Denmark (2000) (C 696 rev); 'Roskilde Cathedral', Denmark, (1995) (C 695 rev); and 'Melaka and George Town. Historic Cities of the Straits of Malacca', Malaysia (2008) (C 1223).

The 'Archives of the Dutch East India Company' have been included in *The Memory of the World Register* (UNESCO, 1997) on the nomination of the Netherlands, India, Indonesia, South Africa and Sri Lanka. The Register also includes the 'Library Ets Haim-Livraria Montezinos' (2003), the oldest Jewish library in the world, now preserved in Amsterdam, as well as 'The Atlas Blaeu-Van der Hem of the Austrian National Library' (2003), included at the behest of Austria, and the 'Sound Toll Registers' (2007), proposed by Denmark – all of which have direct historical connections with seventeenth-century Amsterdam.

The Netherlands is presenting its nomination of the 'seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within Singelgracht' to the World Heritage Committee under the themes of 'The Dutch Republic in the 17th century' and 'The Netherlands – Land of Water'. In doing so, it hopes to enhance the significance of two existing World Heritage Sites: the 'Beemster Polder' (C 899) and the 'Mill Network at Kinderdijk-Elshout' (C 818).

The name 'Amsterdam' was and still is found in many other parts of the world (including Canada (near Saskatoon), the USA (e.g. New Amsterdam/New York), the Caribbean, South America (Guyana), Africa, Asia, the Pacific basin and Denmark). The name still survives attached to islands like the Île Amsterdam in the Indian Ocean (part of the French Southern and Antarctic Lands) and Amsterdamøa in the Svalbard archipelago (located northwest of Spitsbergen at around 79° North) and it is – or used to be – associated with various fortresses (e.g. on St Maarten, in Suriname, on Curaçao and in Ghana) and bastions built by the VOC or the WIC).

Criterion (iv) 'to be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history'

The 'urban landscape' in the *property* with its main canals (Singel, Herengracht, Keizersgracht and Prinsengracht) and transverse canals (Brouwersgracht, Leliegracht, Leidsegracht and Reguliersgracht) is part of the Amsterdam within Singelgracht conservation area, designated under the Dutch Monuments Act of 1988 (*Monumentenwet 1988*). Its geometrical, concentric ground plan, streets of

canal-side historic buildings (mainly houses and warehouses, almost all listed) and the lines of trees planted along the canals ever since the seventeenth century make it a unique piece of cultural heritage.

The ground plan of the canal ring area of Amsterdam was not based on the geography or geomorphology of the underlying landscape. It was geometry that set the pattern of long canals and the orthogonal parcels of land on which the enclosed blocks of buildings were constructed. But geometry was also the basis for the design of the seventeenth-century fortifications, the canal ring itself, the islands thrown up outside the dikes to accommodate port activities, the churches at the four main points of the compass, the German and Portuguese synagogues and civic buildings like the former Town Hall on the Dam. The theoretical foundations of the urban expansion plans and architectural designs throughout the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries were provided by earlier architectural treatises.

They were all based on mathematical rules, geometry and symmetry, theoretical grammars of architecture and design (Palladio and Scamozzi) and conventions concerning dimensions and modules, harmony, true beauty, artistry, social and spatial hierarchies, composition, presentation and prestige. The design, structure and architecture of the city were underpinned by the laws of perspective and proportion.

With its groups of original buildings (mainly houses and warehouses) ('groups of buildings'), the *property* is a specific 'historic area' situated within the conservation area of the 'inhabited historic town' of Amsterdam within Singelgracht and constituting an exceptionally fine example of town planning. Together with the canals and quays in the buffer zone, the *property* makes Amsterdam the largest and most outstanding example of a canal town, not merely in the Netherlands, but anywhere in the world.

The lines of houses (generally narrow and of roughly uniform height) and warehouses of similar dimensions and the same or earlier date make this planned semicircular urban area surrounding the medieval heart of the city a distinct and exceptional visual and spatial entity. Due to local planning controls, the occasional later office buildings in the area are sympathetic to the surrounding buildings in terms of style, dimensions and scale. The rows of unbroken façades create a rhythmic impression, due to the repetition of their widths, the similarity of their arrangement and the variety provided by their decorative detailing, materials and colours and the restrained diversity of their gables.

The dimensions of the building blocks in the *Third Expansion* area differ from those in the *Fourth*. Whereas in the former the canals run straight through to the Leidsegracht with only one bend, in the latter they turn three times before reaching the Amstel, making the intervening areas of building land much shorter than in the earlier area to the west.

Although the canal ring area is enclosed and intimate in size and scale, the variety of perspectives, views and architecture give it a 'dynamic' look and feel.

The appearance of this 'urban landscape' is determined by the subtle differences in the width of plots along the main and transverse canals and in the radial connecting streets, by the use of materials (mainly brick) and colour, by the fixed line of alignment and the even height of the buildings, by alternation and diversity in the detailing and shapes of the gables (such as crow-steps, neck and cornice gables and carved crests), by the uniformity of scale, the deliberate forward tilt of the front elevations, often with decorated hoist beams projecting beyond them, by the diversity of the perrons,

parallel or at right angles to the façade, and by the extraordinary street-level kitchen annexes (cellarshops) ¹ built out from the front of some houses.

When each area of land was leased to developers by the city authorities, it was already divided into building plots of standard dimensions (usually narrow and deep) and the original divisions have generally survived ² (copyright Municipal Archives), Municipal Archives Amsterdam (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*).

Despite social and commercial developments since the late nineteenth century, the main lines of the historic 'urban landscape' have been determined ever since the seventeenth century by the identical, symmetrical cross-section of the canals and the streets alongside them, the scale of the narrow radial connecting streets, and the austere horizontal linear pattern of the retaining walls adorned by their traditional rows of trees, punctuated by the side view of bridges and framed by the vertical silhouettes of the strictly aligned façades. The 'urban landscape' of the seventeenth-century canal ring area is an important social factor in the contemporary inner city area of Amsterdam.

The hydraulic infrastructure of the system of canals with tree-lined 'islands' created between them to support the blocks of buildings and the clearly marked boundary between the public space of the street and the private space of the block and individual house are key features of the surviving historic townscape.

Later developments in society, town planning and architecture have had almost no impact on this part of Amsterdam. Apart from the addition of a few radial streets, its urban structure west of the Amstel has remained virtually unchanged. The 'urban landscape' of the canal ring area exhibits an endlessly varied series of spatial compositions.

The canal-side architecture is dominated by the typical Amsterdam merchant's houses with the private space formed by the perrons. Such houses are generally deep and narrow (three windows wide) although sometimes wider (with five or occasionally seven bays). They are several storeys high and often have lofts for storage purposes. They are backed by deep gardens (where building was prohibited by municipal regulations) ³, sometimes with wide garden houses or coach houses at the rear.

All the historic buildings within the *property* and in the buffer zone stand on wooden piles, driven through the soft peaty soil to rest on a firmer substratum of sand.

The shells of the canal houses have been preserved, while their interior decoration and use have changed over time. Nevertheless, many of the former merchant's houses in the property still possess unusual historic Dutch interior design features (such as symmetrical marble-clad passageways, stairwells with skylights and painted wall hangings). In most cases, the distinctive division of the building into a main house and rear annex (*voorhuis* and *achterhuis*), linked by an open courtyard and with a large salon or '*sael*', has survived unchanged. It is only the front elevations that have been altered to accord with changing fashions or current ideas of 'restoration'.

The *canals* dug for the seventeenth-century expansions of the city were originally intended to serve as highways for the transport of trade goods. Bridges and locks were built to allow traffic to pass over land and water. Remarkably enough, this transport infrastructure still functions in the same way today. All over the area of Amsterdam within Singelgracht, the numerous *bridges* retain their functional role as links between the transverse streets, as well as an important visual role, sometimes thanks to their architecture and sometimes through their position. Within the canal ring area, the line of each canal is



regularly punctuated by bridges. Dozens of them are listed structures in their own right.

Almshouses known as *hofjes* are a form of post-medieval residential complex typical of the Netherlands generally and the province of Holland in particular. They were originally founded to care for widows, elderly unmarried women and sometimes indigent relatives or servants. They take the form of gated communities of small dwellings clustered around a central courtyard or garden (originally often used to dry the washing, now usually a shared garden). As a rule, they are concealed behind other buildings in a street or alley, and can only be entered from the street through a door or gateway. The name or coat of arms of the founder is sometimes displayed above the entrance [4 previous page](#). Edifying inscriptions urge religious reflection or extol virtue and generosity.

The town planning of seventeenth-century Amsterdam influenced developments in other parts of the world, such as northern and eastern Europe, and places where the VOC and WIC traded. So did its classicist architecture, with its orders of pilasters, pillars and columns and its belief that true beauty could be achieved only by adhering to classical theories regarding the correct use of the different orders, rules of composition and systems of proportion.

There is clear evidence of the spread and influence of 'Dutch' classicism, disseminated by master builders and architects who also worked in Amsterdam: men like Hendrick de Keyser (1565-1621), Jacob van Campen (1595-1657) and Justus Vingboons (1620/21-1698). Their influence can be seen in Sweden (the Riddarhus in Stockholm (1653-1656); Finspong, the country mansion north of Stockholm (post-1668)), Poland (Gdansk) (Peter Willer) and England (the architecture of Robert Hooke (1635-1703), Sir Christopher Wren (1632-1723) and Nicholas Stone (1586/87-1647)). Even in Brazil, in the centre of Recife (formerly Mauritsstad), the state capital of Pernambuco, there are tall, narrow seventeenth-century houses similar to those built in Amsterdam at that time. Mauritsstad was developed from 1640 onwards by Johan Maurits van Nassau-Siegen (1604-1679), whom the WIC appointed governor of Brazil in 1636.

In Amsterdam, the city authorities not only erected public buildings; they also had churches built in the canal ring area for Reformed Protestant worship. The *Noorderkerk* (1620/23) is one of them. The church is in the shape of a Greek cross within an octagonal floor plan. The Greek cross is an allusion to the building of churches by Christian emperors. This church is thought to have served as a model for the *Neue Kirche* (1643/48) in Emden (Germany), the *Grote Kerk* in the Dutch town of Maassluis (1629) and the *Oosterkerk* in Amsterdam (1669). Similarly, the *Westerkerk* (1620/31) shows certain similarities with the *Trefoldighedskirken* (or *Heliga Trefaldighetskyrkan*) in Kristianstad, now southern Sweden.

Historic *warehouses* are a prominent and distinctive feature of the historic city centre and the appearance of the *property*. The majority are integrated into rows of canal houses but some are free-standing or part of a row of similar structures. They are spread around the canals in the *property*, with particular concentrations along Brouwersgracht and Prinsengracht. In general, they have four to six low-ceilinged but deep (30 to 45 metres) storeys, each with its own apertures for the movement of goods. Amsterdam has the richest legacy of historic warehouses of all the historic ports in Europe.

3.b Proposed Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

Thanks to its systematically executed geometrical ground plan, regular land parcelisation, set building lines, fixed building heights, rows of canal-side trees, variations in architecture and gable shapes, use of brick and stone and the spatial rhythm created by the arrangement of the buildings (preponderantly town houses) in the enclosed rectangular blocks, the 'seventeenth-century canal ring area of

Amsterdam within Singelgracht' presents a unique and complex 'urban landscape'. This landscape has been preserved down the centuries and has retained its social functions and cultural significance. Worldwide, it is regarded as a landmark achievement in the development of the historic Dutch canal town. The *property* encompasses a collection of almost 4000 listed houses, warehouses, churches, almshouses and historic bridges (the latter in their hundreds). In its size and scale, the canal ring area is unparalleled anywhere else in the world.

The success of the seventeenth-century urban expansions of Amsterdam and the city's evolution into a hub of world trade were due to the effective system of town planning and controlled development instituted and administered by the city authorities, made up of regents, investors and merchants. Many of them established their own homes and businesses within the canal ring area.

The expansions – in particular those in the canal ring area – were based on the principles of practicality (*firmitas*), usefulness to the city (*utilitas*) and beauty (*venustas*). The design of the canal ring area took explicit account of the Vitruvian concepts of order (*ordinatio*), arrangement (*dispositio*), proportion (*eurythmia*), symmetry (*symmetria*), decoration (*decor*) and distribution (*distributio*). The contemporary knowledge of surveying, civil engineering and the construction of military defences ('fortification theory') provided the tools for their achievement.

In the seventeenth century (and indeed today) the appearance of the city has always been determined – in physical, intellectual, cultural and economic terms – by the constant discrepancy between ambition and economic imperatives, and between geometrical abstraction and the demands of everyday life. The intended hierarchy in the presentation and prestige of the different canals and the buildings that line them still survives. The main canals were the preserve of the merchant and ruling classes, while the radial side-streets housed the small businesspeople and tradesmen.

Although the canal ring area is enclosed and intimate in size and scale, the variety of perspectives, views and architecture give it a 'dynamic' look and feel. This largest of all seventeenth-century urban expansion areas had a direct influence on the way towns were planned or expanded elsewhere in the world.

The creation of the ingenious system of manmade canals without reference to the underlying topography demonstrates a marvellous control of water not merely for purposes of communication and transport, but also to change the 'sculpture of the landscape'. The main and radial canals and the streets alongside them all display the same symmetrical cross-section.

The whole area – the main urban structures, the exteriors and architecture of the historic canal houses, the modest size of the seventeenth-century churches commissioned within the property by the city authorities and the later office buildings – is built on a deliberately human scale.

3.c Comparative analysis (including state of conservation of similar properties)

3.c.a) Amsterdam in the international history of town planning

- Frederick R. Hiorns, *Town-Building in History. An Outline Review of Conditions, Influences, Ideas, and Methods Affecting 'Planned' Towns through Five Thousand Years* (London, Toronto, Wellington, Sydney, 1956).

The site of Amsterdam...proved to be well chosen...By the thirteenth century it appears as a methodically arranged town, developed along the two banks of the river (Amstel). Later the Amstel largely lost its use for draining the

interior lands and was diverted and adapted to serve the local purposes of the city...Maps of the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries show various stages of enlargement, each involving changes in the fortification walling that eventually brought it to the somewhat semicircular shape, with its diametric side based upon the Y river...The major canal lines and streets, especially the Heerengracht, Keisersgracht, and Prinsengracht lines, were roughly dictated by the circular tendency of seventeenth-century planning...In all the variations of size and shape, the Amstel drawn into service for the canals, docks, and fortification moats of the city and identified with every stage of its development...So strong was the construction of the combined roads and canals that advantage was taken of this to carry houses and other structures to an abnormal height, for economic reasons. The splendid terraced houses that in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries replaced earlier Gothic structures.....The Dam square seems, in all ages, to have marked the historic centre of Amsterdam, its place of popular assembly that embodied the civic, ecclesiastical, and royal area of the city on the lines of tradition...' (p. 165).

'Holland (especially Amsterdam).....The churches, and especially their towers, developed a free, Baroque quality of design that appears to have subsequently influenced Wren, and inspired the graceful steeples applied to his churches in the rebuilding of London.....The basic planning of Dutch towns, and the almost unalterable rigidity of their alternating canal and street construction, discouraged facile changes and enlargements.....With each major increase of size the horseshoe plan was widened, but the roughly concentric principle maintained.....The period at which the long canals - the Heerengracht and Prinsengracht lines - were built, with their stately terraced houses, was probably a limiting stage in the truly urban quality of Amsterdam. At about this time, or rather later, a separated quarter was formed beyond the eastern dock area to meet the needs of the shipbuilding industry.....Its recent form is popularly described as consisting of a hundred islands connected by three hundred bridges, a picturesque phrase that effectively sums up the character of an intensely canalized city with some affinity with Ghent or Venice. In respect of the greater houses lining the canals, the top storeys were commonly arranged for the storage of goods and provide haulage facilities. The effect of simplicity of treatment, well-shaped and judiciously spaced windows, and excellent brickwork technique, in a pleasant setting of canals and trees, gave an admirable sense of cultured urbanity.....This urban culture of the Dutch explains their consistent regard for civic standards and controlled development, so that the repute of the Netherlands' towns is unexcelled in Europe'(pp. 254-257).

- ⌘ Gerald L. Burke, *The Making of Dutch Towns. A study in Urban Development from the Tenth to the Seventeenth Centuries* (London, 1956),

'Amsterdam, the commercial capital of the Netherlands, takes pride of place among her cities not only in size and importance: its early seventeenth century development represents in conception and implementation the boldest, most extensive and successful feat of town planning ever achieved in the country and indeed, for that period of time, in the world'

'It is the classic example of bold, competent and effectively administered town planning'.

- ⌘ Lewis Mumford, *The City in History* (Harmondsworth, 1966),

'There is one city that bears witness to commercial spirit at its best, before it had completely dissociated itself from the customary controls and the collective commitments of its medieval prototype. That city is Amsterdam. The fact that it was not widely imitated shows that it was not capitalism alone, but a complex of institutions, personalities, and opportunities, coming together at a unique moment, that made that city one of the greatest examples of the town planner's art. Even so, it remains capitalism's one outstanding urban achievement, rivalled only by elegant Bath..... Amsterdam as the most important example of a city that effected the transition from protectionism to commercial competition without losing form.....' (pp. 500 and 501).

'The technical development of the Dutch city was based on the marvellous control of water, not merely for communication and transport, but for the sculpture of the landscape.....' (p. 501).

'The Plan of the Three Canals was a miracle of spaciousness, compactness, intelligible order. It accepted all that was valid in baroque planning, with just sufficient variation in the individual units, combined with the rich tracery of trees bordering the canals, to take the curse off the military regimentation of baroque classicism' (p. 504).

'Here in the new quarters of Amsterdam was the aesthetic culmination of five centuries of collective effort in commanding water and making land. Order had spread from polders to city. Nothing so thoroughly and uniformly good as Amsterdam had previously made its way to city design, on the same scale, anywhereThe order created by the Plan of the Three Canals remained in advance of any other urban planning, taken as a whole, for three centuries' (p. 505).

⌘ Wolfgang Braunfels, *Abendländische Stadtbaukunst. Herrschaftsform und Baugestalt* (Ostfildern, 1976),

'Man hatte das Prinzip der barocken Festungssterne auf den Kanalbau übertragen. Der große Einfall mußte sich aufdrängen, nachdem man seit Jahrhunderten damit beschäftigt war, bei jeder Stadterweiterung Festungsgräben in Schiffskanäle umzuwandeln. Nun konnte man sich der Formerfahrungen des neuen Befestigungsbaus bedienen. Wieder wurde das Stadtgebiet von einer Befestigungsanlage von rund 8000 Metern Länge eingeschlossen, die von 26 Bastionen verstärkt wurde.....Die noble Bauweise der Grachten drängte man auch der Altstadt in großen bereichen auf. Deshalb gehört Amsterdam zu den Großstädten, die am einheitlichsten die Baugestalt eines Jahrhunderts und zwar des 17. Bewahrt haben' (pp. 95 and 96).

In this book, Braunfels examines the town planning, shipping, power and standing of the great European maritime powers of Venice, Lübeck and Amsterdam – chosen because of the direct trading relations between them – plus New York. (New York – or New Amsterdam as it was originally called – was built on the spit of land between the Hudson River and East River. Its ground plan included the canals and small-scale fortifications. In 1796, however, a Dutch surveyor called Casimir Goerck (d. 1798) devised a new ground plan for the town based on an 18-kilometre grid encompassing 12 main avenues traversed by 155 narrower side-streets).

Braunfels contrasts the development of Venice and Amsterdam. Venice expanded by taking in sandbanks in the lagoon and 'squeezing' the water into narrower channels, whereas Amsterdam led its river water through an ingenious system of manmade canals. The result is a natural pattern of waterways in Venice and a geometrically arranged, ornamental one in Amsterdam. Braunfels also contrasts towns like Amsterdam with cities like Dresden and St Petersburg, which were 'seats of princely courts'.

⌘ Leonardo Benevolo, *Die Geschichte der Stadt* (Frankfurt/New York, 2000),

'Fast alle Häuser hatten dieselbe Breite, aber in ihren Fassaden unterschieden sie sich ganz erheblich voneinander, dadurch boten sie einen architektonisch aussergewöhnlich vielfältigen Anblick.....Die Großartigkeit und die enormen Ausmaße dieser Anlage erschließen sich dem Betrachter jedoch nicht, wenn er versucht, jeden Abschnitt eines Kanals als ein zusammenhängendes, langgezogenes Panorama zu erfassen.....Um sich eine Vorstellung von der Komplexität und den wirklichen Ausmaßen dieser Stadt machen zu können, muß sich der Betrachter bewegen und dem Verlauf der Kanäle folgen; dabei kann er dieses großartige Panorama als eine ununterbrochene Folge von einzelnen Bildausschnitten an sich vorüberziehen lassen.....' (p. 763).

- ⌘ In his *Architecture and the Human Dimension* (London, 1979), Peter F. Smith gives a brief description of Amsterdam and writes,

'the streets of Amsterdam offer a classical example of how rhythm and rhyme can merge poetry'.

- ⌘ Anthony M. Tung writes in his *Preserving the World's Great Cities. The Destruction and Renewal of the Historic Metropolis* (New York, 2001),

'.....Amsterdam is a surprising human creation. Although it was once the center of a wide commercial empire that monopolized much of the riches of the world, it is a capital without grand imperial buildings to proclaim its majesty.....the city is composed of a network of utilitarian canals, lined by neat files of trees. Behind this canopy of greenery, and likewise running parallel to the canals, are lines of narrow brick houses forming an eccentric but unified street wall crowned by fanciful peaked roofs of endless variety. The pinnacles of these structures – block after block of them numbering in the thousands across the cityscape – form a composition of myriad singular architectonic expressions, all woven together in a greater urban hierarchy' (p. 211).

'With a modest palette of elements – water, bridges, trees, and bricks - through its social coherence and perpetual imagination, Amsterdam weaves a singular urban music' (p. 211).

- ⌘ Spiro Kostof, American professor of Architectural History (University of California, Berkeley), writes in his *The City Shaped. Urban Patterns and Meanings through History* (London, 1991),

'Amsterdam is a special case. This great northern port, which always exercised a remarkable element of public control over city-form, borrowed the best of the 'organic' system and the grid, to ensure a rational, long-range development.....The 1607 plan simply took the canals that then formed the city's edge, and retraced them in three encircling canals across empty land.....Each of these canals was to serve as the new city edge during successive enlargements of the urban core.....The narrow strips between the canals were gridded, but because of their concentric disposition a good proportion of the blocks were trapezoidal. The city itself decided the position of the three canals, but the development between them and the new walls beyond was left to private enterprise.....' (p. 136).

He also remarks that

'only when city authorities had the power to oversee the development of the suburban region could gridded extensions obey a coherent design and establish rational links to the urban core' (p. 135).

He compares Amsterdam with various other cities, including Turin, of which he says, in order to show the contrast with Amsterdam's seventeenth-century urban expansions,

'Turin is the most lucid demonstration of an original gridded town of Roman descent able smoothly to graft on later grids. Having chosen to be the capital of Piedmont...Turin added no fewer than three gridded quarters to the old Roman core - a group of 12 new blocks outside the walls to the south in the early 17th century, an eastward extension to meet the banks of the Po beginning in 1673, and finally an addition to the west in 1712' (p. 136).

He describes 'water towns' like Amsterdam as

'built on land reclaimed from marshes or lakes, the layout is more regular but not uniform. Streets, principally canal-streets, were kept narrow, the building blocks were long and narrow too, and a broad moat enclosed the area.....'(p. 57).

His study includes a chapter entitled 'The Grand Manner' in which he examines the features of what he terms the 'Baroque esthetic in urban design' (p. 211), emphasising for example that

'in building up a plan in the Grand Manner, the main skill lies in coordination of diagonal arteries. The simplest systematic grouping is the trivium' (p. 235).

As examples of this, he cites Rome (Popolo *trivium*, Piazza del Popolo; Banchi *trivium*, Via de' Banchi), Versailles (also as a model for Aranjuez and the eventually unbuilt Caserta), and in the eighteenth century St Petersburg (starting from the Admiralty Building). The plan for Versailles with its *trivium* provides scope for the use of the *allée* as an element in the 'Grand Manner'. He contrasts all this with the seventeenth-century urban expansions of Amsterdam with its three main canals:

'The tree-lined canal street was a Dutch invention of the early 17th century, and was given its classic form in the 1607 expansion plan of Amsterdam. The three new girdle canals were lined with burgher houses, and between the houses and canals, rows of elms were planted. If this created a pleasant waterside promenade, it was also a traffic artery and a working quay..' (p. 252).

Unlike Turin, Rome or Venice (Jacopo Sansovino, Piazzetta di S. Marco, 1530s), the seventeenth-century urban expansions of Amsterdam ignore what Kostof calls the 'Grand Manner as Theater' (the Rome of Pope Alexander VII, in celebration of which a work called *Il nuove teatro.....di Roma moderna* was published in 1665).

Kostof (p. 252) remarks, concerning St Petersburg,

'The layout of St Petersburg combined the French and Dutch fashions, in line with Peter the Great's foreign sympathies. The great trivium focused on the Admiralty Building was of course a Versailles transplant, but main canal streets cut across the avenues. The Venetian man of letters Count Francesco Algarotti, during his visit in the summer of 1739, asserted that this homage to Dutch planning was mere affectation, without the practical logic of the original source. "It was solely in memory of Holland," he wrote, "that they planted rows of trees along the streets and bisected them with canals, which certainly do not serve the same purpose here as do those of Amsterdam....'.

He classes St Petersburg, unlike Amsterdam, under

'grids combined with other geometric principles, most commonly diagonal avenues as...in the 18th-century scheme for St Petersburg' (p. 99).

Concerning the city's architecture, he says that

'the Commission for the Building of St Petersburg set up in the 1760s proposed that "the government erect façades on the squares and allow the houses behind them to be built as the owners planned' (p. 260).

- ⦿ In her thesis *Christiaan IV van Denemarken (1588-1648). Architectuur en stedenbouw van een Luthers vorst* (1991), Juliette Roding examines the series of towns built or rebuilt by King Christian IV of Denmark throughout his kingdom (which then included the southern provinces of Sweden, Norway and parts of the now German province of Schleswig-Holstein). Danish mathematician Christoffer Dybvad (1577-1622), who had studied at the *Duytsche Mathematique* in the Dutch university town of Leiden, explained to the monarch, on the basis of

Euclidian mathematics, the importance of symmetry and geometry in town planning. He felt that the mathematical arts were related to the *artes militares* and linked 'Geometria' and 'Arithmetica' to the notion of 'perfection'.

Based on her study of the plans of Christian IV's new towns, Roding suggests that the king was repeatedly striving to achieve the 'città ideale', in accordance with the ideas of Italian and Dutch theoreticians. She also observes that their 'street plans and architecture cannot be viewed in isolation from each other'. A striking number of the new towns in question are named after the monarch (for example, Christianopol/ Christianopolis, 1599/1600; Christianshavn, the new area of Copenhagen built from 1606 onwards to include the area near Rosenborg; and Christianstad, in the south of Sweden, the basic plan of which was laid down in 1614, with fortifications modelled on Dutch examples).

If Amsterdam's seventeenth-century Jewish communities sometimes called the city the 'New Jerusalem', Christian IV was compared to Solomon, the city-builder, even as early as his coronation (as a Protestant, Lutheran king). By inference, therefore, it was his Copenhagen, with its new buildings and fortifications, that was the New Jerusalem. Seventeenth-century theoreticians saw the Biblical figure of Solomon as a shining example. His name was associated with many different arts, including grammar and writing, music, poetry, astronomy, geography, cosmography, architecture, mathematics and hydrography. These are sometimes grouped together as the *Artes Liberaliores* (Arithmetica, Musica, Geometria, Perspectiva, Pictura, Fortificatio, Motus, Tempus, Cosmographia, Geomantia) (Robert Fludd, *Utriusque Cosmi Historia*, 1617/19).

- ⌘ In 1640, Cornelis Danckerts (1561 - c. 1634) published his Dutch translation of book VI of Scamozzi's *l'Idée (Grontregulen der Bow-Const, ofte De uytmentheyt van de Vyf Orders der Architectura van Vincent Scamozzi. Vit het Italiaens overgeseten met curieuse copere plaeten verciert*. Amsterdam, 1640). He dedicated it to the civic authorities of Amsterdam and, in doing so, compared the Amsterdam of his day – with its newly completed *Third Expansion* (the first part of the canal ring area) – to 'ancient Rome, beautiful Florence, wealthy Venice and grand Genoa'.

- ⌘ Michael Hesse, Professor of Early Modern Art at the University of Heidelberg, speaks in his *Stadtarchitektur. Fallbeispiele von der Antike bis zur Gegenwart* (Köln, 2003, p. 59) of

'Koordinative Stadtstruktur: Amsterdam und sein neuer Grachtengürtel'.

- ⌘ Even in the seventeenth century, many accounts of Amsterdam were written by travellers like Jean le Laboureur (1623-1675), who reported

'L'on ne void que peuple respondu par toutes les rües, les boutiques, & les canaux mesmes; par où la plupart des marchans sont conduire toutes leurs denrées jusques en leur maison. Ce sont plustots des Palais, car l'ny manque, ny beauté d'architecture, ny de peinture, ny de meubles : presque toutes ont des perrons de marbre & pierre dure, treillisées de fer devant les portes, leur magazins sont dessous dans les voûtes' (Paris, 1648).

- ⌘ Jonathan Israel of Princeton University expresses the view that

'The 'grachtengordel' is a uniquely important and magnificent historical and cultural document (...) As a result of the canal belt Amsterdam, by all travellers' accounts, came to surpass nearly all other European cities in grandeur. Today there is no other comparably impressive urban historical phenomenon dating from the seventeenth century that

exists on a comparable scale, is so well preserved, so attractive and so easily accessible'.

3.c.b.1) Amsterdam compared with towns and cities elsewhere in the world

⌘ *Antwerp* (Belgium)

When Antwerp was to expand to the east in the 1590s, a strictly geometrical plan was proposed. This paralleled earlier plans made for the city during the 'Calvinist period' of the 1580s.

⌘ *Brugge, Mechelen, Gent* (Belgium)

These towns once lay in the Southern Netherlands, part of the seventeen provinces of the Netherlands united under Burgundian rule in the late fourteenth and fifteenth centuries.

BRUGGE ('HISTORIC CENTRE OF BRUGGE', WORLD HERITAGE LIST, C 996, 2000)

'Brugge is an outstanding example of a medieval historic settlement, which has maintained its historic fabric as this has evolved over the centuries, and where original Gothic constructions form part of the town's identity. As one of the commercial and cultural capitals of Europe, Brugge developed cultural links to different parts of the world. It is closely associated with the school of Flemish Primitive painting'.

Brugge (Bruges) has a network of canals (including the Groenerei, Spinolarei, Spiegelrei, Speelmansrei), some of which – like the Dyver – were dug for defensive purposes in the early twelfth century. In Brugge these canals are denoted by the suffix *rei*, after the Reie, a natural watercourse that flows through Brugge and was canalised at an early date.

⌘ *Mechelen*

Mechelen (Mechlin) once had a river too: the Dijle, which is now a standing body of water called the Binnen-Dijle. The town also had a scattering of narrow, winding canals known as *vlieten* ('brooks'). These were originally wetland channels and gullies. As the town developed, they were confined within dikes and retaining walls. In the early twentieth century, they were filled in or covered up for public health reasons. The Omleidingsdijle is a manmade channel diverting the waters of the river Dijle. In 1895, sluices were built in the Dijle, with the result that the town was no longer easily accessible by water. The surviving open watercourses are the Groen Waterke and the 250-metre-long Melaan, now disconnected from the Dijle. (In 1913 the Melaan was filled in. In 2006/07 it was re-excavated to create the Nieuw Melaan as part of the EU's WIHCC (Water in Historic City Centres) project (2003-2007) (Interreg IIIB programme).)

⌘ *Gent*

Gent (Ghent) uses the suffix *lei* to denote a canal. The right bank of the River Leie, which flows into the Scheldt at this point, is known as the Graslei ('Grass Canal'), whereas the left bank is called the Korenlei ('Corn Canal'). From the eleventh century, this formed the harbour of Gent and a number of original late-medieval guild houses still stand beside the water. A 400-metre stretch of the Nederschelde ('Lower Scheldt') used to flow through the area. It was covered up in 1885 but is now being re-opened as part of the WIHCC project.

⌘ *Palmanova* (Italy)

Palmanova (Italy, Tentative List, 2006) is generally regarded as a shining example of late sixteenth/early seventeenth-century European fortress-building. Work began on the Palmanova fortress in 1593. It was built *ex novo*, at some distance from Venice, to defend the Serenissima. There is some similarity between the strictly geometrical ground plan of the Palmanova fortress and that of Amsterdam, but in

fact no valid military comparison can be made with the ramparts and bastions surrounding seventeenth-century Amsterdam. The canal ring area of Amsterdam is not oriented towards the earlier city gates or ramparts in the way streets in Palmanova fan out from the Piazza towards the gateways and fortifications.

⚡ *Rome* (Italy)

Amsterdam and Rome may have been the two most frequently depicted cities of their day, but little similarity exists between late sixteenth/early seventeenth-century urban developments in the two. A possible exception is Amsterdam's Kerkstraat. In 1585, Pope Sixtus V (1521-1590) commissioned architect Domenico Fontana (1543-1607) to systematise the street plan of Rome, with axial streets leading pilgrims to the seven – later eight – main churches in the city, linked to the existing road network created in the late fifteenth and the sixteenth century. Churches were built at the end of streets or where a street changed direction. Similarly, as part of the *Fourth Expansion* of Amsterdam, it was intended that Kerkstraat ('Church Street') should lead to the Oosterkerk and should have new churches dotted along it. (The temporary wooden church on Amstelveld, known as the Amstelkerk, is a surviving remnant of this plan.)

⚡ *Venice* (Italy)

Because of its many canals, Amsterdam is often compared to Venice. In tourist literature, for example, Amsterdam is regularly termed the 'Venice of the north'.

'VENICE AND ITS LAGOON', WORLD HERITAGE LIST, C 394, 1987.

'Founded in the 5th century and spread over 118 small islands, Venice became a major maritime power in the 10th century. The whole city is an extraordinary architectural masterpiece in which even the smallest building contains works by some of the world's greatest artists such as Giorgione, Titian, Tintoretto, Veronese and others'.

Venice is a city of around seven square kilometres entirely surrounded by water. In the past, it could be reached only over water. The city is bisected by the Grand Canal – a waterway four kilometres long and 60 metres wide. This was originally a branch of the River Brenta, which flowed through a group of around a hundred muddy, marshy islands, some a few hectares in area, others merely sandbanks exposed only at low tide. It was among these islands that Venice was founded in the ninth century as a refuge from Germanic invaders.

Around this archipelago (known as *rivus altus*, the 'high shore') lies the brackish water of a semi-circular lagoon, 40 kilometres long, 15 kilometres wide and part of an approximately 200 kilometre-long string of lagoons lining the coast of the Adriatic. A number of rivers flow down from the Alps into these lagoons. On the eastern edge of the Venetian lagoon, sandbanks (*lidi*) protect the area against the open water of the Adriatic Sea.

To make the area habitable, marshes had to be drained and islands built up and protected from flooding by palisades. Water was also diverted. A new 30-kilometre channel was dug for the Brenta, leading the river away from the city and into the lagoon to the south. Later, the Marzenego, Sile and Piaave were artificially diverted along the northern side of city and the Bacchiglione and the Muson along the southern side.

In 1740, Venice decided to protect itself against flooding by building a 5,456-metre wall (*murazzi*) designed by Bernardino Zendrini (1679-1747). The project took 38 years to complete and the city still has to be artificially protected from the waters of the Adriatic (MOSE Project, mobile barriers).

According to legend, the city was founded in 421. However, it was in the early tenth century that the *Rivus Altus* islands 'coalesced' to form a single urban entity – the Rialto Island. The main source of income was salt production. A trading centre developed on the Rialto – some 250 metres long and 200 wide – on the west side of the Grand Canal. In the eleventh century, the patricians of the city began to build two-storey *palazzi* on the banks of the Grand Canal. Like Amsterdam canal-side houses, these *palazzi* were used both as homes and to store merchandise. In Amsterdam, however, such goods were stored in cellars and sometimes in lofts, whereas in Venice – where the *palazzi* were usually entered straight from the canal – they were kept on the ground floor. In the course of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, the *palazzi* evolved into three-storey buildings. (Indeed, in some cases they even had four or five floors). Between 1200 and 1800, around 200 *palazzi* were built along the banks of the Grand Canal.

Right from the beginning of the sixteenth century, accounts of Amsterdam compared the city to Venice in terms of the number of its canals and its success in trade. In the second half of the century, the Florentine writer Ludovico Guicciardini (1521-1589) laid particularly notable emphasis on the geographical and economic similarities between the two cities in his *Descrittione di tutti i Paesi Bassi, altrimenti detti Germania inferiore* (Antwerp, 1567), a book which continued to be republished until 1660, appearing in over 25 editions, in Dutch, German, French and Latin. In the early seventeenth century, German theologian Abraham Scultetus (1566-1625) spoke of Amsterdam as the 'Venetia Germaniae'.

References to Venice can also be found in the architecture of Amsterdam. A house at Stromarkt 9 has a gable stone bearing the legend 't *Wape van Venetieën* ¹ next page (i.e. 'The Arms of Venice') and an image of the lion of St Mark, while the 'Witte Huijs' ('White House') at Herengracht 168 ² next page – modified in 1638 for Michiel Pauw (1590-1640), one of the founders of the Dutch West India Company (WIC), to plans by the Amsterdam architect Philips Vingboons (c. 1607-1678) – has a neck gable flanked by two winged lions, supporting the family crest. The lions are a reference to Venice, where Pauw was knighted in 1623.

Amsterdam lay originally both on a river and on the open waters of the IJ. Venice lies on sandbanks in the lagoon and covers 118 small islands linked by some 400 (mainly stone) bridges. The majority of Venice's canals were not dug by human hands, like those in Amsterdam, but are the remains of what was once open water. And unlike Amsterdam's canals, they generally have quays. Except along the 3.8 kilometres of the Grand Canal, the front entrances to the canal-side houses are at the other side, onto streets or squares, and it is the rear walls that rise straight up out of the water. Amsterdam is bisected by the Amstel; Venice by the Grand Canal. In Venice, water has remained the principal means of transportation; in Amsterdam, it has lost that role over time. In Venice, squares and streets are part of a neighbourhood urban complex while water is both a boundary and a link between different neighbourhoods. The two 'systems' function independently of each other within the urban space.

In 1609, the two cities appointed temporary ambassadors to each other. The first Dutch consul arrived in Venice in 1614. At war with Emperor Ferdinand II of Austria (1578-1637), Venice sought the assistance of the Dutch Republic and Amsterdam. In 1619, Amsterdam and Venice entered into an alliance whereby each pledged to assist the other financially if it were attacked by a third party. From 1620 to 1636, the Dutch Republic had a permanent ambassador in Venice.



Until the middle of the seventeenth century, Amsterdam was compared to Venice. Thereafter, when it began to surpass the Serenissima in power and prestige, the more usual comparison was with Rome.

Comparative research by art historians shows that the representation of the Venetian townscape in paintings (by Luca Carlevarijs (1663-1730) and Antonio Canaletto, 1697-1768) was heavily influenced (in terms of composition and use of perspective) by practice in Amsterdam.

In the nineteenth century, the decline of both cities attracted international attention from artists and writers, such as the French author Henry Havard, who analysed the similarities and differences between the two cities in his *Amsterdam et Venise* (1876). They were appreciated for their tranquillity, intimacy and 'picturesqueness'.

Venice was an autonomous city state for a thousand years until Napoleon conquered it in 1797 and it subsequently passed into the hands of the Austrian empire (until 1866). The Napoleonic era had a dramatic impact on the city, for which a *Piano regolatore* (General town plan) was drawn up in 1807.

As Gianfrance Pertot wrote in his study *Venice Extraordinary Maintenance. A history of the restoration of the city of Venice since 1797* (London, 2005),

'It involved the creation of new gardens, notably those in Castello, the work of (Giannantonio) Selva – and much criticized, for he demolished four large convents and their dependent churches, as well as some other buildings of merit, to make way for them. Canals were filled in and new pedestrian routes opened up: Selva's new via Eugenia (now via Garibaldi) in Castello...Obsolete buildings, for the most part Gothic and Early Renaissance, were demolished; enormous areas of ecclesiastical property were expropriated.....not only for public use but also simply for sale..... Perhaps the best-known and most visible result of the Napoleonic programme was the restructuring of the civic buildings in the Piazza, with the demolition of the Church of San Geminiano and the construction in its place of the Procuratie Nuovissime (or Ala Napoleonica, erected between 1810 and 1814). Here the royal apartments and the seat of government were established' (p. 15).

Later, a bridge was built between Venice and the mainland (1841-1846) and a network of pedestrian ways was constructed beside or to replace the canals.

⌘ Genoa (Italy)

'LE STRADE NUOVE AND THE SYSTEM OF THE PALAZZI DEI ROLLI', WORLD HERITAGE LIST, C 1211, 2006,

'The Strade Nuove and the system of the Palazzi dei Rolli in Genoa's historic centre date from the late 16th and early 17th centuries when the Republic of Genoa was at the height of its financial and seafaring power. The site represents the first example in Europe of an urban development project parcelled out by a public authority within a unitary framework and associated to a particular system of 'public lodging' in private residences, as decreed by the Senate in 1576. The site includes an ensemble of Renaissance and Baroque palaces along the so-called 'new streets' (Strade Nuove). The Palazzi dei Rolli offer an extraordinary variety of different solutions, achieving universal value in adapting to the particular characteristics of the site and to the requirements of a specific social and economic organization. They also offer an original example of a public network of private residences designated to host state visits'.

This World Heritage Site is unlike the seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam in that its importance lies in the extraordinary nature of the building of the *Palazzi dei Rolli* and the system of 'public lodging' originally associated with it. By contrast, the canal ring is a large-scale urban expansion

area constructed in the seventeenth century and inspired both by a number of town-planning and architectural principles and by economic motives relating to the soaring population of the city. It was unparalleled anywhere in the contemporary Western world and was based on the principles of practicality (*firmitas*), usefulness to the city (*utilitas*) and beauty (*venustas*). The design of the canal ring area took explicit account of the Vitruvian concepts of order (*ordinatio*), arrangement (*dispositio*), proportion (*eurythmia*), symmetry (*symmetria*), decoration (*decor*) and distribution (*distributio*).

⌘ Paris (France)

The Place des Vosges (originally Place Royale) (1605-1612) in the Marais area of Paris is virtually contemporaneous with Amsterdam's *Third Expansion*. It was commissioned by King Henri IV (1553-1610) and designed by Baptiste de Cereau. The square measures 140 x 140 metres ¹ and is lined with symmetrically arranged houses (known as *hotels*), nine on each side, with arcades, matching façades (built of a mixture of brick and stone) and slate roofs, interrupted on the northern and southern sides by two royal mansions ², the Pavillon du Roi and the Pavillon de la Reine.

It was also Henri IV who, in 1607, inaugurated the Pont Neuf over the Seine, the construction of which had begun in 1578 on the orders of Henri III (1551-1589).

THE 'BANKS OF THE SEINE' (C 600) WERE INCLUDED IN THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST IN 1991.

'From the Louvre to the Eiffel Tower, from the Place de la Concorde to the Grand and Petit Palais, the evolution of Paris and its history can be seen from the River Seine. The Cathedral of Notre-Dame and the Sainte Chapelle are architectural masterpieces while Haussmann's wide squares and boulevards influenced late 19th- and 20th- century town planning the world over'.

In sharp contrast to the uniformity of the Place de Vosges, the complex of houses and warehouses built along the canals of Amsterdam during the almost contemporaneous *Third Expansion* exhibit an ever-changing variety of architecture and dimensions.

The 'Banks of the Seine' reflect the development of Paris over time, whereas the ground plan of Amsterdam's canal ring area was fixed at its inception and has hardly changed since.

⌘ London (England)

London is the result of a fusion between the City of London and the City of Westminster, three kilometres away. Designed by Inigo Jones (1573-1652) and built for Francis Russell, 4th Earl of Bedford (1593-1641), Covent Garden Piazza (1631) was the first of a series of great squares built in London. It was followed in the same century by Bloomsbury Square (1661) and Grosvenor Square (1695). Such grand squares are a feature of town planning unknown in seventeenth-century Amsterdam, where the only comparable open areas were marketplaces.

1



2



Medieval London, the 'Old City', was destroyed in the space of three days by the Great Fire of 1666. Thereafter, the wooden medieval city was reconstructed in brick and stone. Designs for the reconstruction inspired by Italian or French examples (Rome, Paris and Versailles) were rejected (including the plans drawn up by Sir Christopher Wren, 1632-1723) and the old pattern of streets was preserved, although the streets were broadened (first in the West End and later during the rebuilding of the City) to accommodate horse-drawn traffic. The only completely new street was King Street-Queen Street.

Following the restoration of the monarchy (in 1660), urban expansion was largely in the hands of the nobility, who built estates for themselves (such as Covent Garden, Lincoln's Inn and Drury Lane) and then hired them out. There was no form of controlled town planning. Development was a matter of private initiative, money and taste. The result was the 'great districts' and squares: what became the West End (St James's Square, Grosvenor Square, Berkeley Square, Cavendish Square, etc., many named after their aristocratic owners). Since most of the estates were built to let, there was every reason to make them look attractive. This was not the case elsewhere, where development occurred house by house and street by street, with no strict planning or building regulations in force. It was not until the later Georgian era that the post-Fire building regulations and the Neo-Classical taste of the day produced a townscape marked by greater unity of style.

⌘ *Friedrichstadt* (Germany)

Friedrichstadt was founded in 1621 by Duke Friedrich III of Schleswig-Holstein-Gottorp (1597-1659). It was apparently inspired by Glückstadt, founded in 1617 by King Christian IV of Denmark on the north bank of the Elbe, in the south of Schleswig-Holstein. In the early seventeenth century, both towns attracted members of religious minorities from the Dutch Republic (such as Remonstrants, Mennonites and, in the case of Glückstadt, Sephardic Jews) by offering them land and religious freedom. Both towns have a checkerboard street plan.

Friedrichstadt covers an area of 17 hectares. The oldest part of the town has two canals (Fürstenburggraben and Mittelburggraben). The Norderburggraben was filled in as long ago as 1705. From the start, the homes of different social classes were geographically segregated. This is thought to have been achieved through financial pressures. Wealthier citizens lived in the area south of the Mittelburggraben, as witness the size of the building plots there. Going north, plots became ever smaller.

⌘ *Berlin* (Germany)

Berlin lost its medieval heart in the course of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. In the seventeenth century, it was a smaller city than Amsterdam, which then had a population of 200,000. Dutch architects were involved in the seventeenth-century expansions of Berlin and fortifications were built on the Dutch model (Friedrichswerder, 1662; Dorotheenstadt, 1674; Friedrichstadt (called after Elector Friedrich III, King in Prussia 1701-1713). Seventeenth-century façades in Amsterdam served as a model for those in the urban expansion areas of Berlin (Friedrichswerder, Johann Martitz's house – now lost – with its Tuscan pilasters).

Berlin's first street lamps, installed in 1682, were based on the design produced for Amsterdam in 1669 by Jan van der Heyden (1636-1712). Similarly, Amsterdam's Oosterkerk (designed by Daniël Stalpaert (1615-1676), 1669/71) must have been one of the models for Berlin's first Protestant church, the Dorotheenstädtische/Neustädtische Kirche, 1678-1688. This was designed by Rutger van Langeveld (1635-1695) (who also designed Schloß Köpenick, 1677/81) and destroyed in the Second World War.

Further evidence of cultural ties is the fact that Amsterdam-based sculptor Artus Quellinus the Elder (who worked on the Town Hall of Amsterdam, now the Royal Palace) obtained permission in 1660 to prepare a tomb for Field Marshal Otto Christoph von Sparr (who died eight years later). The tomb was completed in 1663 and is now in Berlin's Marienkirche. The marble for it came from stocks held in Amsterdam.

⚡ *Potsdam* (Germany)

On a visit to Amsterdam in 1732, the 'Soldier King' Friedrich Wilhelm I of Prussia (1688-1740) recruited a number of local experts, including Amsterdam architect Jan Bouman (1706-1776), son of joiner Michiel Bouman, to go to Potsdam to build what is now known as the Holländisches Viertel or 'Dutch Quarter' (1737-1742) [1 next page](#). The group of 134 brick-built houses is linked to the Dutch Republic more by its name than by its architecture [2 next page](#).

Bouman (who later changed his name to the more German-looking Johann Boumann) also worked for Friedrich Wilhelm I's son, Friedrich II or 'Frederick the Great' (1712-1786). In 1745 he was put in charge of the construction of Sanssouci Palace, designed by Knobelsdorff. He also built the Old City Hall (Altes Rathaus) and the Friedrichskirche (Babelsberg) in Potsdam.

In Berlin, he was involved with the first cathedral (1747/50) (since demolished) and built the Prinz-Heinrich-Palais in Unter den Linden (1748/53, now Humboldt Universität), the St Hedwigskathedrale (Bebelplatz; formerly Forum Fridericianum) (1747/48) and Schloss (Nieder)Schönhausen (Ossietzkystrasse) (1763/64).

Bouman's sons, Michael Philipp Daniel Boumann (1747-1803) and Georg Friedrich von Boumann (ennobled in 1801) were in charge of the building of the Marble Palace (Potsdam) and Schloss Bellevue (Berlin).

⚡ *Copenhagen/Christianshavn* (Denmark)

In 1614-1616 Christian IV (1588-1648) started to remodel the waterfront of Copenhagen and uniform houses ('skipperboderne') were built for seamen (destroyed by fire in 1795).

In the early sixteenth century, Dutch farming people from Holland and West Friesland (part of today's province of North Holland) settled on the island of Amager, south of Copenhagen. A century later, in 1616, Christian IV instructed an Amsterdam merchant called Johan de Willem to persuade Dutch traders and artisans to move there.

In 1617 Johan Sems produced designs for the expansion of Copenhagen through the development of a new quarter with fortifications, straight streets, a canal navigable by seagoing ships and a symmetrical waterfront in the direction of Copenhagen. The project was completed in 1623. As in Amsterdam, the building plots were of a standard width (around 30 metres) and depth (approx. 60 metres). Johan de Willem came to live on Strandgade.

In 1639, Christianshavn became an independent town (until 1674). Dutch architect Leonard Blasius worked there on the completion of the Holmens Kirke (begun in 1617; chancel and transept 1642/43).

In Copenhagen, unlike the seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam, there was a traditional geographical segregation of functions. Government, academia and industry co-existed in the old town; the new town served as a basis for maritime activities and looked towards the harbour; and Christianshavn was separate again.

1



2



⌘ *Gdańsk* (Poland)

Almost no authentic evidence remains of the former architectural links between *Gdańsk* (formerly Danzig) and the seventeenth-century Dutch Republic.

⌘ *Torún* (Poland)

Torún has been on the World Heritage List since 1997 ('The Medieval Town of *Torún*', C 835). Its Gothic town hall (1391-99) was altered by a Dutch architect in the early seventeenth century.

'Torún is a small historic trading city that preserves to a remarkable extent its original street pattern and outstanding early buildings, and which provides an exceptionally complete picture of the medieval way of life.'

(Cornelis Ryckwaert (1652-1693), a Dutch architect and expert in fortification-building, worked in Kostrzyn (Kustrin) (Poland) between 1663 and 1693).

⌘ *St Petersburg* (Russia)

Included in the World Heritage List as the 'Historic Centre of *St Petersburg* and Related Groups of Monuments', C 540, 1990,.

'The 'Venice of the North', with its numerous canals and more than 400 bridges, is the result of a vast urban project begun in 1703 under Peter the Great. Later known as Leningrad (in the former USSR), the city is closely associated with the October Revolution. Its architectural heritage reconciles the very different Baroque and pure neoclassical styles, as can be seen in the Admiralty, the Winter Palace, the Marble Palace and the Hermitage.'

In its recommendations concerning the inclusion of the site in the World Heritage List, the ICOMOS Advisory Committee said in relation to criterion I:

'In the field of urban design, Leningrad represents a unique artistic achievement in the ambition of the program, the coherency of the plan and the speed of execution. From 1703 to 1725, Peter the Great lifted from a landscape of marshes, peat bogs and rocks, architectural styles in stone and marble for a capital, St Petersburg, which he wished to be the most beautiful city in all of Europe.'

And in relation to criterion IV:

'The nominated cultural property links outstanding examples of baroque imperial residences with the architectural ensemble of St Petersburg – the baroque and neoclassical capital par excellence. The palaces of Petrodvorets and Tsarkoie Selo (Pushkin), which are restored following destruction during the Second World War, are some of the most significant constructions.'

Amsterdam and *St Petersburg* both stand at the mouth of a river: Amsterdam on the Amstel and *St Petersburg* in the Neva delta. The Neva divides into three branches in the centre of the city and thereafter flows between 42 islands.

In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, both cities were open to the sea (Amsterdam to the Zuyderzee – now the freshwater IJsselmeer – via the river IJ, and *St Petersburg* to the Baltic via the Gulf of Finland). This gave both cities a window onto the world, connecting *St Petersburg* to Europe and Amsterdam, for decades in the seventeenth century, to the oceans of the known world.

St Petersburg was founded by Czar Peter the Great (1672-1725) in 1703 with the intention that it

should provide maritime access to the knowledge and know-how of Western Europe, which could then be applied to the modernisation of his realm. He himself made three tours of Western Europe (in 1697/98, 1713 and 1716/17). He visited a number of countries, including the Dutch Republic (Zaandam and Amsterdam, where he learned a great deal about shipbuilding). Returning to St Petersburg, he imported libraries and other resources to educate his subjects. In his summer palace in the city he created his *Kunstkamera* (1714), in which the two largest collections came from Amsterdam (1717): the collection of apothecary Albertus Seba (1665-1736) and that of botanist and anatomist Frederik Ruysch (1638-1731).

Initially, St Petersburg's importance was chiefly military and strategic (against the Swedes) but in 1712 Peter the Great transferred his court, ministers and ambassadors to the new city from Moscow. In 1717 he decreed that the Russian aristocracy must move to 'Peterburg'. They were to build their palaces there and also make an annual contribution to the cost of building the city. The most prominent among them were to build two-storey Western-style palaces with Venetian windows, a standard roof shape and a large balcony over the main door. The façades had to be articulated by white plastered pilasters. Lesser aristocrats were allowed only one-storey houses.

Amsterdam grew in the course of the seventeenth-century from a small trading settlement on the banks of the Amstel into a centre of world trade. The architecture and plan of the new canal ring area was determined mainly by local architects and surveyors. By contrast, St Petersburg developed in stages from the early eighteenth century onward and was designed mainly by foreign architects (from Italy, France and Germany).

St Petersburg has suffered flooding on more than one occasion whereas Amsterdam has never done so. Both cities were built on marshy ground and stand on wooden piles. St Petersburg was designed to be viewed from the water, from vessels arriving from the Gulf of Finland.

Both cities have artificial canals and a multitude of bridges but the way they developed was completely different. In Amsterdam, the seventeenth-century pattern of concentric and radial canals and waterways surrounded an existing medieval heart whereas St Petersburg was created from scratch from 1703 onward. The main canals in St Petersburg are the Moika (originally the Mja, canalised in 1711 and approx. 5 km long), the Fontanka (which fed the fountains in Czar Peter's Summer Garden and is approx. 7 km long) and the Griboyedov (formerly the Katharina Canal, it dates from the second half of the eighteenth century and is also about 5 km long). In the area around the Krjukov Canal, there is a neighbourhood known as New Holland (Nowaja Gollandija), where the brick-built houses are a reminder of Peter the Great's visit to Amsterdam.

Whereas the historic heart of Amsterdam is the dam built in the Amstel (around 1270), St Petersburg's origins lie in the plans of Peter the Great. Its construction began with the hexagonal Peter and Paul Fortress (Petropavlovskaja Krepost) that he had built on Hare Island (Zajač'ij ostrov) in the Neva in 1703. (The designs for the fortress were by Ticino-born architect Domenico Trezzini (c. 1670-1734), who later designed the Peter and Paul Cathedral (1712, completed 1733) and had a hand in the creation of the Kronwerk fortification to the north, constructed as early as 1707/1708.) The historic heart of St Petersburg lies around Trinity Square (Troickaja ploščd'). In 1705 Peter the Great laid the first stone for the construction of the Admiralty.

Inspired by his knowledge of Amsterdam, Peter the Great wanted to surround these core structures with a planned city of great architectural unity. In 1716 he commissioned French architect Jean-

Baptiste Alexandre Le Blond (1679-1719) to produce a plan for the city. This indicated where the roads were to run and where the various residential quarters were to be located; the streets were to follow a rectangular grid pattern. From the Gulf of Finland, there was to be an unimpeded view right through to the eastern tip of Vasilievsky Island (known as Strelka). Like nothing in Amsterdam, but as at Versailles, three main axes or 'Prospects' (*trivium*) radiate out from the Admiralty.

Czar Peter lived in a simple wooden house on Apothecary Island (Aptekarsky Ostrov); in the Dutch town of Zaandam there is another small wooden house where he lived for a time during his visit to the Netherlands. In 1703, the year of the foundation of St Petersburg, Czar Peter had a small wooden cabin (2.5 metres high, 12 metres long and 5 metres wide) built for himself and painted inside to look as if it was built of brick in the Dutch manner. It still survives and is known as Domik Petra Velikogo.

Amsterdam, including the seventeenth-century canal ring area, is an introverted bourgeois city of modest proportions. By contrast, the historic heart of St Petersburg, with its Baroque and Neo-Classical palaces, churches and religious institutions, and its bridges, vast squares and wide streets, proclaims a sense of pride and grandeur.

Whereas St Petersburg was the capital of the Russian empire from 1712 right through to 1918, Amsterdam did not become a capital city until the early nineteenth century (1814), when the Kingdom of the Netherlands was established.

The architects of seventeenth-century Amsterdam were Dutch (or, in one or two cases, born of families who had fled to Holland from Antwerp at the end of the previous century). St Petersburg's architects – like its sculptors and fountain-builders – were drawn from all over Europe: Domenico Trezzini (Ticino, Switzerland); Bartolomeo Rastrelli (c. 1700-1771); in the time of Catherine the Great (1729-1796), in the late eighteenth century, Jean-Baptiste Michel Vallin de la Mothe (1729-1800), Jurij Veldten, Giacomo Quarenghi (1744-1817), Vikenty Franzevich Brenna (1745-1819/20), Charles Cameron (1743-1812), and Leo von Klenze (1784-1864); in the time of Alexander I, the Italian Carlo Rossi (1775-1849) and later in the nineteenth century Auguste de Montferrand (1786-1858) and Jean François Thomas de Thomon (1760-1813) from France).

St Petersburg was created within a few decades to satisfy the wishes and intentions of Czar Peter the Great, whereas 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' was the result of centuries of gradual development, motivated by military exigencies and economic growth and undertaken on the initiative of the merchant community and the ruling families that had emerged from it.

St Petersburg was built of granite, relieved by colourful plasterwork. By contrast, the street scene of Amsterdam's seventeenth-century canal ring area is dominated by brick, with the occasional surviving wooden house (Zeedijk; Begijnhof) or ornamental use of stone in a façade.

The canals of Amsterdam have always been lined with elms on each side; St Petersburg's canals are treeless (although the Nevski Prospekt, with its 190 palaces, was planted with trees on both sides).

The plan of the city founded by Czar Peter the Great (1672-1725) in 1703 was inspired by Amsterdam and Venice. The Czar needed an ice-free port in order to turn Russia into a major maritime power. The first stone to be laid was for the Peter and Paul Fortress ('Petropavlovskajakrepost') on Hare Island (Zajac'ij ostrov), or the 'Sint Pieterburch' as it was sometimes known (since Peter the Great liked using Dutch names).

In 1712 the city was declared the capital of Russia. In the same year, work began on building the Cathedral, to plans by Ticino-born architect Domenico Trezzini (1670-1734), heavily influenced by Peter's beloved 'Dutch Baroque'. The Czar outlined a ground plan for the city and instructed the French architect Jean-Baptiste Le Blond (1669-1719), who had come to the new capital in 1716, to work it out in greater detail. Le Blond was the author of the rational plan of the city as it now exists. He was followed by other foreign architects, who gave St Petersburg its distinctive appearance (such as Domenico Trezzini, who designed three standard types of houses to be used in the new developments in order to give the city an appearance of unity and harmony, and Carlo Bartolomeo Rastrelli, 1675-1744).

The Czar intended Vasilievsky Island to accommodate an international trading centre with canals like Amsterdam's. He bestowed the office of Vice-Admiral on the Dutch captain Cornelius Cruys (1655-1727), who built himself a house beside the Neva. Like Amsterdam, St Petersburg now has three main canals – the Fontanka, the Griboyedov Canal and the Moika – and is surrounded by water, being built on both banks of the Neva and on countless islands. The Neva flows for more than nine kilometres through the city and there are 19 other watercourses and eight canals.

St Petersburg's planned series of squares are a conspicuous feature of the city. The dominant impression is one of space and long perspectives, created by the length and breadth of the radial streets ('Prospects') and the circles of streets linking them, the waters of the Neva and its granite-sided canals, and the strict architectural unity, simplicity and clarity of the buildings.

In the second half of the eighteenth century, under Czar Peter's daughter, the Empress Elisaveta Petrovna (1709-1761), the city became a metropolis filled with palaces and domes. The leading architect of the period was Bartolomeo Francesco Rastrelli (1700-1771), son of Carlo Rastrelli. Together with fellow-architect Savva Ivanovič Čevakinskij (1713-1783), he is regarded as the inventor of 'Russian Baroque', of which the city still possesses many examples. Its present-day appearance is also marked by the developing Neo-Classicism of the later eighteenth century (with contribution from various foreign architects from Italy, Scotland and elsewhere) and the Empire style of the nineteenth.

In his Town-Building in History (London, 1956), Frederick R. Hiorns writes,

'Petersburg [is] unique as a major European city founded and brought to practical completion during the course of the eighteenth century. The site is remarkable, involving physical difficulties that must have called for exceptional skill and judgment to achieve a successful result. Situated at a point where, over an area of low-lying land, the Neva river and the many branches into which it was there divided enter the Gulf of Finland, the advantageous use of the waterways was handicapped by the shallow depth of the 'bar' at the point of entry to the sea.....The founding and general development of Petersburg was a work of Peter the Great, carried to completion by his successors. The plan follows Vitruvian lines, with straight, parallel, and radial streets; the important buildings effectively placed, with good spatial settings; the whole suggestive of orderly and reasoned method. The best quarter of the city, containing its finest buildings, occurs south of the main stream of the river, with its central area axially related to the Admiralty building and steeple, an enormous and splendidly planned scheme by the architect Sakharov, of early-nineteenth-century date. Here, along, and spreading outward from, the Neva, are noble quays and a prodigal expenditure of architectural magnificence. The Admiralty, Fortress island or citadel, the Magazine area on the opposite bank, the Imperial and Grand Ducal Palaces, Customs House and Exchange quarter, the Senate House, cathedrals, the Academy of Arts, and so on, all bear out the regard paid to a majestic standard of architectural quality and convenience.....' (pp. 266-267).

The relationship between Czar Peter the Great and the Dutch Republic (in particular Amsterdam) is also illustrated by the *Kunstkamera*, Russia's first ever museum, created by him in 1719 at the Kikin Palace in the Smolny area of St Petersburg and later moved to a new building on Vasilievsky Island. To furnish it, he purchased a collection of unusual human and animal specimens preserved in alcohol made by the Dutchman Frederik Ruysch (1638-1731) and parts of the collection of diplomat Nicolaas Witsen (1641-1717), who had visited Russia between 1664 and 1665.

☒ *Quebec* (Canada)

The 'Historic District of Old Québec' (C 300) was included in the World Heritage List in 1985.

'Québec was founded by the French explorer Champlain in the early 17th century. It is the only North American city to have preserved its ramparts, together with the numerous bastions, gates and defensive works which still surround Old Québec. The Upper Town, built on the cliff, has remained the religious and administrative centre, with its churches, convents and other monuments like the Dauphine Redoubt, the Citadel and Château Frontenac. Together with the Lower Town and its ancient districts, it forms an urban ensemble which is one of the best examples of a fortified colonial city.'

Quebec was originally just a trading post. Established by Samuel de Champlain for 16 colonists in 1608, its founding was contemporaneous with the *Third Expansion* of Amsterdam (the first part of the canal ring area). However, it is the city's post-1745 fortifications [1 next page](#) that give the historic district its wider significance, making Quebec the only 'fortified city in Canada and North America's only fortified city north of the Rio Grande'.

3.c.b.2) *Amsterdam compared with towns and cities in the Netherlands*

In the medieval and post-medieval towns of the water-logged Low Countries, the canal or moat was an essential feature. After all, such towns often lay below sea-level. They developed not just in the coastal province of Holland (Enkhuizen, Hoorn, Edam, Monnikendam, Haarlem, Amsterdam, Leiden, Delft, etc.), but also in 'Het Sticht' (now the province of Utrecht, for example Utrecht and Amersfoort) and in Friesland (Bolsward, Harlingen and Leeuwarden).

The canals were often dug originally for defensive purposes (like Rapenburg in Leiden) [2 next page](#) or to serve as artificial harbours. For a long time, however, they had a combination of functions: trade and navigation, drainage of the settlement itself and – via a network of field ditches – of the water-logged soils of the surrounding landscape, and even (until far into the nineteenth century) waste disposal.

Canals are still a major feature of contemporary town plans and continue to dictate the structure of historic city centres, despite the fact that in many places they were filled in for public health reasons or to accommodate the growth in road traffic in the nineteenth century.

Indeed, canals are now regaining their importance in town planning, as witness the latest urban development areas in Amsterdam (the Java Island district and the Eastern Docklands area). In the mid-1990s, four new transverse canals (Brantasgracht, Lamonggracht, Majanggracht and Seranggracht) were created in the Docklands area and lined with contemporary apartment buildings designed by fashionable architects like René van Zucke, Bjarne Mastenbroek and Sjoerd Soeters. As in older Amsterdam developments, these buildings have a standard width of four metres and are no more than four or five storeys high.



⚡ Leiden

The most distinctive and distinguished canal in Leiden is *Rapenburg* ³. It dates from the Middle Ages but its structure, cross-section and building lines are similar to those of the seventeenth-century canals of Amsterdam. There is a wide stretch of water in the middle, high brick retaining walls, a brick-surfaced roadway and a line of trees on each side and, extending in front of the building line, transitional areas (*stoepen*) where the distinctive layout and use of materials mark the transition from public space to the private sphere of the home or warehouse.

Rapenburg was initially a defensive moat. It was not until the expansion of the town in 1386 that it was incorporated into the urban fabric and residential properties began to be built on each side of it. The breadth of the plots and the houses built on them indicated the social status of the original owners and residents. By the end of the sixteenth century, Rapenburg was almost completely built up. The narrower houses stand at right-angles to the canal and the broader ones parallel to it ⁴. They belonged to magistrates, university professors and a host of tradesmen. Rapenburg has therefore always housed a mixed social community and been a home of culture and scholarship. In this respect, it is unlike the seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam, where the main canals were the preserve of the merchant and ruling classes, and the radial side-streets housed the small business people and tradesmen.

In the seventeenth century, Leiden experienced a boom in the textile industry. This triggered a wave of building activity and modifications to the architecture of existing properties. The 'old-fashioned' gables of many properties were replaced by the Classicist, Italian-inspired façades that now dominate the street scene.

⚡ Delft

Many people's idea of Delft is dictated by the picture painted by Johannes Vermeer (1632-1675) in around 1660 (*View of Delft*, Mauritshuis Museum, The Hague), in which the town is seen across the wide waters of the canalised Schie. Likewise, the general public's idea of a historic Dutch street scene has probably been heavily influenced by Vermeer's painting of houses in Delft known as the *Little Street* (c. 1675/68, Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam).

The existence of Delft is recorded as far back as 1206. The town is surrounded by the polders of Holland and expanded in the late Middle Ages along a system of former brooks and waterways, of great importance for the drainage of the peaty environs. Visiting the place in 1660, Londoner Samuel Pepys (1633-1703) wrote in his famous diary that it was 'a most sweet town, with bridges and a River in every street'.

The ground plan of the town is thought to have been based on that of the *villeneuves* built along the inland and maritime shipping route from Aquitaine (France) to England. There are similarities with northern French and Belgian towns like Gravelines, Dunkirk, Nieuwpoort and Ostend and also with towns at the start of the route, deep inside France (like Eymet and Lalinde). The dimensions of the building plots in the latter towns (20 x 40 metres) match those of plots in some parts of Delft (for example, between Oude Delft ⁵, Koornmarkt, Wijnhaven and Hippolytusbuurt) ⁶. Moreover, the town charter of Eymet was virtually identical to that of Delft.

Delft is bisected from north to south by two parallel canals: the Oude Delft and the Koornmarkt / Voorstraat canal, at right-angles to which run the Kantoorgracht and several narrower canals. To the south and south-east there is another small network of canals.

⚡ Utrecht

A unique feature of Utrecht is its two basement-level canals, the Oudegracht ('Old Canal') ¹ ² and Nieuwegracht ('New Canal') ³, with their wharves and underground 'wharf cellars', now often cafés or restaurants.

Utrecht lies at the fork of two rivers: the Kromme Rijn and the Vecht (itself a branch of the Oude Rijn). The Oudegracht links the two and still forms the main axis of the street plan between the Vecht and the Vaartse Rijn to the south (dug in 1122 to provide a link to another river, the Hollandse IJssel). Unlike Amsterdam, therefore, Utrecht was accessible over three waterways (the Vaartse Rijn, the Vecht and the Vleutense Vaart).

In the fourteenth century, the canal by the Bemuurde Weerd – a mediaval suburb outside the city walls – served to defend that area against attack.

The northern section of the Oudegracht was dug in around 1000 A.D., perhaps to provide access to the Vecht. The southern section follows what used to be the course of the Rhine, before the river silted up completely in around 1000. Most of the Oudegracht (from the Tolhuispoorten to what is now Waterstraat, level with the Jacobikerk) already existed by the twelfth century.

The Kromme Nieuwegracht must once have been a small natural watercourse. The Ganzenmarkt, next to the town hall complex, is an open area created in the late Middle Ages by filling in a remaining fragment of the Rhine. The Nieuwegracht – narrower than the Oudegracht – was excavated in the late fourteenth century (1393), possibly as a drainage and navigation canal. The Drift, Plompstorengracht and the southern section of the Kromme Nieuwegracht were all dug in the same year.

The quays alongside these canals – originally loading wharves and storage areas – lie well below street level. On both sides of the canal, at right-angles to the water and the wharves, barrel-vaulted 'wharf cellars' extend under the streets and through to the canal houses. At the wharf side, the cellars have doors and hatches let into the retaining wall of the street. Right through to the early twentieth century, each section of this wharf/cellar complex was privately owned by the proprietor of the house above. These days, however, the wharves and retaining walls of the streets are in the hands of the municipality.

The construction of the wharf cellars beside the Oudegracht began in the late thirteenth century. Most date from the fourteenth century. It is still not entirely clear why they were built; perhaps it was because of a permanent lowering of the water table. In the case of the Nieuwegracht, the oldest wharves and cellars date from the late fourteenth century.

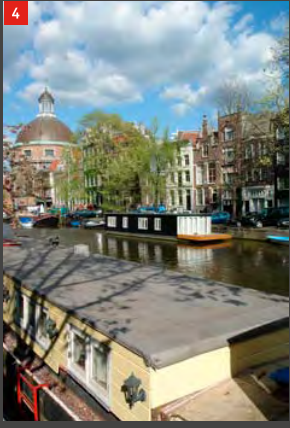
3.d Integrity and/or Authenticity

The ground plan of the *property* (the seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within Singelgracht) – its geometrical layout, size and scale – has survived to the present day. The structure, internal disposition and breadth of the canals (average cross-section 27 metres) are virtually unchanged.

The transition from public space to private property is still marked almost without exception by the open and usually stone-paved strip parallel to the front façade known as the *stoep* ⁴ [next page](#).

The blocks of houses between the canals, with their building lines and pattern of building plots, still





dictate the rhythm of the historic urban landscape of the seventeenth-century canal ring area. The uninterrupted rows of buildings that line the main canals and transverse side streets together form blocks, within which the original pattern of (usually deep and narrow) building plots still survives.

The buildings, chiefly a mix of residential properties and warehouses, still give an impression of homogeneity, even if the architecture of particular house façades has been modified over time. Civic bye-laws dictating the height and volume of buildings have existed ever since the seventeenth century and have ensured the preservation of 27 *keurtuinen*: gardens designated as such by the seventeenth-century city authorities and still surviving inside blocks situated between Herengracht, Keizersgracht and Kerkstraat.

A prominent feature now as then is the use of brick ¹ as a building material, accompanied by stone detailing ² to lend status and prestige to canal-side mansions. There is great diversity of detail in the surviving historic gables.

Almost no building is identical to its neighbour. The 'distinction' between the buildings lining the main canals and those in the narrow radial streets between the canals has been retained and the churches commissioned by the city in the seventeenth century (the Noorderkerk and Westerkerk) ³ are still in use as places of worship.

Ever since the seventeenth century, the main and transverse canals have been lined with regularly spaced rows of trees ⁴. Bridges, some of them original, ⁵ still exist at the points planned at the time of the two seventeenth-century urban expansions. The pattern of streets and alleys ⁶ within the canal ring area is completely unchanged, with the exception of the construction of one more recent radial street (Raadhuisstraat), which involved some demolition and the occasional (usually slight) widening of radial roads linking the canals.

The watercourses and canals are not only a characteristic feature of the historic ground plan of the city, but continue to play their traditional role in water management and transportation. Seventeenth-century locks in Korte Prinsengracht ⁷, Singel ⁸ and Nieuwe Herengracht ⁹ continue in use right up to the present day.

Proof of the integrity of the *property* includes the exceptionally large number of listed buildings within it and of course the fact that the canal ring area is part of the 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht' conservation area designated under the Dutch Monuments Act of 1988 (*Monumentenwet 1988*).

The extent to which the built cultural heritage within the *property* has survived unaltered and in its entirety is described in the Explanation formulated at the time of the area's designation as a conservation area in 1999:

'...The historic spatial structure of the area, which still exists virtually in its entirety, is characterised by a planned arrangement of watercourses, roads and blocks of buildings, all more spacious and larger in scale than those in the mediaeval city. The spatial structure is governed principally by the way Singel, Herengracht, Keizersgracht and Prinsengracht and the streets running alongside them are folded around the mediaeval heart. (..) At an angle to this main canal system run several narrow canals (..). The small transverse streets, often crossing the hump-backed canal bridges that are so typical a feature of this part of Amsterdam, tend to link through to the streets in the mediaeval heart. The narrow side streets open up strikingly at points where they cross each of the main canals (..) [this is] accentuated by the presence of bay windows and/or turrets on corner buildings at the junctions of canals and radial streets. (..) A prominent feature of the canal cross-sections and the street scene are the lines of trees on each side of the canals. Another typical feature is the flights of stone steps leading to the first floor and/or the basement. (Managementplan (2008), 3.5.3) (see appendix)

Thanks to the policies that Amsterdam has pursued for decades with regard to its historic buildings and archaeology, there is now great respect for existing structures and for the built cultural heritage throughout the city.

Under the Dutch Monuments Act of 1988 and the municipal bye-law on historic buildings and monuments (*Monumentenverordening*), the built cultural heritage of the canal ring area has been protected in the following ways:

- ⌘ State designation of 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht' as a conservation area in 1999
- ⌘ State listing of 3,466 structures within the *property* as historic buildings and municipal listing of 443 structures (figures as of 1 January 2008)
- ⌘ Within the buffer zone State listing of 3,188 structures as historic buildings and municipal listing of 697 structures (figures as of 1 January 2008) (see map).

In addition to these protective measures, the municipality of Amsterdam employs a number of other instruments to protect, maintain and enhance the built cultural heritage of the canal ring area and its characteristic elements:

- ⌘ Protective land-use plans have been adopted within the conservation area.
- ⌘ When the protective land-use plans were being drawn up, the buildings in the conservation area were placed in three categories, associated with protection regimes of ascending levels of rigour (see below).
- ⌘ When major restoration is required, the municipality's Historic Buildings and Archaeology Bureau (BMA) (*Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie, BMA*) assists with relevant research, advice and support for its execution.
- ⌘ There are special regulations for the restoration of historic buildings (the Programme of Quality Standards for Historic Buildings (*Programma van Eisen Kwaliteit Monumenten*) and a specific consent system for listed buildings.
- ⌘ When urban development plans are being prepared, the BMA can draw up a Cultural History Impact Report (*Cultuurhistorische Effectrapportage*) on the features at risk in the area concerned (*Managementplan* (2008), 3.5.3.).
- ⌘ Under section 38a, paragraph 1 of the 1988 Monuments Act, the municipality has a duty to take account of known or probable archaeological features in its land-use planning.

4

STATE OF CONVERSATION



4.a Present state of conservation

In the first half of the twentieth century, two architects were responsible for repair and restoration projects that left a clear stamp both on the buildings concerned and on the appearance of the historic inner city as a whole. Their names were Jan de Meijer and Antoon Abel Kok.

Jan de Meijer (1878-1950)

De Meijer was an idealist who placed great emphasis on the use of traditional craft methods and on what he saw as the beauties of seventeenth-century architecture. He modified the buildings he restored to match his preconceptions. He was interested in what was then called 'Old Dutch' (*Oud-Hollandse*) architecture. Buildings restored by De Meijer include:

- ⌘ Oudezijds Voorburgwal 249, the 'House on three canals' ¹: a double house with strikingly reconstructed crow-step gables and cross-casement windows, facing onto three canals (Oudezijds Voorburgwal, Grimburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal), circa 1610. The 1909/10 reconstructive restoration concerned the portion facing onto Oudezijds Voorburgwal.
- ⌘ Nieuwebrugsteeg 13 / Sint Olofspoort ², 'In de Lompen' (a former sugar bread bakery or sugar shop), restored 1932: crow-step gable, Dutch Renaissance style. 4.25 metres wide, originally 7 metres deep. Purchased in 1918, together with the houses at St Olofspoort 2 and 4, by the Hendrick de Keyser Association.
- ⌘ *Makelaarscomptoir* (broker's office) ³, Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal (75), 1633/1634, restored 1937. Recently repaired by the Hendrick de Keyser Association.
- ⌘ 'Wapen van Riga' (Riga Arms) ⁴, Oudezijds Voorburgwal 14, 1604, restoration 1940. Straight gable replaced at that time by present reconstructed crow-step gable, with cross-casement windows. Concealed timber frame. Purchased in 1929 by the Hendrick de Keyser Association.
- ⌘ Brouwersgracht 48, mainly repair work.
- ⌘ Singel 440, mainly repair work.

Antoon Abel Kok (1881-1951)

Kok focused primarily on what a building had to say, the condition of the structure and how it spoke to him as an architect. He used materials and components sourced from other buildings to ensure that his restorations enhanced the beauty of the city and the townscape. He opposed the reconstruction of buildings, especially gables, in Dutch Renaissance style.

He wrote *De historische schoonheid van Amsterdam* (Amsterdam, 1942) and *Amsterdamse Woonhuizen*. (Amsterdam, 1946).

His restoration projects include:

- ⌘ Prinsengracht 2-4/Brouwersgracht **1**, 1929, mainly repair work; 1955-56, reconstruction by C. Wegener Sleeswijk of crow-step gables to replace the two straight gables.
- ⌘ Kattegat 4-6 **2**; **3**, 1930, back to the original architecture.
- ⌘ Kattegat 8 , with a bell gable crest sourced from Rozenstraat 108.
- ⌘ Herengracht 218, 220, circa 1616, Dutch Renaissance, twin-gabled building.
- ⌘ Herengracht 507 , 1938, giving precedence to the exterior of around 1740 (with sash windows, raised perron and mid-section).
- ⌘ Herengracht 556 **4**, cornice gable 1740. Restored in 1930, introducing the raised perron and eighteenth-century arrangement of the windows.
- ⌘ Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal 66, 166, restored 1942, when the cornice gable was replaced by a bottle-neck gable and stone scrolls, and sash windows with a close arrangement of glazing bars were introduced. The gable came from Prinsengracht 50.

Early 'reconstructive' restorations within the Singelgracht

Within the Singelgracht, there are various examples of early 'reconstructive restorations'.

They include:

- ⌘ Bloemgracht 87-91, 'De Steeman', 'De Landman' and 'De Zeemand', 1642, restored 1943-1947
- ⌘ Singel 140-142 **5** (where the cornice gable of the building on the right was replaced by a bottle-neck gable to match the one beside it. The same house also lost its entrance).
- ⌘ Brouwersgracht 86, a corner house, has been 'restored' in eighteenth-century style above the more or less preserved wooden ground-floor shop front, topped off by a gable sourced from elsewhere.
- ⌘ Herengracht 544-542 , 1930, modern building in neo-historical style, architect P.J.S. Pieters.
- ⌘ Herengracht/Blauwburgwal 22 **6**, 1669, restored in 1947 following bomb damage.

'Van Houten buildings'

'Van Houten buildings' are houses built in the 1920s in a 'sympathetic' neo-historical style. They have brick walls with deep jointing and feature the re-use of older gables and/or stone elements and ornaments sourced from demolition sites. The historic inner city has 200 such 'Van Houten buildings', named after E. van Houten, the municipal building inspector of the time at whose instigation this was done.

Van Houten and L.H. Bours Pzn, the architect of the unofficial committee (*Commissie voor het Stadsschoon*) that preceded the city's official aesthetic control committee, felt that the inclusion of these older elements 'aesthetically improved' the new buildings and hence the townscape.

Examples of 'Van Houten buildings' are:

- ⌘ Rozenstraat 72
- ⌘ Herengracht 309-311, two houses of eighteenth-century appearance with bell gables
- ⌘ Keizersgracht 464/Leidsegracht , built in 1936.

Restorations based on eighteenth-century examples

Countless post-war restorations were strongly influenced by the many eighteenth-century prints and drawings of Amsterdam houses, canals and townscapes, or by the prints of canal-side house façades published in Caspar Philips' (1768-1771) *Grachtenboek*. Examples include:

- ⌘ Kalkmarkt 1, restoration 1951, architect C.W. Royaards
- ⌘ Kalkmarkt 2, restoration 1957-1960, architect C.W. Royaards



Restorations 1953-1963

(The details in this section are taken from a 1965 publication by the municipality's building conservation department describing '63 Amsterdam houses and warehouses dating from 1450 to 1825, selected from a total of 650 buildings restored during the first ten years in the life of the municipal building conservation department (1953-1963)' (Bureau Monumentenzorg, *Bewaard in het hart*. Amsterdam, 1965).

- ⌘ Heintje Hoekssteeg 20, early seventeenth century, internal wooden frame. Crow-step gable and ground-floor shop front reconstructed at the time of restoration; windows based on an eighteenth-century example.
- ⌘ Groenburgwal 2a, early seventeenth century, original facade with crow-step gable, later changed to a straight gable. Wooden ground-floor shop front, changed to brick in the nineteenth century. Current state preserved at time of restoration.
- ⌘ Waterlooplein, 'Turfpakhuizen' (peat warehouses) **1**. Four separate buildings, the middle two forming a double warehouse. Stone balustrade reconstructed at time of restoration.
- ⌘ Herengracht 100 **2**, circa 1620.
The top – aedicule – was reconstructed at the time of restoration.
- ⌘ Herengracht 361 **3**, circa 1655, restored by G. Prins, 1962.
- ⌘ Herengracht 363, front facade restored by G. Prins, 1963, after a picture of circa 1800.
- ⌘ Herengracht 541 **4**, 1964/65, architect J. Trapman, inspired by the previous building on the site (now demolished).
- ⌘ Herengracht 552-550, cornice gables extending over both neighbouring buildings, 1968, architect J. Trapman. New building in neo-historical style incorporating older elements, built for the Mees&Hope Bank.
- ⌘ Dam 11, 1632, crow-step gable with scrolls, sandstone bands, corner stones and keystones. Cross-casement windows introduced at the time of restoration; ground-floor shop front in neo-historical style.
- ⌘ Herengracht 168 **5**, modified in 1638 after a design by Philips Vingboons (circa 1607-1678), with sandstone facade. Thought to be the earliest example of a bottle-neck gable in Amsterdam. Modified again in the eighteenth century (pre-1770), with the windows being elongated and the pediments above them removed (state preserved at time of restoration).
- ⌘ Herengracht 342, sandstone facade, 1719/20, eighteenth-century window arrangement introduced during restoration.
- ⌘ Herengracht 361, 'De Sonnenberg', between 1652 and 1659, heavily modified in eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Façade and crow-step gable reconstructed on basis of architectural research (window arrangement based on early nineteenth-century example), designed by G. Prins. A striking detail of the design is the attic door flanked by narrow windows.
- ⌘ Kerkstraat 192-198, restoration/reconstruction designed by IJsbrand Kok (son of A.A. Kok), 1962/65. Only the bottle-neck gable of no. 192 had been preserved, a fourth building in the row was a total reconstruction.
- ⌘ Zandhoek 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 **6**; **7**; **8** Group dating from 1657-1660, important in the more recent history of building restoration in Amsterdam because it was a pilot for cooperation between the municipality's then building conservation department (*Bureau Monumentenzorg*) and private institutions (Hendrick de Keyser Association, Maatschappij tot Stadsherstel N.V. and Stichting Diogenes). The houses are split horizontally into two apartments and have an entresol. The original crow-step gable of no. 6 still survives.





Restorations in the post-war period

- ⌘ 1953, Synagogue, Nieuwe Uilenburgerstraat (91)
- ⌘ 1954, Zandhoek 2-4; 1959, Zandhoek 13
- ⌘ 1956, Begijnhof 34 ('Wooden House') ¹
- ⌘ 1960, Brouwersgracht 86
- ⌘ 1962/64, Arti et Amicitia, Rokin
- ⌘ 1964, Korte Prinsengracht 5-9
- ⌘ 1973, Keizersgracht 62-64
- ⌘ 1975, The Pinto House ²
- ⌘ 1975, Herengracht 89, reconstruction, bottle-neck gable based on example in Caspar Philips' *Grachtenboek*, 1768; previous building demolished in 1902
- ⌘ 1979, West India House ³ (the former headquarters of the Dutch West India Company)
- ⌘ 1984, Keizersgracht 244-246
- ⌘ 1990, St Olof's Chapel ⁴
- ⌘ 1992, Magna Plaza

Restorations completed in 1993-2004

According to information from the municipality of Amsterdam (*Ruimte voor geschiedenis* policy document, p. 38), 1,892 buildings (including some defined as essential to the appearance of the city) were restored between 1993 and 2004 at a total cost of €474,284,845.

State subsidies were received under two subsidy programmes of the period, one from the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science for the restoration of historic buildings and monuments (*Besluit rijkssubsidiering restauratie monumenten*) and the other from the Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment for the historic buildings section of the Urban Renewal Fund (*Stadsvernieuwingsfonds*), now the Investment Budget for Urban Renewal (*Investeringsbudget Stedelijke Vernieuwing* or ISV). These subsidies totalled €101,066,920.

Of the 1,892 buildings involved, 1,652 were listed by central government, 129 were listed by the municipality and 109 were 'essential to the appearance of the city'. The average investment per building was €250,679 and the average amount of subsidy was €53,418.

During the period, restoration work took place, for example, on various churches – the Dominicuskerk (1995) ⁵, the Noorderkerk (1998), the Oude Kerk (1999), the St Nicolaaskerk (2000) – and on the Beurs van Berlage (2003) ⁶.

Privately-owned buildings within the *property* which were restored between 2000 and 2006 include:

- ⌘ Amstel 77-79 (subsidies €24,333, 24,333, 24,333 and 24,333) (2001)
- ⌘ Brouwergracht 72 (subsidy €61,260) (2000)
- ⌘ Brouwersgracht 86 (subsidy €66,566) (2003)
- ⌘ Brouwersgracht 92 (subsidies €25,097 and 21,964) (2001)
- ⌘ Herengracht 41 (subsidies €27,840 and 27,840) (2004)
- ⌘ Herengracht 79 (subsidy €122,520) (2002)
- ⌘ Herengracht 449 (subsidy €86,473) (2000)
- ⌘ Kerkstraat 64 (subsidy €122,520) (2000)
- ⌘ Kerkstraat 190-198/Prinsengracht 855-897 (subsidy €84,732 and €39,222) (2000)
- ⌘ Kerkstraat 294 (subsidy €27,920) (2000)
- ⌘ Keizersgracht 31 (subsidy €6,168) (2004)
- ⌘ Keizersgracht 357 (subsidy €3,276) (2001)



- ⌘ Langestraat 33 (subsidies €10,216, 15,324 and 20,897) (2000)
- ⌘ Langestraat 72 (subsidy €50,607) (2000)
- ⌘ Leidsegracht 94 (subsidies €1,525, 760, 760, 1,525, 1,525 and 1,525) (2000)
- ⌘ Nieuwe Herengracht 145 D (subsidy €4,497, a lump-sum contribution equal to 50% of the grant-eligible costs)
- ⌘ Prinsengracht 94 (subsidy €46,000) (2005)
- ⌘ Prinsengracht 180 (subsidy €51,355) (2000)
- ⌘ Prinsengracht 571 (subsidy €69,000) (2005)
- ⌘ Prinsengracht 696 (subsidy €77,356) (2001)
- ⌘ Prinsengracht 754, R.C. presbytery De Duif (subsidy €104,306, lump-sum contribution equal to 50% of the grant-eligible costs) ¹
- ⌘ Reguliersgracht 7 (subsidies €38,867 and 23,317) (2000)
- ⌘ Reguliersgracht 15 (subsidy €38,895) (2001)
- ⌘ Reguliersgracht 82 (subsidies €28,179, 23,278 and 23,278) (2001)
- ⌘ Reguliersgracht 110 (subsidy €38,389) (2001)
- ⌘ Reguliersgracht 114 (subsidy €122,520) (2001)
- ⌘ Spiegelgracht 4 (subsidies €2,166, 2,166, 2,166, 2,166 and 2,166) (2003)
- ⌘ Spiegelgracht 30 (subsidy €23,985) (2000)

(Information provided by the Central Borough. The subsidies were awarded out of the Investment Budget for Urban Renewal or 'ISV budget' allocated to Amsterdam.)

Current large-scale restoration projects

Current restoration projects include, for example:

- ⌘ the *Royal Palace on Dam Square* (the former Town Hall) (restored in 1965; current interior restoration, 2005-2008/09, total cost approx. €69 million; exterior restoration, 2009-2012)
- ⌘ *Central Station* (estimated cost in excess of €200 million, not including the redevelopment of the area immediately surrounding the station (approx. €60 million) (2009-2015)
- ⌘ *Oude Kerk* (tower of the Oude Kerk, restoration due for completion in 2008; restoration of remainder of church, 2008-2012, cost of repair, including VAT, €5.2 million) ²
- ⌘ the *Portuguese Synagogue* (client, Cultural Heritage Foundation of the Portuguese-Jewish Community of Amsterdam; estimated cost of repair, €10 million, with the municipality of Amsterdam to contribute €1.8 million of this; work to begin in 2009) ³
- ⌘ *Trade Unions Museum (Vakbondsmuseum)* (Architect's office: J. van Stigt) (client, Hendrick de Keyser Association; cost of repair, €2.5 million) ⁴
- ⌘ *Hoge Sluisbrug* bridge over the Amstel ⁵
- ⌘ *Felix Meritis* (total cost of structural restoration €8 million, through to 2010; extra €1.4 million for fungal damage in roof structure) ⁶
- ⌘ *De Ruyterkade 149-150* (former fire station) (client, Stadsherstel Amsterdam N.V.; estimated cost of repair, €1.2 million; work probably starting in 2009)
- ⌘ *De Ruyterkade 105-106* (chocolate museum)

- ⋮ *Amstelhof* and *Kleine Hermitage* (for Hermitage on the Amstel, approx. €45 million, in phases (phase 1: 2001-2004, €4.4 million; phase 2: 2007-2009, €41 million) ¹
- ⋮ *'s-Landszeemagazijn* (naval storage depot), now the National Maritime Museum (2007-2010) (renovation and redesign, around €46 million, 75% to come from the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science) ².

Over the 1980-2010 period, a huge repair and restoration project is also going on in the '*Blauwlabenblok*', situated in the mediaeval heart of the city between Warmoesstraat, Oudezijds Voorburgwal, St Jansstraat and St Annenstraat. Among other things, this involves 108 homes.

Architectenbureau J. van Stigt is working on the *Hotel de l'Europe* in Doelenstraat (€8.5 million).

Last year (2007) saw the completion of the project to restore and redevelop the *Scheepvaarthuis* ³ (former shipping company offices) after the last shipping company left it in 1981. It is now the Grand Hotel Amrâth.

Towers – repair and maintenance

On behalf of the municipality's Inner City Department (*Dienst Binnenstad*), repair and restoration work has been done on the *Schreierstoren* ⁴ and the *Muiderpoort* (2004/05) ⁵.

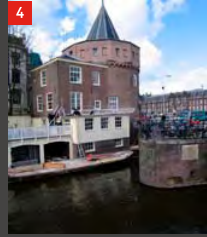
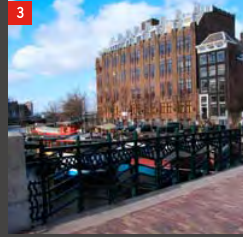
Maintenance costs for the *Schreierstoren* totalled just over €21,000 in 2003, over €22,000 in 2004, almost €160,000 in 2005, €353,000 in 2006 and €137,000 in 2007. The Central Borough spent €27,000 on the *Westertoren* ⁶ in 2003, €17,000 in 2004, approx. €33,000 in 2005, €822,575 in 2006 (including a subsidy of €681,000) and €1,060,696 in 2007 (including the same amount of subsidy).

Maintenance costs for the *Montelbaanstoren* ⁷ totalled approx. €18,000 in 2003, €44,000 in 2004, €50,000 in 2005, €674,000 in 2006 (including a subsidy of €350,000) and €200,000 in 2007 (including a subsidy of €181,000). Subsidies for the repair of these towers came from central government and the ISV budget.

Retaining walls and bridges – repairs and maintenance

Annual spending by the Central Borough on the maintenance of the retaining walls of the canals and on bridges totalled €6,540 million in 2006, €7,101 million in 2007 and €5,077 million in 2008.

The repair of the bridge at Singel/Oude Leliestraat (*bridge no. 9*) cost €1,035,000 (2006), while that of the two *bridges at the junction of Herengracht and Leliegracht* is costing €2,000,000 (2010). The *retaining wall* on the odd-numbered side of Herengracht, level with the Thorbeckeplein, was repaired in 2006 (estimated budget €580,000). In the same year, the cost of renovating the *retaining wall* of the Singel ⁸, odd-numbered side, between Torensteeg and Lijnbaanssteeg, and upgrading the public highway was €2,400,000. Renovation of the *retaining walls* on the even-numbered side of Prinsengracht, between Looiersgracht and house number 318, is to cost €1,100,000 in 2010. On the even-numbered side of Korte Prinsengracht, between Haarlemmer Houttuinen and Haarlemmerdijk and on the odd-numbered side between Haarlemmerstraat and Haarlemmerhouttuinen, the *retaining walls* are to be renovated and *public space is to be upgraded* in 2009 at a cost of €3,000,000.



1



2



3



The repair of the *Torensluis* lock ¹ was completed in 2007.

In the Jordaan, projects include upgrading, renovating the retaining wall and resurfacing Bloemgracht between Lijnbaansgracht and Derde Leliedwarsstraat. In early 2009, part of Lauriergracht is to be upgraded between Hazenstraat and Prinsengracht, on the odd-numbered side. This will include modification of the '*geveltuintjes*' (narrow flowerbeds along the front walls of houses). In 2010, the even-numbered side of Lauriergracht, between Prinsengracht and Tweede Laurierdwarsstraat, is to be resurfaced and upgraded at a cost of €690,000. The bridge at the junction of Bloemgracht and Eerste Bloemdwarsstraat was renovated in 2005 (€950,000).

The replacement value of the Oudezijds kolk sluice complex (in the buffer zone) ² is approx. €5,000,000 and the annual cost of maintenance is approx. €50,000. In the case of the Haarlemmersluis sluice (within the *property*) ³, the replacement value is approx. €9,000,000 and the annual cost of maintenance is €90,000. The maintenance budget is therefore calculated as 1% of the replacement value based on a 100-year lifespan.

Public space – upgrading

Buffer zone

In 2001, Dam Square was resurfaced using granite cobblestones (to a design by Simon Sprietsma) at a cost of €14.8 million. The upgrading of the public space extending from Central Station to Frederiksplein via Damrak, Rokin, Muntplein, Vijzelstraat and Vijzelgracht, following construction work on the new North/South metro line, is expected to cost €35,000,000 (2008 estimate).

In late 2004, the Central Borough decided to adopt an area-specific approach to the northern Burgwallen in the Oude Zijde area. From 2006, extensive upgrading work was done on Oudezijds Voorburgwal, between St Agnietenstraat and Vredenburgsteeg, and between Nieuwebrugsteeg and Oudekerksplein, with renewal of the retaining walls on the odd-numbered side, restoration of three bridges and upgrading of the adjacent alleys (Vredenburgsteeg, Wijngaardstraatje and Heintje Hoekssteeg). This was preceded by the upgrading – starting in 2003 – of Oudezijds Voorburgwal between Oude Doelenstraat and Vredenburgsteeg, and between Molensteeg and Korte Stormsteeg, together with the adjacent alleys (Stoofsteeg, Oude Kennissteeg, Kreupelsteeg, Korte Niezel and Korte Stormsteeg). In the mediaeval heart of the city, the same thing was done in Oude and Nieuwe Hoogstraat. The appearance of other alleys in that area, between Oudezijds Achterburgwal and Nieuwmarkt (such as Barndesteeg, Bloedstraat and Bethaniënstraat) has also been improved (2008) in accordance with the municipality of Amsterdam's design guidelines for the city centre (*Handboek Inrichting Openbare Ruimte. Visie, Voorwaarden*, July 2000, see appendices).

The municipality was prompted to publish these guidelines by the designation of the historic inner city within the Singelgracht as a conservation area (1999). The upgrading of the northern part of Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal is scheduled for late 2008, with the footpaths being renovated by replacing the paving stones with red brick.

The upgrading of Rembrandtplein is expected to cost €3,700,000 and is scheduled for 2009.

An action plan for the improvement of public spaces in the Jordaan (*Plan van aanpak openbare ruimte Jordaan*) was drawn up in 2005. The spaces concerned are Palmgracht, Lindengracht and

Elandsgracht, Westerstraat, and various squares and green spaces. The upgrading of Palmgracht (2010) is expected to cost €1,200,000. Meetings have been held to discuss the plan with local residents. Use of materials, street furniture and amenity planting must all comply with the aforementioned design guidelines.

Property

Within the *property*, there are plans to resurface and upgrade Keizersgracht, on the even-numbered side between Leidsestraat and Spiegelgracht, and on the odd-numbered side between Nieuwe Spiegelstraat and Leidsestraat (estimated cost €5,000,000, completion in 2010).

The appearance of Herengracht on the even-numbered side, between Leidsegracht and Vijzelgracht, has been improved (€1,837,000, 2006), as has that of Herengracht on the odd-numbered side, between the Amstel and Utrechtsestraat, (€500,000). Retaining walls are to be repaired and paving upgraded on the odd-numbered side of Herengracht between Blauwburgwal and Brouwersgracht, Roomolenstraat, Korsjespoortsteeg, and on two bridges in the area (€2,700,000, 2010). Quayside walls and paving on the odd-numbered side of Herengracht between Thorbeckeplein and house no. 549 have been repaired (€580,000, 2006). The retaining walls and paving beside Herengracht, between Huidenstraat and Leidsegracht, have recently been repaired.

On the odd-numbered side of Nieuwe Keizersgracht, between Weesperstraat and the Amstel, retaining walls and paving have been repaired (€1,525,000, 2006). The same has been done on the odd-numbered side of Amstel between Nieuwe Herengracht and Waterlooplein (€500,000, 2007).

Elsewhere in the *property*, retaining walls have also been renovated and street surfaces upgraded and relayed. An example is on Singel (odd-numbered side) between Torensteeg and Lijnbaanssteeg (2006/07). In 2010, a similar operation is to take place on the same side of Singel between Lijnbaanssteeg and Stromarkt (expected cost: €3.2 million).

The appearance of Prinsengracht is to be improved on the even-numbered side, between Spiegelgracht and Vijzelgracht, together with part of Weteringstraat (€1,650,000, 2010). On the same side of Prinsengracht, between Leidsestraat and Spiegelgracht, and on the odd-numbered side between Nieuwe Spiegelstraat and Leidsestraat, retaining walls are to be repaired and the appearance of the street surface improved (€5,000,000, 2010). Maintenance work is also to be done in 2008 on the retaining walls on the odd-numbered side of Prinsengracht.

The appearance of a number of streets and alleys between the canals (Berenstraat, Gasthuismolensteeg, Hartenstraat, Huidenstraat, Oude Spiegelstraat, Reestraat, Runstraat, Wijde Heisteeg and Wolvenstraat) has been improved and four bridges in the area redesigned (€3,900,000, completed 2005).

The appearance of Beulingstraat and Singel, between no. 464 and Wijde Heisteeg, has been improved (€711,000, 2005).

Upgrading work is taking place in 2008 on the even-numbered side of Nieuwe Herengracht. In 2009, the retaining walls on both sides of Korte Prinsengracht between Eenhoornsluis and the railway viaduct are to be repaired (estimated cost: over €3,000,000) and the retaining walls on the even side are to be repaired with an improvement in their appearance (approx. €500,000).

The Amstelveld square around the Amstelkerk is to be resurfaced and redesigned. A master plan has been adopted for the east bank of the Amstel (between Waterlooplein and Sarphatistraat), part of which lies within the 'core area', with the intention of clearing sightlines to the river. In early 2006, work began on the implementation of this plan between Nieuwe Prinsengracht and Korte Amstelstraat (estimated cost: €300,000).

Street lighting in the Central Borough

One aspect of the current upgrading of public space in the historic inner city is the improvement of *street lighting*. Over the next few years, more than 3,500 post-mounted and 450 wall-mounted lamps are to be replaced along the canals. Here too, the guidelines are laid down in the *Handboek Inrichting Openbare Ruimte*.

There will be a choice of two types of lamp, both reproductions of historic examples: an 1883 design topped with the imperial crown of Amsterdam ('Kroonlantaarn') [1 next page](#) and an 1898 version embellished with the three St Andrew's crosses of the city's coat-of-arms. The new lamps will be installed on the existing cast-iron lampposts dating from 1883. The 1883 crown-type lamp has already been field-tested on Prinsengracht and Leidsegracht. In 1998 twenty examples were installed on Westermarkt and later a number on Herenmarkt and in Falckstraat.

In 2006 the Central Borough's executive decided to replace the lamps along the canals with a total of approx. 1,750 crown-type and approx. 2,450 cross-type lamps. The plan is to install the crown-type lamps in the more prominent parts of the city centre (such as Spui, Rembrandtsplein and Leidseplein, Nieuwmarkt, etc.), along the principal canals (Singel, Herengracht, Keizersgracht and Prinsengracht) and some of the other radial canals (Leidsegracht, Spiegelgracht and Reguliersgracht) within the *property* amounting to 1400 in all. A start was made with this in 2008, with lamps being replaced along Keizersgracht, between Herenstraat and Leliegracht. The operation is expected to take four years.

Where wall mounts are used, they will be made of cast iron and will bear the cross-type lighting fixture.

Management of green public spaces

Municipal policy on urban green spaces is developed, managed and implemented by the Spatial Planning Department's team for Green Spaces, Ecology, Urban Recreation and Water (GRW).

In 2003 the green public spaces in the city centre were surveyed and assessed. This led to the publication of Spatial Planning Department guidelines on its policies regarding historic trees (*Handleiding monumentale bomen. Aanpak, organisatie en uitvoering van een monumentale-bomenbeleid voor de stadsdelen van Amsterdam*, November 2003). Based on the results, and because of the 2002 survey of the historic trees in its area, the Central Borough published its action plan for green spaces (*Groenactieplan Stadsdeel Amsterdam-Centrum*) on 20 December 2005 (formally adopted in early 2006). The plan lists 32 projects to be implemented by 2011. To finance the work, a special 'Green Fund' (*Groenfonds*) has been established. It receives an annual sum of €100,000 from the borough.

The management of green public spaces is also subject to general design guidelines for the city (the *Handboek Inrichting Openbare Ruimte* of 2000). This specifies that the canals are to be planted with elms.

There are also a number of rules and regulations covering the approximately 9,000 trees that grow in public areas in the city centre. They may not be felled or moved without first obtaining a permit and local residents have a right to object.

De Bazel, Amsterdam City Archives and Historic Buildings and Archaeology Department

In 2007, the building on Vijzelgracht designed by architect K.P.C. de Bazel (1869-1923) ² copyright BMA for the Nederlandsche Handelmaatschappij bank (1917-1923) was restored and renovated to accommodate the Amsterdam City Archives and the municipal Historic Buildings and Archaeology Department (BMA). The total investment came to approx. €33 million, excluding VAT. Annual maintenance costs run at €450,000 (at 2008 price levels).

Hendrick de Keyser Association

Over recent years, the Hendrick de Keyser Association has restored a number of buildings within the *property*. They include: Blauwburgwal 22 (2003/04), Herengracht 241 (2006/07), Herengracht 476 (2000), Keizersgracht 743 (2004), Kerkstraat 288-294 (2006) and Prinsengracht 999-1001 (2003).

Stadsherstel Amsterdam N.V.

Buildings within the *property* restored by Stadsherstel Amsterdam N.V. are St Willibrordus binnen de Veste Roman Catholic church ('De Duif') at Prinsengracht 754-756 (2002), Reguliersgracht 63 (2003), Reguliersgracht 95 (2007), Singel 346 (2001) and Stromarkt 3 (2006). It is currently also restoring Noorderkerkstraat 2.

N.V. Stadsgoed

N.V. Stadsgoed has restored and renovated various buildings in the 'buffer zone'. Examples include: Geldersekade 82 (2003), Rokin 116 (2006), Zeedijk 43/Geldersekade 38-40 (2006), Nieuwendijk 15 (2008), 19 (2007), 21 (2007), 23 (2007), 33 (2007) and 35 (2007), and Oudezijds Achterburgwal 91 (2008). Within the *property* it has restored and renovated Kerkstraat 245/Vijzelstraat 107-111 (2005), and Vijzelstraat 127-137/ Prinsengracht 955-957 (2007).

N.V. Economisch Herstel Zeedijk

In 1984 a company called the N.V. Economisch Herstel Zeedijk (www.zeedijk.nl) was set up, with the municipality of Amsterdam as the majority shareholder, to regenerate the Zeedijk by buying up buildings for restoration. Between 1985 and 2006 it acquired 80 properties. The company has now extended its area of operations to include Geldersekade, Hoogstraten, Warmoesstraat, Nieuwendijk and Haarlemmerbuurt. It is buying up properties on behalf of the municipality for repair and renovation in a bid to combat the degeneration of the areas in question.

University of Amsterdam

The Agnietenkapel mediaeval chapel was restored in 1921. Recently (2004-2006), the University of Amsterdam (UvA) has had further repair, restoration and renovation work carried out. This included restoration of the painted ceiling and stained glass windows. At the same time, the municipality's Historic Buildings and Archaeology Department (BMA) conducted archaeological investigations.

In 2004-2007, the University restored the listed buildings at Oude Turfmarkt (129-139) to house the University Library's Special Collections.





4.b Factors affecting the property

i) Development Pressures

Urban and functional developments within Amsterdam's urban conservation area inside the Singelgracht canal must be consistent with the zoning plans laid down by the City of Amsterdam or by the Central Borough for the conservation area. There is therefore no question of any uncontrolled urban developments in the city's medieval heart, or within "Amsterdam's seventeenth-century ring of canals inside the Singelgracht" or other parts of the "buffer zone" inside the Singelgracht.

Demolition of a protected monument inside the *property* is highly exceptional, and requires a specific permit. Permission to make alterations to or on a protected monument is granted subject to a system of permits (Dutch Monuments Act 1988 (*Monumentenwet 1988*); *Amsterdam Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law 2005*) which contain specific provisions

New buildings are governed by the planning regulations concerning the outward appearance of buildings, for which the municipal (City of Amsterdam; Central Borough) External Appearance and Historic Buildings Committee is responsible.

Almost all of the warehouses inside the property have been converted into apartments. Their use as storage facilities could no longer be sustained because the scale of the ring of canals (*grachtengordel*) and historic centre does not allow sufficient space for heavy transport.

Disused conventicles and churches in the property and in the buffer zone have been given new roles and allowance has been made for their protected status as monuments (Rode Hoed) ¹. Almshouses are now used mainly as accommodation for students (Son Hofje) ² and single people. In many cases, because of their size and associated maintenance costs, historic houses, in particular the "double" properties, are now used as offices. Some of them have become museums. The bridges situated inside the *property* and in the buffer zone ³, whether or not designated as protected monuments, are in daily use and are restored as required. No new through traffic routes will be created inside the *property*.

In view of existing legislation and regulations, it can therefore be stated that there are no development pressures within the property, in terms of buildings or the use of public space.

The 2006 policy document on building aesthetics for Central Amsterdam district (*Welstandsnota stadsdeel Centrum 2006*) (attached) does not provide specific criteria for dealing with lines of vision and vistas.

The 2003 Amsterdam Structure Plan: an Urban Choice (*Structuurplan Amsterdam; Kiezen voor stedelijkheid 2003*) (attached) lays down a number of preconditions for urban development in Amsterdam. One of these preconditions concerns "high-rise" buildings. In this regard, the Structure Plan states that

Choosing urbanisation may result in taller buildings. It is important to explore the impact of high-rise buildings at an early stage in the development of the plan. The wording of the contracts to be awarded for the implementation of this structure plan refers to the opportunities and restrictions resulting from high-rise buildings as matters to be investigated.

In general, restrictions apply to the siting of buildings that clearly differ in height from their surroundings. Technical considerations (restrictive measures imposed in respect of air traffic, ray paths, shadow effect, wind nuisance) and landscaping, urban planning and architectural considerations are taken into account.

The responsible siting of tall buildings is assessed on the basis of a High-Rise Impact Report (HER). This applies to buildings which are over 30 metres in height or differ by 50% or more from the average height of buildings in the surrounding area. The memorandum entitled "The High-Rise Impact Report" (De Hoogbouw Effect Rapportage) (January 1999) was drawn up as an additional assessment framework.

This memorandum lays down criteria for the cases that trigger an HER procedure. The instruments are updated in accordance with the structure plan. The aim of this is to investigate the options for achieving a more active, more directive high-rise policy. This will be developed in an additional assessment framework for high-rise buildings.

On 22 June 2005, the city council adopted the policy document on high-rise buildings, policy and instrument; Additional assessment framework for Structure Plan "Urban Choice" (*Hoogbouw, beleid en instrument; Aanvullend toetsingskader Structuurplan "Kiezen voor stedelijkheid"*) as an additional assessment framework. In this new policy, the issuing of an HER (High-Rise Impact Report) ceased to be obligatory. It is only when the impact extends from one district into another that joint responsibility comes into play and the City of Amsterdam must be given the opportunity to advise on a plan. Because of its special structure, a 30-metre height limit continues to apply within the Singelgracht, above which the City of Amsterdam's advisory committee has to be informed of the impact on the urban landscape of a plan for a high-rise building exceeding 30 metres in height; outside the Singelgracht the limit is 60 metres while 90 metres applies to the four central metropolitan areas of Zuidas, the ArenA area, Overamstel and Teleport.

In September 2008 the Strategic High-Rise Agenda for Amsterdam (*Hoogbouwvisie Amsterdam 2008*) was published by Amsterdam's Spatial Planning Department (dRO) (see annexe). This involves preparing the Strategic Structure Agenda for Amsterdam in 2010 (*Structuurvisie Amsterdam 2010*) for the territory of the city, as required under the revised Dutch Spatial Planning Act (*Wet ruimtelijke ordening*) (2008). The production of this document was prompted by the following.

The recent development of the building plans along the northern banks of the River IJ and on top of the Amstelscheg has prompted discussion of the visibility of high-rise buildings from the city centre and about the impact on existing, valued cityscapes. It goes without saying that care must be taken when dealing with the special visual quality of the historic city centre. The need for a more stringent and active high-rise policy, in particular for Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht, is intensifying. That is why, initially in the light of the application for the ring of canals to be inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List, a strategic agenda for high-rise buildings in Amsterdam was drawn up. This review has resulted in a proposal for a new high-rise policy for the city of Amsterdam (Strategic High-Rise Agenda for Amsterdam (Hoogbouwvisie Amsterdam) 2008, p. 6).

The possibility of the 17th-century ring of canals being awarded UNESCO heritage status has brought about changes in this proposal. The historic spatial structure of part of the built-up urban area, the size and scale which have evolved there over the centuries, the cityscape which has grown to become worthy of being preserved as a World Heritage Site – a significant part of human history – should be declared permanent, and binding agreements should be made concerning the nature of the spatial relationships with other parts of the city for the future. This requires the policy on high-rise buildings that may have a visual impact on the UNESCO site to be tightened up. The current high-rise policy would have to be reviewed in order to achieve this (p. 8).

The proposal is again to be based on reactive high-rise policy in which however a better developed assessment framework is established for certain parts of the city than is currently the case. There is, in particular, justification for formulating specific criteria for the seventeenth century ring of canals and Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht. It is also proposed to make the HER or at least the report concerning compatibility with the urban landscape compulsory in certain cases (p. 22).

THE "UNESCO SITE".

The principle to be observed is that plans for high-rise buildings which can be seen from the UNESCO site will be assessed in terms of their impact on the heritage site on the basis of a high-rise impact report. Although it is impossible to establish absolutely objective criteria for measuring the positive or negative impact of a building plan, it is essential to seek an assessment framework and an assessment procedure. The relationship with the "Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention" is obvious. It is not inconceivable that the principle adopted will be that where the historically layered cityscape has "grown" into a unified whole, it should not be altered by new buildings which differ in size and scale.

In other words, a cityscape which already contains elements of different historical styles can also have a relationship with buildings from a new century whereas a layered cityscape which has become a unified whole will, in principle remain unchanged. The cityscape inside the designated area will therefore be retained and preserved to a high degree. High-rise buildings, breach of scale or adverse effects on fabric or typology will not be simply waved through.

THE BUFFER ZONE

The area of the seventeenth-century ring of canals to be nominated is surrounded by a buffer zone, approximating to the area of Amsterdam that lies within the Singelgracht, which currently enjoys the status of Conservation Area (Beschermd Stadsgezicht). Building plans within this zone may have an impact on the UNESCO site. The same principles should therefore apply to this zone as apply inside the UNESCO site. The obvious move would be to draw up assessment criteria for plans for high-rise buildings for this zone as well, and it is not inconceivable that tall buildings will have to be excluded from specific parts of it. In this way, it will be possible to avoid major changes in the cityscape of the UNESCO site, as seen from the public space" (pp. 22, 23).

New urban and architectural developments inside the *property* or inside Amsterdam's conservation area within the Singelgracht or outside it which are under consideration are detailed in the "Priority Dossiers" (*Aandachtsdossiers*) below, which have been drawn up by the City of Amsterdam in connection with the nomination.

PRIORITY DOSSIERS

as part of the nomination
of Amsterdam's seventeenth-century ring of canals

FOR INSCRIPTION ON UNESCO'S WORLD HERITAGE LIST



Amsterdam, 30 October 2008

E. Agricola, D. van der Horst, E. van Kessel, M. Slooff,
I. Weyermans

Introduction

The city and city region of Amsterdam has a dynamic and complex spatial planning system. The nomination of the seventeenth-century ring of canals for inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List raises the question of how this urban dynamic relates to the conservation of the historic city centre and, in particular, the nominated World Heritage status. This applies first and foremost to Amsterdam's high-rise policy, but also to a number of strategic projects which are in progress or will shortly be in progress.

The purpose of these dossiers is to provide an insight into a number of projects and subjects which could affect the assessment of the nomination. For each subject a brief description of the project is given, administrative decisions and the reasons for them are discussed, the current situation and the (possible) consequences for the seventeenth-century ring of canals in terms of *visual impact*, *integrity* and *authenticity*, the criteria and conditions in the *Operational Guidelines*¹ on the basis of which a nomination is assessed. The dossiers contain source and illustrative material. Where the source material is too extensive to be added to the dossiers electronically, reference is made to relevant websites and links.

Priority dossiers included

- A. High-rise buildings
- B. Overhoeks
- C. Westerdokseiland
- D. North-South Line
- E. Coalition Project 1012
- F. Chinatown
- G. Binnengasthuis site
- H. Kop Singel Building Plan (Haringpakkerstoren)
- I. Projects in preparation situated in the *property*
 - I. 1 Former Prinsengracht hospital
 - I. 2 Former Public Library on Prinsengracht
 - I. 3 Former ABN/AMRO bank building on Vijzelstraat
 - I. 4 The five Keizers
- J. Water level and groundwater table
- K. Scaffold sheeting advertising

Explanatory note

The dossier on high-rise buildings (A) discusses the high-rise policy which has been pursued over the past few years in Amsterdam and the way in which the city intends to deal with high-rise buildings in future.

Overhoeks and Westerdokseiland (B and C) concern two key urban projects outside the historic city centre where high-rise buildings have been and are still being built.

The North/South Line (D) is a key urban project; the route of the metro line runs diagonally through Amsterdam's historic city centre.

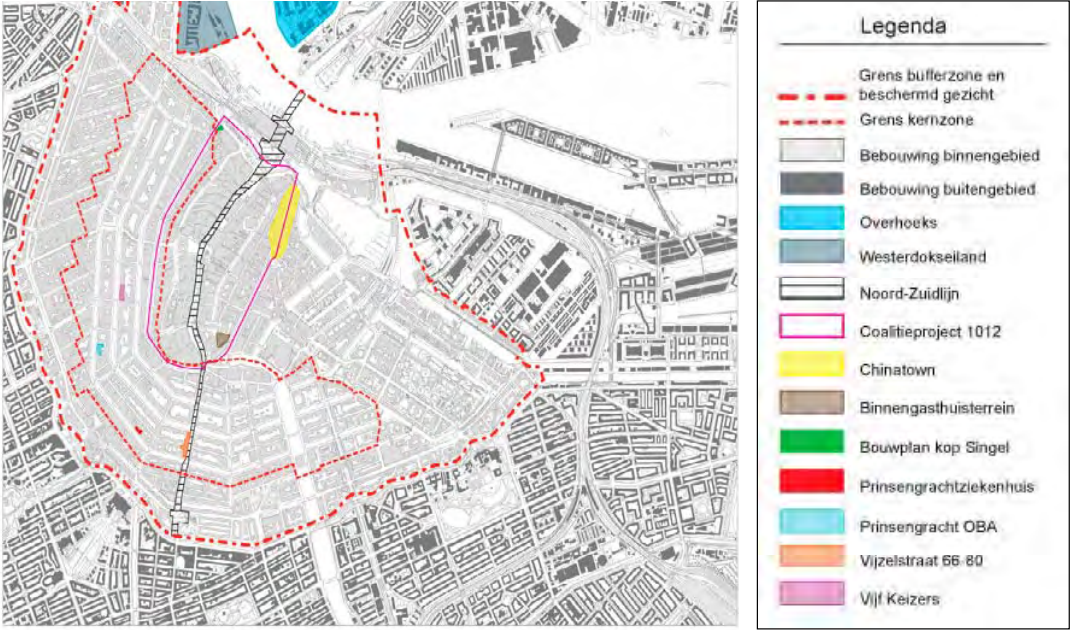
¹ *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*, par. 79-85.

Coalition Project 1012 (E) is a joint venture between the City of Amsterdam and Central Amsterdam district, the aim of which is to improve the quality of, and quality of life in, the oldest parts of the historic city centre. Chinatown (F) is an initiative which aims to boost the economic situation of the Chinese business community in the city centre and which is being implemented as part of Coalition Project 1012.

Dossiers H and I relate to major construction projects which are situated partly outside and partly inside the seventeenth century ring of canals. The Kop Singel Building Plan dossier has within it a special situation because it involves the partial reconstruction of a seventeenth-century tower (Haringpakkerstoren).

On the advice of the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM) a priority dossier on the Water Level and Groundwater Table (J) has been included. As a substantial part of Amsterdam's historic city centre is built on wooden pile foundations, the groundwater table is an important subject.

Finally, a Scaffold Sheeting Advertising dossier (K) has been included, because this topic has been the subject of ongoing discussion with the Outdoor Advertising Working Group of the d'Oude Stadt Community Centre over the past few years.



Overview of locations covered by priority dossiers
UNESCO site in Amsterdam city centre

Legenda

Grens bufferzone en beschermd gezicht
Grens kernzone
Bebouwing binnengebied
Bebouwing buitengebied
Overhoeks
Westerdockseiland
Noord-Zuidlijn
Coalitieproject 1012
Chinatown
Binnengasthuisterrein
Bouwplan kop Singel
Prinsengrachtziekenhuis
Prinsengracht OBA

Key

Boundary between buffer zone and conservation area
Boundary of core zone
Buildings in inner area
Buildings in outer area
Overhoeks
Westerdockseiland
North-South Line
Coalition Project 1012
Chinatown
Binnengasthuis site
Kop Singel Building Plan
Prinsengracht hospital
Prinsengracht Public Library

Priority dossier A: High-Rise Buildings in Amsterdam

Introduction

In 2008, the Physical Planning Department drew up a strategic high-rise agenda. The agenda is both an explanation of and a response to the policy pursued in the city to date with regard to tall buildings and the high-rise projects completed in recent years. On the other hand, the strategic agenda contains proposals which constitute an approach to formulating a policy on high-rise buildings within the context of the Strategic Structure Agenda 2010 (*Structuurvisie Amsterdam 2010*) (strategic agenda for the future urban development of Amsterdam up to 2010).

Main points of Strategic High-Rise Agenda (September 2008)

The policy up to now

The need for density and making optimum use of land plus an increasing number of high-rise initiatives were the impetus for formulating a policy on high-rise buildings in 1991. This policy was laid down as an assessment framework to supplement the structure plans in force at the time.

The basis of the high-rise policy was – and is – to site tall buildings carefully within the existing structures. The policy imposed an obligation to investigate thoroughly all the relevant effects that plans involving building to a height over approx. 30 metres may have, to compile them into a separate report, High-Rise Impact Report (HER), for assessment and to include them in a zoning plan procedure and/or building plan procedure.

The current – City of Amsterdam – high-rise policy dates from 2005 and was laid down in an assessment framework supplementing the *Urban Choice* structure plan of 2003. In this most recent updating exercise, the obligation to draw up an HER no longer applies. In certain cases, however, the (City of Amsterdam) council is notified of a high-rise plan in a district and the impact of that plan on the urban landscape.

In addition, in Central Amsterdam district (Central Borough) and elsewhere, carrying out sight line studies is a standard part of the urban planning policy applicable to building initiatives which could result in a (substantial) change in the roofscape (exceeding building height, constructing roof terraces, etc.).

Proposals for a new policy

The recent development of the building plans along the northern banks of the IJ (NB. IJ is geen rivier) and at the head of the Amstelscheg has prompted discussion of the visibility of high-rise buildings from the city centre and about the impact on existing, valued cityscapes. The city council takes the view that care must be taken when dealing with the special quality of the historic city centre. The proposed nomination of the ring of canals for inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List was what prompted the city to draw up a strategic high-rise agenda as an attempt at a new policy which will be developed in detail in the period to come and will be laid down as part of the Strategic Structure Agenda for Amsterdam 2010.

The proposal is again to be based on a reactive high-rise policy in which an improved assessment framework is established for certain parts of the city than is currently the case. This applies in particular to the area of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht. It is also proposed to make the HER – or at least a report concerning compatibility with the urban landscape – compulsory in certain cases. For a more detailed explanation of the proposals, please refer to the Strategic High-Rise Agenda for Amsterdam 2008 (see annex).



Photomontage: impression of the South Bank from the Schaefer Bridge, DRO 2004

Preparation for Strategic Structure Agenda 2012

By issuing the notification of intent for the Strategic Structure Agenda Process for Amsterdam (*Proces Structuurvisie Amsterdam*) on 22 April 2008, the Amsterdam College of Mayor and Aldermen (Municipal Executive) gave the starting signal to prepare a strategic agenda for the future development of the territory of the City of Amsterdam (Source No. A2). This Strategic Structure Agenda will replace the *Urban Choice* structure plan of 2003. The Strategic Structure Agenda aims to control the dynamic and complex urban development of Amsterdam as a metropolitan area. What urban planning strategy and relevant incentives are required to continue Amsterdam's development as the core city in the Amsterdam Metropolitan Area?

The Strategic Structure Agenda will contain a long-term view of the spatial development of the city (2030/2040). In addition, the view will act as a binding element and an assessment framework for the City of Amsterdam and the districts for all urban planning-related policy in the period 2010-2020. The Strategic Structure Agenda is also the framework for prioritising and implementing programmes and projects to promote public-private investment in the city and the region and deploy it effectively. In this way, it provides citizens with long-term security with regard to the spatial developments which the city aims to implement.

Input for the Strategic Structure Agenda is provided by the 2040 Development Scenario for the Amsterdam Metropolitan Area, which determines the direction of the region's development and the regional context, the long-term Randstad 2040 strategic agenda and the Amsterdam Top City (*Amsterdam Topstad*) programme, which followed on from the Municipal Executive's People make Amsterdam (*Mensen maken Amsterdam*) programme (2006-2010). The latter also applies to the Strategic Housing Agenda (*Woonvisie*), Strategic Port Agenda (*Havenvisie*) and Strategic Public Transport Agenda (*Openbaar vervoervisie*) (all with an outlook to 2020). Work is also being done on Amsterdam's Spatial Economic Ambition (*Ruimtelijke Economische Ambitie*). This project will also contribute to its strategy for implementing the Strategic Structure Agenda.

In the autumn of 2008, a public discussion was held on the topics that determine urban planning issues in Amsterdam. The result of the discussion will be incorporated into a memorandum on the Pillars of the Strategic Structure Agenda (*notitie Pijlers structuurvisie*) in early 2009, in which the main points of the urban planning information and the main choices will be described. This memorandum will form the basis of the Strategic Structure Agenda and in 2009 will result in a draft Strategic Structure Agenda. The final Strategic Structure Agenda will enter into force in 2010 following a round of consultations.



Photomontage: The North and South banks of the IJ. The various towers at Overhoeks are visualised, as well as the planned buildings on the South bank of the IJ.

Sources (see DVD)

- A1. Strategic High-Rise Agenda, Spatial Planning Department, September 2008
- A2. Agenda notice for discussion of the future of Amsterdam, towards the Strategic Structure Agenda 2010 - 2020 for the core city of the metropolitan area, drawn up by Amsterdam Municipal Executivon 17 June 2008

Priority dossier B: Overhoeks

Project description: The planning area (the former Shell site) provides for a construction programme consisting of 2,200 homes, offices, restaurants, hotels and cultural and other social amenities. Added to this are green spaces such as a park (Oeverpark) and recreational facilities along the Buiksloter canal. Overhoeks will be constructed by a public-private partnership of seven partners (ING Real Estate, the City of Amsterdam, district of Amsterdam North, Ymere, Vesteda, Shell and the Film Museum).

Location: The area is situated in Amsterdam North and is bounded by the IJ, the Buiksloterweg road, the Buiksloter canal and the Johan van Hasselt canal, outside the buffer zone, approx. 250 metres away from the conservation area "Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht".

Status: Metropolitan project (in progress)

History and decision-making process

Urban development plan

The Urban Development Plan was passed in September 2004 (preceded by a project decision).

The Urban Development Plan consists of two distinct parts.

The northern part, the "campus", consists of blocks of buildings 8 - 9 storeys high (up to a maximum of 35 metres) grouped around inner courtyards. This part contains over half of the programme, with the emphasis on living, working and non-commercial facilities.

The southern part of the planning area consists of a strip of high-rise buildings. In addition to the existing Overhoeks Tower (the Shell tower) and the Groot Laboratorium, the strip contains five new towers grouped around a number of courtyards. The footprint of the towers is 1,000 square metres per storey. In order to guarantee the relative slimness of the individual towers, each tower is split into two slices which are staggered between 5 and 10 metres apart. The slices have different heights and range from 75 to 110 metres. The strip is home to a mixed programme of homes, hotels, offices, cultural amenities and catering establishments. Squares will be created at the foot of the towers which will contain shops, restaurants, cafés and other public amenities.

The angle between the strip and the campus will be accentuated by the "green wedge". The new Film Museum will be established here on the IJ.

The main open spaces in the planning area are the Oeverpark, the "green wedge" and the internal courtyards in the campus.

On the basis of the Urban Development Plan, a zoning plan was drawn up, which was irrevocably adopted on 2 July 2008 (see below). In December 2005, a cooperation agreement was signed with ING

and Shell, which meant that Shell would move into a new building on a part of the site (New Technology Centre) and sell the remaining 20 hectares to the city. The city would lease the land, ready for construction, to ING which would construct buildings on it (max. 437,000 square metre programme, which means approx. 2,200 homes and 130,000 square metres for other amenities).

Zoning plan

On 20 March 2007, North Holland Provincial Executive decided to grant approval to the “Overhoeks” zoning plan, which was adopted on 18 October 2006 by Amsterdam city council. The Amsterdam North Built Heritage Foundation (*Stichting Monumenten Amsterdam-Noord*, SMN) and the Association of Friends of Amsterdam’s Historic Centre (*Vereniging Vrienden van de Amsterdamse Binnenstad*) appealed against this decision to the Council of State (Source No. B3). The opinions issued by both organisations contained an objection to the development of high-rise buildings in relation to the city centre. They believed that the tall buildings would have an adverse effect on the conservation area and the openness of the sight lines from the city centre to the IJ and result in the loss of “the city centre’s characteristic, architectural qualities”. Also, according to the Association of Friends of Amsterdam’s Historic Centre “the status of world heritage site may or may not be awarded to the ring of canals on the strength of this development”.

The Administrative Litigation Department of the Council of State then commissioned the Administrative Litigation Advisory Foundation for the Environment and Spatial Planning to conduct an investigation as specified in Article 8:47 of the Appeal Procedures (General Administrative Law Act) (*Algemene wet bestuursrecht*) (Source No. B 4). The recommendations of the Administrative Litigation Advisory Foundation of 26 February 2007 on the visibility of tall buildings from the city centre were based on the visual area map and photomontages appended to the supplementary High-Rise Impact Report from the Spatial Planning Department of 2004 (Source No. B 2)). On the basis of the visual area map, the Foundation ruled that at all points in the city centre where the tall buildings were visible, they would not lead to an “unacceptable adverse effect” on the openness of sight lines to the IJ or result in a “dominant visual impact”. With regard to the world heritage status, advanced as an argument in the opinion issued by the Association of Friends of Amsterdam’s Historic Centre, the foundation quoted UNESCO’s “*Declaration on the Conservation of Historic Urban Landscapes*” (Adoption of a Declaration on the Conservation of Historic Urban Landscapes, p. 1) in its ruling as well as the notes to the decision to designate “Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht” as a conservation area. Its conclusion was that “in view of the findings with regard to the visibility of the tall buildings from the city centre”...“the present plan does not put at risk the award of world heritage status”. See Source No. 4: recommendation by Administrative Litigation Advisory Foundation for the Environment and Spatial Planning of 26 February 2008.

On 2 July 2008, the Council of State declared the appeals against the “Overhoeks” zoning plan to be unfounded, which meant that the zoning plan was irrevocably adopted and the further development of the building plans could proceed.

Consequences for UNESCO nomination

What do tall buildings in the Overhoeks planning area mean in relation to the *property* and buffer zone?

Visual impact

Behind Overhoeks Tower (75 metres high) are situated – staggered in relation to each other – five towers, 75, 110, 100, 75 and 90 metres in height, respectively, as seen from Overhoeks. In 2003, a High-Rise Impact Report was prepared, supplemented in June 2004, in order to establish the visual impact of the towers on the city centre and elsewhere. They can be seen in the city centre from Prins Hendrikkade/Oude Waal (buffer zone), Brugsteeg (buffer zone), Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal (buffer

zone), Singel at Haarlemmersluis (boundary between buffer zone and *property*), Palmstraat (buffer zone) and Willemsstraat (buffer zone).

Prins Hendrikkade/Oude Waal: viewed from this spot, the towers are clearly visible.



Brugsteeg: the highest tower will be visible from this point behind Central Station (*Centraal Station*). This has an impact on the outline of the station building. The extent to which the towers are perceived to have an adverse effect on the scene will also be determined by the architectural design and the materials used on the towers.

Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal: the tallest towers will be visible from the bend in the Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal at Korte Kolksteeg.

Singel/Haarlemmersluis (Bridge No.14): here the cityscape is dominated by the silver tower next to the Ibis hotel. From this point, the new towers immediately behind Overhoeks Tower disappear behind the Ibis tower.



Kop Singel at Haarlemmersluis

Palmstraat (Jordaan): the new towers will be partly visible on the distant horizon from Palmstraat.
Willemsstraat (Jordaan): at present, Overhoeks Tower is in the centre of the line of vision from Willemsstraat. The new building volume behind Overhoeks, partly visible from the street, creates crowding on the horizon.



Willemsstraat

General: the materials used on the new towers (not yet known at present) will also influence the visual impact.

Authenticity and integrity

The answer to the question of how the Overhoeks high-rise relates to the authenticity and integrity of the site to be nominated (*property*) depends on the value attached to the visual relationship between the ring of canals and the IJ. The current Strategic Structure Agenda states in general terms that Amsterdam city centre should again face the IJ. Tall buildings can only be built to a limited height in a limited number of sites and must be developed carefully for each project and in relation to the historic city centre. These basic principles will be explicitly stated in the new Strategic High-Rise Agenda within the context of the structure plan.

We can state the following from history: in the 17th and 18th centuries, the only open sight lines (interrupted by bridges and locks) to the IJ from the site to be designated (*property*) were from the Singel and the Prinsengracht in the western ring of canals. These sight lines were not closed until the construction of the railway embankment in the 19th century and later, in the 20th century, by the construction of the Ibis hotel, the silver tower and, at a distance, the Shell tower, and the recent buildings on Westerdokseiland. The tall buildings in Overhoeks are not visible from the *property*, except for the head of the Singel on the boundary with the buffer zone at Haarlemmersluis. The tall buildings are clearly visible from many places in the buffer zone.

Current situation

Phase 1 of the “campus” part of the plan is under construction; the first homes will be completed from the end of 2009. A start has now been made on designing the strip – the strip of high-rise buildings immediately behind Overhoeks Tower. In the second half of 2009, ownership of Overhoeks Tower and the Groot Laboratorium and part of the strip will be transferred to ING; construction and conversion work will then begin. The entire site will be completed in 2018 – 2020.

Sources (see DVD)

- B1. The North bank of the IJ; a cultural, historical impact report. Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology, August 2003
- B2. Supplementary High-Rise Impact Report on Shell Site, Spatial Planning Department, June 2004 (no digital version supplied)
- B3. Opinion against the "Overhoeks" zoning plan by the Association of Friends of Amsterdam's Historic Centre of 3 March 2008
- B4. Report under Article 8:47 of the Appeal Procedures (General Administrative Law Act) by the Administrative Litigation Advisory Foundation for the Environment and Spatial Planning of 26 February 2007
- B5. Strategic High-Rise Agenda, Spatial Planning Department, 2008 (see also A1)
- B6. Website www.overhoeks.nl

Priority dossier C: Westerdokseiland

Project description: The Westerdokseiland project involves the redevelopment of a former marshalling yard to the north west of the property. A programme has been created which will attract between 2,000 and 5,000 people to come to live and work in the area.

This project is characterised by a high building density and a diversity of amenities and lifestyles.

Location: Former marshalling yards at Westerdokseiland, Kop Westerdok and Stenen Hoofd, bounded by the IJ, Westerdokdijk and Westerdok approx. 200 metres from the northern boundary of the property.

Status: Metropolitan project (in progress)

History and decision-making process

Westerdokseiland

On 17 March 1999, the city council adopted the Urban Development Programme of Requirements (*Stedenbouwkundig Programma van Eisen*, SPvE) for Westerdokseiland (Source No. C1). This signalled the start of the redevelopment of the whole area (including the Kop, Wester IJdock). The city council decided that a minimum of 900 homes would be built on Westerdokseiland, approx. 80,000 m² of non-residential amenities and at least 60 berths would be created for houseboats. Westerdokseiland is spread over North Block, Phases 1 and 2, or Westerkaap I and II, Middle Block or VOC Cour and South Block, known as La Grande Cour. The buildings in this area are consistent with the compact, brick-built city centre and western islands. Wester-IJdock in the south-eastern corner of Westerdokseiland lies partly in the IJ. This block is the counterpoint to the head of Oostelijke Handelskade. These two building volumes on either side of Centraal Station echo the symmetry in the historic city frontage: Oudezijds Wallen and Nieuwezijds Wallen, Oudezijds Kolk and Nieuwezijds Kolk and the two churches, Nicolaaskerk and Posthoornkerk. In terms of scale, this complex of buildings creates a relationship with the grain silos, the Harbour Building and head of Oostelijke Handelskade.



View over the IJ from Amsterdam North

The Urban Development Plan for Westerdokseiland was adopted in 2001 (Source No. C2). A zoning plan was drawn up for Westerdokseiland as a whole. It was adopted by the city council on 14 November 2001 and became irrevocable after the ruling by the Council of State on 6 April 2005. See Source No. C4.

However, there had been many objections to the zoning plan for Westerdokseiland, from eleven parties and individuals including the conservation organisation Bond Heemschut, the Working Group on Westerdoks Houseboats, Waterig Amsterdam Front, community organisation (*Wijkopbouworgaan*) Gouden Reael and the Association of Friends of Amsterdam's Historic Centre.

The main objections centred on the rearrangement of the houseboats and the extent of new building, also in relation to sight lines from the old town. The Wester IJdock section was dealt with twice by the Council of State and, after an alteration (inclusion of the Wester IJdock sight lines on the planning map), was also adopted irrevocably in 2005.

The Urban Development Plan for Westerdokseiland is based on the composite block of buildings, built in brick. The maximum building height has been decided at 36.75 metres from the quay and 35 metres from Westerdoksdijk. The layout of the streets at ground level is consistent with that of the ring of canals and is based on the guidelines laid down in the Manual for the Layout of Public Spaces (*Handboek Inrichting Openbare Ruimte*). The same material is used as on the canal section, i.e. red clinkers and natural stone kerbstones (except for main roads, which are finished in black asphalt). The majority of the homes are situated in three blocks of buildings: the North, Middle and South Block. Work started on building the first homes in the North Block on 11 November 2004. The majority of non-residential amenities are being built on Wester IJdock.

Wester IJdock (Kop Westerdokseiland)

A separate Urban Development Plan for the Kop was adopted on 3 July 2001 (see Source No. C3). The maximum building height has been set at 46 metres above NAP (Normal Amsterdam Level). Indentations have been made in the new-build blocks to guarantee visibility from some locations in the historic city centre (including Keizersgracht) on the IJ. The Kop is situated behind Westerdokseiland in the IJ and can hardly be seen from the ring of canals.

The Kop will be home to a hotel (three hundred rooms on eleven floors), 59 luxury residential apartments, the appeal court (relocated from Prinsengracht and other locations in the vicinity, approx. 30,000 m²), the offices of the KLPD (the national police service) and Inland Waterways Board and a marina (temporary moorings only, for seaworthy yachts, managed by the hotel).



Visualisation of IJdock

Most parking spaces will be located inside in garages. A public car park will be constructed under the Wester IJdock building complex. Facilities such as cafés, restaurants and other forms of small-scale business will be provided along the marina and on the new square to be constructed. The plan for the Kop was held up for four years because of legal proceedings (zoning plan) and the sluggish office rental market. In 2005, the Government Buildings Agency decided to locate the appeal court here, after which the development of the plan resumed.



Visualisation of IJdock, looking east

Stenen Hoofd

Stenen Hoofd is a former pier to the north-east of Westerdoksdijk, which will be given a public function.

Consequences for UNESCO nomination

Visual impact:

There are sight lines from the *property*, from Prinsengracht and Binnen Brouwerstraat (a continuation of Keizersgracht), to Westerdokseiland. The new buildings on Westerdokseiland block the sight line from Prinsengracht to the IJ. However, this sight line has already been interrupted by the railway embankment since the 19th century.

Indentations have been made in the new-build blocks in front of the Kop, in Wester IJdock, to guarantee visibility from Keizersgracht/Binnen Brouwersstraat to the IJ. During inspection of the site, the sight line was found to be blocked by a tree. The new buildings on the Kop in Westerdokseiland will – as far as we can ascertain on the basis of the sight line studies – not have any visual impact on the property. The “notches” in the buildings will ensure that the open horizon to the IJ is preserved. See Source No. C5.

Conclusion: there is a substantial visual impact on the *property*, because an important sight line from the *property* has been interrupted. It should be noted that the original sight lines did not give a clear view of the IJ or the open harbour front, but did provide a perception of space through the open horizon.

Authenticity and integrity

The new buildings on Westerdokseiland are outside the buffer zone. The design of the urban development is a combination of references from different periods in Amsterdam’s development so that Westerdokseiland is to form a logical transition from the 17th-century city centre to the 19th-century harbour area around the IJ. The development of Westerdokseiland is therefore in line with Amsterdam’s recent urban development tradition of developing the southern banks of the IJ and the islands. This is not related to the authenticity and integrity of the property.

Current situation

Westerdokseiland

The handover of the new buildings began from late 2007 and will continue until mid-2009. The La Grande Cour and Westerkaap I blocks have already been handed over to residents in their entirety. Westerkaap II and VOC Cour are expected to be handed over in their entirety by mid-2009. The construction of the final ground level around La Grande Cour has begun. The progress of the final ground level is linked to the handover of the remaining blocks on the island. Where necessary, a temporary ground level will be constructed first. Restaurant “Open” opened to the public early this year. The restaurant is sited in/on the former railway bridge in Westerdok.

Wester IJdock (Kop Westerdokseiland)

Building work began in June 2008 with the construction of the collision protection barrier. The new buildings will be completed in 2012/2013. The necessary contracts were signed between Fortis Vastgoed, the Government Buildings Agency and the City of Amsterdam in February 2008.

Stenen Hoofd

A strategic decision (first phase in the planning process) is in preparation for the re-zoning of Stenen Hoofd. The ambition is to keep Stenen Hoofd as a public area.

Sources (see DVD)

- C1. Urban Development Programme of Requirements for Westerdokseiland; adopted by Amsterdam city council on 17 March 1999
- C2. Urban Development Plan for Westerdokseiland (October 2000); adopted by Amsterdam Municipal Executive on 10 January 2001
- C3. Urban Development Plan for Kop Westerdokseiland (September 2001); adopted by Amsterdam Municipal Executive on 3 July 2001
- C4. Adoption of zoning plan for Westerdokseiland (regulations and map), adopted by Amsterdam city council on 14 November 2001 (Municipal Gazette No. 669). Irrevocably adopted on 6 April 2005.
- C5. Master plan for Kop Westerdokseiland, De Architectengroep, 5 March 1998.
(No digital version of Sources C1 - C5 available)
- C6. www.westerdokseiland.nl (with photomontages of the new buildings)
- C7. www.ijoevers.nl (general site)
- C8. www.ijdock.nl

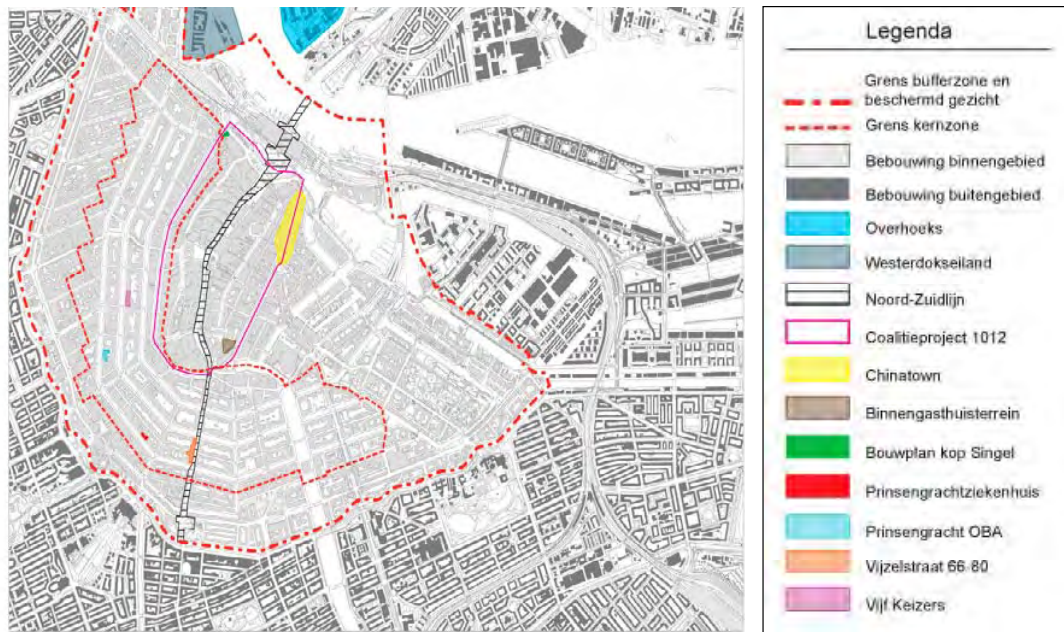
Priority Dossier D: North-South Line

Project description: The North-South Line project involves the construction of a metro route almost 10 km long, of which over 6 km is underground. The metro tunnel is drilled to a great depth and does not run under blocks of buildings, except for Central Station (*Centraal Station*). After its completion in 2013, the line will carry 200,000 passengers per day.

The project is the responsibility of the North-South Line Project Office.

Location of route: From Buikslotermeerplein in Amsterdam North, diagonally across the city centre (Stationsplein, Damrak, Dam, Rokin, Vijzelstraat, Vijzelgracht, Weteringplantsoen) to the WTC station in Amsterdam South.

Status: Metropolitan project (in progress)



The route map of the future North-South Line. Sixhaven Station will not be built.

History and decision-making process

On 9 October 2002, Amsterdam city council agreed to start work on the North-South Line (council decision of 9 October 2002, Municipal Gazette, Section 3A No. 295/514). See source reference No. D1. This decision was preceded by a fair amount of public discussion. The Amsterdam Urban Development Board (ARS) had already commented in 1995 that the urban development and planning aspects had been neglected because of the discussions around cost (Source No. D2). In 1995, the d'Oude Stadt Community Centre issued a report with the telling title "Metropijn" (Metro pain). This report suggested alternatives to the construction of the North-South Line such as improving existing above-ground public transport, in combination with parking measures and transshipment of goods (Source No. D3). The Above-Ground Association (*Vereniging De Bovengrondse*), Nelly Frijda and Maarten Lubbers acting on behalf of 75 well-known Amsterdam citizens and many others besides, lodged objections to the council decision and called for a referendum. The latter was rejected because a referendum had already been held on 25 June 1997.

The Association's objection was declared unfounded by the Council of State in November 2005. However, the Council of State did rule that in 2000/2001 the City of Amsterdam failed to investigate specifically the conflict of the design for the lift house at the Weteringscircuit with reasonable aesthetic requirements, as highlighted by the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency (CWM) (see below).

Foundations survey and measurement programme

In order to prevent possible damage to the foundations of the buildings above ground along the route, a foundations survey was carried out in 1,700 properties before construction work began. In the event of a genuine risk of subsidence as a result of drilling activities, owners could apply for a subsidy to repair the foundations and the shell of the building. A budget of 27 million guilders was available for this. Properties had their foundations renewed on a large scale through the use of tubular steel piles driven inside the buildings.

In addition, a monitoring system was installed along the entire route to continuously measure the stability of the buildings along the line.

Compensation for loss and damage due to planning

Since 2000 an Order on Compensation for Loss and Damage due to Planning for the North-South Line (*Verordening Nadeelcompensatie en Planschade Noord/Zuidlijn*) has been in force, under which stakeholders (residents and businesses with premises along the North-South Line) can report any loss or damage and submit a damage claim. In the event of structural damage, an independent expert can be called in. The North-South Line Claims Office (*Schadebureau Noord/Zuidlijn*) is responsible for administering this compensation scheme. By the end of 2006, 175 businesses had applied for compensation and 3.2 million euro (one quarter of the available budget of 12.6 million) had been paid out (figures from Audit Court report).

Building aesthetics

The only station inside the *property* is Vijzelgracht station. Extensive discussions have been held on the location and architectural design of this station.

The Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency (*Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten*, CWM) submitted the following objections to the building plan for which a building permit has now been granted (recommendations of 31 May 2000, 20 September 2000 and 4 October 2000):

The positioning of a lift on the intersection of Nieuwe Vijzelstraat and Weteringschans. The CWM believes that the lift is in a very unfortunate location, i.e. only a few metres from the façades of existing properties; the entrances to the station are too grandiose; “the grandiose way in which it rises from the ground is not consistent with the cityscape” and the agency has objected to this. The agency takes the view that intrusions into a public space must conform to the scale of the immediate surroundings. In its opinion, the building should fit unobtrusively into the urban fabric, which is not the case in the current proposals.

The Municipal Executive underpinned its decision, in which the agency’s recommendation was not taken into account, with detailed recommendations from external experts.

Below is an extract from the recommendation by external expert Prof. H.C. Bekkering (senior lecturer in Urban Design at Delft University of Technology) of 23 May 2005:

“The assertion made by the Amsterdam Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency at its meeting on 4 October 2000, that the theme for the design of Vijzelgracht station should be “the monumentalism of the metro in the cityscape”, can, as I have previously stated (in the recommendation of 21 July 2004, agency), in no way be reconciled with the dimensional characteristics, the materials and the detailing of the parts of the station which are visible in the public space: the sunken entrance and the lift house with ventilation shaft. In my opinion, the intrusions into the public space conform completely to the scale of the immediate surroundings and fit in unobtrusively. The transparency achieved by having the lift house finished entirely in glass and the very restrained detailing attract little attention in the design prepared by Benthem Crouwel Architects because of their abstraction. The advantage of this relatively neutral architectural approach is that the neutrality not only achieves a certain timeless quality, it also reduces the impact of the new elements on the existing environment. For this reason, the complete design for the North-South Line has been warmly received in the trade press (see, inter alia, Aart Oxenaar in De Architect 29/5, 1998).

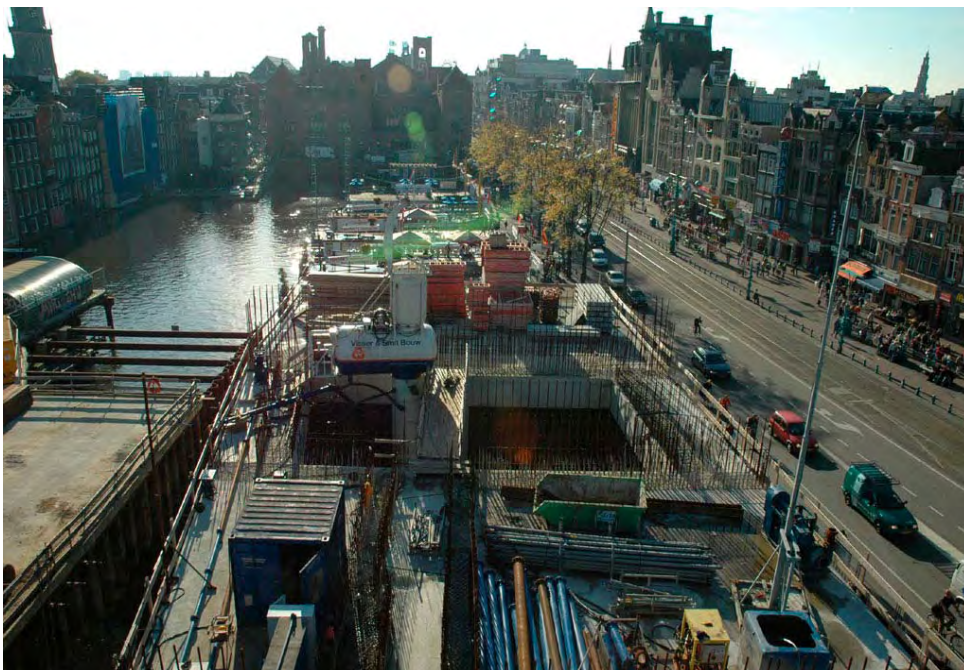
The lift house is situated on the pavement at a relatively short distance from the front of the premises at Nieuwe Vijzelstraat 3 and 5 near the corner with Weteringschans, which have retained some of their historical value. At a height of 4.20 metres, the lift house almost reaches the sills of the windows on the first floor of these and the

adjacent properties, a height which is emphasised by mouldings in the facades and additions such as advertisements and awnings. The lift house therefore conforms fully to the size of the publicly accessible ground floor levels of the immediate surroundings with shops, catering establishments and service-providing functions. The architectural finish is completely different but because of its transparency and neutrality it is not at all intrusive. The distance from the facades of the existing buildings has no effect on this."

Then, in November 2005, the committee examining the objections ruled that Mr Bekkering had satisfactorily refuted the objections referred to by the CWM in his recommendation of 23 May 2005 and that the Municipal Executive could set aside the CWM's negative opinion for these and previous reasons.

Archaeology

In parallel with the drilling work for the 30 metre deep underground line, archaeological research was and is being conducted, in accordance with the guidelines laid down in the Treaty of Malta. Amsterdam city council has set aside a total of €6 million for this research.



Damrak in 2005. The archaeologists had their first digs here.

Archaeological desk research was performed at the initial stage, well before work started, mainly around Stationseiland, Damrak and Rokin. These are the locations where Medieval Amsterdam was situated and where the Amstel flows into the IJ. Active archaeological supervision will be or has been provided at Vijzelgracht and Ceintuurbaan stations and the section in Amsterdam North as far as the Willemssluizen locks. A practical approach has been adopted. This means that the archaeological work fits in with the civil engineering work. No separate Archaeological Field Evaluation (AFE) is carried out, this evaluation being conducted when the diaphragm walls of the stations are excavated. The archaeological study/dig mainly takes place in the evenings. Wherever possible, a record is made of the situation underground. During the day there is also archaeological supervision of the civil engineering work to safeguard material and prepare for work in the evening. In addition, all the material found is sieved and documented on the surface. The most interesting finds have now been made in the Damrak-Rokin section.



During excavations in Damrak a unique linen lead seal press (lakenloodjestang) was found, dating from the late 14th century.

Consequences for UNESCO nomination

Visual impact

The North-South line runs underground in the section between Centraal Station and Weteringcircuit. At ground level, only the station entrances at Rokin (buffer zone) and Vijzelgracht (property) are visible. Only the part of Vijzelgracht station which is above ground is discussed below. There will be three entrances, of which only the entrance near Maison Descartes will be in the *property*. This entrance is only visible from Vijzelstraat and to some extent from Prinsengracht. The lift and lift house designed by architects Benthem Crouwel are transparent wherever possible (mostly glazed). The modern design is restrained due to the use of transparent material and a height of 4.20 m.



Impression by Benthem Crouwel: Vijzelgracht, showing the glazed entrance areas to the metro.

Authenticity and integrity

The lift house and the entrance to the North-South Line are of a modern and yet unobtrusive design.

Current situation

This year work is being done on excavating Vijzelgracht and building the station. On 19 June 2008, a leak occurred in a joint between two diaphragm wall panels in the building site for the station, which meant that a number of nearby properties suffered subsidence, were evacuated and propped up (Vijzelgracht 20-24). Following this incident, an investigation was conducted into the leak in Vijzelgracht station as well as the subsidence of the affected properties. After work resumed, another leak occurred on 10 September 2008 in the diaphragm wall of the building site, resulting in subsidence in six properties (Vijzelgracht 4-10 and Eerste Weteringdwarsstraat 68A-70). The properties were evacuated and propped up, and have since been made safe. Pending the results of the investigation, work on Vijzelgracht station (as well as on Rokin station) was stopped for at least a month.

Sources (see DVD)

- D1. For a summary of the main milestones in the preparation and the decision-making process, please refer to the website www.noordzuidlijn.amsterdam.nl
- D2. Recommendations by Amsterdam Urban Development Board on the North-South Line, No. 179 (February 1995) and No. 214 (August 1998).
- D3. Traffic Working Group of the d'Oude Stadt Community Centre, Metropijn. Critical study of the planned north-south metro in Amsterdam, May 1995.
(No digital version available).

Priority Dossier E: Coalition Project 1012

Project description: The aim of *Coalition Project 1012* is to take a radical approach to tackling the problems of the oldest, medieval part of Amsterdam city centre. The criminogenic infrastructure in the Wallen area must be pushed back and the degradation of Damrak, the entrance to the city from Central Station (*Centraal Station*), must be combated by means of a large-scale and radical change of function. The unique cultural and historic values of this part of the city centre are the starting point from which to create high quality and an attractive, accessible climate.

Location of area: "Post code area 1012" is bounded by Prins Hendrikkade, the Singel, Kloveniersburgwal/Geldersekade, the Mint (*Munt*) and the river Amstel; the part to the west of Spuistraat is inside the *property*, while the rest of the project area is situated in the buffer zone.

Status: Coalition project. Joint venture between the City of Amsterdam and the Central Borough.

History and decision-making process

One of the findings of the parliamentary enquiry (into criminal investigation) in 1997 was that the Wallen area was controlled by organised crime. This prompted the city council to specifically target the problems in this area. With this aim in mind, it established the Van Traa Team which has acquired about 100 properties since 1998, working with partners such as NV Zeedijk and NV Stadsgoed. In this way,

they have succeeded in keeping these properties out of criminal hands and re-zoning them after redevelopment. In 2005, the Central Borough began by adopting a targeted approach to the northern Burgwallen area with the aim of improving quality in general by taking action on the physical infrastructure, by countering trouble on the street and by enforcement in the widest sense of the word. Following on from this, the Wallen Coordination Team (*Coördinatieteam Wallen*) was set up in 2006 to assume responsibility for supervision and enforcement in this part of the district.

Oudekerksplein (Old Church Square) with the Oude Kerk (Old Church), the heart of the 1012 area

Owing to the complexity of the task and the serious ambition to achieve a significant upgrading of the Wallen area and neighbouring Damrak/Rokin, the administrators of the City of Amsterdam (Executive Committee for Economic Affairs) and the Central Borough (Executive Committee for Public Spaces and Economic Affairs) initiated an administrative forum in the summer of 2007 and the joint venture was formalised as a “coalition project” (Decision of 4 December 2007). See Source No. E1. The administrative coalition has assumed responsibility for pushing back the criminogenic infrastructure in the Wallen area in particular and reversing the degradation of Damrak.

There is also a definite desire to substantially improve the quality of the area that is the gateway to the city. Historically and in spatial development terms, the Damrak and Rokin areas fulfil an important function for the city but struggle with a lack of quality from a visual aesthetic point of view and in functional terms (use of property). The proposed redevelopment at ground level, “De Rode Loper” (the Red Carpet), is essential. Here too, intervention in the way in which property is used is one of the tools employed both to reduce criminogenic functions and to achieve a new quality. A new high-quality gateway to the city is consistent with the concept of the Amsterdam Top City (*Amsterdam Topstad*) programme.

In addition, there are a number of ongoing projects in the area which could boost the drive for quality expressed in “Coalition Project 1012” (North-South Metro Line with a car park under the Rokin area, the business plan for the Beurs van Berlage (formerly Amsterdam stock exchange), the restoration of the Blaauwlabenblok, the extension of the Krasnapolsky Hotel, the conversion of the Paleis op de Dam, the conversion/rebuilding of the university on the Binnengasthuis site, the extension of Hotel l'Europe, the redevelopment of the Burgwallen area, the purchase and change of use of the Geertspanen and the purchase and change of use of Mata Hari). “Coalition Project 1012” has set itself the goal of bringing together and developing all the initiatives in and around the area and coordinating the projects which are being undertaken in conjunction with private partners.

The Resolution Establishing Coalition Project 1012 (*Instellingsbesluit Coalitieproject 1012*) and the Memorandum on Joint Principles (*notitie Gezamenlijke Uitgangspunten*) (see Sources Nos. E2 and E3), implemented by the City of Amsterdam Project Management Bureau (PMB) on behalf of the district council, refers to a series of actions and strategic projects. The approach consists of four components.

1. *Continuing projects which are already running successfully: the redevelopment of the northern Burgwallen area and the accompanying traffic control measures, the planning for the redevelopment of the Damrak and Rokin areas at ground level, integrated action to enforce existing permits, the application of the Public Administration (Probity in Decision-Making) Act (Wet BIBOB) to sensitive functions, intermediary work and if necessary financial contributions to the acquisition of property.*
2. *Future prospects: clarity on the desired functions in the project area which are feasible in terms of the market, with a focus on the northern Burgwallen, Damrak and Rokin areas (analysis and scenario study).*

3. *Acquisition strategy: establishing an acquisition strategy which includes a model purchasing protocol, a summary of all possible legitimate legal means and possible special financing structures.*
4. *Strategic projects: promoting and monitoring the quality of projects which could have a flywheel effect on the desired improvement of the area:*
 - a. *Extension of the Victoria Hotel*
 - b. *Redevelopment of the Damrak C&A department store*
 - c. *Dam 2-4*
 - d. *Development of Damrak waterside*
 - e. *Business plan for stock exchange district including Beurs van Berlage, Beursplein and Euronext*
 - f. *Redevelopment of car park for Bijenkorf department store*
 - g. *Redevelopment of Krasnapolsky Hotel car park*
 - h. *Fortis Bank building in Rokin*
 - i. *Car park for North-South Line in Rokin*
 - j. *Renovation of Rode Loper at ground level*
 - k. *Redevelopment of Mata Hari*
 - l. *Onze Lieve Heer op Solder museum*
 - m. *Plan for car park at Geldersekeade*
 - n. *Possibilities for developing Chinatown*
 - o. *Renovation of Northern Burgwallen area at ground level*
 - p. *Extension of Hotel l'Europe*
 - q. *Extension of library on Binnengasthuis site*

De Rode Loper (The Red Carpet)

One of the key projects in "Coalition Project 1012" is known as the "Rode Loper". The objective of this project is to give the entrance to the city – along the route of the North-South Metro Line in the historic city centre from Stationsplein to Weteringcircuit – a new, better quality appearance. This involves not only renovating public spaces, but also redeveloping buildings and amenities. Various other projects, such as the renovation of the two squares, Leidseplein and Rembrandtplein, will be coordinated with this, so that they reinforce each other.

A draft Statement of Principles (*Nota van uitgangspunten*) has been drawn up for the renovation of public spaces, which the **executive committee** of the **Central Borough and the municipal executive of the City of Amsterdam** will adopt in mid-November 2008 and release for consultation. The consultation procedure will begin in January 2009.

Consequences for UNESCO nomination of the seventeenth-century ring of canals

Except for Krasnapolsky and the Binnengasthuis site (see Priority Dossier G), none of the projects mentioned is so specific at the present time that it is possible to judge what the consequences could be for the *property* and buffer zone. The initial plans are not expected to be progressed before November 2008.

The strategic culture and history agenda drawn up by **Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA)** and the **Central Borough**, will make explicit the qualities of the *property* and buffer zone (report ready by end of October 2008) and make a proposal for the "operationalisation" of these qualities and the manner in which they can be linked to the various projects specified in the Strategic Decision.



One of the classification maps showing historic buildings

Current situation

At the present time, the Project Organisation set up by the City of Amsterdam and the Central Borough (on 7 December 2007) is working on the completion of an initial version of the draft Strategy Statement (*Strategienota*) (ready in autumn 2008) to develop the strategic projects referred to above. Part of the statement is the book *Toekomstperspectief 1012* (Future Prospects for 1012) which contains an analysis of the area's identity (in both systematic and spatial terms) and an agenda for the future based on this analysis. In addition, the dialogue with the residents and the business community in the area has been proceeding and consultations with the market players concerning the possibilities for developing and investing in the area have intensified. The contents of the decision were partly based on this.

The classification map of historic buildings in the medieval heart of the city drawn up by **Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA)** was handed to the project manager of "Coalition Project 1012" by the Borough's chairperson in mid-February 2008. BMA is working jointly with the **Central Borough on a cultural and historic agenda for the project area** (ready in autumn 2008). This agenda will contribute to the development of the **Strategy Statement**.

From December 2008, a wide-ranging public consultation will be organised with residents and business people from the area to exchange thoughts on the agenda for the future of area 1012. The results of this will be incorporated into the draft Strategy Statement for 1012 to be submitted for approval to the City Council and the Borough Council in mid-2009.

Sources (see DVD)

- E1. Memorandum entitled "Limits on enforcement; new ambitions for the Wallen area" (*Notitie "Grenzen aan de handhaving; nieuwe ambities voor de Wallen"*) (OOV (Amsterdam Public Order and Safety Department)/Van Traa Team), September 2007
- E2. **Memorandum on Joint Principles for 1012**, 7 December 2007
- E3. **Resolution Establishing Coalition Project 1012**, 7 December 2007
- E4. Strategic Decision, autumn 2008 (not yet published)
- E5. Strategic culture and history agenda by BMA and Central Borough, autumn 2008, in preparation, scheduled to be ready in 2009

Priority Dossier F: Chinatown

Project description: Reinforcing the economic structure of the "Chinatown" area. This is an area in which many Chinese people have settled, and set up businesses, since the early twentieth century. The area is different from other neighbourhoods in Amsterdam and beyond because it is dominated by Chinese and Asiatic businesses, restaurants and amenities and contains the only Buddhist temple in the Netherlands.

Location: The area encloses Zeedijk with all of its side streets and alleyways, Geldersekaade, Nieuwmarkt and Binnen Bantammerstraat. This area is located within the buffer zone.

Status: Coalition project. Joint venture between the City of Amsterdam and the Central Borough.

History and decision-making process

On 6 May 2008, the **executive committee** of the **Central Borough** adopted the memorandum on *Chinatown Amsterdam* (Source No. F 1). This had been preceded by a number of initiatives from different parties (residents, business owners, council members) and two academic studies. The executive committee of the Central Borough then responded with a memorandum.

"Coalition Project 1012" will draw up a strategic agenda for the whole 1012 area (ready mid-2009). Chinatown forms part of the "1012 area". The memorandum has been offered to the coalition project as a contribution to this strategic agenda.

Chinatown is the focus of particular attention because the executive committee of the Central Borough has found that in its present form it has social and economic weaknesses. It is determined that Chinatown should remain part of the neighbourhood and be strengthened in its present form. The executive committee has decided to strengthen Chinatown in two ways:

1. By strengthening its economic structure.
2. By expanding the assets that reinforce the Chinese-Asiatic character of the neighbourhood.

In order to strengthen the economic structure, the executive committee will support initiatives by the Chinese business community which help to widen the range of products and services offered in the area. This also applies to initiatives aimed at increasing Chinatown's attractions as a tourist destination

and encouraging Chinese and other tourists and business people to visit and to extend their stay. Work is also being done on making it a more attractive and safer place to stay by investing in the upgrading of the public spaces around Zeedijk, alleyways and Geldersekaade. The area's accessibility is to be improved by providing a car park.

In order to widen the assets that are in keeping with the neighbourhood's Chinese-Asiatic character, the executive committee will support initiatives to build accommodation for older Chinese people. It will also assist Amsterdam Chinese associations to achieve social, cultural, educational and sporting objectives when they wish to accommodate their activities temporarily, e.g. as an event, or permanently, in the form of physical premises, in the area. The executive committee has also proposed actively encouraging Chinese cultural institutions to take up residence in the area and supporting private-sector cultural initiatives such as a cinema or a Chinese museum. In addition it will support events of an Asiatic character.

Critical factors

It is an absolute precondition for the Chinatown project that the historic cityscape is preserved. For example, the memorandum stresses that Chinatown must be preserved, broadened and strengthened as part of the policy that applies to the entire city centre. What this means in practical terms is that the executive committee of the Central Borough does not want this area to sacrifice its urban conservation area status in order to make it appear more Asiatic. Gates, lions, Chinese street lanterns and other intrusions into the public space aimed at enhancing its Asiatic character are not possible because they are not in keeping with the preserved, historic nature of the neighbourhood.

The Asiatic atmosphere of the area derives from and will primarily have to continue to derive from the nature of the amenities in its buildings. Characteristic Chinese adornments will only be allowed if they can be integrated into the historic cityscape without damaging it. Space must also be reserved for non-Chinese businesses in the area. The area must not be allowed to become monofunctional.

The layout of the public space will be in accordance with the guidelines laid down in the Manual for the Layout of Public Spaces (Handboek Inrichting Openbare Ruimte).

Zeedijk

Current situation

The Central Borough is working on a draft Statement of Principles (*Nota van uitgangspunten*) for a car park in the area of Chinatown. A number of alternatives are being considered, e.g. under Geldersekaade and in Oosterdok. The starting point for the study is a car park with about 350 parking spaces, of which 70% are intended for local residents/businesses and 30% for visitors to the area. An official decision by the Central Borough council is scheduled for late 2008.

The consequences for the UNESCO nomination

'Visual impact'

The neighbourhood has had an Asiatic character since the early twentieth century. The arrival of Chinese people (giving the neighbourhood an Asiatic flavour) accords with the notion of the city of

Amsterdam as a 'port of welcome'.

The neighbourhood's Asiatic atmosphere should not be enhanced at the expense of its status as an urban conservation area and will primarily have to come from the amenities in the area. This enhancement is actually intended to improve the area's appearance.

'Authenticity' and 'integrity'

The neighbourhood is in the buffer zone and its essential character will not change (see also above). The developments now envisaged will not affect the *'authenticity'* and *'integrity'* of the *property*.

Sources (see DVD)

F1. Memorandum on *Chinatown Amsterdam*, adopted by the executive committee of the Central Borough on 6 May 2008.

Priority Dossier G: the Binnengasthuis site

<i>Project description:</i>	New library to be built for the Humanities Faculty of the University of Amsterdam (UvA) on the Binnengasthuis site.
<i>Situation:</i>	The area is bounded by Grimburgwal, Oudemanhuispoort, Kloveniersburgwal, Nieuwe Doelenstraat and, behind the building, Oude Turfmarkt, in the buffer zone. The area contains twelve national monuments.
<i>Status:</i>	Project by the UvA; the project is at the building application stage.

History and decision-making process

The planning for the establishment of a **library for the Humanities Faculty of the University of Amsterdam (UvA)** has a long history. Below is a summary of the main events in the decision-making process:

- ⌘ In November 1998, the UvA submitted an **overall plan** for the accommodation of the university to the Amsterdam **Municipal Executive**.
- ⌘ In February 1999, the then Committee for Housing, Urban Renewal, Spatial Planning and Land Affairs agreed in principle to this accommodation plan and the cluster principle on which it was based. However, as far as the Binnengasthuis site was concerned, it stipulated that it would like to see the impact studied in detail before reaching a final decision. This meant instructing the Municipal Executive to conduct a detailed study into the impact of this plan.
- ⌘ On 19 September 2001, the city council decided:
- ⌘ to support in principle the establishment of the Faculty Library and the **Humanities Faculty** on the Binnengasthuis site;
- ⌘ to request the Municipal Executive to set up a quality team to supervise further development;
- ⌘ **to agree to draw up a zoning plan for the Binnengasthuis site and the surrounding area** based on the principles set out in the recommendation.

In the council recommendation (Source No. G2), it was concluded that the programme – even though it had since been restricted by the UvA – could not be integrated into the existing buildings, and that there were no usable alternatives which did justice to the accommodation plan, including the Alpha Cluster (*Alfacluster*) (containing linguistic and cultural studies, history and art history, media and culture and philosophy) on and around the Binnengasthuis site. During the decision-making process, explicit reference was made to the possibility of housing the faculty library in a new building on the site of the current Nurses' Home and the former Theatre School (the former Second Surgical Clinic).

- ⋮ On 13 July 2001, the State Secretary of OCW (Onderwijs, Cultuur en Wetenschappen) designated the Binnengasthuis complex as a national monument (listed building). The objection lodged by the UvA against this – including on appeal – was declared to be unfounded (Council of State, 19 July 2006). A major consideration in this ruling was, to quote: *“The designation of the buildings as a national monument does not mean that radical alterations, such as the appellant’s (the UvA’s) wish to implement plans for a new building on the site of the buildings, will be rejected out of hand. This must be decided within the context of the required procedure for granting permits as provided in Article 11 et seq. of the Dutch Monuments and Historic Buildings Act (Monumentenwet).”*
- ⋮ On 28 February 2002, the zoning plan was approved for the Binnengasthuis site and the surrounding area, in which all of the **urban development principles adopted by the** city council on 19 September 2001 were incorporated. It appears from the notes that the zoning plan provided the option of erecting any new building or carrying out a conversion on the site of the Second Surgical Clinic and the Nurses' Home. See Source No. G3.
- ⋮ On 4 February 2004, the Council of State issued a ruling on the appeals which had been filed against the decision by **North Holland Provincial Executive to grant** (partial) approval for the zoning plan. The result of the Council of State's ruling was that a new zoning plan was required for the corner of Binnengasthuisstraat and Vendelstraat. The zoning plan for the corner of Binnengasthuisstraat and Vendelstraat, as adopted on 31 March 2005 by the Central Borough council, filled the gap which had been created for this very small part of the plan in the Binnengasthuis site **development area**.
- ⋮ In late October 2006, the UvA submitted an application in principle to build the library on the site of a building complex (part of the Nurses' Home and the Second Surgical Clinic) which had been designated as a national monument. In this application in principle, the UvA requested the **executive committee of the Central Borough to take a view on the proposed** plans, before submitting the formal building and other applications.
- ⋮ On 25 March 2008, the executive committee – after an extensive round of advisory consultations and a discussion in the council committee on Building, Housing and Urban Development – decided that it was in principle favourably disposed towards the construction of a new university library on the Binnengasthuis site as proposed by the UvA, despite the fact that this would unfortunately require the demolition of a national monument. The main considerations taken into account were:
- ⋮ the qualities of the new building plan (by the Spanish architects firm Cruz y Ortiz), the development of which was supervised by a quality team appointed by the city council (on which the Netherlands **Department for the Preservation of Monuments (Rijksdienst voor de Monumentenzorg)** and the Amsterdam Committee on the external appearance of historic buildings (*Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten*) and others were represented);
- ⋮ the role of the university within the city centre, and the role of the library within the university, and the importance of boosting quality not only for the university but also for the city centre. The extensive and careful **weighing of interests that formed the basis of the decision was discussed in the memorandum “The Binnengasthuis site. A new library for the University of Amsterdam”** (*Binnengasthuisterrein. Een nieuwe bibliotheek voor de Universiteit van Amsterdam*) (see Source No. G1).

Existing situation



Planned situation



Opinions submitted as part of the zoning plan procedure

As part of the procedure for approving the zoning plan for the Binnengasthuis site and the surrounding area, the ten parties below have submitted an opinion:

1. Residents group *Vereniging Openbaar en Leefbaar BinnenGasthuisterrein (VOLBG)*;
2. Consultative body *Amsterdam Overleg* also acting on behalf of the Royal Antiquarian Society (*Koninklijk Oudheidkundige Genootschap*), the Amsterdam historical society *Genootschap Amstelodamum*, the conservation group *Bond Heemschut*, the Association of Friends of Amsterdam's Historic Centre (*Vereniging van Vrienden van de Amsterdamse Binnenstad*) and the conservation groups *Cuypers Genootschap*, *NV Stadsherstel Amsterdam* and the Diogenes Foundation (*Stichting Diogenes*);
3. Same as 2 above;
4. University of Amsterdam;
5. Various individual opinions;
6. P. Veer;
7. Conservation group *Bond Heemschut*, *Amsterdam Committee*;
8. Conservation group *Cuypersgenootschap*;
9. *d'Oude Stadt* Community Centre;
10. *Pressure group Burgwallen Zuid*.

These opinions and the response to them are set out in the council recommendation on the "Adoption of the zoning plan for the Binnengasthuis site and surrounding area" (*Vaststelling bestemmingsplan Binnengasthuisterrein e.o.*) (Municipal Gazette 2002, No.198, 28 February 2002, see Source No. G3).

The opinions are discussed below, where they relate to cultural and historic aspects:

VOLBG argues for “the quality of the historic cityscape to be guaranteed”.

Response: the zoning plan [does not] refer to the “preservation of cultural and historical values” (as is the case with other zoning plans in the city centre), but “in accordance with cultural and historical values”. “This difference is stated because the zoning plan provides the option of erecting any new building or carrying out a conversion on the site of the Second Clinic (= Second Surgical Clinic) and the Nurses’ Home.”

Amsterdam Overleg objects to the possible construction of a tower/high-rise element in the new building.

Response: it is emphasised that modern high-rise buildings are undesirable in the city centre; for this reason, the high-rise element must not exceed 40 m in height.

Amsterdam Overleg also states that the zoning plan does not meet the requirements of a conservational zoning plan.

Response: we believe “that the rules contained in this zoning plan....will largely ensure a careful weighing of interests between valuable historic buildings and effective constraints on urban development for any new building within the historical context of the area.” For the reasoning behind this conclusion, see the full text of the council recommendation.

The *Bond Heemschut* is against making it possible to erect a high-rise element through the Municipal Executive’s authority to issue amendments and fears that this will set a precedent. The building limit on the planning map is insufficient to guarantee conservation of the Nurses’ Home and the Theatre School (both with national monument status).

Response: it is proposed to link the authority to issue amendments to an HER (High-rise Impact Report). As regards the conservation of the monuments, see the response to VOLBG .

The *Cuypersgenootschap* believes that the zoning plan must be based on the existing valuable structures and buildings. It must be “open” and not contain an option for or against (partial) demolition. It must be based on the principle of maintaining the courtyard structure. It is lacking a Cultural/ Historic Impact Report (*Cultuurhistorische Effect Rapportage*).

Response: the zoning plan does not express an opinion explicitly or implicitly on preservation or new building on the site of the former Nurses’ Home/Theatre School. Both options (preservation and – partial – demolition/new building) are possible. The detailed interpretation will expressly have to take account of the cultural and historical context. The impact on the cultural and historical environment will be covered in the strategic urban development/ architectural agendas for the area. One of the guiding principles for the zoning plan is that the courtyard structure will be preserved and strengthened.

The *d’Oude Stadt Community Centre* wants a more conservational zoning plan to guarantee the quality of the historic cityscape. (For the response, see above).

In order to do justice to the area’s cultural and historical value, the building site for conversion or new building should be reduced in size and must be based on the current building lines (no grid-type street pattern).

Response: in the building site in the zoning plan the characteristic open structure of the BG site is still recognisable. The building line retains its capricious character (no grid system).

The *Initiatiefgroep Burgwallen Zuid* believes that a conservational zoning plan is required to preserve national monuments, the courtyard structure and the area’s existing public/urban development status.

Response: because of all the guarantees given, this is a conservational zoning plan governed by Article 36 of the Dutch Monuments and Historic Buildings Act (*Monumentenwet 1988*).

The pressure group also believes that a building height of 22 m (instead of the existing building height of 16.70 m) will have serious and irreversible consequences for the surrounding area and the urban conservation area.

Response: the zoning plan stipulates that the maximum gutter and building height (of order 1 and order 2 properties) must not exceed the current gutter and building height.



Top: existing situation. Bottom: planned situation

Recommendations from CWM, BMA and RdmZ (now: RACM) in response to the application in principle

In order to ensure the quality of the proposed new building, a quality team of experts was deployed in accordance with the city council's decision of 19 September 2001. The team consisted of a member of the Amsterdam Committee on the external appearance of historic buildings (*Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten*) (CWM), a representative of the Netherlands Department for the Preservation of Monuments (Rijksdienst voor de Monumentenzorg) (now: National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (*Rijksdienst voor Archeologie, Cultuurlandschap en Monumenten*, RACM)) and an

architect (with proven experience of building within a historic context).

This team's task was threefold:

- ⋮ to supervise the progress of the urban development and architectural work and to assess the results periodically
- ⋮ to supervise the completion of the architectural design
- ⋮ to have an advisory vote in the selection of architects

Eventually, the proposal submitted by the Spanish architects firm Cruz y Ortiz was selected as the best design both by the quality team and by the UvA selection committee. The result was viewed in a positive light by the Buildings Aesthetics Committee (*Welstandscommissie*) (independently of the quality team), which had been involved in developing the plan between 2000 and 2004, in late 2004 so that there was no objection from that source to a formal application for a building permit.

As part of the application in principle, recommendations were (again) requested from the Committee on the external appearance of historic buildings (*Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten*) (in its dual role as both a buildings aesthetics agency and a built heritage agency), from the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (*Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie*, BMA) as preliminary reporter to the CWM and from the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM).

In its role as a buildings aesthetics agency/committee, the CWM viewed the application in principle in a positive light. However, in its role as a built heritage agency, it raised an objection to the proposed demolition of the Second Surgical Clinic and the partial demolition and radical alterations to the Nurses' Home. The agency based its response on the identical recommendation made by the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA). "Adoption of the zoning plan for the Binnengasthuis site and surrounding area" (*Vaststelling bestemmingsplan Binnengasthuisterrein e.o.*) (Municipal Gazette 2002, No.198, 28 February 2002). See Source No. G3.

The RACM's recommendation was also negative. The conclusion of this recommendation was (to quote):

"The new building proposed by Cruz y Ortiz for the faculty library is generally of a detailed design in which much attention has been focused on integrating the building into the area and refining the architecture of a massive building. However, from the outset, the programme appeared to be too big to locate a new building on this site which would do justice to the existing national monuments and to the preservation or strengthening of the characteristic courtyard structure. In my opinion, the efforts made in the design do not therefore justify the removal of a building of national social, cultural, historic and architectural importance; I make a negative recommendation on the demolition of the Second Surgical Clinic." (See Source No. G1).

Current situation

On 30 June 2008, the formal application was submitted for a building permit, monument permit and demolition permit for the construction of a new faculty library and the associated demolition of the Nurses' Home (the facade on Nieuw Doelenstraat and part of the coping will be retained) and the former Theatre School (the Second Surgical Clinic). Since then, over 40 opinions have been submitted. They will be assessed and included in the preparation for the decision to be taken in respect of the monument permit and the required procedure under Article 19, para. 2 of the Dutch Spatial Planning Act (*Wet ruimtelijke ordening*, WRO) (as applicable prior to 1 July 2008).

The CWM and RACM have been asked to make recommendations in respect of the applications for building and monument permits, but they have not yet been received. The basis for the planning

procedure in terms of urban development has still to be worked out.

The draft decisions on the monument application and Article 19, para. 2, WRO are expected to be published in October (2008), after which opinions (objections) can be submitted. The final decisions may be taken by the end of this year, depending on the results of the (renewed) coordination with the council committee.

Consequences for UNESCO nomination

When measured by three criteria from the *Operational Guidelines* which are among those applied by the *World Heritage Committee* in the assessment of the nomination, the possible consequences of the developments on the Binnengasthuis site can be described as follows:

'Visual impact'

In terms of volume, height and architectural design, the design for a new library by Cruz y Ortiz conforms to the characteristics of the area. The Binnengasthuis site forms an enclosed and mainly inward-facing cluster of buildings and courtyards which do determine the characteristics of this site, but these characteristics are confined to the site within the surrounding urban fabric and buildings. Originally, this was a monastery which was transformed into a city hospital complex at the turn of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and was again converted into a university complex in the 1980s. Because of this, the Binnengasthuis site and the buildings inside it therefore hardly bear any relationship to the urban structure outside. The library is in keeping with the site within the existing building contours and building volume (see Source No. G4). The existing facade of the Nurses' Home on Nieuwe Doelenstraat remains intact. The only place in the surrounding area from which the highest point of the new building (22 metres above ground level) will be visible is Staalstraat (buffer zone). The highest point of the buildings to be preserved on the Binnengasthuis site is 17.50 metres above ground level. The highest point of the surrounding buildings such as the Doelen Hotel and Hotel l'Europe is over 30 metres.

Conclusion: there is no *visual impact* on the *property*. The building cannot be seen from the seventeenth-century ring of canals.

'Authenticity' and 'integrity'

If it is decided to demolish two national monuments, the *authenticity* of the area will be affected. Whether the *integrity* of the area is affected will depend on an assessment of the way in which the new building as constructed fits in with the existing urban fabric. The demolition/new building plan has no direct consequences for the *authenticity* and *integrity* of the *property*.



Top: existing situation. Bottom: planned situation

Sources (see DVD)

- G1. Memorandum: The Binnengasthuis site. A new library for the University of Amsterdam. Adopted by the executive committee of the Central Borough on 5 February 2008.
- G2. Principles for the development of the Binnengasthuis site (*Uitgangspunten voor de ontwikkeling van het Binnengasthuisterrein*). Council recommendation of 19 September 2001 (Municipal Gazette, Section 1, 2001, No. 553)
- G3. Adoption of the zoning plan for the Binnengasthuis site and surrounding area. Adopted by Amsterdam city council on 28 February 2002 (Municipal Gazette 2002, No.198).
- G4. Artist's impression of architectural impact.

Priority Dossier H: Kop Singel Building Plan (Haringpakkerstoren)

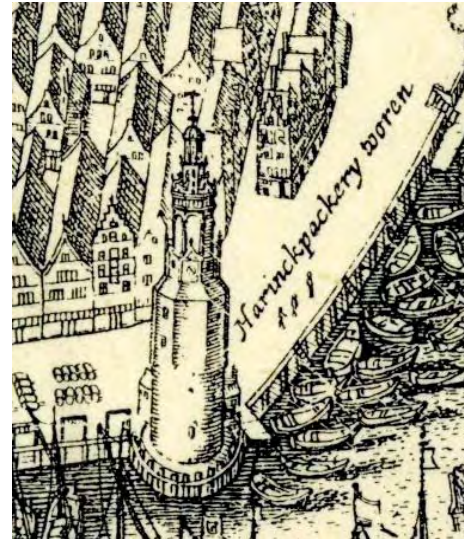
- Project description:* The project involves a plan for building a new tower with surrounding buildings, where the design of the tower is based on the Haringpakkerstoren, a tower which was demolished in the nineteenth century.
- The new buildings will be erected at the head of the Singel near the abutment for the Haringpakkersbrug (Bridge No. 58), a continuation of Prins Hendrikkade.
- The project is an initiative of a few private individuals, which was taken over in 2005 by Stadsherstel Amsterdam NV. “De Amsterdamse Maatschappij tot Stadsherstel”, to give the company its full title, has set itself the goal of buying and restoring buildings with a historic value and maintaining them in a sustainable way.
- Location:* Uneven side of Singel near Prins Hendrikkade, in de buffer zone, bordering on the property
- Status:* The project is at the provisional design stage.

History and decision-making process

- ⌘ In August 2005 during a press conference held to mark the organisation's fiftieth anniversary, Stadsherstel announced that, to celebrate this anniversary, it intended to build a tower on the site of the Haringpakkerstoren which had been demolished in 1829. By building this tower, Stadsherstel aims to reconstruct a cityscape and thereby improve the quality of the surrounding area. The tower is intended for offices, preferably in the creative industry. The surrounding buildings will house catering establishments at ground floor and basement level.
- ⌘ Stadsherstel plans to bear the entire cost of the project, including making the site ready for construction and the cost of the required (preliminary) survey.
- ⌘ The wooden spire will involve a reconstruction of the spire added to the original Medieval tower in the seventeenth century, based on early nineteenth-century survey drawings. The brick-built base will be an interpretation of the Medieval fortified tower. The surrounding buildings will be constructed in a contemporary architectural style.
- ⌘ Central Borough had already discussed the project with Stadsherstel prior to August 2005. On 26 April 2005, the executive committee sent a letter to Stadsherstel informing it that the borough would in principle lend its assistance with the required procedures, as soon as an application for a building permit was received.
- ⌘ The City of Amsterdam supported a boundary adjustment (city council and district council decision on 21 December 2005). The reason for this was that, until this decision, part of the project area lay in the metropolitan area of Stationseiland.
- ⌘ On 11 July 2006, the executive committee of the Central Borough approved the project specification, after a number of surveys had been carried out.



View of Haringpakkerstoren in the third quarter of the 17th century



Details from the map by Balthasar Florisz van Berckenrode dating from 1625

Surveys and recommendations

From December 2005, the official Central Borough project team began work on the preparatory survey for the zoning plan and for the renovation of the public space. See Source No. H1. The RACM (Rijksdienst voor Archeologie, Cultuurlandschap en Monumenten) also gave its (unsolicited) response to the planning process (Source No. H5) and the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (*Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie*, BMA) conducted an archaeological site survey in consultation with the Central Borough. The results are stated briefly below.

1. The *Air Quality Survey* has been completed (IBA, July 2006. Update follows). Result: The tower has no significant effect on air quality and the air quality will not deteriorate further. See Source No. H2.
2. The *High-Rise Impact Report (HER) on the Haringpakkerstoren in Amsterdam* (Amsterdam Physical Planning Department, May 2007), sent to the City of Amsterdam council spatial planning committee for information on 5 September 2007. The conclusion of the HER is that a tower on this site will contribute to the cityscape and enhance the city's skyline. A tower combines well with a series of existing church steeples and towers (Zuiderkerk, Oude Kerk, Nieuwe Kerk, Posthoorn) and domes (Paleis op de Dam, Sonesta). It will become a new landmark and constitute a prominent high point

- at the beginning of Prins Hendrikkade. From the point of view of visibility from a distance, there is no negative impact. See Source No. H3.
3. Since 30 November 2005 the Committee on the external appearance of historic buildings (*Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten*) has been receiving regular reports on the project as part of the preliminary consultation process and discussions have been held on the buildings aesthetics criteria to be established as the assessment framework. For the reports, see Source No. H4.
 4. On 21 July 2006, the Netherlands Department for the Preservation of Monuments (*Rijksdienst voor de Monumentenzorg*) (now: National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (*Rijksdienst voor Archeologie, Cultuurlandschap en Monumenten*, RACM)) responded to the project by submitting unsolicited advice to the executive committee of the Central Borough, which included the following recommendations:
 - a. An in-depth urban development and historical survey should be carried out;
 - b. A quality contemporary reference to the original tower should be chosen and not a reconstruction which can only be implemented in part;
 - c. Account should be taken of the nomination of Amsterdam's ring of canals for inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

See Source No. H5.

5. The Archaeology department of the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) carried out a historic site survey. A hypothesis based on historical sources was established for the archaeological values (31 March 2006). The archaeological value of the site was given a high rating. An archaeological survey in the form of an Archaeological Field Evaluation (AFE) or Archaeological Excavation (AO) prior to construction work is a mandatory requirement.
6. The Public Space section of the Central Borough submitted a proposal for renovating the site with an estimate of the cost involved. The site will be laid out in accordance with the guidelines laid down in the Manual for the Layout of Public Spaces (*Handboek Inrichting Openbare Ruimte*). The Central Borough will be investing in the public space with the aim of enhancing the quality of the site and improving its attractiveness; the public space on this site is in dire need of upgrading and, according to the local police, is currently perceived to be unpleasant and unsafe.

Consequences for UNESCO nomination

The plan is at the provisional design stage. The design involves a new building volume inspired by the complex of the Haringpikkerstoren and extensions, which was demolished in 1829. The site of the historic complex (now occupied by the roadway on Prins Hendrikkade) was located approx. 20 metres to the northeast of the current construction site.

The design of the superstructure of the tower is based on survey drawings dating from 1813 by former city architect Abraham van der Hart and will be constructed in the traditional way using traditional materials. In terms of material and detailing, the shell of the tower will be a new building volume with references to the old tower, with the aim of creating a whole (architecturally and visually) with the superstructure. The buildings around the tower will be constructed in a contemporary architectural style in keeping with the style features of the city centre and will be kept visually separate from the tower body but physically connected by means of glass roofs.

When judged by the principles and guidelines of the *Vienna Memorandum* (2005) and the *Operational guidelines* (2005), *Chapter II E on Integrity and/or authenticity*, the following can be noted in respect of the design.



Current situation

'Authenticity'

In Article 7 of the *Vienna Memorandum*, the *historic urban landscape* is defined as follows:

"...ensembles of any group of buildings, structures and open spaces, in their natural and ecological context, including archaeological and palaeontological sites, constituting human settlements in an urban environment over a relevant period of time, the cohesion and value of which are recognized from the archaeological, architectural, prehistoric, historic, scientific, aesthetic, social-cultural or ecological point of view".

Article 21 of the guidelines for conservation management in the Memorandum states that:

"Taking into account the basic definition (according to Article 7 of this Memorandum), urban planning, contemporary architecture and preservation of the historic urban landscape should avoid all forms of pseudo-historical design...".

Section 86 of the *Operational guidelines* states, in relation to authenticity, that:

"...the reconstruction of archaeological remains or historic buildings or districts is justifiable only in exceptional circumstances. Reconstruction is acceptable only on the basis of complete and detailed documentation and to no extent on conjecture".

A strict interpretation of this text would lead to the conclusion that the design does not satisfy the requirements of these guidelines with regard to 'authenticity'. The design is an architectural assemblage partly constructed in a contemporary style (surrounding buildings) and partly in a pseudo-historical style (shell of tower). The latter could give a non-expert observer the impression that this is an old historic tower, all the more so as the superstructure of the tower will be a reconstruction based on detailed historical information. The exceptional circumstances in which, according to Section 86 of the *Operational guidelines*, reconstruction is justified do not pertain.

At this juncture, the following point can be made. In the UNESCO documents, the concept of 'authenticity' is first and foremost linked to cultural heritage as a physical legacy and is mainly building-related. It is all about conserving historic buildings and structures. It is also about the authenticity of the tangible elements of the site and the relationship between these elements within their physical, cultural, urban and scenic context.

However, traditional notions of authenticity, which were the guiding principles of the theory and practice of heritage conservation in the last century, have recently become dynamic.¹ This topic is also under discussion within the ranks of UNESCO. The alternative interpretations of the concept of 'authenticity' focus on intangible items with political, cultural and historical (religion, popular culture), spiritual and memorial (commemoration) connotations.

Within a wider interpretation of the concept of 'authenticity', a building plan such as this may actually be justified. To judge from its report (see Source No. H6), Stadsherstel NV intends to give the tower the role of a landmark, a memorial to and marker for the boundary between the Medieval city and the seventeenth-century ring of canals. The design of and materials to be used in the tower within the spirit of the historic urban conservation area, are intended to contribute to the visualisation of this concept.

'Integrity'

The plot on which the tower is to be erected has not been built on; the area has mainly had a traffic function since the twentieth century. Because the current layout does not conform to the quality as described in the Manual for the Layout of Public Spaces (*Handboek Inrichting Openbare Ruimte*) and is in need of a quality boost, the project will enhance the quality of the public space.

In 2007, a ground-penetrating radar survey was performed on the site of the building. This showed that solid remains were present in various places. These may be the remains of a stone landing stage, rubble from the demolished Haringpakkerstoren, a quay or part of the city wall. However, these remains are situated below the construction depth for the proposed building.

Conclusion: as the urban development qualities of the site have changed over time, it can hardly be said that the urban fabric and therefore the integrity of the site will be affected.

¹ For background information on the development of the concept of "authenticity", see: Koos Bosma, *Het post-Belvederetijdperk: cultuurhistorisch beleid verankerd in de ruimtelijke ordening en in de ontwerpopgave (The post-Belvedere period: cultural history policy anchored in spatial planning and design specification)*, published by Atelier Rijksbouwmeester, The Hague, 2008.



Visualisation of building plan on site

'Visual impact'

The site of the building is in the buffer zone, just outside the boundary of the *property*. The tower will be 45.60 metres high and have a footprint of 300 square metres. The surrounding buildings are included in the latter figure. The surrounding buildings will be in the immediate vicinity of the tower and be visible from a small part of the *property*. As a high-rise element, the tower will be visible from a greater distance.

From the *property* the tower can mainly be seen from the Singel; from the opposite side of the Singel (even side) about as far as Bergstraat. The visibility of the tower from the Singel is therefore similar to that of the 55 metre high Wagon Lits office tower (Bentham Crowel, 1991-1992) on Westelijk Stationseiland. However, the view of this office tower from the Singel will be partly obscured by the new tower. The boundary of the *property* is on the north side of Droogbak. From this spot, the tower is visible approximately as far as the intersection of Droogbak with Buiten Wieringerstraat. Apart from that, the tower will not be visible from the public road in the *property*.

The conclusion is that there is substantial *visual impact* on the cityscape in the *property* and the buffer zone.

Current situation

- ⋮ There is a detailed provisional design for the tower (including installations). The Committee on the external appearance of (historic) buildings (*Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten*) has been issuing recommendations since 30 November 2005 as part of the preliminary consultation process. The latest recommendation dates from 21 May 2008; the comments/objections are now mainly focused on (technical) details. The comment on the architecture and urban development situation is that the plan has gained in quality.

- ⌘ No application for a building permit has yet been submitted.
- ⌘ Discussions have taken place between Central Borough and Stadsherstel concerning the design in relation to the requirements of the UNESCO *Vienna Memorandum* on how to deal with historic *urban landscapes*, and with the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) (August – October 2008).
- ⌘ This has led to Stadsherstel preparing a “Justification” (*Verantwoording*) of the building plan (24 October 2008).
- ⌘ The zoning plan must be reviewed for the building plan. The intention is to have the district council adopt a zoning plan (including appendices) and draft buildings aesthetics criteria at the same time.

Sources (see DVD)

- H1. Project specification for Haringspikkerstoren, adopted by the executive committee of the Central Borough on 11 July 2006
- H2. Air Quality Survey on Haringspikkerstoren, IBA July 2006
- H3. High-rise Impact Report on Haringspikkerstoren, Amsterdam, DRO May 2007
- H4. Reports of the Committee on the external appearance of historic buildings (*Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten*), November 2005 to date
- H5. Recommendation by the Netherlands Department for the Preservation of Monuments, 21 July 2006
- H6. Justification by Stadsherstel, 24 October 2008

Priority Dossier I 1: Prinsengracht Hospital

Project description: The Prinsengracht Hospital is part of the Onze Lieve Vrouwen Gasthuis (OLVG) and is situated on the Prinsengracht canal. The OLVG is planning to redevelop the hospital and has commissioned architects Henket & Partners to prepare a draft Structure Plan. This draft Structure Plan involves redeveloping the national monument to produce a hospital with mixed amenities, such as a pharmacy, catering facilities and dwellings. In this plan, Prinsengracht 769 (a building dating from the 1950s) would be demolished and replaced by a new building. It is also proposed to demolish extensions and outbuildings on the inside of the site. The zoning plan would have to be reviewed to take account of the proposed increase in volume.

As is usual in the case of major projects, the Central Borough will shortly define urban development constraints including a historical section and buildings aesthetics criteria, taking into account the *Outstanding Universal Values*.

Location: Prinsengracht 751-769; Kerkstraat 122,124, 126, situated inside the *property*.

Status: Private initiative (OLVG), plan in preparation



View of Kerkstraat



View of Prinsengracht

History and official decision-making process

No decisions have yet been taken.



Aerial photograph of the current complex

Sources

- 11.1 Draft Structure Plan for Prinsengracht Hospital prepared by architects Henket & Partners (not supplied, not yet finalised)

Priority dossier I 2: Former Main Branch of Public Library

Project description: The project involves a building plan by Aedes Real Estate to refurbish the interior and raise the level of the building, including a new frontage on Prinsengracht for a hotel (Pollux Gallery Hotel). Architects: Kentie (in conjunction with M. Wanders). A centre for the creative industry is proposed alongside Keizersgracht. The facade on Keizersgracht will not be altered.

Location: Prinsengracht 587 (1970s) and Keizergracht 440 (= national monument), situated inside the *property*.

Status: Private initiative (Aedes Real Estate), plan in preparation

History and official decision-making process

A building application was submitted prior to 1 July 2008. In response to this application, the Central Borough will be formulating additional buildings aesthetics criteria, inter alia, with regard to the parcelling of the facade. In order to facilitate the re-zoning of the property (as a hotel with a gallery and other creative industries), it is necessary to initiate a procedure to exempt it from the zoning plan (under Article 19 of the Dutch Spatial Planning Act (*Wet op de ruimtelijke ordening*, WRO). On 8 August 2008, the conservation group Bond Heemschut submitted an application to designate Prinsengracht 587 as a municipal monument. The designation procedure has started. The rest of the official decision-making process has not yet begun.



Current situation

Sources (see DVD)

- I 2.1 Building application dated 30 June 2008 (facade design not finalised, so not supplied);
- I 2.2 Application for Monument status submitted by Bond Heemschut on 8 August 2008.

Priority Dossier I 3: Vijzelstraat 66-80

Project description:

The property at Vijzelstraat 66-80 is an office building which has been used as a bank for many years. It consists of a plinth and five floors with a gross surface area of 24,000 m². The basement is built on three levels with a total surface area of 15,000 m². Two basement levels are used for parking and the top level is used as storage space. Until 2008, part of the property was leased to ABN AMRO (the former owner of the building). The remainder is in temporary use as gallery space and as space for a creative “hotspot” and artistic events.

This former office building will be redeveloped on behalf of property developer Vesteda and housing corporation Stadgenoot (formerly Het Oosten).

Location:

Vijzelstraat 66-80, situated inside the *property*.

Status:

Private initiative (Vesteda, Stadgenoot), project in preparation.

History and official decision-making process

Until 2008, Vijzelstraat 66-80 was in use as a branch of ABN AMRO bank. The building is situated on the route of the North/South Metro Line and the “Red Carpet” (*Rode Loper*). The North/South Metro Line connects the city’s main employment centres. The “Red Carpet” is the route alongside the North/South Metro Line, from Central Station (*Centraal Station*) to the De Pijp district. The redevelopment of the ground level will create a special, sustainable and attractive public space. The location of Vijzelstraat means that the property can be easily reached by car, bicycle and public transport. The aim of Het Oosten and Vesteda is to create a high-quality building that meets the level of ambition set by the “Red Carpet”. Architects Baumschlager & Eberle have been contracted to carry out the design work.



The location of the project

Draft Statement of Principles and procedure for designating a monument

The Central Borough has prepared a draft Statement of Principles (*Nota van uitgangspunten*) for Vijzelstraat 66-80, including buildings aesthetics criteria and a historical analysis. See Source No. I3.1. The main requirement is that the existing building should be preserved and that the amenities should be in keeping with the building. The proposed functions are: 50% residential (12,000 m²), 50% employment (12,000 m²) with public amenities on the ground floor and two parking levels in the basement. The current zoning plan will have to be amended to allow the residential function. The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) has described the building by architect M.F. Duintjer dating from 1969-1973 and found it to be worthy of monument status by virtue of its architectural, urban development and cultural and historical values. The building can be considered a memorial to the popular protests against the advent of the colossal bank building in the city centre. These protests

resulted in a “change of culture as regards the treatment of the city centre, which finally culminated in its designation as an urban conservation area”. See Source No. I3.2.

The municipal monument designation procedure commenced in 2006. The Monuments Advisory Committee (Committee IV of the Amsterdam Committee on the external appearance of (historic) buildings) (*Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten*) made a positive recommendation on the designation of the building as a municipal monument (Source No. I3.3). Vesteda and Het Oosten have submitted opinions (prepared by Bureau M en DM and Prof. Henket of architects Henket & Partners), in which they question the value of the building as a monument and propose concluding an agreement on the values to be preserved instead of designating the building as a municipal monument (Source No. I3.4).

The cultural and historic values (worthy of monument status) and the buildings aesthetics criteria, which have been drawn up in close consultation with BMA, have been included in the draft Statement of Principles.

The Statement of Principles will be officially adopted during the first quarter of 2009, in parallel with the completion of the monument designation procedure.



Current situation

Relevant dates in the official decision-making process:

- ⌘ Project contract awarded on 19 February 2007;
- ⌘ Information evening held on 30 January 2008;
- ⌘ Draft Statement of Principles for Vijzelstraat 66-80 including historical analysis and buildings aesthetics criteria drawn up (official adoption follows in 2009);
- ⌘ The executive committee releases the draft Statement of Principles on 4 March 2008 for public consultation;
- ⌘ Public consultation meeting on the draft Statement of Principles held on 26 March 2008;
- ⌘ The municipal monument designation procedure has commenced, but has not yet been completed.

Sources (see DVD)

- 13.1. Draft Statement of Principles for Vijzelstraat 66-80, consultation version dated 25 February 2008;
- 13.2. Description of the building, Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology, 10 May 2006;
- 13.3. Recommendation by Monuments Advisory Committee of 29 August 2006;
- 13.4. Opinions submitted by Vesteda and Het Oosten on 20 September 2006, with reference to recommendations by Bureau M en DM and Prof. H.J. Henket of architects Henket & Partners.

Priority Dossier I 4: "Vijf Keizers"

Project description: The properties at Keizersgracht 271-287, formerly used as offices, are now empty. They consist of 5 lots with separate facades. The properties at Keizersgracht 271-275 have been designated as a municipal monument (architect: A.J. Westerman, 1955). The property was built as the first office of Nederlandse Crediet Maatschappij (NCM). The neighbouring properties were subsequently built as an extension to the NCM building, over a period of thirty years.

The total gross floor area is almost 17,000 m², each lot having a gross floor area of over 1,000 m². On 27 June 2008, a private developer submitted a building application in respect of Keizersgracht 287 (corner of Wolvenstraat) to develop this building separately and convert it into flats. The height of the building and layout of the facade would not be changed in this plan. Only an entrance would be added in the facade on Wolvenstraat. The property at Keizersgracht 287 is not a monument and is described in the Conservation Area Classification Map as a "new building dating from after 1940".

The proposal is based on 23 apartments, ranging in size from approx. 90 to 200 m². A striking feature is that each bedroom (some apartments have four bedrooms) has an en-suite shower/bathroom with toilet. In view of their size and in relation to their location, these apartments would be expensive, non-subsidised dwellings. The basement would accommodate 23 parking spaces for residents.

On 10 July 2008, an application in principle in respect of all the properties was also submitted for a luxury hotel with 120 rooms (policy framework: Hotel Policy for City Centre (*Hotelbeleid Binnenstad*) 2008-2011, adopted by the borough council on 29 May 2008).

Location: Keizersgracht 271-287, situated inside the *property*.

Status: Private initiative (Van der Schroeff Beheer BV), application to split up Keizersgracht 287 and application in principle for luxury hotel for all the properties submitted.

History and official decision-making process

The Central Borough is carrying out a Quick Scan to get a handle on possible new uses. Plans for Keizersgracht 271-287 are being tested against existing policy (such as conservation area policy, zoning plan for the Western Ring of Canals, car park regulations, etc.). The UNESCO nomination is taken into account in the policy framework. The cultural and historical context is also analysed. On the basis of this analysis, urban development and architectural requirements will be formulated for the redevelopment of Keizersgracht 271-287.

The official decision-making process has not yet begun.



Current situation

Sources

N/A

Priority Dossier J: Water level and groundwater table

Introduction

In an old city like Amsterdam with a specific soil structure and water management system, groundwater problems are a constant factor and there is little room for manoeuvre in terms of influencing the groundwater table. However, it is an irreversible fact that people live in Amsterdam. An increasing amount of construction work is being done not only above ground, but below ground as well. In order to keep Amsterdam inhabitable, groundwater management focuses on tackling existing problems and preventing new problems.

Groundwater problems may arise when the groundwater level is too high or too low in relation to the buildings and in terms of the use of the land.

In Amsterdam, Waternet manages the groundwater on behalf of Amsterdam city council.

High groundwater table

A “high” groundwater table may cause groundwater nuisance, resulting in water in crawl spaces, wet basements and damp ground floor rooms.

Most of these problems occur in the 19th-century districts of Amsterdam, often combined with the inadequate structural condition of the houses.

Specific problems affect the so-called polder sewer areas (*polderrioleringsgebieden*), all of which are outside the city centre.

Where problems occur in the public spaces, they are mainly due to groundwater flooding in the older city parks which have not been raised. Another factor may be the poorly raised areas where trees die

prematurely as a result of the high groundwater table. This is particularly true of Amsterdam North, Slotervaart and Watergraafsmeer.

Low groundwater table

Where prolonged periods of “low” groundwater table occur, wooden pile foundations may dry out and start to rot, possibly causing buildings to subside. A major part of Amsterdam city centre within the Singelgracht canal is built on wooden pile foundations, and many older buildings are built on pile foundations extending to a thin layer of sand at a depth of approx. 8 metres below sea level (known as the Wadzand). Nowadays, buildings have foundations of concrete piles extending to deeper layers of sand (the first or second layer of sand). A network of 10,000 measurement points on the facades in the city centre and elsewhere are used to measure building subsidence.

Groundwater problems in the seventeenth-century ring of canals

High groundwater table

The drainage depth (the distance between ground level and the maximum groundwater level) in the city centre, which has been raised above the polder outlet level (*boezempeil*), is usually fairly large (approx. 1.50 metres). With the exception of the Jordaan district (the eastern edge of which is inside the *property* and the rest is in the buffer zone) and the Plantage district (situated in the buffer zone), where the drainage depth is fairly shallow, few instances of high groundwater table, if any, have been reported to date. The impression is that water problems in the city centre mainly involve ingress of rainwater through the soil and non-watertight basements and cellars.

Low groundwater table

A low groundwater table can damage wooden foundations. According to information from Waternet (Source No. 2), there is no conceivable process which could lower the groundwater table permanently in the ring of canals. The presence of the canals, which are a relatively short distance apart and are kept at a stable level, guarantees the supply of water to the groundwater system in the ring of canals, even in prolonged periods of low rainfall.

The greatest threat to the foundations of the properties in the seventeenth-century ring of canals is the possible reduction in the groundwater table due to construction work (drainage). Damage may also be caused by the construction of underground structures. However, groundwater flooding is more likely because the groundwater (e.g. due to the driving of sheet piling) has nowhere to go (damming). In the past, gauge filters were installed along the main sewers to signal any reduction in the groundwater table as a result of drainage work and to prevent damage to wooden foundations. These measured groundwater levels also act as a signal where drainage is taking place during sewer replacement work.

The extraction of groundwater, e.g. to drain a construction pit, requires an exemption from the regional water board bylaw (*Keur AGV*). The extraction of “deep” groundwater requires a permit from the province; under the new Dutch Water Act (*Waterwet*) this power will be transferred to the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht (AGV) Water Board (with Waternet as the contracting organisation). The bill for the new Water Act was passed by the Lower House of the Dutch parliament in 2006 and is expected to become law in 2009.

Water management test and anchoring in law and the planning system

In the case of spatial plans (new buildings and the required underground structures), the City of Amsterdam applies a water management test in which the same steps are followed as in the Planning

and Decision-Making Process for Urban Design Projects (*Plan- en Besluitvormingsproces Ruimtelijke Maatregelen*, Plaberum). It is a mandatory requirement that the plan should contain a section on water and groundwater.

In addition, the city council is investigating the possibility of providing a better legal basis for groundwater aspects and criteria currently applied in recommendations on (smaller) building plans, restructuring measures and redevelopments by including them in the provisions of building regulations and zoning plans or by establishing groundwater regulations for Amsterdam. The nomination of the seventeenth-century ring of canals for inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List has caused the Central Borough to make this a priority.

Sources (see DVD)

- J 1. Policy Document on Groundwater for Amsterdam 2007-2011 (*Nota Grondwater Amsterdam 2007-2011*), adopted by the Municipal Executive on 26 June 2007 and accepted as notification by the Council Committee for Spatial Planning, Land Affairs, Water Management and ICT on 26 September 2007.
- J 2. Note by Waternet dated 19 August 2008 on groundwater management for the 17th-century ring of canals in connection with the management plan for UNESCO.

Priority Dossier K: Scaffold sheeting advertising

Introduction

Scaffold sheeting advertising has been allowed in the Central Borough since 2003 subject to strict conditions. See Source No. K 1. In order to be able to regulate this type of advertising, the Borough has concluded (private-law) contracts with advertising suppliers. The contracts relate to the appearance of public space (see Source No. K 3).

With this aim in mind, Article 5 of the Contract on Scaffold Sheeting Advertising contains requirements with regard to the size of the sheeting (maximum of 16 m wide), the frame around the advertisement, the place on the facade where the sheeting is permitted (between the ground floor and gutter height) and the period for which the advertisement can be displayed. Moving images and/or three-dimensional objects on the sheets, as well as the use of fluorescent colours, are not permitted. It also specifies when assessment by the Amsterdam Committee on the external appearance of (historic) buildings is required. Advertisements for alcohol are not permitted. Furthermore, the advertisement must not be in breach of legislation, case law and/or guidelines and opinions of the Advertising Code Committee. The illumination of scaffold sheeting advertising at night is not permitted.

Special requirements for the ring of canals and Dam Square have been included in the contract. In these locations, only 10% of the surface area of the scaffold sheets can contain an advertisement. The advertisement can only be sited between the first and second floor of the property.

Scaffold sheeting is only permitted during essential maintenance work on a building. Generally, buildings do not require painting or other maintenance work every year. It is therefore not permitted to display new scaffold advertising on the same building within three years after completion of the work. In the recent past (2003-2008) advertisements have been placed on scaffold sheeting at 11, 30, 37, 36,

32 and 28 sites. A list of the sites shows that there was one case in which advertising sheeting was displayed twice on the same building, namely Koningsplein 11 (in 2003 and 2008), but in accordance with the guideline stipulating an interim period of more than three years. For a list of scaffold sheeting advertising displayed during the period 2003-2008, please refer to Source No. K 4.

The revenue from the advertising is divided among the owner of the property in front of which the scaffolding has been erected, the Central Borough and the advertising supplier. The idea is that this encourages owners to smarten up their property and provides the Central Borough with additional income with which to improve the quality of the city centre as a whole.



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History and decision-making process

Trial

On 8 July 2003, the executive committee decided to conduct a trial of scaffold sheeting. See Source No. K 2. Initially, the trial ran from summer 2003 until 1 January 2004, but was extended until 1 January 2005. On 25 November 2004, the borough council decided to make scaffold sheeting advertising a permanent part of its policy on advertising.

The results from the trial period have been evaluated (see Source No. K 4). On the basis of this evaluation, the executive committee saw no reason to change the policy. However, a promise was made to include the policy on scaffold sheeting advertising in the negotiations held in respect of the Programme Agreement (*Programakkoord*) for 2006-2010 .

Discussion

From the start of the trial, there was discussion of the area of tension between the restrictive advertising policy on the one hand and scaffold sheeting advertising on the other. In this discussion, interest groups such as the Outdoor Advertising Working Group of the d'Oude Stadt Community Centre argued that scaffold sheeting advertising dominated the cityscape excessively.

Some refinement would therefore be appropriate. In relation to the urban conservation area, the

restrictive advertising policy targets in particular advertisements which are fixed on or to a facade *permanently* and/or as an *additional item*. Scaffold sheeting advertising is a temporary form of advertising (maximum of 9 weeks). Furthermore, as stated, scaffold sheeting advertising is only permitted to a very limited extent around the canals. The result of this is that scaffold sheeting advertising has never been used around the canals.

Finally, scaffold sheeting is a mandatory requirement under health and safety regulations. This scaffold sheeting often hangs loosely or flaps about. Scaffold sheeting advertising is generally an improvement as it is attached carefully and tautly.

Objections by the Outdoor Advertising Working Group of the d'Oude Stadt Community Centre

Within the context of the UNESCO nomination, the Outdoor Advertising Working Group of the d'Oude Stadt Community Centre has once more notified the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) of its objections. The working group argued strongly that the scaffold sheeting advertising project, the introduction of giga video screens and mega cultural advertisements were purely commercial projects, and an unprecedented expansion of commercial activity into the public space of the historic city centre. The working group requested – also because of the UNESCO nomination – that the policy on scaffold sheeting advertising be discontinued (see Source No. K 10).

In its reply to the working group's letter (see Source No. K 11), the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) stated that the Central Borough is preparing a new Policy Document on Rules for Facade Advertising (*Nota Beleidsregels gevelreclame*), which tightens up the rules when advertisements are replaced or when a property is allocated a new function or transferred to a new owner. The aim is to make facade advertising fit in better with the urban conservation area. Within a period of three to five years, all advertisements will have to comply with the new policy. The restriction of scaffold sheeting advertising is in line with the development of the borough's facade advertising policy as a whole.

Restriction of scaffold sheeting advertising in Programme Agreement for 2006-2010

The executive committee of the Central Borough attaches great importance to measures which improve the quality of the built environment. It has been agreed in the Programme Agreement for 2006-2010 that restrictions will be placed on scaffold sheeting advertising so that this temporary form of advertising figures less prominently in the streetscape. The final text of the Programme Agreement therefore states that a policy on restricted scaffold sheeting advertising is to be adopted in 2008. See Sources Nos. K 5 and K 6. The executive committee submitted a proposal for restriction three times to the council committee (14 November 2006, 3 April 2007 and 10 January 2008, for details, see Source No. K 9). This did not achieve consensus between the political groupings on the council. See Sources Nos. K 7 and K 8.

The executive committee will shortly be preparing another proposal for restrictions, this time taking into account the UNESCO nomination. This proposal involves a substantial reduction in the surface area covered by these temporary advertisements. It is also intended not to allow scaffold sheeting advertising around the canals. A detailed proposal is being worked out for corner properties where shopping streets and canals meet (e.g. Leidsestraat). The approach is not to allow advertising on the canal side. Fixed rates per m² will also be applied instead of the current complicated system where the media value is taken into account. Fixed rates have the additional advantage that they are transparent and more easily verified.

The executive committee will endeavour to implement the restrictions in the first quarter of 2009.



Corner of Marnixstraat and Rozengracht

Consequences for UNESCO nomination

The *visual impact* of scaffold sheeting advertising will be substantially reduced by the above-mentioned restrictions outside and, more importantly, inside the *property*.

Sources (see DVD)

- K 1. Guidelines on Facade Advertising (*Richtlijnen Gevelreclame*) (2004)
- K 2. Decision by executive committee of the Central Borough of 8 July 2003 concerning scaffold sheeting advertising
- K 3. Contract on Scaffold Sheeting Advertising (*Overeenkomst Steigerdoekreclame*) (2005)
- K 4. Evaluation of Policy on Scaffold Sheeting Advertising, included in the Evaluation of the Central Borough's 2004 Policy Document on Building Aesthetics (borough council decision 18 of 26 January 2006)
- K 5. Extract from Programme Agreement for 2006-2010 on restriction of scaffold sheeting advertising policy
- K 6. Extract from Measurable Programme Agreement for 2006-2010 on restriction of scaffold sheeting advertising policy
- K 7. Proposed initiative by SP of 19 June 2006
- K 8. Proposed initiative by PvdA and GroenLinks of 28 June 2007
- K 9. Proposals for restrictions made by the executive committee of the Central Borough on 14 November 2006, 3 April 2007 and 10 January 2008
- K 10. Letter from the Outdoor Advertising Working Group of the d'Oude Stadt Community Centre to the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology of 16 July 2008
- K 11. Letter from the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology to the Outdoor Advertising Working Group of the d'Oude Stadt Community Centre of 10 September 2008

4.b (ii) Environmental pressures

Water level, groundwater level, waterways

See also at 4.b. (iii) (risk preparedness)

The possible risk factors are as follows:

- ⋮ Fluctuations in water level and groundwater level, and in particular low groundwater level (where the water table is too low), pose a risk that foundation piles will dry out, resulting in subsidence, cracks and major damage to any buildings supported by them within the *property* and buffer zone, possibly undermining the structural condition of these buildings. This risk is particularly acute when the water table is lowered (as when construction pits are drained), during construction work and around old city parks which have not been raised.
- ⋮ The transporting of hazardous substances on water (especially through Nieuwe Herengracht and the Amstel) may cause an accident or an emergency in the event of a leak, as well as constituting a danger to public health and adversely affecting the cultural, historical and heritage values of the ring of canals as a World Heritage Site.
- ⋮ An excessive concentration of sightseeing boats could dominate the quality of the ring of canals, after this cityscape has been internationally recognised as a World Heritage Site.

Parking

The key risk factors are as follows:

- ⋮ The scenic quality of the historic city centre affected by parked cars, which dominate its visual value as built heritage
- ⋮ Adverse effect on the cultural, historic and heritage values of the buildings in the ring of canals, if damage is caused by the construction and use of internal garages and underground car parks (with lift).
- ⋮ Reduction in support for conservation and maintenance among owners of buildings within the ring of canals, if the quality of life is negatively affected by restrictions on mobility/parking facilities.

Without further measures, the parking of cars and delivery vehicles would exert severe pressure on Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht canal.

The policy is to discourage parking wherever possible. The tight street pattern of the historic city centre and the *property* seriously limits the options in terms of space and capacity.

The emphasis of city council policy will be on public transport, the use of bicycles and pedestrians. The number of parking spaces in the city centre is being reduced. Parking charges are high and residents need a parking permit.

The Central Borough contains a number of underground car parks. The number of car parks may be increased over the next few years. Parking within properties, which has been able to develop in the past, even inside the area of the *property*, is a separate issue.

Facade advertising

The possible risk factors are as follows:

- ⋮ The scenic quality of the historic architecture affected by obtrusive advertisements, which dominate its values as a monument.
- ⋮ Reduction in support for conservation and maintenance among owners of buildings within the *property*, if their expectations of a certain level of conservation are not fulfilled.

The historic cityscapes of the *property* and the buffer zone may be adversely affected by the erection of advertisements. They should not be allowed to dominate the public space or the historic monuments which are located here and their architecture. In particular, advertisements sited on or against a facade can have a permanent or temporary disruptive effect because they are conspicuous or produce light.

The Central Borough's 2006 Policy Document on Building Aesthetics (*Welstandsnota 2006*) (appendix) contains Guidelines on Facade Advertising (*Richtlijnen Gevelreclame*). The Central Borough has published a Policy Document on Rules for Façade Advertising (*Nota Beleidsregels Gevelreclame*) (2008) in order to improve the quality of outdoor advertising and keep it under control (see appendix).

The key points of these policy rules are:

An advertisement is usually not part of a building but of the function that it has. The advertisement must therefore be subordinate to the architecture of a building. Advertising is an added element and must distract the eye from the building as little as possible. The placing of advertising must be reversible and should not affect the architecture of the building: a building usually lasts longer than the function that it has. Fewer and smaller advertisements are not less effective. On the contrary, by keeping facades visible and reducing advertisements to acceptable proportions, it is possible to increase the attention value of advertising and businesses can improve their profile in their surroundings, as part of Amsterdam's city centre. This makes the city easier to navigate: the view of the city centre is improved and functions and their advertising become more easily recognisable. This results in a more pleasant environment in which the beauty and the appeal of the city become more visible (Explanatory Note).

Section 3 of the document sets out criteria for assessing whether the placing of advertisements should be permitted. Article 3.1. specifies places where it is not permitted to place advertisements (e.g. on blank walls or on roofs). Shop signs may not exceed 0.65m².

Separate provisions apply in the case of buildings whose facade is over 50 metres wide and over 21 metres in height. The Central Borough's executive committee will seek advice concerning the latter type of advertisement from the Amsterdam Committee on the external appearance of (historic) buildings, as to whether it is suitable for the scale of the building. Criteria have been established for this eventuality (Article 4.1.). Separate provisions apply in respect of "temporary advertising" (for a maximum of nine weeks).

Where facade advertising is replaced or a property acquires a new function which requires the placing of advertisements, tough new rules will apply, in line with the qualities of Amsterdam's conservation area within the Singelgracht canal. Within a period of three to five years, all advertisements on or against facades will have to comply with these requirements. If they fail to comply with these new requirements after this period, the borough council will arrange for them to be removed at the owner's expense.

If historic facade advertising is in place, an attempt will generally be made to preserve and, if necessary, restore it. In such cases, facade cleaning is not freely permitted. The Central Borough's executive committee must first decide to grant permission for this after receiving advice from the Amsterdam Committee on the external appearance of (historic) buildings (Article 5.3.).

An inventory has been made of historic facade advertisements. Where possible, they have been preserved and restored. Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal has about 400 historic facade advertisements on the inventory (see appendix).

Art. 7.1 (*Canals, public water, spaces with a cultural and historic function*) in the document states that,

1. *Notwithstanding Article 3.2, in areas designated as canals, public water and spaces with a cultural and historic function, as specified in Appendix 1, section 1, only the following are permitted:*
 - ⋮ *a. non-illuminated advertisements*
 - ⋮ *b. one text in individual letters per parcelling unit, up to a maximum thickness or head protrusion of 10 centimetres and a maximum surface area of 0.65 m²*
 - ⋮ *c. one shop sign per parcelling unit, up to a maximum head protrusion of 50 centimetres and a maximum surface area of 0.35 m²*
2. *The Executive Committee may grant permission or, if necessary, grant conditional permission for a shop sign as specified at 1, c, to be illuminated, where the facade advertisement is used for a function of which, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, evening opening is an inherent part and after written advice has been sought from the Amsterdam Committee on the external appearance of (historic) buildings*
- 3.....
4. *On Dam Square, facade advertising is only permitted if it does not detract from the character of Dam Square as a national square and after written advice has been sought from the Amsterdam Committee on the external appearance of (historic) buildings*

(Appendix 1, 1, (Article 7.1))

“CANALS, PUBLIC WATER AND SPACES WITH A CULTURAL AND HISTORIC FUNCTION”,

Dam Square, east side of Damrak, the Amstel (between Blauwbrug bridge and the locks), Blauwburgwal (north side), Grimburgwal, Groenburgwal, the Herengracht, Keizersgracht and Leidsegracht canals, Oudezijds Achterburgwal and Oudezijds Voorburgwal from Grimburgwal to Oude Doelenstraat, Prinsengracht, Zandhoek, Prins Hendrikkade between Schreierstoren (= Kromme Waal) and Oude Schans, Raamgracht, Reguliersgracht and the Singel (except for the section between Koningsplein/Heiligeweg and Muntplein), Kalkmarkt, s-Gravenhekje, Oude Waal, Kromme Waal, Binnenkant, Kromboomssloot, Nieuwe Herengracht and Nieuwe Keizersgracht, Brouwersgracht, Egelantiersgracht, Bloemgracht, Spiegelgracht, Kloveniersburgwal, Oude Schans, Rechtboomssloot.

Restaurants, pavement cafes, hotels

Catering establishments can have an adverse effect on the cultural and historic value of properties which have been designed to provide catering functions and cause nuisance due to noise, concentrations of people and vandalism:

- ⋮ Buildings adversely affected by breaks in the historic structure
- ⋮ Catering establishments can adversely affect the environment for local residents, mainly due to noise nuisance
- ⋮ Visual contamination of the canals or cityscape due to poor quality pavement cafes
- ⋮ Hotels can cause harm to historically valuable buildings and lead to monofunctional developments in areas of concentration
- ⋮ Adverse effect on the “human scale” of the seventeenth-century ring of canals due to an excessive concentration of hotels
- ⋮ Adverse effect on architectural diversity as a result of buildings being converted to hotels

4.b (iii) Natural disasters and risk preparedness

Disasters

The Management Plan for the Nomination as World Heritage Site of the Seventeenth-Century Ring of Canals within the Singelgracht Canal (*Managementplan voor de nominatie als Werelderfgoed, De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht*) (Amsterdam, 2008) contains a description of current measures to cope with disasters (*Operational Guidelines*, par. 118) (*Management Plan*, 4.8) (see appendix).

The City of Amsterdam has joined forces with the Public Prosecutor and Amsterdam-Amstelland Police to produce the "Physical Safety Manual" (Handboek Fysieke Veiligheid)² (www.fysiekeveiligheid.eenveiligamsterdam.nl)

The manual sets out the policy, the organisation and the responsibility for keeping Amsterdam safe and the procedure to be followed in the event of crisis management.

Borough chairpersons and portfolio-holders also bear official responsibility for physical safety in the areas of disaster management, building safety, fire safety, external safety for developments in the borough and safety of public spaces.

In accordance with the Dutch Disasters and Serious Accidents Act (*Wet rampen en zware ongevallen*) (1985), the City of Amsterdam has prepared a disaster plan which will be implemented when the mayor declares an incident to be a disaster. Boroughs have a borough disaster plan, which is based on the Amsterdam Disaster Plan (*Rampenplan Amsterdam*).

The City of Amsterdam provides a weekday emergency number to call in the event of disasters, for which the Environmental and Building Department is responsible. The Central Borough is responsible at weekends.

Transporting hazardous substances on water

The *harbourmaster* is among those designated by the minister of Transport, Public Works and Water Management as a competent authority (mandate) for the transporting of hazardous substances on water. Hazardous substances, including kerosene, are transported into the port of Amsterdam, on the IJ and on the direct shipping lane to the East (via the Amstel and Nieuwe Herengracht) and West (via Kostverlorenvaart). This shipping lane is the alternative to the situation where it is (temporarily) not possible to transport kerosene through the pipeline.

The shipment of hazardous substances must be reported in advance to the harbourmaster. If the shipment is to pass through inland waterways, the harbourmaster will consult the nautical waterway authority, the Amsterdam Inland Waterway Management Department (*Bureau Binnenwaterbeheer Amsterdam*) to open the bridges, so that the shipment can sail through the city unhindered (*Management Plan*, 4.8.5).

Using water as a transport system means that safety measures have to be taken. Supervision is carried out by the City of Amsterdam (Amsterdam Inland Waterway Management Department, BBA). In the event of a crisis ("disaster") the Crisis Management Plan (*Crisisbeheersingsplan*) of the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Regional Water Board and the Physical Safety Manual of the City of Amsterdam must be put into effect.

Fire prevention through structural conditions

In 2005, the City of Amsterdam initiated a trend towards structuring the division of tasks between the Amsterdam Fire Service and the Building and Housing Departments (BWT) of the boroughs:

- borough BWT inspectors conduct fire safety inspections themselves on the basis of statutory regulations in the case of simple permit applications. However, the Amsterdam Fire Service must have access to current fire safety information on buildings in all cases (including simple ones). The boroughs therefore inform the Amsterdam Fire Service of published recommendations and decisions concerning the granting of permits where fire safety has been part of the necessary advice
- Amsterdam Fire Service continues to be responsible for complex matters by giving mandatory advice on relevant fire-related aspects (*Management Plan, 4.8.6*).

The Amsterdam Fire Service Regulations (*Brandweerverordening Amsterdam*) (1975) govern the system for preventing, minimising and combating fire, minimising the risk of fire and preventing and minimising fire-related accidents as well as actions in the event of disasters.

Because of the densely built-up area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht, fire-fighting falls within the Risk A category. Special measures apply (additional fire tenders, short response time). With effect from 1 January 2008, six fire brigades in the Amsterdam region merged to form Amsterdam-Amstelland Fire Service. One of its specific tasks is to protect the “old town of Amsterdam”.

The Central Borough has all the necessary powers to supervise and enforce the fire safety of buildings. The Fire Service provides advice in this regard. At the borough’s request, the Fire Service will undertake periodic inspections, about 1,000 per annum.

The Programme of Requirements for the Quality of the Built Heritage (*Programma van Eisen Kwaliteit Monumenten, PVeM 2007*) (draft, 2007) of the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) states that:

In order to satisfy the requirements for fire resistance, solutions must be sought in consultation with the Building and Housing Departments, the Fire Service and BMA, which ensure that no parts of the built heritage are affected (PVeM 2007, 8.1. Fire service regulations).

Water

Uncontrolled water management could represent a direct threat to Amsterdam within the Singelgracht with its main and transverse canals and therefore also to the built heritage in the *property* and the surrounding buffer zone.

For centuries, water and water management have been a part of daily life for the Netherlands and its people. The management of water by a regional water board (*hoogheemraadschap* or *waterschap*) is regulated by law in order to create and guarantee a situation where the part of the Netherlands which is below sea level (Normal Amsterdam Level) can remain inhabitable.

In the Netherlands, water management has a multiple function, especially when it comes to maintaining groundwater and water levels. If the water level is too high or too low, this would result in subsidence or flooding. If the groundwater level is too low, the heads of the wooden piles supporting the historic buildings of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht will dry out, directly resulting in major structural problems.

Water has multiple functions, as a physical system (quality, quantity), for transport and as part of the public space. Failure to dredge the canals to maintain water as a physical system would put pressure on the environment and the surrounding area.

The management of the water within the historic city centre is governed by a bye-law (*keur*), known as the *Keur Amstel, Gooi en Vecht*, of the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Regional Water Board, whose responsibilities include the prevention of flooding (inundations). The map is appended to this document (see appendix).

The general committee of the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Regional Water Board decide on policy and regulations concerning water management, the water level and the standards for the quality of the surface water. The general committee also sets the budget and the tax rates.

The executive committee is responsible for day-to-day business. The dyke warden chairs both committees.

In (Amsterdam City “boezem” (outlet)) and around the historic centre, Amsterdam has, of necessity, water-retaining structures to avert inundations from the IJ (the IJ front), the North Sea Canal (North Sea Canal “boezem”), Amsterdam-Rhine Canal, Amstelland (with the Amstel front). The Regional Water Board is responsible for management and maintenance.

There is a Flood Control Plan (*Bestrijdingsplan Hoogwater*), which describes the procedures to be followed for the IJ front at the locks and water-retaining structures involved, in the event of high water in the IJ, the North Sea Canal area and the Amsterdam-Rhine Canal.

If the City “boezem” is to be protected against flooding from the area around the Amstel “boezem”, five locks and water-retaining structures can be closed (including the locks on the Amstel).

In addition, Amsterdam within the Singelgracht has long had a system of dykes to protect it against high water in the IJ. These dykes often form part of roads (e.g. Nieuwendijk, Prins Hendrikkade, Zeedijk, Nieuwmarkt and Hoogte Kadijk) and streets (e.g. Haarlemmerstraat, St. Antoniesbreestraat and Jodenbreestraat).

Stability and foundations

For the Interim Report on the Intensification of preservation and restoration (*Tussenrapportage intensivering behoud en herstel*), a preventive investigation into the stability of the shell of buildings or the condition of their foundations, see section 6c (Results of previous exercises)

Protocol for Restoring Retaining Walls (Protocol Walmuurvernieuwing)

This protocol was adopted by the Central Borough’s executive committee in November 2005.

On the basis of this, before commencing a project to restore retaining walls, the city council ascertains which properties are likely to suffer a disaster when retaining walls are being restored.

The Central Borough assumes that adjacent properties are built on solid foundations and, if not, that the owners will repair the foundations.

If a property is found to be in poor condition, a photographic and video record is made inside.

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) advises on those properties that are in poor condition and on properties which are of special value (in terms of both exterior and interior).

Before work begins, details of the exteriors and, where necessary, the interiors of adjacent properties are recorded.

While the work is in progress, measurements of vibrations are carried out each day and the groundwater level is also measured.

*Expertise Centre on Safety and Security for Heritage Institutions
(Kenniscentrum Veiligheid Cultureel Erfgoed)*

This is a national database (*Database Incidentenregistratie Cultureel Erfgoed*, DICE) in which a record is kept of incidents (fire, flooding, storm damage, etc.) involving cultural heritage, including designated national monuments. The centre (www.kvce.nl) focuses on collecting information on safety and security issues and allows access to it as well as providing information on the size and scale of incidents, any apparent trends and any measures which have been taken.

4.b (iv) Visitor/tourism pressures

Amsterdam within the Singelgracht area exerts a great attraction on tourists from inside and outside the Netherlands. The majority of the visitors come from outside the Netherlands and stay at least one night. More visitors come as tourists than on business. Most of them (56%) have visited the city before and 64% stay overnight in a hotel. Day visitors stay less than seven hours. In 2005 the number of one-day visits was 15,749,000 (source *Amsterdam Bezoekersprofiel. Bezoekersonderzoek Amsterdam 2008/Amsterdam Visitors Profile. Visitors Research Amsterdam 2008*. Amsterdam Tourism & Convention Board).

The largest group of foreign tourists comes from the United Kingdom, followed by the United States. The number of Chinese and Brazilian visitors is increasing rapidly.

The Board recently carried out research into what is known as the “visitors profile”. This type of research is conducted once every four years. It shows that the main reasons for visiting are:

- ⌘ cultural history and canals (38%)
- ⌘ atmosphere (26%) and museums (24%).

This research shows that walking around the city and sightseeing are most popular (85%), followed by visiting museums (73%). Going on a boat trip interests 42% of visitors. Of the 6,000 tourists surveyed, 39% cite architecture and atmosphere as the most important reasons (39% and 33% respectively).

In 2004 some four million hotel guests booked a total of almost eight million overnight stays. In 2007 the figure was 4.9 million overnight stays. Those who stay longer, do so for an average of 1.79 nights (*Amsterdam in figures 2007*, Department for Research and Statistics, City of Amsterdam, 2007).

The average room occupancy rate of hotels in Amsterdam is the second highest in Europe (Economic Development Department, City of Amsterdam, April 2008).

Currently, the occupancy rate of the hotels is 81%. The number of hotel rooms is set to increase over the next few years until 2015.

Amsterdam within the Singelgracht is experienced by many visitors in sightseeing boats. Some three million visitors have done so every year since 2000. About 110 sightseeing boats are available for this task. They can be found at the Open Harbour Front, Damrak, Rokin, Binnen-Amstel and Singelgracht. The city centre also has the “Museum Boat” and the “Canalbus” as a form of water-borne transport providing regular services.

Special historic buildings and exhibiting cultural institutions inside Amsterdam within the Singelgracht boasted the following visitor numbers in 2006:

- ⌘ Anne Frankhuis (Anne Frank House), 983,000, in 2006 (*Trend Report*, 2007)
- ⌘ FOAM fotografiemuseum (FOAM-Photography Museum of Amsterdam), 127,000, in 2006 (*Amsterdam in figures 2007*. City of Amsterdam. Department for Research and Statistics)

- ⌘ Verzetmuseum (Dutch Resistance Museum), 50,000, in 2006 (*Amsterdam in figures 2007*. City of Amsterdam. Department for Research and Statistics)
- ⌘ Amsterdams Historisch Museum (Amsterdam Historical Museum), over 202,000 (*Annual report 2006. Amsterdam Historical Museum*)
- ⌘ Schuttersgalerij (Amsterdam Historical Museum), over 370,000 (*Annual report 2006. Amsterdam Historical Museum*)
- ⌘ Museum Willet-Holthuysen (Willet-Holthuysen Museum), 51,000, in 2006 (*Amsterdam in figures 2007*. City of Amsterdam. Department for Research and Statistics)
- ⌘ Museum Het Rembrandthuis (Rembrandt House), 290,000, in 2006 (*Amsterdam in figures 2007*. City of Amsterdam. Department for Research and Statistics)
- ⌘ Nederlands Scheepvaartmuseum Amsterdam (National Maritime Museum Amsterdam), 185,000, in 2006 (*Amsterdam in figures 2007*. City of Amsterdam. Department for Research and Statistics)
- ⌘ Joods Historisch Museum (Jewish Historical Museum), 116,000, in 2006 (*Amsterdam in figures 2007*. City of Amsterdam. Department for Research and Statistics)
- ⌘ Museum Amstelkring 'Ons Lieve Heer op Solder' (Our Lord In the Attic Museum), 92,000, in 2006 (*Amsterdam in figures 2007*. City of Amsterdam. Department for Research and Statistics)
- ⌘ Allard Pierson Museum, 56,000, in 2006 (*Amsterdam in figures 2007*. City of Amsterdam. Department for Research and Statistics)
- ⌘ Museum Van Loon (Van Loon Museum), 54,000, in 2006 (*Amsterdam in figures 2007*. City of Amsterdam. Department for Research and Statistics)
- ⌘ Nederlands Theaterinstituut/museum (Dutch Theatre Institute/Museum), 35,000, in 2006 (*Amsterdam in figures 2007*. City of Amsterdam. Department for Research and Statistics). The Dutch Theatre Museum closes at this site at the end of 2008
- ⌘ Bijbels Museum (Biblical Museum), 47,000, in 2006 (*Amsterdam in figures 2007*. City of Amsterdam. Department for Research and Statistics)
- ⌘ Woonbootmuseum (Houseboat Museum), 34,000, in 2006 (*Amsterdam in figures 2007*. City of Amsterdam. Department for Research and Statistics)
- ⌘ Tassenmuseum (Museum of Bags and Purses), Herengracht 573, opened in 2007, 45,000 visitors to June 2008, (*Stadsdeelnieuws*. No. 23, Vol. 4, 16 June 2008. City of Amsterdam. Central Borough).
- ⌘ Koninklijk Paleis op de Dam (Royal Palace in Amsterdam) (formerly Amsterdam City Hall), 100,000, in 2005 (*Amsterdam in figures 2006*. Gemeente Amsterdam. City of Amsterdam. Department for Research and Statistics) (The Palace has been undergoing restoration since 2005)
- ⌘ De Oude Kerk (The Old Schurch), 118,000, in 2006 (*Amsterdam in figures 2007*. City of Amsterdam. Department for Research and Statistics)
- ⌘ De Nieuwe Kerk (The New Church), 204,000, in 2006 (*Amsterdam in figures 2007*. City of Amsterdam. Department for Research and Statistics)
- ⌘ Beurs van Berlage (Beurs van Berlage Museum), 189,000, in 2006 (*Amsterdam in figures 2007*. City of Amsterdam. Department for Research and Statistics)
- ⌘ Hermitage Amsterdam, 61,000, in 2006 (*Amsterdam in figures 2007*. City of Amsterdam. Department for Research and Statistics)
- ⌘ Huis Marseille (Huis Marseille Museum for Photography), 29,000, in 2006 (*Amsterdam in figures 2007*. City of Amsterdam. Department for Research and Statistics)
- ⌘ Stichting ARCAM (ARCAM Amsterdam Centre for Architecture) 14,000, in 2006 (*Amsterdam in figures 2007*. City of Amsterdam. Department for Research and Statistics)
- ⌘ Openbare Bibliotheek Amsterdam (Public Library Amsterdam), relocated to Oosterdokseiland in 2007 and designed by Jo Coenen, received a million visitors in the subsequent seven months
- ⌘ Begijnhof: one of the biggest tourist attractions is the medieval Begijnhof courtyard, which attracts 800,000 visitors annually, especially during the summer months

Hotel policy

The City of Amsterdam set out its hotel policy for the years 2007-2010 in the Hotel Policy Document 2007-2010 (*Nota Hotelbeleid 2007-2010. EZ brengt zaken bij elkaar*) (City of Amsterdam, Economic Development Department), which was adopted by the Municipal Executive on 20 November 2007. Such a policy is needed because the city is facing a shortage of hotel rooms. It has been estimated that to take account of annual growth (approx. 4%) to 2015, 9000 new hotel rooms will be needed, distributed among the boroughs.

In June 2008 the Central Borough council adopted its hotel policy, which states that a maximum of 1,000 additional hotel rooms will be needed by 2011. It also states that this should not be at the expense of the existing housing stock (*Stadsdeelnieuws*. No. 23, Vol. 4, 16 June 2008. City of Amsterdam. Central Borough).

The hotel policy for the historic city centre was set out by the Central Borough in Hotel Policy for City Centre (*Hotelbeleid Binnenstad*) 2008-2011. Within the "seventeenth-century ring of canals" an increase of 150 hotel rooms (one third of the total increase in hotel accommodation in the city centre by 2011) is expected. Hotel accommodation is subject to a special planning procedure, under the control of the Central Borough.

The redevelopment of other buildings into hotels is subject to a number of constraints within the Central Borough, such as

- ⌘ there must be no increase in traffic
- ⌘ there must be no "monofunctional" facade
- ⌘ it must contribute to the urban quality and quality of life in the surrounding area
- ⌘ it must be in keeping with the parcelling of the surrounding buildings
- ⌘ the arrangement of the facade must take account of the architectural qualities of the surrounding buildings.

Events in Amsterdam within the Singelgracht

Each year, a number of major events (e.g. the Amsterdam Canal Festival, the Queen's birthday) and minor events are held in the city centre. The mayor has established guidelines for these public events (policy document on Outdoor Events in the City Centre (*Buitenevenementen in de Binnenstad*), June 2008). The document lists 43 locations where events can be held, depending on their size, if permission has been granted. It also lays down how many events are allowed each year and the number of days for each.

The following locations inside the *property* have been designated as venues: Amstel river bank in front of Theater Carré, Amstelveld, canals, Noordermarkt, Reguliersdwarsstraat, Rembrandtplein and Thorbeckeplein, Westermarkt. The following has been determined for each location: the maximum noise levels for each event, the maximum number of visitors, the maximum number of events on that site each year, etc.

Policy on pavement cafes

The Central Borough's policy document on pavement cafes (*Terrassenbeleid*) came into effect on 1 April 2008. This policy stipulates how a pavement cafe can use the public space and, among other things, the maximum dimensions of a pavement cafe. Pavement cafes require an operating licence. New pavement cafes are not permitted.

Negative impact of tourism

In a number of places, tourism intrudes into the daily lives of city centre residents. For example, it is

true of the residents of the world-famous medieval Begijnhof. In the period between Easter and October, the Begijnhof receives some 800,000 visitors.

Catering establishments can also cause nuisance to residents and visitors alike, as well as affecting the historic cityscape. To control this, the Central Borough adopted the policy document "Towards a contemporary, transparent catering policy in Amsterdam City Centre" (*Naar een eigentijds, transparant horecabeleid in de Amsterdamse Binnenstad*) in 2003. The opening hours of catering establishments are regulated in the City of Amsterdam's General Municipal Bylaw (*Algemene Plaatselijke Verordening*). On the basis of this bylaw, the Central Borough has prepared a Catering Policy Plan (*Horecabeleidsplan*) (adopted by the borough council on 25 September 2008 and set to enter into force on 1 January 2009), which will inter alia stipulate where pavement cafes are permitted, and the extent to which a catering establishment can expand inside Amsterdam's conservation area within the Singelgracht canal. Any expansion must ensure that the urban conservation area is not adversely affected, that no inconvenience is caused to local residents and that it meets the fire safety requirements imposed by the municipal fire service. There can also be no question of adjacent buildings being combined, thereby changing their historic architectural structure.

Noise nuisance is investigated by the city council (environmental inspectors from the City of Amsterdam's Environmental and Building Department (*Dienst Milieu en Bouwtoezicht*)). Catering establishments are inspected once every three years to ensure that they are complying with the relevant rules.

The Central Borough published a policy document on pavement cafes (*Terrassennota*) in 2008. The operating principle is that public spaces should be accessible to everyone, both as a space for traffic and as a space in which to remain. Newly built pavement cafes will no longer be permitted. Over a three-year transitional period, fast-food outlets will no longer be permitted to have an outdoor seating area. One of the instruments used by the Central Borough to assess whether or not a pavement cafe complies with the borough's policy is the Manual for the Layout of Public Spaces (*Handboek Inrichting Openbare Ruimte*).

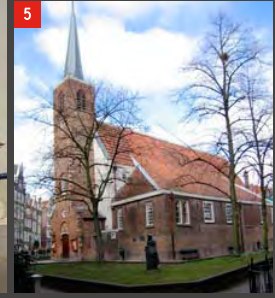
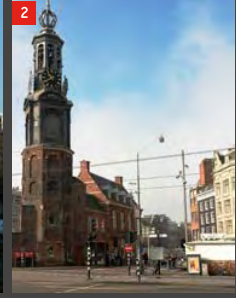
4.b (v) Number of residents within the property and the buffer zone

Estimated population within:

the nominated <i>property</i> :	20,000 (estimate based on neighbourhood boundaries)
buffer zone:	60,000 (ditto)
Total:	80,000
Date:	1 April 2008 (source: Personal Data Department and Research and Statistics Department, municipality of Amsterdam)

5

PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT



5.a Ownership

The buildings along the canals in the property are mainly residential buildings, or historic warehouses now converted into dwellings (apartments). Most of them are therefore privately owned.

Institutions may have become tenants or owners of somewhat larger former office buildings and banks.

Within the property, the Central Borough owns the two properties listed by the State: Westerkerk tower ¹ and the Munt ². Within the buffer zone it owns the towers of the Oude Kerk ³, the Zuiderkerk ⁴, the Schreierstoren, the Montelbaanstoren and the tower of the English Church in the Begijnhof ⁵. These too are all State-listed.

Buildings owned by the Central Borough within the buffer zone and listed by the State include the Rembrandthuis and the Oosterkerk ⁶ (in 2004 the latter received a €30,600 restoration grant – 50% of the grant-eligible costs – from the Central Borough).

Ownership of the following State-listed buildings has been transferred to the municipality: the Waag ⁷, the historic canal-side building 609-613 Keizersgracht, which currently houses FOAM Fotografiemuseum Amsterdam, as well as 264 Keizersgracht (the Netherlands Media Art Institute/ Montevideo) and the Hollandse Schouwburg at 24 Plantage Middenlaan.

The municipality has taken over the State-listed Beurs van Berlage on the Damrak ⁸ from the Central Borough, working here in conjunction with the De Key housing corporation and two investment companies (Amvest and Rabo Bouwfonds). Ownership of the Felix Meritis building on Keizersgracht has also been transferred to the municipality.

Most of the real estate in the Central Borough, mainly dwellings, is located in the buffer zone. Listed buildings that the borough owns within the property include the residential buildings 76 Singel (municipal), 12 Herenmarkt (municipal), 347-349 Keizersgracht (State), 235 Prinsengracht (State), 95 Nieuwe Herengracht (State), 122 Nieuwe Kerkstraat (municipal), 126 Nieuwe Kerkstraat (municipal) and 15-16 Molenpad (State).

Housing corporations such as De Key, Ymere and Het Oosten/NV Stadsgoed own large numbers of listed buildings throughout the property. De Key owns 1,078 State-listed buildings and 601 listed by the municipality all over the city, 203 of them within the ring of canals.

Some of Stadsherstel Amsterdam NV's buildings within the *property* are restored historic buildings, including the Amstelkerk on Amstelveld, the Catholic church St Willibrordus binnen de Veste ('De Duif') on Prinsengracht ⁹ and the former Catholic church Onze Lieve Vrouw Onbevlekt Ontvangen ('Posthoorn') on Haarlemmerstraat ¹⁰.

Stadsherstel Amsterdam NV's buildings include four on Herengracht, five on Herenmarkt (including the West-Indisch Huis), fourteen on Keizersgracht, twenty-two in Kerkstraat, five on Korte Prinsengracht, two on Leidsegracht, eight on Reguliersgracht, eight on Nieuwe Herengracht, two on Nieuwe Keizersgracht, two on Nieuwe Prinsengracht and twelve along the Singel (*Jaarverslag Stadsherstel*, 2007).

Vereniging Hendrick de Keyser not only has its offices within the property, in the listed historic residential building 743 Keizersgracht ¹, but also owns nine listed buildings on Herengracht, two on Keizersgracht, three on Prinsengracht, two on Noordermarkt, and several more in Kerkstraat, on Brouwersgracht ² and on Blauwburgwal ³.

Within the *property*, the Government Buildings Agency of the Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment (Rijksgebouwendienst) manages a number of historic buildings on Singel, Herengracht, Prinsengracht and the Amstel.

Property developers and investment companies, as well as the Central Borough's Real Estate Department or the municipality's Development Agency, are involved in real estate within the *property*.

5.b Protective designation

A list of legislation, policy documents and plans currently applicable to historic buildings/sites in Amsterdam (the city centre or Central Borough) and the urban conservation area within Singelgracht is given below.

The application of the legislation etc. is discussed in 5.c. (Means of implementing protective measures) and 5.d (Existing plans related to municipality and region in which the proposed property is located...).

5.b.1 National

- ⋮ *Management of cultural heritage sites/historic buildings and sites in the Netherlands*
- ⋮ *Monuments Act 1988 (Monumentenwet 1988)*
- ⋮ *Uniform Public Preparatory Procedure (General Administrative Law Act) Act (2005) (Wet uniforme voorbereidingsprocedure AwB (2005))*
- ⋮ *Immovable Property (Disclosure of Public-Law Restrictions) Act (Wet kenbaarheid publiekrechtelijke beperkingen onroerende zaken (Wkpb))*
- ⋮ *Environmental Licensing (General Provisions) Act (Wet algemene bepalingen omgevingsrecht (Wabo))*
- ⋮ *Housing Act (Woningwet)*
- ⋮ *Cultural Heritage Preservation Act (1984) (Wet tot behoud van cultuurbezit) (1984)*
- ⋮ *Spatial Planning Act (2006) (Wet ruimtelijke ordening) (2006) / Spatial Planning Decree (Besluit ruimtelijke ordening, Bro)*
- ⋮ *Urban Regeneration Act (2000) (Wet stedelijke vernieuwing) (2000)*
- ⋮ *Belvedere Policy Document (1999) (Nota Belvedere) (1999); Programme of Action for Space and Culture (2005) (Actieprogramma Ruimte en Cultuur) (2005)*
- ⋮ *Spatial Policy Document: creating space for development (2006) (Nota Ruimte 'Ruimte voor ontwikkeling') (2006)*
- ⋮ *Timetable for implementing the Spatial Planning Document 2006 (Uitvoeringsagenda Nota Ruimte 2006)*
- ⋮ *Water Boards Act (Waterschapswet)*
- ⋮ *Area document/management plan for a World Heritage Site (Gebiedsdocument/managementplan voor een Werelderfgoed)*
- ⋮ *Certification of architects in the restoration sector (Certificering architecten in de restauratiewereld)*



5.b.2 Amsterdam

- ⌘ *Amsterdam Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-law (2005) (Monumentenverordening Amsterdam (2005))*
- ⌘ *Amsterdam Central Borough Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-law (2005) (Monumentenverordening stadsdeel Centrum (2005))*
- ⌘ *Handbook for the listing of objects and sites under the municipal bye-law (2007) (Handleiding voor de aanwijzing van zaken en terreinen als gemeentelijk monument (2007))*
- ⌘ *Policy document on historic buildings/sites and archaeology 2005-2010: Space for history (Ruimte voor geschiedenis. Beleidsnota Monumenten en Archeologie 2005-2010)*
- ⌘ *Structure plan: Choosing urbanity, municipality of Amsterdam (Structuurplan Kiezen voor Stedelijkheid, gemeente Amsterdam)*
- ⌘ *City Centre Cultural Policy Document (November 2005) (Cultuurnota Binnenstad, November 2005)*
- ⌘ *Amsterdam Heritage Bye-Law (Erfgoedverordening Amsterdam)*
- ⌘ *Public Administration (Probity Screening) Act (Wet Bevordering Integriteit Beoordeling (Wet Bibob))*
- ⌘ *Strategy for water in the city centre (2005) (Visie op het water van de binnenstad (2005))*
- ⌘ *Port and Waterways Bye-law (revised in 2006) (Verordening op de haven en het binnenwater, herzien 2006)*
- ⌘ *Policy document: Appearance of waterside buildings (2007) (Nota Welstand op het water (2007))*
- ⌘ *Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (1954) (Verdrag inzake de bescherming van culturele goederen in geval van een gewapend conflict (1954))*
- ⌘ *Boundary of the urban conservation area 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht' (Omgrenzing beschermd stadsgezicht Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht)*
- ⌘ *Other urban conservation areas within the municipality of Amsterdam (Verdere beschermde gezichten binnen de gemeente Amsterdam)*
- ⌘ *Forthcoming designations of national urban conservation areas (Komende aanwijzingen van door het Rijk aan te wijzen beschermde stadsgezichten)*
- ⌘ *Designation of a municipal urban conservation area (Aanwijzing gemeentelijk beschermd stadsgezicht)*
- ⌘ *Amsterdam and archaeology (Amsterdam en archeologie)*
- ⌘ *Historic Buildings and Archaeology Bureau (BMA), Archaeology Section (Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie (BMA), afdeling Archeologie)*
- ⌘ *Archaeological Programme of Standards (Archeologisch Programma van Eisen (PvE))*
- ⌘ *Historic Buildings and Archaeology Bureau (BMA), municipality of Amsterdam (Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie (BMA), gemeente Amsterdam)*
- ⌘ *Procedure adopted by the Central Borough's Building Sector when dealing with building permit applications and applications for listed building consent (Werkwijze sector Bouwen, stadsdeel Centrum, bij het behandelen van aanvragen bouw- en monumentenvergunningen)*
- ⌘ *Architectural history research in connection with listed building consent (Architectuurhistorisch onderzoek ten behoeve van vergunningverlening)*
- ⌘ *Municipal Building Regulations (2003) (author's text 23 January 2008) (Bouwverordening Amsterdam 2003 (auteurstekst 23 januari 2008)*
- ⌘ *Appearance of buildings in Amsterdam (Welstand in Amsterdam)*
- ⌘ *External Appearance and Historic Buildings Committee (Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten, WCM)*
- ⌘ *Policy Document on External Appearance of City Areas and Projects (Welstandsnota grootstedelijke gebieden en projecten)*

- ⌘ *Policy Documents on External Appearance (digitalised) (Welstandsnota's gedigitaliseerd)*
- ⌘ *Policy Document on External Appearance, Central Borough, Amsterdam (2006) (Welstandsnota stadsdeel Amsterdam-Centrum (2006))*
- ⌘ *Amsterdam Urban Development Council (Amsterdamse Raad voor de Stadsontwikkeling)*
- ⌘ *Urban Assessment and Advice Team (STAT) for spatial planning in Amsterdam (Stedelijk toets- en adviesteam (STAT) van ruimtelijke plannen in Amsterdam)*
- ⌘ *Listing process (Proces bescherming)*
- ⌘ *Consent, management and enforcement process (Proces vergunningen beheer en handhaving)*
- ⌘ *Programme of Quality Standards for Historic Buildings 2003 (Programma van Eisen kwaliteit Monumenten 2003 (PvEM 2003))*
- ⌘ *Land-use plans for the urban conservation area 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht' (Bestemmingsplannen voor het beschermd stadsgezicht Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht)*
- ⌘ *Goals within the property (the seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within Singelgracht (Doeleinden in de 'property', de 'zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht')*
- ⌘ *List of current land-use plans for the urban conservation area 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht' (Overzicht vigerende bestemmingsplannen voor het beschermde stadsgezicht Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht)*
- ⌘ *Revised timetable for land-use plans concerning Amsterdam within Singelgracht (Tijdschema herzien van bestemmingsplannen voor Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht)*
- ⌘ *Evaluation map for the urban conservation area 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht' (Waarderingskaart beschermd stadsgezicht Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht)*
- ⌘ *Maps of architectural categories (Categories I-IV) (Architectuurordenkaarten (Orde I-IV)*
- ⌘ *Construction permits (Aanlegvergunningen)*
- ⌘ *Guidelines for demolition or reconstruction of Category II buildings (Richtlijnen voor sloop/herbouw van 'Orde-II 'panden)*
- ⌘ *PLABERUM system (Planning and Decision-Making Process for Spatial Measures) (PLABERUM-systeem (Plan- en Besluitvormingsproces Ruimtelijke Maatregelen))*
- ⌘ *Handbook on the Design of Public Space (2000) (Handboek Openbare Ruimte (2000))*
- ⌘ *Standard Canal Profile (Standaard Grachten Profiel)*
- ⌘ *Guidelines for advertising in public space in Amsterdam's city centre (Richtlijnen Reclame in de openbare ruimte in de binnenstad van Amsterdam)*
- ⌘ *City centre hotel policy 2008-2011(Hotelbeleid Binnenstad 2008-2011)*
- ⌘ *Central Borough Trees Bye-Law/Trees in Amsterdam within Singelgracht (Bomenverordening stadsdeel Centrum/Bomen in Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht)*

5.c. Means of implementing protective measures

5.c.1 Care of cultural heritage and of historic buildings/sites in the Netherlands

In the Netherlands, archaeological and non-archaeological historic buildings/sites and urban and village conservation areas have been systematically registered, selected and protected by the State, the provinces or the municipalities for many decades.

In the Netherlands, care of historic buildings/sites is an integral part of everyday sociocultural life. The State, the provinces and the municipalities each have their own tasks and responsibilities in this area. These are set out in the Monuments Act 1988 (see annexe).

Monuments Act 1988; historic buildings/sites; listed buildings/sites; urban and village conservation areas; listed urban and village conservation areas

There is a difference between a historic building/site and a listed building/site. A historic building/site ('*monument*' in Dutch) is a building or structure that is at least fifty years old and is of public interest because of its architectural, cultural/historical or scientific value (Section 1, subsection b(1) of the Monuments Act 1988), or a site that contains archaeological traces or remains (Section 1, subsection b(2) of the Act).

A listed building/site ('*beschermd monument*' in Dutch) is one listed in a register such as the one adopted by the Minister or State Secretary of Education, Culture and Science, or on a provincial or municipal list drawn up under a provincial or municipal bye-law. If a building/site is listed by the State, it cannot also be listed by a province or municipality.

As of 1 January 2007, the State list included over 52,000 listed buildings/sites throughout the country, including just under 1,050 archaeological sites (2007 annual report of the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM) (*Jaarverslag 2007*. Rijksdienst voor Archeologie, Cultuurlandschap en Monumenten, RACM).

Urban and village conservation areas

So far, most urban and village conservation areas have been the historic centres of cities, towns or villages. Some towns and villages have been designated as conservation areas in their entirety. Here again, the main criterion is whether they are of public interest.

An urban or village conservation area must display historical spatial or structural coherence. The Act also prescribes that it must be beautiful or of scientific or cultural/historical value:

'urban and village conservation areas: groups of buildings that are of public interest by virtue of their beauty, their spatial or structural coherence or their scientific or cultural/historical value, and that include one or more historic buildings' (Section 1, subsection 2(f) of the Monuments Act 1988).

In an urban or village conservation area there must always have been a historical spatial or structural relationship between the use of space over the centuries, spatial planning, buildings, road and canal patterns and private and public space.

Not all urban or village conservation areas are listed. Listed areas are ones that have been designated as such by the Minister of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment and the Minister of Education, Culture and Science under section 35 of the Act, with the consent of the municipality concerned (Section 1, subsection 2(g) of the Monuments Act 1988).

As of February 2008, there were 398 State-listed urban and village conservation areas. Provinces and municipalities can designate such areas under their own bye-laws.

As of the same date there are a further 48 conservation areas being considered for State listing under the Act, and another 42 under preparation. The areas concerned are historic spatial urban structures built since the mid-nineteenth century.

Archaeology

Besides the visible remains of the past in the built environment, the Monuments Act 1988 includes sections on archaeology (Chapter V, sections 38-60). These deal with bye-laws, land-use plans, permits/consent and exemptions (sections 38-43), archaeological priority areas (section 44), excavation permits (sections 45-48), excavations carried out by universities (section 49), ownership (section 50), repositories (sections 51-52), duty to notify (sections 53-54), the Central Archaeological Information System (section 55), special ministerial powers (sections 56-59) and forms (section 60). Chapter VI of the Act also includes sections on the management of archaeological monuments, dealing respectively with enforcement and penalties (sections 61-63). Transitional and final provisions are laid down in Chapter VII (sections 64-69).

The provisions of the Monuments Act 1988 were amended by the Archaeological Heritage Management Act of 21 December 2006 (*Wet van 21 december 2006 tot wijziging van de Monumentenwet 1988 en enkele andere wetten ten behoeve van de archeologische monumentenzorg mede in verband met de implementatie van het Verdrag van Valletta (Wet op de archeologische monumentenzorg, 6 februari 2007/Besluit van 9 augustus 2007, houdende regels ter uitvoering van de Wet op de archeologische monumentenzorg en enkele technische wijzigingen van het Besluit indieningsvereisten aanvraag bouwvergunning (Besluit archeologische monumentenzorg)* (see annexe), which came into force on 1 September 2007. The amendments were made to implement the 1992 European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Malta Convention) (*Europees Verdrag inzake de bescherming van het archeologisch erfgoed (1992)*, which was approved by the Dutch Parliament in 1998.

The following two subsections were added to section 14 of the Act:

'(3) If an application for consent concerns an archaeological monument, Our Minister may require a report which, in his opinion, provides sufficient evidence for the archaeological value of the site that will be disturbed if the application is granted.

'(4) Rules on the contents and structure of the report referred to in subsection 3 may be drawn up by or pursuant to an order-in-council.'

The following third subsection was added to section 19 of the Act:

'(3) If the consent concerns an archaeological monument, it may be made subject to at least the following conditions:

(a) a duty to take technical measures allowing the monument to be preserved in situ;

(b) a duty to carry out excavations; or

(c) a duty to have the activity that disturbs the soil supervised by an expert in the care of archaeological monuments who possesses the qualifications stipulated by Our Minister in connection with the consent.'

Excavation without a permit is prohibited (section 45, subsection 1). In order to obtain a permit, applicants must meet standards of competence laid down by order-in-council (section 46, subsections 1-5):

'46. (1) The holder of an excavation permit must notify Our Minister of the commencement of the excavation.

(2) No later than two weeks after the excavation is completed, the holder of the excavation permit must notify Our Minister of the initial findings.

(3) No later than two years after the excavation is completed, the holder of the excavation permit must preserve the movable objects of archaeological importance found during the excavation and surrender the preserved objects and the accompanying excavation documents to the owner.

(4) No later than two years after the excavation is completed, the holder of the excavation permit must submit a report describing the results of the excavation to Our Minister, the owner and the executive of the municipality where the excavation took place.

(5) In the interests of the care of archaeological monuments/sites, excavation permits may be made subject to conditions other than those set out in subsections 1-4.'

There is also a duty to report finds (section 53, subsections 1 and 2, and section 54 of the Act):

'53. (1) Any person who, except while carrying out excavations, finds an object or site that he knows or may reasonably assume to be of archaeological importance must notify Our Minister as soon as possible.

(2) Any person with title to a movable object as referred to in subsection 1 must keep or make it available for research purposes for a period of six months, calculated from the date of the notification referred to in subsection 1.

54. Any person who, while engaged in a search for monuments which does not involve disturbing the soil, makes observations that he knows or may reasonably assume to be of relevance to the care of archaeological monuments must notify Our Minister as soon as possible.'

Implementation of the Monuments Act 1988 is largely delegated to the provinces and municipalities. Among other things, municipalities must take account of existing or potential archaeological values when adopting land-use plans, except for areas smaller than 100 square metres (under the terms of section 41 (a), a different limit may be determined by the municipal council).

The municipalities designate 'archaeological priority areas':

'44.

- (1) Where land-use plans have failed to take sufficient account of existing or potential archaeological monuments in the ground, the provincial executive may designate as 'archaeological priority areas' areas of the province that are, or are likely to be, of archaeological value.
- (2) The municipal council will adopt a land-use plan for a designated archaeological priority area within a period to be determined by the provincial executive.
- (3) The provincial executive will notify Our Minister of designations as referred to in subsection 1'.

Damage to archaeological monuments

Section 56 of the Monuments Act 1988 lays down provisions on damage to archaeological monuments:

'In the event of damage or imminent damage to archaeological monuments, Our Minister may lay down requirements for the execution of the work that is causing the damage or imminent damage, or may order that the work be wholly or partly suspended for a limited or unlimited period.'

Permits concerning archaeological objects

The Dutch Archaeological Quality Standards (*Kwaliteitsnorm Nederlandse Archeologie, KNA*) are intended to ensure the quality of excavations, which are carried out under the supervision of the Central Board of Archaeological Experts (*Centraal College van Deskundigen Archeologie CCvD Archeologie*) and the Heritage Inspectorate (*Erfgoedinspectie*).

Excavations may only be carried out with a permit, which is granted subject to a number of conditions (regarding experience, expertise, training and so on) that are laid down in the Monuments Act 1988 and the Archaeological Heritage Management Decree of 9 August 2007 (*Besluit archeologische monumentenzorg, Bamz*) (see annexe).

Such permits may be granted – in practice always for a period of five years – by the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM) on behalf of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science.

Excessive excavation costs

The ministerial order of 9 August 2007 on the management of the archaeological heritage (amended on 18 December 2007) (*Regeling archeologische monumentenzorg, 9 augustus 2007*) (see annexe) allows provinces and municipalities to receive a financial contribution towards 'excessive excavation costs'. In 2008, the ceiling for such payments was € 2 million.

Archaeology and other Acts of Parliament

Following the entry into force of the Management of the Archaeological Heritage Act, amendments were made to the Monuments Act 1988, the Earth Removal Act (*Ontgrondingwet*), the Environmental Management Act (*Wet milieubeheer*) and the Housing Act (*Woningwet*) so that archaeological factors could be taken into account in connection with spatial development. The Environmental Management Act states that cultural/historical values are an integral part of the environment as a legal concept. The existence of such values must be demonstrated with the help of environmental impact statements.

Archis data bank

The RACM manages the national archaeological information system (Archis), which is required under the Monuments Act 1988. Archis contains data on more than 75,000 findspots and some 30,000 sites (figures as of 2007). Holders of excavation permits must register the results of their research in this data bank.

Digital files containing archaeological maps may be consulted for professional purposes on the RACM website (www.racm.nl). The maps include the Indicative Map of Archaeological Values (IKAW) (scale 1:50,000), which indicates where archaeological values may potentially be found, and the Archaeological Monument Map (AMK) (scale 1:10,000), which indicates the archaeological sites/monuments in each province, including scheduled monuments, together with a classification ranging from 'of archaeological importance' to 'of very high archaeological value' in the case of scheduled monuments.

The 50,000 detailed excavation drawings and 3,000 excavation files in the RACM archives from 1947 onwards have been scanned so that they can be consulted on-line by both internal and external users. Digital files of archaeological maps (such as the IKAW, the AMK and the General Archaeological Map of the Continental Shelf) are also available from the RACM.

Published archaeological reports

Since 1950 the National Service for Archaeological Heritage (ROB) (which in 2006 merged with the Netherlands Department for Conservation (RDMZ) to form the RACM) has produced a printed series of 'Reports by the National Service for Archaeological Investigations', later renamed 'Archaeological Heritage', which was transferred onto DVD in 2007 (see annexe).

National Archaeological Research Diary

First published in 2006, this diary provides a section-by-section survey of existing archaeological studies, indicating the current state of knowledge (thematically and chronologically) and the focus of future studies. The diary may be consulted on-line (www.noaa.nl).

University archaeologists, those responsible for the care of archaeological monuments, municipal and provincial archaeologists and archaeology firms are working to complete the missing sections. The diary is supervised by a project group that includes representatives of the RACM, the Association of Archaeological Entrepreneurs (*Vereniging van Ondernemers in Archeologie*), the Convention of Municipal Archaeologists (*Convent van Gemeentelijke Archeologen*) and the Dutch university research school Archon (*Onderzoekschool Archon*).

State listing of archaeological monuments

In the next 10-15 years the State will be drawing up a representative list of archaeological monuments, some 1,050 of which are currently scheduled under the Monuments Act 1988 (RACM 2006 *Annual Report*).

Duties of municipalities under the Monuments Act 1988

Under the Monuments Act 1988, municipalities must carry out various tasks in connection with the care of State-listed buildings/sites:

- ⌘ Advice on State listing of buildings/sites (section 3, subsection 2 of the Act);
- ⌘ Advice on State listing or delisting of urban or village conservation areas (section 35, subsection 2 of the Act);
- ⌘ Granting of permits to alter, demolish or remove a building/site that is listed under the Act but is not

an archaeological monument (section 14, subsection 1 of the Act). Under the Act, municipalities have such decentralised powers if they have adopted a monuments and historic buildings bye-law and have at least set up a monuments and historic buildings committee to advise the municipal executive (section 15, subsection 1 of the Act).

Consent for State-listed historic buildings/sites

The Act not only deals with the listing of historic buildings/sites and conservation areas, but also includes provisions on applications for and granting of permits, for example to alter or demolish listed buildings/sites (sections 11-14 and 16-21 of the Act).

Municipalities have a particularly important part to play in the case of State-listed above-ground buildings/sites and urban and village conservation areas, for in the 1980s the care of non-archaeological monuments was delegated to the municipalities.

Municipalities that have drawn up monuments and historic buildings bye-laws (under section 15 of the Act) that also provide for a committee on the care of historic buildings and sites to be consulted may grant listed building consent on their own account and attach conditions to this.

The Act also prescribes that, when the Act is applied, the use of the historic building/sites must be taken into account (section 2); however, decisions on church buildings may not be taken 'except in consultation with the owner' (section 2, subsection 1).

Until 1 January 2009, the State (acting through the RACM) is responsible for advising municipalities on applications for consent (including for demolition) for State-listed buildings/sites. The province in which the municipality concerned is located must also advise on listed buildings/sites located outside built-up areas. The municipality must let the Minister of Education, Culture and Science and the provincial executive know what decision has been reached on the matter (section 16, subsection 6 of the Act).

As part of the ongoing decentralisation process, consideration is being given to the possibility of restricting municipalities' duty to ask the State for advice to cases involving extensive alteration, demolition, reconstruction or change of use of State-listed historic buildings/sites. A bill to this effect was adopted by parliament on 17 June 2008 (*Parliamentary Papers 2007/2008*, 31.345, No. 1) (*Wijziging van de Monumentenwet 1988 in verband met onder meer beperking van de ministeriële adviesplicht bij aanvragen om een monumentenvergunning*. Tweede Kamer der Staten Generaal, 2007/2008, 31.345, nr. 1; voorstel wijziging van de wet, op 17 juni 2008 aangenomen door de Tweede Kamer) (see annexe).

After 1 January 2009, provinces will therefore no longer be required to advise municipalities on State-listed buildings/sites located outside built-up areas. However, municipalities must still forward copies of consent applications to the provincial executive, which may advise the municipality within two months.

Municipalities must still also notify the Minister (via the RACM) that the municipality's proposed decision on a consent application is available for public scrutiny, and once consent is granted they must send a copy to the RACM.

This amendment does not apply to scheduled archaeological monuments, for which the RACM remains

the competent authority.

State listing of historic buildings/sites dating from before 1940

Along with the bill, parliament adopted provisions that in exceptional cases the Minister of Education, Culture and Science may on his own initiative list buildings/sites from before 1940. This is in order to put an end to all kinds of applications for listing by third parties. The idea is that the Netherlands should have a representative stock of State-listed historic buildings and sites.

Damage to listed historic buildings/sites

Since the Monuments Act 1988 is intended to ensure that listed historic buildings/sites and urban and village conservation areas are preserved, it includes sections dealing with deliberate damage.

Uniform Public Preparatory Procedure (General Administrative Law Act) Act (Wet uniforme openbare voorbereidingsprocedure AwB)

The Uniform Public Preparatory Procedure (General Administrative Law Act) Act, which has been in force since 2005, prescribes that decisions on applications for listed building consent must be deposited for public scrutiny. Members of the public may comment on the draft decision orally or in writing, and such comments must be taken into account when granting consent. If those with a particular interest in the matter fail to avail themselves of this opportunity, they can then only voice their objections through recourse to the courts.

Immovable Property (Disclosure of Public-Law) Restrictions Act (Wet kenbaarheid publiekrechtelijke beperkingen onroerende zaken, Wkpb)

The Immovable Property (Disclosure of Public-Law) Restrictions Act is intended to improve the registration of all public-law restrictions so that purchasers or owners have a clearer idea of the restrictions that apply to a particular building or plot. Owners or potential purchasers of a house or plot can use the register to find out what they may and may not do with it, and what requirements it is subject to. The use of a building or plot may, for example, be restricted by a land-use plan, listed status or soil sanitation requirements.

On-line Land Register

Ordinary members of the public, as well as lawyers, estate agents, etc. can consult the On-Line Land Register to find out what restrictions apply to a particular plot. The register indicates all the restrictions imposed by the State and provides access to the National Facility for Basic Registration of Addresses and Buildings (BAG) (*Landelijke Voorziening Basisregistraties voor Adressen en Gebouwen, BAG*), but not to the municipal decisions on which registration is based.

Amsterdam Atlas

Restrictions imposed and decisions reached by the municipality of Amsterdam can be found in the Amsterdam Atlas (www.atlas.amsterdam.nl), an on-line geographical information system (GIS) that became operational at the end of 2007. In the coming years, photographs of listed buildings/sites and details of road works, new housing, land-use plans and events will be added to the atlas.

Environmental Permitting (General Provisions) Bill (Wet algemene bepalingen omgevingsrecht, Wabo)

The Environmental Permitting (General Provisions) Bill, which is expected to be signed into law in 2010, is meant to provide a new framework for environmental permitting: a single, integrated permit for building, housing, space, nature and the environment.

Housing Act: 'listed building consent', 'building permit' (Woningwet, 'monumentenvergunning', 'bouwvergunning')

In the case of building work (renovation or restoration) involving a State, provincial or municipal listed historic building/site, listed building consent will always take precedence over a building permit granted under the Housing Act. It is prohibited:

'to build without or in contravention of a building permit granted by the municipal executive' (section 40, subsection 1(a) of the Housing Act).

Under the terms of the Act, 'building' means:

'the placing, complete or partial construction, renovation, alteration or expansion of a structure, or the complete or partial construction, renovation, alteration or expansion of a site' (section 1, subsection 1(a) of the Act).

A distinction is made between 'light' and 'regular' building permits. The law indicates which structures are eligible for a 'light' permit. External appearance committees are not required to give their advice in such cases. However, in the case of a listed historic building/site or urban or village conservation area, the building plans must first be assessed to ensure that they do not impair historic values.

This also applies to building in State-listed urban or village conservation areas. Building plans in such areas require listed building consent, even for structures that would not normally require one.

Almost the whole of the Central Borough is part of the urban conservation area 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht'. There are therefore no structures in the area that do not require consent. The borough's External Appearance Bye-Law (*Welstandsnota*) empowers the borough to specify the criteria for granting consent in more detail. Structures in a conservation area may not be demolished without a demolition permit.

Section 44 of the Housing Act indicates when a building permit or listed building consent may or must be refused.

A regular building permit will not be granted for work that has been refused the consent required under the Monuments Act 1988 or a provincial or municipal monuments and historic buildings bye-law (section 44, subsection 1(e) of the Act).

'If the permit concerns a structure that is part of a listed urban or village conservation area within the meaning of the Monuments Act 1988, the municipal executive must notify the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and the Built Heritage of the decision [on the permit] at the same time as, or as soon as possible after, its announcement' (section 46, subsection 8 of the Act).

Municipalities may defer decisions on applications relating to structures located in a listed urban or village conservation area for which there is still:

'no land-use plan or administrative ordinance whereby the area is protected' (section 51, subsection 1 of the Act).

Such deferral:

'shall last until such time as a land-use plan or administrative ordinance drawn up to comply with Section 36 of the

Monuments Act 1988 has entered into force' (section 51, subsection 2 of the Act)

The municipal executive may:

'grant the building permit if the building plans do not conflict with a land-use plan that is being prepared in order to protect the listed urban or village conservation area, including a project decision' (Section 51, subsection 3 of the Act)

The Amsterdam Municipal Building Regulations 2003 (author's text 23 January 2008) (*Bouwverordening Amsterdam 2003 (auteurstekst 23 januari 2008)*) (see annexe) indicate the standards to be met by applications for building permits.

Housing Act, external appearance, external appearance committees

The notion of 'external appearance' is a key part of the Housing Act. The Act lays down provisions on the composition and working procedures of external appearance committees. Municipalities are required to include provisions on external appearance in their building regulations or a bye-law made in pursuance thereof; in the case of Amsterdam, this is the External Appearance and Historic Buildings Committee Bye-Law (2005) (*Verordening op de Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten Amsterdam (2005)*) (see annexe), which entered into force on 1 January 2006.

The notion of 'external appearance' (*welstand*) has a history going back more than a hundred years. The idea was to prevent blemishes upon the built environment. Care for the spatial appearance of cities, boroughs or villages thus became a government responsibility. And as the policy document entitled *The Digital Beauty of Amsterdam (De schoonheid van Amsterdam Digitaal)* (see annexe) states in connection with policy on spatial quality:

'This policy not only covers supervision of external appearance, but also extends to other disciplines such as spatial policy, urban planning and supervision, policy on historic buildings/sites, policy on public space and policy on houseboats. Policy on external appearance is thus always part of a broader whole.'

As regards the assessment of external appearance, the document also states that:

'a structure mainly derives its strength or quality from the way in which references (to what existed before or elsewhere, or to what is expected to be built in the future) and associations are incorporated and interpreted within current cultural developments, so as to generate concepts and forms that are usable within the existing social reality'

and that:

'restoration involves the recreation of elements from the past, whereas new building or renovation in the existing (historic) environment must make clear what is authentic and what has been added.'

The notion of 'external appearance' concerns a building's exterior form and/or siting both in themselves and in relationship to the environment or expected future spatial developments there. These are subject to 'reasonable standards for external appearance'.

Visual quality is a key issue in applications for building permits or listed building consent, in land-use plans and in connection with such matters as advertising on façades and in public space, street furniture, houseboats and works of art located in public space. This is assessed on the basis of established rules, which are enforced by means of permits and municipal notices when they are contravened. The municipal council can determine where or in which cases assessment of external appearance is not required.

The following also applies to external appearance:

1. advice on external appearance must be based on principles laid down in municipal policy on the subject;
2. external appearance committees must report annually to the municipal council on the implementation of policy on external appearance, their advisory reports and decisions on building permit/listed building consent applications based on these;
3. members of external appearance committees are appointed by the municipal council for no more than two successive periods of three years.
4. the committees' protocols and working procedures, and the procedures regarding structures that require regular or 'light' building permits, must be laid down in the municipal building regulations.

Supervision of external appearance involves assessment of how a structure affects existing or planned public space. This includes determining whether the planned building:

- ⋮ takes account of adjoining buildings;
- ⋮ makes a positive contribution to the appearance of the street;
- ⋮ respects the character of the neighbourhood;
- ⋮ is in keeping with the location as regards materials used and technical detailing.

Administrative responsibility for granting building permits lies with the municipal or borough executive, which must ask the external appearance committee for advice in each case.

In the case of unlisted historic buildings/sites, applications (including the building plans) are submitted to an external appearance committee set up by the municipality or borough under the Housing Act. The committee must determine whether the application meets 'reasonable standards for external appearance' (section 1, subsection 1(q) of the Housing Act). An external appearance committee is defined as:

'an independent committee that is appointed by the municipal council and advises the municipal executive on whether the appearance or location of a structure or site that is the subject of a building permit application conflicts with reasonable standards for external appearance.'

The criteria to be applied in this connection must be laid down by the municipality in a policy document on external appearance (section 12a of the Housing Act).

Cultural Heritage Preservation Act (Wet tot behoud van cultuurbezit)

Like other countries, the Netherlands has legislation designed to ensure that irreplaceable objects and collections of outstanding cultural/historical value are preserved. An act of Parliament, which entered into force in 1984, empowers the State to protect and list such objects and collections. Once listed, they may not be sold abroad or transferred abroad without the permission of the Dutch government. Before being sold abroad they must first be offered for purchase by the State. The culture minister must give his consent before they can be transferred abroad.

Works covered by the Act include the Portuguese congregation's *Montezinos Library* (which is also listed in UNESCO's Memory of the World Register), Rembrandt's painting of *Mayor Jan Six* (1618-1700) (1654, Six Collection, Amsterdam) and Adriaen Backer's painting *Four Regentesses of the Amsterdam Orphanage* (1683, Amsterdam Historical Museum).

Spatial planning, building, urban regeneration in the Netherlands

Spatial Planning Act/Spatial Planning Decree (Wet ruimtelijke ordening/Besluit ruimtelijke ordening)

Spatial planning in the Netherlands is regulated by law (Spatial Planning Act and Spatial Planning Decree, both dated 2006) (see annexe), as are building (Housing Act) and urban regeneration (Urban Renewal Act (2000)) (*Wet stedelijke vernieuwing, 2000*).

The revised Spatial Planning Act was published in the Bulletin of Acts and Decrees (*Staatsblad*) in November 2006 and came into force on 1 July 2008, together with the revised Spatial Planning Decree.

'Urban regeneration' is defined as follows:

'efforts in an urban area aimed at improving quality of life and safety, promoting sustainable development and improving residential and environmental quality, reinforcing the economic base, enhancing cultural qualities, promoting social cohesion, improving accessibility, and enhancing the quality of public space or the general structural quality of the urban area' (Section 1, subsection 1(a) of the Urban Regeneration Act)

Spatial planning in the Netherlands after 2008

Spatial planning in the Netherlands has a long history. In its constant battle against flooding, this country has been forced to regulate the disposition and use of land ever since the Middle Ages.

The Spatial Planning Act 2006 entered into force on 1 July 2008 and deals with national spatial policy. The act aims to 'enhance the status of land-use plans, increase the efficiency and effectiveness of spatial policy and simplify spatial planning regulation' in order to promote sustainable spatial quality (see Preamble to the Act).

Spatial Planning Act: structure schemes

Under the revised Act, municipalities must draw up 'structure schemes' for effective spatial planning in their areas of jurisdiction, outlining planned development in the area and municipal spatial policy (section 2.1, subsection 1 of the Act).

Similar schemes must be drawn up by the provinces (section 2.2, subsection 1) and the State (section 2.3, subsection 1) in their respective areas of jurisdiction.

The Act also empowers ministers, acting in agreement with the spatial planning minister, to draw up similar schemes for their own policy areas (section 2.3, subsection 2). Such State strategies must first be approved by parliament (section 2.3, subsection 3). All such schemes must be drawn up in consultation with the various tiers of government and governmental bodies, as well as representatives of civil society and other parties concerned.

Under section 150 of the Municipalities Act (*Gemeentewet*), municipal councils must draw up a bye-law indicating how individuals and legal entities can be involved in municipal policy on the subject.

Spatial Planning Act: municipal land-use plans (gemeentelijke bestemmingsplannen)

Land-use plans comprise a regulatory section (indicating how land and buildings in the area covered by the plan may be used) and maps (indicating designated functions under the plan), together with explanatory notes from which no rights or obligations may be derived.

The revised Act includes provisions on the contents of land-use plans. Section 3.1, subsection 1 states:

'The municipal council shall adopt one or more land-use plans for covering the entire area within its jurisdiction, in which the intended uses of the land included in the plan are designated in the interests of effective spatial planning and rules are laid down regarding those intended uses. These rules shall in any event relate to the use of the land and structures located on it.....'

Municipal land-use plans are of vital importance to future spatial development.

Land-use plans specify the functions that are authorised for particular areas of land or particular buildings. These functions, which are legally binding, are indicated on a map. Land-use plans also identify the relevant building regulations and restrictions on use, specify the size (maximum height and surface area) of buildings and may, where appropriate, lay down provisions on the preservation of outstanding cultural/historical or other values. They indicate which types of building may be constructed and, in some cases, which commercial or other activities may be carried out there. They may lay down additional requirements for buildings (location, maximum gutter and ridge height, roof slope, distance from side plot boundary, etc.).

The provisions of land-use plans take precedence over external appearance criteria (on such matters as size, scale and division of façades, detailing, use of materials and colours and siting/relationship with the surroundings). These criteria are divided into categories (general, area-specific, building-specific, etc.).

Under the Housing Act, municipal policy documents on external appearance must include criteria for the 'basic' assessment of plans for extensions, outbuildings, new roofs and awnings, alterations to façades and door or window frames, dormer windows and partitions between plots. However, this does not apply to building plans involving listed historic buildings/sites or listed urban or village conservation areas; in such cases the plans must first be assessed to ensure that historic values are not impaired, and the external appearance committee must then be consulted. In Amsterdam, for example, partitions between plots may not be more than two metres in height; behind the building line of the rear façade, this limit is reduced to one metre.

Land-use plans are legal planning instruments that allow municipalities to determine the desired future spatial situation in a given area and the functions of the land within it for a period of at least ten years. They include provisions that are binding on both citizens and government.

Municipalities must draw up one or more land-use plans for their areas of jurisdiction, designating the uses of the land located within the area and laying down rules for the use of that land and the structures located on it (Section 3.1, subsection 1 of the Act). Land-use plans must be revised or prolonged within ten years (Section 3.1, subsections 2 *et seq.*), failing which the municipality's powers to do so will lapse. Section 3.5 states that:

'Areas may be designated in a land-use plan within which the buildings present there need to be modernised or replaced by similar buildings of the same or similar scale'.

Municipalities must forward draft land-use plans to the government bodies responsible for matters or interests affected by the plan (section 3.8, subsection 1(b)).

Provinces may draw up bye-laws containing rules on the contents of municipal land-use plans, project decisions or administrative ordinances for areas in which the municipalities do not expect any spatial

development to take place in the near future (section 4.1, subsection 1). Provinces may also direct municipalities to draw up land-use plans within a specified period (section 4.2, subsection 1).

The State may lay down rules on the contents of municipal land-use plans and land-use plans imposed by provinces (section 4.3, subsection 1), and may also direct municipalities to draw up land-use plans within a specified period (section 4.4, subsection 1(a)).

Chapter 3 of Spatial Planning Decree includes provisions on 'standard rules in land-use plans'. Article 3.1.6, paragraph 2(a) prescribes that a land-use plan must be accompanied by explanatory notes that include, among other things:

'a description of the way in which account has been taken of archaeological monuments that are, or may be expected to be, located in the ground.'

Digital structure schemes: land-use plans

The revised Spatial Planning Act prescribes that structural strategies and land-use plans must be available in digital form as of 1 July 2009 (although analogue versions must also be available). The purpose of this (see articles 1.2.1 and 3.1.7 of the Spatial Planning Decree) is to ensure that direct links can be established between geographical and administrative data contained in the scheme or plan. If users select an 'object-specific' map, all the data and policy information relating to it will be displayed.

These on-line land-use plans will be digitalised in accordance with the relevant national standards. Amsterdam drew up its own 'standard comparable land-use plans' in 2006 (*Standaard Vergelijkbare Bestemmingsplannen 2006*).

The digitalised versions will be displayed at the national 'spatial planning on-line' portal in order to provide a complete, up-to-date, instantly accessible interactive overview of current spatial planning in the Netherlands.

Spatial Planning Act: project decisions

The Spatial Planning Act empowers municipalities:

'to adopt project decisions in order to carry out projects of municipal importance.' (section 3.10, subsection 1)

Such decisions must provide sound spatial arguments for the project concerned. They must also be submitted to the government bodies charged with promoting the interests affected by the decision (section 3.11, subsection 1(b)).

In the case of projects that are of national importance, the State may, after consulting the municipal and provincial councils, adopt project decisions in the municipality's or province's stead (section 3.29, subsection 2).

Spatial Planning Act: land-use plans imposed by State or province

Where provincial or national interests are involved, the State or the provinces may, after consulting the municipal and/or provincial councils, impose land-use plans on municipalities; in such cases, the municipal council's powers to draw up its own land-use plan for the land concerned are deferred (section 3.26, subsection 1 and section 3.28, subsection 1).

Such imposed land-use plans are deemed to form an integral part of the municipal land-use plan (section 3.26, subsection 3 and section 3.28, subsection 3). The municipality's powers to draw up its own land-use plan may not be deferred for more than ten years (section 3.26, subsection 5 and section 3.28, subsection 5).

Spatial Planning Act: land-use plans for listed urban and village conservation areas

If the State has designated an urban or village conservation area for listing, the municipality concerned must draw up a protective land-use plan for it as referred to in the revised Spatial Planning Act (section 36, subsection 1 of the Monuments Act 1988). The period within which this must be done may be specified when the conservation area is designated. Section 36, subsection 2 of the Act states:

'When an urban or village conservation area is designated for listing, it shall be determined whether, and to what extent, existing land-use plans may be deemed protective within the meaning of [subsection 1].'

Spatial Planning Act: permits for demolition in listed urban or village conservation areas

Section 37, subsection 1 of the Monuments Act 1988 states:

'In listed urban or village conservation areas, no structure may be wholly or partly demolished without or in contravention of a written permit from the municipal executive (demolition permit). Such permits shall be subject to the provisions of Division 3.4.2 of the Spatial Planning Act.'

Section 3.20 of the Spatial Planning Act states:

'(1) A demolition permit may be refused if a building permit may be granted for a building to be erected in place of the building to be demolished but no application has yet been made for such a permit.'

'(3a) The demolition permit must be refused if a permit is required pursuant to the Monuments Act 1988 or a provincial or municipal monuments and historic buildings bye-law to demolish the building, and this has not been granted.'

'(5) The municipal executive may defer the decision on the demolition permit if an application has been made for a building to be erected in place of the building to be demolished and a final decision has not yet been given on that application.'

Spatial Planning Act: demolition permits

The municipality must refuse a demolition permit if a permit to demolish the object is required under the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act or a provincial or municipal monuments and historic buildings bye-law, but has not been granted (section 3.20, subsection 3(a) of the Spatial Planning Act)

Spatial Planning Act: permits concerning listed urban or village conservation areas

In the case of permits concerning listed urban or village conservation areas or archaeological priority areas as referred to in the Monuments Act 1988, the municipal executive must forward a copy of the application to the RACM or to the RACM and the provincial executive respectively (section 3.16, subsection 3 of the Spatial Planning Act).

If a land-use plan as referred to in section 36 of the Monuments Act 1988 has not yet been drawn up for a State-listed urban or village conservation area, the municipality must defer its decision on the permit application until such a plan has entered into force (section 3.18, subsection 6 of the Spatial Planning Act). The municipal executive may waive this requirement if the work in question does not conflict with a land-use plan that is being drawn up for a listed urban or village conservation area. The RACM must be consulted before a decision is reached on whether to grant a permit (section 3.18, subsection 7 of the Spatial Planning Act).

Spatial Planning Act: planning committees

The revised Spatial Planning Act includes provisions on provincial planning committees, which are advisory bodies 'charged with deliberating on and coordinating matters relating to provincial spatial policy' (section 9.1, subsection 1 of the Act).

Listed urban and village conservation areas: the Monuments Act 1988, the Housing Act, provincial and municipal monuments and historic buildings bye-laws and the permit system

Section 37, subsection 1 of the Monuments Act 1988 states:

'In listed urban or village conservation areas, no structure may be wholly or partly demolished without or in contravention of a written permit from the municipal executive (demolition permit).'

In the case of an archaeological monument or other historic building/site that is listed under the terms of the Act, the municipality and the province must observe the permit system described in the Act (sections 11-14 and 16-21).

In the case of an object listed under the terms of the Act or a provincial or municipal bye-law on the same subject, the Act or bye-law takes precedence over a building permit granted under the Housing Act. It is prohibited:

'to build without or in contravention of a building permit granted by the municipal executive' (section 40, subsection 1(a) of the Housing Act).

Under the terms of the Act, 'building' means:

'the placing, complete or partial construction, renovation, alteration or expansion of a structure, or the complete or partial construction, renovation, alteration or expansion of a site' (section 1, subsection 1(a) of the Act).

Section 44 of the Housing Act indicates when a building permit may or must be refused.

Municipalities may defer building permit applications for structures that are located in a listed urban or village conservation area.

Urban Regeneration Act (2000)

The Urban Regeneration Act deals with:

'efforts in an urban area aimed at improving quality of life and safety, promoting sustainable development and improving housing and environmental quality, reinforcing the economic base, enhancing cultural qualities, promoting social cohesion, improving accessibility, and enhancing the quality of public space or the general structural quality of

the urban area' (section 1, subsection 1(a) of the Act)

Section 2 states:

'The municipal council shall be responsible for urban regeneration. In this connection, it shall draw up a development programme or take other measures to promote urban regeneration.'

The history of urban regeneration goes back many decades. In 1975, the Ministry of Housing and Spatial Planning (*Ministerie van Volkshuisvesting en Ruimtelijke Ordening, VRO*) and the Ministry of Culture, Recreation and Social Work (*Ministerie van Cultuur, Recreatie en Maatschappelijk Werk, CRM*) (as they were then known) set up a joint funding scheme for urban regeneration in urban and village conservation areas listed under the Monuments Act.

In 1985 this was followed by the Urban Regeneration Act (*Wet op de stadsvernieuwing*) and the accompanying Urban Regeneration Fund (*Stadsvernieuwingsfonds*). Municipalities were able to receive funding for listed conservation areas, based on the number of buildings and the number of State-listed historic buildings/sites located there.

In 2000 the Fund was replaced by the Investment Budget for Urban Regeneration (*Investeringsbudget Stedelijke Vernieuwing, ISV*), part of which is earmarked for cultural activities.

The Belvedere Policy Document (1999) and the Action Programme for Space and Culture (2005)

In the second half of the 1990s, seven ministries, including the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, drew up the Belvedere Policy Document on the Relationship between Cultural History and Spatial Planning (*Nota Belvedere; Beleidsnota over de relatie cultuurhistorie en ruimtelijke inrichting, 1999*). Published in 1999, it was adopted by parliament later that year.

One of its key statements was as follows:

'Cultural/historical identity will have an increasing impact on spatial planning, and government policy will create appropriate conditions for this.'

The document specified a number of goals, the first of which was:

'acknowledging cultural/historical identity and maintaining its visibility in both urban and rural areas, as a key quality and starting point for further development (general spatial policy).'

The document laid the foundations for the policy to be pursued by the various tiers of government regarding the relationship between cultural/historical heritage and spatial planning and its implications for legislation. As a result of the Belvedere Policy Document, the State intends to continue nominating sites for the UNESCO World Heritage List, in close consultation with other relevant tiers of government.

Another result of the document has been the Action Programme for Space and Culture: Architectural and Belvedere Policy 2005-2008 (see annexe). The aim of the programme is:

'to focus more attention on spatial quality and the cultural/historical importance of world heritage sites within the National Spatial Framework in order to preserve those sites and provide input and inspiration for current design and

development tasks.'

The programme includes a separate Chapter A-13 on World Heritage.

'The Netherlands has a number of buildings and sites of universal cultural value which UNESCO has recognised by placing them on the World Heritage List. The Spatial Policy Document states that spatial policy must pay particular attention to world heritage. Preserving world heritage sites in a dynamic spatial environment depends not only on effective legislation and planning, but also on a development-oriented approach. In turn, owing to its considerable cultural/historical quality and significance, world heritage has an important part to play in enhancing spatial quality [...] In connection with world heritage sites, the Action Programme for Space and Culture must increase cultural/historical input and the quality of design in current design tasks within the National Spatial Framework. The State intends to help the decentralised tiers of government that are primarily responsible for maintaining and developing world heritage sites to ensure that world heritage remains a key factor in integrated development of the sites and in drawing up design tasks.'

Spatial Policy Document 'Creating Space for Development' (2006) (Nota Ruimte "Ruimte voor ontwikkeling" (2006))

Since 2006, national spatial development in the Netherlands has been governed by the Spatial Policy Document 'Creating Space for Development'. This was drawn up jointly by the Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment (*Ministerie van Volkshuisvesting, Ruimtelijke Ordening en Milieubeheer, VROM*), the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Management and Food Quality (*Ministerie van Landbouw, Natuurbeheer en Voedselkwaliteit, LNV*), the Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management (*Ministerie van Verkeer en Waterstaat, VenW*) and the Ministry of Economic Affairs (*Ministerie van Economische Zaken, EZ*), and approved by the two houses of parliament in 2005 and 2006 respectively. It supersedes earlier policy documents on the subject, and lays down national spatial policy up to the year 2020.

The document refers to 'statutory basic quality standards' for spatial development resulting from Dutch and European legislation and international instruments, including the UNESCO World Heritage List and the designation of listed urban and village conservation areas, nature areas and waters.

The document also refers to the National Spatial Framework (*Nationale Ruimtelijke Hoofdstructuur, RHS*). The State has assumed extensive responsibility for works associated with the Framework. This particularly applies to spatial policy concerning world heritage sites in the Netherlands, 'national landscapes' and nature protection.

'World heritage sites are of such cultural importance that the government has included them in the National Spatial Framework as a matter of course.' (Part 4 of the Spatial Policy Document).

The provinces must draw up regional plans indicating how such values are to be integrated into their spatial policies.

Part 4, paragraph 3.4.2, makes the following statements about world heritage sites in the Netherlands:

'The State has an international obligation and responsibility to protect world heritage in the Netherlands with the help of existing instruments. In the case of world heritage sites, the existing built and archaeological heritage is in principle adequately protected by the Monuments Act 1988 and by provincial and municipal bye-laws. [...] The sites (including those on the Tentative List) must be protected and developed by means of regional and land-use plans. In

consultation with the relevant tiers of government, the State will draw up 'site documents' ('gebiedsdocumenten') (to be submitted to UNESCO) indicating how the sites will be maintained in both planning and financial terms. [...] The State will facilitate maintenance of the sites by means of existing legal and financial instruments for cultural and natural heritage.'

Agenda for implementing the Spatial Policy Document

This agenda explains or substantiates a number of items from the Spatial Policy Document in greater detail. It makes the following statements about world heritage:

'UNESCO World Heritage Sites must be protected and developed with the help of structural strategies and land-use plans. This also applies to sites on the Tentative List. In consultation with the relevant tiers of government, the State will draw up 'site documents' indicating how the sites will be maintained in both planning and financial terms. In general, the State has invested in maintaining cultural and natural heritage through schemes for renovating and maintaining State-listed historic buildings, the Belvedere programme and regular policy on historic buildings and archaeology [...] In this connection, the State (through the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science) will help the Netherlands World Heritage Platform (Stichting Platform Werelderfgoed Nederland) to carry out a broader programme focusing more attention on heritage sites when spatial planning decisions are made, as well as on public information, tourism and education.'

The Spatial Policy Document designates the Mill Network at Kinderdijk-Elshout (C 818), the Beemster Polder (C899) and the Defence Line of Amsterdam (C 759) either as part of a 'national (cultural) landscape' (the Mill Network at Kinderdijk-Elshout as part of the 'Groene Hart' landscape and the Beemster Polder as part of the 'Noord-Hollands Midden/Laag-Holland' landscape) or as a national landscape in its own right (the Defence Line of Amsterdam).

There are already 'site documents' for the Schokland and Surroundings world heritage site (C 7390) and for the Defence Line of Amsterdam. A site document/management plan is being drawn up for the Beemster Polder.

The 'site document' *De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht* (2007) (see annexe) has been appended to the Management Plan for the Nomination of the 'Seventeenth-Century Canal Ring Area of Amsterdam within Singelgracht' (see annexe).

Water Boards Act (Waterschapswet)

Water Boards Act: powers of the water boards

The Water Boards Act provides details of the status and powers of the water boards within the Dutch system of government. The boards are responsible for water management in the Netherlands, which includes:

- ⌘ Flood protection: protecting against floods by means of dunes, dykes and embankments;
- ⌘ ensuring that dykes and embankments are sufficiently high, solid and in good condition;
- ⌘ Water quality: clean water, prevention of water pollution and improvement of surface water quality:
 - ⌘ clean, clear water in drainage ditches and man-made lakes;
- ⌘ Water quantity: protection against flooding by controlling the quantity of water and ensuring appropriate water levels:
 - ⌘ Ensuring that water levels are not too high or too low.
- ⌘ Management of waterways and roads:
 - ⌘ Providing and maintaining facilities for commercial vessels and pleasure craft;
- ⌘ Supervising water traffic.

Water board responsible for Amsterdam

The boundaries of the water boards are based on water management criteria. The Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board is responsible for managing waters in Amsterdam and parts of the provinces of North Holland and Utrecht.

Water Boards Act: regulations

Water boards are regulated by bye-laws (*keuren*). Private individuals, businesses and government bodies must comply with the bye-laws when managing, using and maintaining waterworks. If they fail to do so, the water boards may take action such as repairing damage to dykes, waterways or roads at the offender's expense.

Third parties are required to maintain waterworks for which they are responsible. Alterations to waterworks that prevent them from functioning properly are prohibited.

Groundwater levels

The required distance between ground levels and groundwater levels in urban areas depends on existing buildings and the use of the land. The required 'drainage depth' in urban areas is between 0.5 and 0.9 metres. A depth of more than 0.9 metres is only advisable if this does not cause the tops of wooden pilings to dry out. To prevent additional problems, Amsterdam applies a groundwater norm to all urban development or redevelopment works.

Site document/management plan for World Heritage Sites

In December 2001, the State Secretary for Education, Culture and Science sent parliament a letter on world heritage policy in which he announced that 'in order to clarify administrative responsibilities' a 'site document' must be drawn up, containing: 'specific agreements on administrative responsibilities for the maintenance and development of sites.'

On 20 November 2007, the Amsterdam municipal executive and the Central Borough executive sent the coordinating minister for UNESCO World Heritage, the Minister of Education, Culture and Science, a 106-page site 'document drawn up' in cooperation with the RACM (see annexe).

The seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within Singelgracht: management plan for nomination as a World Heritage Site, 27 August 2008 (*De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht. Managementplan voor de nominatie als Werelderfgoed*, 27 augustus 2008) (see annexe) was adopted by the Amsterdam municipal executive and the Central Borough executive as an annexe to the nomination on 9 September 2008.

5.c.2 Outline of the history of the protection and preservation of the built heritage in the Netherlands

The first statutory regulations in the Netherlands aimed at protecting historic buildings and sites were prompted by the devastation at the beginning of the Second World War in 1940 (Bulletin of Acts, Orders and Decrees 0.550, 21 May 1940).

The regulations were renewed at the end of the war (Royal Decree of 7 May 1945, Bulletin of Acts, Orders and Decrees F 67) until the Temporary Conservation Act (*Tijdelijke Wet Monumentenzorg*)

entered into force in 1950 (Bulletin of Acts, Orders and Decrees K 23).

This Act stated that any building or site listed in the Tentative List of Dutch Historic and Artistic Buildings and Sites (*Voorlopige Lijst der Nederlandsche Monumenten van Geschiedenis en Kunst*) as being protected, could not be demolished or altered without the permission of the Minister of Education, Arts and Sciences.

The Tentative List of Dutch Historic and Artistic Buildings and Sites had been drawn up by the National Committee for the preparation and publication of an inventory and description of Dutch Historic and Artistic Buildings and Sites (*Rijkscommissie tot het opmaken en uitgeven van een inventaris en eene beschrijving van de Nederlandsche monumenten van geschiedenis en kunst*), established in 1903 by Royal Decree (7 July 1903, No. 44) (superseded by the National Committee for the Preservation of Historic Buildings and Sites (*Rijkscommissie voor de Monumentenzorg*) in 1918).

Monuments Act 1961

When the Monuments Act (*Monumentenwet*) entered into force in 1961, an immediate start was made on surveying, selecting and protecting historic buildings and sites. The cut-off point used was the middle of the nineteenth century. This work continued into the 1970s. In this way, over 40,000 historic buildings and sites all over the Netherlands were protected.

With as many as 6,000 buildings and sites protected under the Monuments Act, Amsterdam was the municipality with the highest number of buildings and sites protected by the Dutch government.

In the years that followed, buildings dating from the second half of the nineteenth century and the first half of the twentieth century were protected by category for the first time in the Netherlands (examples include neo-Gothic Roman Catholic churches, historic station buildings and villas, designed according to the precepts of the Modern Movement (*Nieuwe Bouwen*) in the early twentieth century). This preceded a second series of national surveys which began in 1987, which related to the period 1850-1940, both as regards buildings dating from then and as regards urban expansion (described as "recent urban development" (*jongere stedenbouw*)).

Conservation Survey Project for Recent Urban Development and Architecture 1850-1940 (MIP)

After 1987 a lot of energy and money was invested in the systematic surveying, selection and protection of built heritage and urban and village landscapes ('views') dating from the middle of the nineteenth century to 1940.

On the basis of connected projects lasting several years (the Conservation Survey Project for Recent Urban Development and Architecture 1850-1940 (*Monumenten Inventarisatie Projekt Jongere Stedebouw en Bouwkunst 1850-1940*, MIP), followed by the Project to Select and Record Recent Urban Development and Architecture 1850-1940 (*Monumenten Selectie en Registratie Projekt Jongere Stedebouw en Bouwkunst 1850-1940*, MSP/MRP) a survey was conducted throughout the country to decide which built heritage and "views" could qualify for protection. Municipalities and provinces played an active part in this process. In Amsterdam, the built heritage from this period was surveyed between 1988 and 1990.

In the course of these surveying operations, some 165,000 buildings and building complexes were surveyed and 650 historic areas (expansion of towns and villages) and complexes. A total of over 10,000 historic buildings and sites from this 100-year period were then protected by the Dutch government.

The designation of "views" as protected areas, from the period 1850-1940, took more time as a result of the procedures involved. The intention is that over 160 so-called "MSP areas of Recent Urban

Development” will be designated by the Dutch government.

To this end, the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Monuments (RACM) has a programme in progress, which will be completed over the next few years.

*Temporary Policy Rule for the Designation of National Monuments
(Tijdelijke Beleidsregel aanwijzing beschermde monumenten) 2007*

Since 1 July 2007, the Minister of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) has applied a temporary policy rule according to which he will not designate historic buildings and sites dating from before 1940, for protection by the Dutch government. It is not possible to deviate from this rule except in the case of imminent risk of the alteration or demolition of buildings with an obvious historic value and nationally or internationally recognised as such.

Under this policy rule, the Minister of OCW allowed about 100 historic buildings or sites from the period 1940 – 1958 (see below), the years of Reconstruction after the Second World War, to be added to the government’s historic buildings register:

ARTICLE 3

The minister will not designate historic buildings as specified in Article 1, section b, para. 1, of the Monuments Act 1988, which have been constructed since 1940, unless the historic building: a) can be considered as a nationally or internationally recognised historic building characteristic of Dutch architecture, urban development, land planning, building technology or spatially associated art because of its beauty, significance to science or cultural and historic value; b) as a result of the qualities referred to at a, is among the approximately 100 most valuable historic buildings built during the period 1940 to 1958 inclusive.

(Policy Rule of the Minister of Education, Culture and Science, of 13 June 2007, No. WJZ/2007/17812 (8204) concerning the power to designate historic buildings as national monuments, as specified in Article 3 of the Monuments Act 1988 (Temporary Policy Rule for the Designation of National Monuments 2007). The Minister of Education, Culture and Science, having regard to Article 4:81 of the Appeal Procedures (General Administrative Law) Act (*Algemene wet bestuursrecht*) and Article 3 of the Monuments Act 1988).

Historic buildings, Reconstruction period

*Reconstruction period*In the survey/selection carried out by the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Monuments (RACM) a historic building from the Reconstruction period is considered to be valuable when it:

is an obvious milestone in the development of architecture, urban development, land planning, building technology or spatially associated art in the Netherlands. is an essential example of the main cultural/historical or social/historical trends in the Reconstruction period in the Netherlands (Article 4.1 of the Policy Rule).

During the selection process, consideration is also given to whether it:

has positive prospects for conservation in the future, both technically and functionally has a positive effect on the quality of the spatial environment (Article 4.2 of the Policy Rule).

The policy rule remains in force until the end of 2008.

As far as “archaeological heritage sites” are concerned, only items that contribute to a more balanced register of archaeological heritage sites protected by the government will be protected during the operation of this policy rule. The above is in accordance with the Valletta Convention (Malta).

All of this is consistent with the idea that the Minister of OCW wishes to ascertain what possible changes are desirable with regard to the built heritage in the Netherlands (memorandum "Art for life: outline of cultural policy (*Kunst voor leven: hoofdlijnen cultuurbeleid*), June 2007).

One of the topics discussed is that during spatial developments and management in the urban and man-made landscape account must be taken of any cultural and historical elements involved, - the context -, including built heritage as well as archaeological values and objects and the significance of the cultural landscape itself.

Another subject is the re-zoning of historic buildings, such as farms, churches or industrial complexes. The continuing complementary division of tasks between national, provincial and local government in the preservation of historic buildings and views is examined.

At the same time, the effect of the Decree on national grants for built heritage preservation (*Besluit rijkssubsidiëring instandhouding monumenten*, BRIM) (see below) is evaluated.

Netherlands Cultural Policy Document (Cultuurnota) 2001-2004, Reconstruction period

In terms of cultural policy, the Dutch government issues Cultural Policy Documents, which are submitted to the Lower House of the States General (Dutch parliament) .

The Cultural Policy Document 2001-2004; Culture as confrontation (*Cultuurnota 2001-2004; Cultuur als confrontatie*) issued by the Minister of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) announced the plan for the Reconstruction project, which would be aimed at a new "category" of built heritage, dating from the years 1940-1965:

These post-war buildings and residential areas are under threat as a result of urban renewal. The time has therefore come to enter into a discussion on whether they should be preserved. Both projects will mean an increase in the number of protected buildings. This calls for a more dynamic form of selection and protection,

as quoted from the policy document.

In 2001, the then Netherlands Department for Conservation (Rijksdienst voor de Monumentenzorg, RDMZ) (since 2006 the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage, RACM) was commissioned by the Minister of Culture to conduct research into and develop policy on architecture and urban development from the years 1940-1965, also known as the Period of Reconstruction (of the Netherlands). This service therefore maintains a digital database on the Reconstruction (*Wederopbouw Databank*) (www.racm.nl), as well as preparing publications and exhibitions in conjunction with third parties.

In October 2007, the Minister of OCW issued a list of 100 historic buildings and complexes from the years 1940-1958 for future protection under the Monuments Act 1988. The historic buildings appearing on this list "Historic Buildings from the Post-War Netherlands" (*Monumenten van Herrezen Nederland*) (Amersfoort, 2007) date from the period until 1958, because the cut-off point for historic buildings in the Act is fifty years or above.

It is assumed that over the next 10 to 15 years the register of historic buildings from the Reconstruction period protected under the Act will increase by some 2,500 buildings.

Cultural Policy Document 2005-2008; More than the sum (Meer dan de som)

This next policy document considers, inter alia, the consequences of the Malta Convention (Valletta) and the policy on World Heritage sites to be adopted in the Netherlands. This involves monitoring and overseeing compliance with international obligations which inscription on the World Heritage List entails and promoting its cultural spin-off effects.

The policy document (p. 9) states that:

The direct responsibility for the zoning, use, management and preservation of these sites and buildings is borne by the various official bodies, owners and managers. The Government will monitor and oversee compliance with international obligations and encourage those responsible to preserve and protect heritage and open it to the public in accordance with the principles of the 1972 Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. In order to increase the likelihood that buildings to be included on the World Heritage List will act as an economic and cultural spin-off, the Government will create additional opportunities for responsible bodies and individuals to join forces and have a shared profile.

National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Monuments (RACM)

This national service is part of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW).

As its mission, it has set itself the task of setting the value of archaeological and historical built heritage and man-made landscape, ordering its preservation (legally and physically) and giving it a lasting and meaningful place in society and daily life. This means performing a public task, because it is a government task. The service also acts as a knowledge centre.

The RACM is responsible for applying and implementing the 1988 Monuments Act, as well as preparing and drawing up nominations for the UNESCO World Heritage List and giving advice on World Heritage status to *siteholders* of and stakeholders in World Heritage sites and third parties.

To this end, the RACM:

- ⋮ provides both the public and owners with information
- ⋮ advises on archaeological, restoration, urban development, cultural/historical and legal matters relating to conservation (archaeological, non-archaeological, man-made landscape)
- ⋮ conducts or commissions scientific research in the field of conservation, with particular regard to archaeology, cultural history, the history of urban development, building technology, architectural history, the management of public spaces and the man-made landscape
- ⋮ advises on the granting of permits and the allocation of conservation grants
- ⋮ prepares nominations for inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List

The RACM (www.racm.nl) publishes cultural history and other publications, as well as a six-monthly newsletter, and also brochures and information sheets on legislation and regulations, technology and cultural history.

It contributes to the National Archaeological Research Agenda (*Nationale Onderzoeksagenda Archeologie*), Archaeological Conservation Reports (*Rapportages Archeologische Monumentenzorg*) and the publication of books and magazines by third parties.

This organisation will be publishing its 2008 Heritage Report (*Erfgoedbalans*) at the beginning of 2009. This report is intended to provide an insight into the current situation with regard to heritage in terms of archaeology, landscape, historic buildings and urban development in the Netherlands. It provides an overview of the most important developments concerning this heritage.

These reports will be published every four years, both in book form and on the Internet (also in English).

The State Inspectorate for Cultural Heritage (Erfgoedinspectie)

The State Inspectorate for Cultural Heritage (www.erfgoedinspectie.nl) was established in 2005 and is responsible for a significant amount of Dutch, European and world heritage at national level. It acts as a stimulus and gives (solicited and unsolicited) advice on how to improve the conservation, management and treatment of our heritage and on international regulations governing the conservation of cultural heritage.

The State Inspectorate for Cultural Heritage reports to the Minister of Education, Culture and Science (OCW). The Inspectorate operates independently.

The Inspectorate oversees:

- ⌘ archaeological heritage sites, excavations and finds
- ⌘ nationally protected cultural objects and collections
- ⌘ built heritage and urban and village conservation areas.

It focuses on:

- ⌘ private individuals, companies, local authorities and universities with an archaeological monument permit and/or an excavation permit
- ⌘ local authorities and their advisory bodies in connection with their role as regards conservation policy, owners and managers of historic buildings and sites and protected cultural heritage.
- ⌘ The Inspectorate oversees compliance with the 1988 Monuments Act in the area of built heritage conservation.

The Netherlands Institute for Heritage (Stichting Erfgoed Nederland)

The Institute was established at the behest of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) in early 2007. It was the result of a merger between existing organisations, i.e. the Dutch Archaeology Body (*Stichting voor Nederlandse Archeologie*, SNA), the National Monument Contact Point (*Nationaal Contact Monumenten*, NCM), the heritage education organisation *Erfgoed Actueel* and the Association for Records Management and Archives (*Vereniging voor de Documentaire Informatievoorziening en het Archiefwezen*), DIVA.

The Institute's focus is on cultural participation, heritage in urban environments and heritage from an international perspective.

Website: www.erfgoednederland.nl

World Heritage in the Netherlands Platform Foundation (Stichting Platform Werelderfgoed Nederland)

Funded by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW), this organisation acts as a platform for the *siteholders* of World Heritage Sites in the Netherlands.

Among other things, it maintains a website on World Heritage in the Netherlands, www.werelderfgoed.nl.

It has set up a travelling World Heritage exhibition for schools. Each year, a publication, aimed at a wide audience, about one of the World Heritage Sites is produced under the auspices of the organisation (previous editions: 'Defence Line of Amsterdam' and 'Schokland and Surroundings'; the publication on the 'Rietveld Schröder House' is in preparation). Since October 2008, a TV series in eight episodes has been shown on Dutch television, focusing on World Heritage Sites in the Netherlands and on Curaçao (Willemstad). It was commissioned by this Foundation and made possible with funding from the Ministry of OCW.

The organisation regularly has a stand at exhibitions.

Certification of architects in the restoration sector

Established in 2006, the Association of Architects Working in Restoration (*De Vereniging van Architecten Werkzaam in de Restauratie*, VAWR) follows a system for certificating architects firms

working in the field of restoration, known as the Common Approval Scheme for Architects Working in Restoration (*Gezamenlijke Erkenningregeling van Architecten werkzaam in de Restauratie*, GEAR). Seven firms were awarded a certificate in 2007.

5.c.3 Care of cultural heritage/Care of monuments and historic buildings in Amsterdam

Outline of the history of the protection and maintenance of monuments and historic buildings and of the designation of the listed urban conservation area 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht'

Amsterdam Tentative List (1928)

The Amsterdam section of the Tentative List of Buildings and Sites of Historical and Cultural Interest (*Voorlopige Lijst der Nederlandsche Monumenten van Geschiedenis en Kunst*), drawn up by the State Commission for Conservation (*Rijkscommissie voor de Monumentenzorg*), was published in 1928.

The Commission was established in 1918 by Royal Decree No. 66 of 10 May 1918. Its task (like that of its predecessor, established by Royal Decree in 1903) was to draw up an inventory and an illustrated description of buildings/sites of historical and cultural interest in the Netherlands.

It would first draw up Tentative Lists for each province, with a separate section for Amsterdam. The idea was to provide a rapid initial summary, for it was assumed that the work of compiling illustrated descriptions would take many years. Drawn up between 1908 and 1933, the Tentative Lists were divided into fixed categories, with brief details and dates.

A total of 3,909 objects, ranging from fortifications to dwellings, were listed in the Amsterdam section, which concluded with a typological and chronological summary of façades of dwellings and warehouses, together with chronological lists of bridges, guild houses, gates, archways etc.

Recovery of gables during demolition

In 1909, the director of Amsterdam's Municipal Building and Housing Inspection Department, E. van Houten (1872-1970), instructed his employees to ensure that historic sculpted gable elements were wherever possible recovered from demolished buildings for re-use elsewhere. From 1961 onwards, under the Monuments Act, buildings that included such re-used elements were listed by the State on that account.

Besides playing a key role in the preservation of decorative elements, Van Houten was the author of books including *Amsterdamse Merkwaardigheden* ('Curiosities of Amsterdam', Amsterdam, 1942) and a 1922 republication of Caspar Philips' *Grachtenboek* ('Book of Canals'), first published in 1768-1771.

Aesthetics committees

Amsterdam was the first municipality in the Netherlands to establish an aesthetics committee (in 1898). In 1911 an Urban Aesthetics Committee was set up to examine building plans for the city centre, in cooperation with the municipal Building and Housing Inspection Department (*Dienst Bouwen Woningtoezicht*). Consultations were held with building owners and others to ensure that existing buildings were preserved. The committee had a subcommittee (the Committee for the Old City) (*Commissie voor de Oude Stad*), whose tasks included revising State and municipal lists of monuments and historic buildings.

Care of monuments and historic buildings in the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s

On 9 December 1927, the municipal council adopted the Bye-Law on the Preservation of Monuments and Historic Buildings in the Municipality of Amsterdam (*Verordening tot behoud van monumenten in de gemeente Amsterdam*) (*Gemeentebblad* 1928, Section 3, No. 34) (see annexe).

The first handbook on the city's historic houses, *Amsterdamse Huizen 1600-1800* ('Amsterdam Houses 1600-1800'), was published by D. Slothouwer in the same year.

The bye-law provided for a:

'list of structures and immovable works of art that are of historic, cultural or aesthetic importance'

and included a number of sections dealing with the listing of such structures and a permit system.

The first municipal list of monuments and historic buildings was drawn up in 1935. The municipality then began listing a number of public and private buildings on Singel, Herengracht and Keizersgracht. Between the two world wars, the city also restored a number of towers and gateways, as well as the De Gooyer windmill and the Agnietenkapel chapel [1 next page](#).

In 1941, the Public Works Department (*Dienst Publieke Werken*) produced survey drawings of buildings that had suffered war damage.

Later, in 1943, the Municipal Bureau for the Care of Historic Buildings and Sites (*Gemeentelijk Bureau voor de Monumentenzorg*) was set up as part of the Buildings Section of the Public Works Department (*Publieke Werken*, No. 274, Serial No. 1228). It was responsible for coordinating surveys and photographs of historic buildings and structures. The production of surveys and scale drawings (1:20) had begun in 1936. The first drawings of frontages were produced in early 1945.

Care of monuments and historic buildings in Amsterdam after the Second World War

In the first few years after the Second World War, the focus in Amsterdam (as elsewhere) was on post-war reconstruction rather than the care of historic buildings. In 1949, the Director of Public Works proposed that a new Bureau for the Care of Historic Buildings be set up, among other things because the Committee for the Old City had discovered that 17.3% of the buildings on the Tentative List had been demolished during the previous twenty years.

In 1952, this led to the publication by the municipal executive and the then Ministry of Education, Arts and Science of a joint policy document on the care of monuments and historic buildings. A list of 62 buildings in urgent need of restoration was published in the same year (*Gemeentebblad*, Section 1, Municipal Budget for 1953, Chapter VIII, Arts and Science). The restoration work (for example in Staalstraat and Groenburgwal in 1967) was carried out by architects on the staff of the Public Works Department.

Bureau for the Care of Historic Buildings and Sites

In 1953, the Bureau for the Care of Historic Buildings and Sites (*Bureau Monumentenzorg*) was set up as part of the city's Public Works Department, and the municipal council decided to set aside one million guilders for restoration purposes.

A large number of restorations and repairs were carried out in those years: a total of 309 by 1958, starting with Zandhoek 6 [2 next page](#), by 1963 a total of 631; 68 in the year 1960; 101 in 1964. Apart from



Zandhoek, they included the Begijnhof [3](#) next page and buildings on Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal, Keizersgracht, Prinsengracht, Korte Prinsengracht, Brouwersgracht, Singel and Kerkstraat.

The Bureau documented historic structures, and initiated and advised on their restoration.

Illustrated Description of Buildings and Sites of Historical and Cultural Interest in the Netherlands, Amsterdam section

After the Second World War, a Provisional Historic Buildings and Sites Council (*Voorlopige Monumentenraad*) was set up for the Netherlands (Royal Decree No. 18, 20 June 1946). One of its regular activities was compiling an illustrated description of dwellings and warehouses in Amsterdam, initially focusing on Herengracht (Y. Kok and G. Roosegaarde Bisschop). Only two volumes of the Amsterdam section of the Illustrated Description were eventually published: R. Meischke, *Amsterdam Burgerweeshuis* (1975) [4](#) and R.C. *Maagdenhuis en het St. Elisabeth-gesticht* (1980).

Listing of historic buildings and sites in Amsterdam

The Monuments Act (*Monumentenwet*) entered into force in 1961 (and was revised in 1988). Later in the 1960s the municipality of Amsterdam adopted legislation of its own to protect historic buildings (as elsewhere, this applied to structures dating from before the mid-nineteenth century). The legislation prescribed that anything on the Tentative List would be protected until such time as the competent minister reached a decision on the matter.

In 1968, the municipality instructed a committee (known as the Dooijes Committee) to submit recommendations on the first of the draft State lists drawn up for Amsterdam under the Monuments Act (this listed some 5,650 structures, to which the committee added a further 1,370). During the 1970s and 1980s, the committee continued to make an inventory of additional structures for State or municipal listing.

In 1976, the municipality asked the committee to identify historic buildings and structures dating from the period 1850-1940 for listing. After the national Inventory of Urban Architecture from the Period 1850 to 1940 (MIP) (*Monumenten Inventarisatie Project Jongere Bouwkunst en Stedebouw 1850-1940*) (MIP) was also launched in Amsterdam, the committee's lists were incorporated into it. The committee, henceforth known as the Municipal Historic Buildings and Sites Inventory Committee (*Gemeentelijke Monumenten-inventarisatie-commissie*), continued its work until 1990. Its lists were then used for the Municipal Historic Buildings and Sites Project (GMP) (*Gemeentelijk Monumenten Projekt*) (GMP)..

In 1979, as a pilot project, the State instructed the Netherlands Department for Conservation (RDMZ) – since incorporated into the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM) – to make an inventory of historic buildings and structures from the period 1850-1940 in 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht'. The primary purpose of this was to obtain a clearer picture of the specific features, categories and values of buildings etc. from that period (*Jongere Bouwkunst Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht 1850-1940: Advies van de Rijkscommissie voor de Monumentenzorg, afdeling II van de Monumentenraad, inzake de inventarisatie en selectie van jongere bouwkunst* ('Architecture in Amsterdam within Singelgracht from the 1850-1940 period': advisory report by the Netherlands Department for Conservation, Section II of the Historic Buildings and Sites Council, on the inventory and selection of more recent architecture'), 1984).

Listing of historic buildings and structures from the period 1850-1940 in Amsterdam within Singelgracht

State listing

With the help of State guidelines, the municipality of Amsterdam examined which of the historic buildings and structures from the period 1850-1940 identified by the MIP might be eligible for State listing. The objects concerned had to be 'of national importance'.

State listing policy is determined by the Minister of Education, Culture and Science. In the case of Amsterdam, the Minister stated that 565 objects from that period could be added to the register of objects listed under the Monuments Act. Of these, 200 were located in Amsterdam within Singelgracht, including the department store De Bijenkorf (Dam/Damrak), Artis Zoo and the statues of Rembrandt (Rembrandtplein) and the statesman J.R. Thorbecke (Thorbeckeplein) (see annexe 200 *nieuwe rijksmonumenten in Amsterdamse binnenstad*. Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie)..

On 20 May 1999, the Amsterdam municipal executive requested the municipal council to approve a list of 'more recent structures' selected for State listing (*Gemeentebblad*, Section 1, No. 240, Annexe F, *Vaststelling van de selectielijst van toekomstige rijksmonumenten voor de binnenstad van Amsterdam in het kader van het Monumenten Selectie Project (MSP) ter advisering van de minister van Onderwijs, Cultuur en Wetenschappen* ('Adoption of the list of historic buildings and structures in Amsterdam's city centre selected for future State listing under the Monuments and Historic Buildings Selection Project (MSP), for consideration by the Minister of Education, Culture and Science') (see annexes). Approval was granted.

On 13 July 2001, the State Secretary for Education, Culture and Science signed the order applying to privately owned properties. A similar order applying to those owned by municipalities was signed in September of that year.

Various hotel buildings, including Hotel de l'Europe (designed by W. Hamer in 1895-1896) and the Doelen Hotel (designed by J.F. van Hamersveld in 1882-1883) ¹, were listed in that year, as were the department store De Bijenkorf (designed by J.A. van Straaten Jr in 1911-1914), various bank buildings on Herengracht and Keizersgracht (the Associatie Cassa bank, Herengracht 179-189, designed by C.B. Posthumus Meyjes Sr in 1900-1902 ², and the Pierson & Co. Bank, Herengracht 206-214, designed by the Van Gendt brothers in 1917-1918), office buildings such as Herengracht 199-201 (designed by F.W.M. Poggenbeek in 1917-1919), the 'Winter Garden' at Hotel Krasnapolsky (designed by G.B. Salm in 1879-1880), the six street lights at the Royal Palace (designed by M.G. Tetar van Elven in 1844) ³, bridges including the Magere Brug ⁴, the Blauwbrug (bridge 236, Amstelstraat/Amstel, designed by B. de Greef and W. Springer in 1883) ⁵ and the Hogesluis bridge (designed by B. de Greef and W. Springer in 1883) ⁶ (the first two bridges were built for the international Colonial Exhibition held in Amsterdam in 1883), the statue of Rembrandt (Rembrandtplein, designed by L. Royer in 1852) and the Amstel locks (built in 1673 and renovated in the nineteenth century) ⁷.

The list has regularly been extended, and older historic structures in Amsterdam have also been proposed for State listing.

Amsterdam's own list of historic buildings and structures from the period 1850-1940

At the same time, Amsterdam launched its own municipal list of historic buildings and structures from the period 1850-1940, in addition to State-listed ones of national importance.

After the national Inventory of Urban Architecture from the Period 1850 to 1940 (MIP) was also launched in Amsterdam, the Dooijes Committee's lists (see above) were incorporated into it.



1



A number of objects identified by the committee, particularly those located in the Plantage, were then placed on the municipal list under the terms of a municipal bye-law that entered into force in 1980. The current bye-law for the city is the Amsterdam Municipal Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law 2005 (*Monumentenverordening Amsterdam 2005*), which was adopted by the municipal council on 21 December 2005 (*Gemeentebld* 2005, Section 3A, No. 296/734) (see annexe, see below) and superseded a 1995 bye-law. The current bye-law for the Central Borough is the Central Borough Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law 2005 (*Monumentenverordening stadsdeel Amsterdam-Centrum 2005*) (see annexe, see below).

Article 1 (c) of the Amsterdam Municipal Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law 2005 defines a 'listed municipal building or structure' as:

'an immovable object designated as a listed building or structure under the terms of this bye-law'.

Characteristic buildings

During the same period, the municipality drew up lists of 'characteristic buildings' which were eligible for urban renewal grants. An example was the listed urban conservation area 'Nieuwmarkt' (proposed 1976, designated in 1983 and part of the listed urban conservation area 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht' from 1999 onwards).

Amsterdam's first urban renewal project (Sparndammerbuurt, housing designed by Michiel de Klerk (1884-1923) of the Amsterdam School in 1914-20) began in 1972.

Inventory of sculptures from the period 1900-1940

At the municipality's request, the Amsterdam Fund for the Arts (*Amsterdamse Fonds voor de Kunst*) made an inventory of sculptures on buildings from the period 1900-1940. The results were included in the publication *De staat van het steen* (July 2000), which includes 352 sculptures, rows of sculptures and sculptural decorations on bridges, schools, etc. (see annexe). All the items are visible from the public space. Notable examples in the city centre include several bridges 21 april 2006 058 edited, and the Scheepvaarthuis ¹.

Numbers of listed historic buildings and structures

There are some 20,000 buildings in 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht'. In 1993 there were 6,731 State-listed and 694 municipal listed historic buildings and structures in the whole of Amsterdam, as well as three listed urban and village conservation areas. By 2005 there were 7,453 State-listed and 607 municipal listed historic buildings and structures, and four listed urban and village conservation areas ('Amsterdam within Singelgracht', plus three areas in North Amsterdam). The decrease in the municipal total was due to the fact that almost 90 objects on the municipal list were subsequently listed by the State.

According to the Amsterdam Bureau for Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) there were 6,662 State-listed and 1,162 municipal listed historic buildings and structures in the Central Borough as of 1 January 2008 (see annexe, DVD, map). Again according to the BMA, there were 3,466 State-listed and 443 municipal listed historic buildings and structures in the *property*; the corresponding figures for the buffer zone were 3,188 and 697 respectively.

Unlike State-listed buildings, those listed by the municipality are not identified as such in the land register.

Selection criteria for listing by the municipality of Amsterdam

The selection criteria for listing by the municipality of Amsterdam include:

- ⌘ importance for the appearance of the city
- ⌘ architectural and historical value
- ⌘ value as ensemble
- ⌘ rarity value
- ⌘ integrity/characteristic value.

Municipal Historical Buildings and Sites Project (GMP) (Gemeentelijk Monumenten Project)(GMP)

In 2000, Amsterdam's municipal council adopted the 'List of historic buildings and structures in Amsterdam's city centre selected for future municipal listing' (*Selectielijst toekomstige gemeentelijke monumenten voor de binnenstad van Amsterdam*), which included over 1,000 buildings from the period 1850-1940 (see annexe).

The Amsterdam Bureau for Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) began making an inventory and preparing the list in 1997. Criteria for the inventory included:

- ⌘ location
- ⌘ typology
- ⌘ stylistic history
- ⌘ chronology (the period 1850-1940)
- ⌘ importance of the architect to architectural history
- ⌘ integrity

The inventory and the list also covered the *property*.

The BMA carried out the listing procedures between 2003 and 2007. The Central Borough designated 914 buildings as listed buildings under the terms of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law 2005, after consulting the Amsterdam Council for the Care of Historic Buildings and Sites (*Amsterdamse Raad voor de Monumentenzorg*) (replaced by the External Appearance and Historic Buildings Committee in 2006).

An illustrated overview of these buildings, entitled *Het Gemeentelijk Monumenten Project (GMP) Amsterdam-Centrum Gebouwd tussen 1850-1940* ('The Municipal Historic Buildings and Sites Project: buildings in the Central Borough of Amsterdam from the period 1850-1940') (see annexe), was published by the Central Borough and the BMA in 2007.

The GMP also covers historic buildings located outside the Singelgracht but within the 'rings' of the nineteenth and twentieth-century urban expansions (the 'Nineteenth-Century Ring' and the '20-40 Ring'). Some 500 buildings distributed over several boroughs were selected there.

In 2007, the municipality of Amsterdam adopted Guidelines for the Designation of Objects and Sites for Municipal Listing (*Handleiding voor de selectie van gebouwen en ensembles voor de gemeentelijke monumentenlijst*) (see annexe). These deal with:

- ⌘ descriptions of objects and sites proposed by the BMA
- ⌘ advice by the Advisory Committee on the Care of Historic Buildings and Sites regarding such designation
- ⌘ decisions by the municipal executive on the designation of proposed objects or sites for municipal listing.

The selection criteria laid down in the Guidelines are architectural value, urban planning value, cultural/historical value, integrity/characteristic value and rarity value.

A map showing the boundaries of the GMP has been drawn up (see annexe).

Inventory of Jewish Cultural/Historical Heritage

In 2005, the Central Borough requested the BMA to make an inventory of Jewish cultural/historical heritage in the borough. Most of this is located outside the *property*, in the eastern section of 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht'. In May 2008, the BMA published a report entitled *Inventarisatie Joods Cultuurhistorisch Erfgoed. Stadsdeel Centrum Amsterdam* ('Inventory of Jewish Cultural/Historical Heritage: Central Borough of Amsterdam') (www.centrum.amsterdam.nl); this included a list of selected objects and recommendations (including that certain objects be designated for municipal listing).

The following objects within the *property* are listed: Amstel 53/Nieuwe Keizersgracht 2 (Sephardic home for elderly women), Amstel 93, Amstel 194-196 (originally a lead and zinc stamping works), Amstel 206-208, Amstel 216, Amstelveld 17, Herengracht 458 (home of the art dealer Jacques Goudstikker) [1 next page](#), Herengracht 472, Herengracht 500, Herengracht 501, Herengracht 586 (residence of Don Manuel de Belmonte, the Spanish king's agent), Herengracht 598 (home of Dr Samuel Sarphati, two neck gables following restoration in 1962), Herengracht 615-617, Keizersgracht 449 (Metz & Co., Gerrit Rietveld, 1937), Keizersgracht 452, Keizersgracht 455 (Metz & Co.), Keizersgracht 746, Kerkstraat 363, Koningsplein 1, Nieuwe Herengracht 33 (Sephardic home for elderly men), Nieuwe Herengracht 43, Nieuwe Herengracht 45, Nieuwe Herengracht 47, Nieuwe Herengracht 51, Nieuwe Herengracht 93, Nieuwe Herengracht 103, Nieuwe Herengracht 111, Nieuwe Keizersgracht 16, Nieuwe Keizersgracht 54, Nieuwe Keizersgracht 58, Nieuwe Keizersgracht 61, Nieuwe Kerkstraat 10-14, Nieuwe Kerkstraat 16, Nieuwe Kerkstraat 28, Nieuwe Kerkstraat 127, Nieuwe Kerkstraat 141 (Sephardic religious school), Nieuwe Kerkstraat 147 (seamen's synagogue), Nieuwe Kerkstraat 149 (Russian synagogue).

Inventory of 'Van Houten buildings'

The Central Borough has also requested the BMA to make an inventory of 'Van Houten buildings' (for more about Van Houten, see above). There are some 200 such buildings, which can be recognised by the type of brick used and the deep pointing, their façade division and storey heights (which are untypical of Amsterdam) and the historic gables added on to them after being recovered from buildings demolished elsewhere. The BMA will complete this inventory in 2008. The Council of State has now decided that, if a structure is listed under the relevant legislation because it includes such historic elements, the listing applies to the entire structure.

In the light of the inventory, the BMA has proposed that 14 of the buildings should be designated as municipal listed buildings.

Monumentenwerf/structural fragments

The Central Borough has set up what is known in Dutch as a *monumentenwerf* (www.monumentenwerf.nl, www.herstelling.nl), where historic elements from demolished buildings – cleaned bricks, wall ties, roof, wall and floor tiles, wooden beams and boards, sculptured decorative stone elements, etc. – can be stored for re-use in the repair or restoration of historic buildings in the borough.

The BMA also manages a catalogued collection of structural fragments on behalf of the municipality. The fragments are re-used elsewhere in the city wherever possible.



Municipal listing of objects from the post-war reconstruction period (1940-1960)

The municipality has requested the BMA to make an inventory of objects from the post-war reconstruction period (1940-1960) which should be designated by the boroughs for municipal listing. A total of 100 such post-war structures have been identified, most of them located outside Singelgracht. The boroughs have been asked to examine which of these could be selected for State listing.

Space for history: policy document on historic buildings/sites and archaeology, 2005-2010

In 2005, the Amsterdam municipal executive adopted the policy document 'Space for history: policy document on historic buildings and archaeology, 2005-2010' (*Ruimte voor Geschiedenis. Beleidsnota Monumenten en Archeologie. Amsterdam 2005-2010*), which had been drawn up by the BMA (see annexe).

The document sets out the municipality's cultural/historical policy over the coming years; this is particularly important in view of changes in legislation on archaeological heritage (the Malta Convention) and the growing number of listed buildings. Amsterdam's boroughs can use the document to draw up specific goals in the light of each borough's characteristics and identity.

The document reformulates the policy adopted by the municipal council in 1993 on the basis of the 'Policy Document on Monuments and Historic Buildings in Amsterdam: Managing with Scarce Resources' (*Nota Monumentenzorg in Amsterdam/Richting en sturing met schaarse middelen*). The intention is to broaden the range of the policy, in addition to preserving historic buildings, caring for the built environment and organising public space.

One of the stated aims of national spatial policy is 'compact cities', and this has compelled Amsterdam to make intensive use of space – hence the emphasis on the importance of archaeology, knowledge of spatial, historical urban planning and urban developments and structures, and the importance of research into architecture and architectural history.

'As the representative of the municipal executive, the Amsterdam Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology has an important part to play as a centre of expertise when cultural/historical policy is drawn up and implemented. This is a corollary of the Bureau's mission to care for Amsterdam's cultural/historical heritage' (Space for history, p. 33).

The municipality's structure plan 'Choosing Urbanity' (Structuurplan Kiezen voor Stedelijkheid, gemeente Amsterdam)

Adopted by the municipal council in 2005, the structure plan 'Choosing urbanity' (see annexe) sets out the municipality's spatial policy for the next ten years. It serves as a 'policy and assessment framework for land-use plans' within the city boundaries.

In early 2008, with the Spatial Planning Act (*Wet ruimtelijke ordening*) due to enter into force in July of that year, Amsterdam began to draw up its own 'structure scheme' (as provided for in the Act). This process is expected to take three years (2008: gathering of ideas and views; 2009: drafting the scheme; 2010: decision-making process). The scheme will likewise serve as a framework for assessing spatial developments.

The scheme will be drawn up by the city's Spatial Planning Department (*Dienst Ruimtelijke Ordening, dRO*) in cooperation with the boroughs and others, although the BMA is not directly part of the relevant project group.

With effect from 1 July 2008, the structure plan 'Choosing Urbanity' will serve as a structure scheme until such time as the new scheme is finalised.

One of the topics to be covered by the scheme is high-rise building. Current policy on the subject (which dates from 2005) is purely reactive, and does not include criteria for the assessment of planned high-rise building. A clearly formulated high-rise policy is needed, particularly with regard to the listed urban conservation area and the nomination of the 'seventeenth-century ring of canals in Amsterdam within Singelgracht'. This will necessitate a stricter policy on high-rise buildings that may have a visual impact on the *property* and the buffer zone. In this connection, the Spatial Planning Department has recently drawn up an initial strategy on high-rise building, entitled *Hoogbouwvisie Amsterdam 2008* ('High-Rise Strategy for Amsterdam, 2008'), September 2008 (see annexe).

Cultural Policy Document for the City Centre (November 2005) (Cultuurnota Binnenstad (November 2005))

In 2005, the Central Borough council adopted the 'Cultural Policy Document for the City Centre' (see annexe), which focuses on enhancing the borough's status as the cultural heart of the city, owing to the large number of cultural institutions located there.

'The borough bears responsibility for "cultural planning" and owns a number of buildings used for cultural purposes in the city centre.' (p. 5)

The purpose of the document is:

'above all to emphasise the borough's role in enabling the city centre to function as a cultural meeting place' (*ibid.*)

The policy goals set out in the document (Spearhead 3: Maintaining and displaying heritage) include:

'making better use of Amsterdam's rich cultural history and urban architecture'

among other things by:

'placing greater emphasis on cultural heritage in cultural education' and 'promoting exchange of knowledge with its residents' countries of origin, for example through care of historic buildings' (pp. 12 and 13)

The document states the following about heritage education in primary schools:

'Cultural heritage consists of visible, tangible remains of the past. It includes not only objects in museums, historic buildings and structures, objects found in the soil, documents in archives, urban and rural structures, landscapes and the built environment, but also traditions handed down in stories and histories.' (p. 14)

The borough intends to put more historic buildings to cultural use, and also, for example, to encourage carillon concerts (p. 18).

The document states that the people of Amsterdam should be stakeholders in the sense that they:

'be made co-owners of the historic city centre and feel they share responsibility for it, so that they can become and remain proud of this cultural centre' (p. 21)

The focus here should be on 'emotional stakeholdership', 'stakeholdership based on co-ownership' and 'stakeholdership involving shared responsibility'.

5.c.4 Amsterdam

Amsterdam Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law 2005 (Monumentenverordening Amsterdam 2005)

The 2005 bye-law replaces one dating from 1955. Unlike the Monuments Act 1988 (*Monumentenwet 1988*), which states that a building or site cannot be listed until it is at least fifty years old, the bye-law does not stipulate a threshold.

The bye-law defines a monument/historic building as follows: '1. *an object that is of public interest owing to its beauty, importance to science or cultural and historical value*; 2. *a site that is of public interest owing to the presence there of an object as referred to under 1.*'

The bye-law regulates the designation of an object or complex as a listed building/site by the municipal executive, and the related listed building consent procedure. The procedure is the same as for State-listed buildings/sites.

The municipal council advises on national listing of sites and on urban and village conservation areas to be designated under the Monuments Act 1988. The boroughs are empowered to decide whether or not an area should be designated as an urban conservation area by the municipality.

Under the terms of the bye-law, history of building research has a specific part to play whenever a site is listed or listed building consent is granted. If building plans concern a building that is on a tentative list drawn up as part of the Municipal Historic Buildings Project (*Gemeentelijk Monumentenproject, GMP*) but has not yet been officially listed, the city's policy is that the site's heritage value should be examined by the advisors of the Amsterdam Historic Buildings and Archaeology Bureau (BMA) when the building permit is applied for. As a result, a borough may decide to have the object listed under the municipal bye-law using an emergency procedure.

Article 4, paragraph 2 of the Central Borough's Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law allows for this if there are well-founded reasons for doing so (including an immediate threat to the object) and it is legally tenable.

The bye-laws applicable to individual boroughs are modelled on the Amsterdam Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law.

Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law 2005, Central Borough (Monumentenverordening stadsdeel Amsterdam-Centrum 2005),

Care of historic buildings/sites within the Central Borough is governed by the borough's Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law 2005 (see annexe and see above). It was preceded by the Bye-Law for the Preservation of Monuments and Historic Buildings in the Central Borough of Amsterdam, adopted in June 2002.

Unlike the Monuments Act 1988, the bye-law does not stipulate a fifty-year threshold. It applies to both State-listed and municipally listed buildings.

The bye-law includes another category ('places of worship', article 1.(f)) in addition to those set out in the municipal bye-law. Apart from this, the structure of the two bye-laws (articles and paragraphs) is

the same. Both contain an article on 'architectural history research' (written reports on the architectural history and architectural quality of buildings).

Amsterdam Heritage Bye-Law

The municipality is drafting a Heritage Bye-Law that will supersede its Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law. According to the timetable, the municipal executive will approve the bye-law, and the prescribed period for public comment will then commence. The executive and the council will adopt the bye-law between March and May-June 2009, after which it will enter into force.

Among other things, the idea of drawing up a heritage bye-law is based on the entry into force of the Archaeological Heritage Management Act (*Wet op de archeologische monumentenzorg, 2007*) and the plans to produce 'architectural history maps' of parts of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht, now that a similar map has been produced for buildings in the medieval heart of the city (see below). Such maps can then serve as policy instruments.

The bye-law will deal with matters including:

- ⌘ the designation of buildings for listing under the bye-law;
- ⌘ the listed building consent system;
- ⌘ the use of the Committee on the external appearance of (historic) buildings (*Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten, CWM*) as an advisory body when granting consent relating to State-listed buildings/sites;
- ⌘ the designation of urban conservation areas under the municipal bye-law;
- ⌘ standards for research involving excavations;
- ⌘ the duty of owners to permit access to a site for purposes of archaeological research;
- ⌘ quality standards for archaeological research.

The Archaeological Heritage Management Act now requires local authorities to take account of proven and probable archaeological values when drawing up land-use plans (Section 38a (1) of the Monuments Act 1988). The authority can thus pass on the costs of carrying out research to the 'disrupter' or 'causer' (Section 38a (2) of the Act).

Archaeological factors must be taken into account whenever land-use plans are revised. The municipality is now drawing up model regulations on the subject. The intention is that boroughs, which are empowered to draw up land-use plans within their area, should follow these regulations.

Since the Spatial Planning Act (*Wet ruimtelijke ordening*) requires land-use plans to be revised once every ten years, Amsterdam plans to draw up a 'partial land-use plan' to take account of archaeological factors. Boroughs can decide whether or not to make use of this plan.

The Heritage Bye-Law will apply both to the city centre and the rest of the city. The intention is that boroughs will be asked to use it as a model when revising their own bye-laws on monuments and historic buildings.

Public Administration (Probity Screening) Act

Since 1 May 2008, the municipality has applied the Public Administration (Probity Screening) Act (*Wet Bevordering Integriteit Beoordeling, Wet Bibob*) when issuing permits for major building projects throughout the city. The purpose of the Act is to prevent permits from being used for criminal activities. This policy is part of the government's new approach to organised crime.

The Act applies to regular building permit applications with a contract price in excess of €100,000. It also applies to applications with a lower contract price if they are in a risk category. When assessing applications, the applicant's financial background and the financing of the project are examined, as are the probity of the applicant and any other business partners.

In order to apply the Act to building permits, the municipality has adopted policy rules to this end.

Strategy for water in the city centre (2005) (Visie op het water van de binnenstad, 2005)

The Central Borough executive published its policy document *Strategy for water in the city centre (2005)* on 9 September 2005 and adopted it on 26 January 2006.

Its purpose in doing so is not merely to increase public awareness of Amsterdam's waterways, but also

'to enhance the historic character of central Amsterdam, to regulate nautical use and management of the canals and to provide a structure for new developments.'

What matters here is

'the prominent part that water has to play in the city's spatial structure and cultural and historical development... The experiential and spatial value of water to the city, and above all the relationship between water and land, must be protected and in places restored. The aim is to bring the functional use of embankments and the place that water still occupies in the spatial perception of the city into harmony wherever possible. Key principles here are an improved spatial relationship between water and land, and clear rules for the use and design of embankments.'

The document also deals with '*cultural and historical classification of the canals*', the height of bridges and the current use of water for housing, work and travel. A distinction is made between 'housing', 'work' and 'port' canals, as well as mixed-use canals.

Examples of 'housing' canals within the seventeenth-century canal ring area are Herengracht and Keizersgracht; an example of a 'work' canal is Prinsengracht. The 'port' canals were built outside the dykes (the Western and Eastern Islands). The Singelgracht was a mixed-use canal.

A number of houseboats will be moved, ideally on a voluntary basis, if their location is incompatible with the '*spatial structure of the water and the surroundings*'. There are some 900 berths for houseboats and commercial vessels in the city centre [1 next page](#).

It is borough policy to regulate the use of the water in the city centre on the basis of area-specific plans.

There are 2,500 houseboats in Amsterdam, scattered across the entire city.

Locations and maximum berth and vessel sizes are specified in land-use plans. The relevant permit procedure includes an assessment of the aesthetic qualities of the design, the materials used, the detailing and the vessel's compatibility with the buildings in the immediate vicinity. Advice on such matters is provided by the Historic Ships Committee (*Commissie voor Historische Schepen*) and/or the Committee on the External Appearance of (Historic) Buildings (*Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten, CWM*).

Port and Waterways Bye-law (revised in 2006) (Verordening op de haven en het binnenwater, herzien 2006)

This bye-law includes specific articles on houseboats. For example, a houseboat may not occupy a





berth without a permit or in contravention of a permit issued by the municipality (article 2.3.1). A permit may be refused for reasons of external appearance (article 2.3.2). A permit may only be issued to the owner or owners of the vessel (article 2.3.3). A permit is also required for the renovation of a houseboat (article 2.3.4).

Pleasure craft that are over twelve metres long may only moor at berths designated by the municipality (article 2.5.1).

The Central Borough's 2006 policy document on external appearance does not lay down criteria for the external appearance of houseboats or mooring facilities.

On 30 October 2007, the borough executive adopted a policy document on the external appearance of waterside buildings (*Nota Welstand op het water*), which is due to be adopted by the borough council in autumn 2008. Its main purpose is to establish specific, assessable criteria for the replacement and renovation of houseboats and commercial vessels with fixed berths, for landing stages and for embarkation and disembarkation facilities.

The document, which has been drawn up in order to preserve the beauty and the cultural and historical value of the city centre, establishes criteria governing shape, detailing, use of materials and colour of boats and landing stages. The renovation and replacement of floating objects in urban conservation areas are subject to inspection in terms of external appearance and therefore require a permit.

On 30 October 2007 the borough executive also adopted guidelines on the replacement and renovation of houseboats and commercial vessels (2007 Guidelines for Vessels) (*Richtlijnen bij vervanging en vernieuwing van woonboten en bedrijfsvaartuigen*) (*Boortrichtlijnen 2007*). This document contains guidelines on the dimensions of houseboats and commercial vessels with fixed berths, and also includes environmental guidelines.

Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (1954)

In the area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', a number of State-listed buildings bear the distinctive emblem described in Article 16 of the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (The Hague, 1954) (*Verdrag inzake de bescherming van culturele goederen in geval van een gewapend conflict*, 's-Gravenhage, 1954). These include:

- ⌘ the Oude Kerk, 15 Oudekerksplein [1](#) previous page
- ⌘ the secret church 'Ons Lief Heer op Zolder', 40 Oudezijds Voorburgwal
- ⌘ the Portuguese synagogue, Mr. Visserplein/Jonas Daniël Meijerplein [2](#) previous page
- ⌘ the Royal Palace (formerly the City Hall), 147 Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal [3](#) previous page
- ⌘ the former main post office, 182 Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal
- ⌘ the former stock exchange, Beursplein/Damrak [4](#) previous page
- ⌘ the Scheepvaarthuis, Prins Hendrikkade/Binnenkant [5](#) previous page
- ⌘ the American Hotel, 28-30 Leidseplein
- ⌘ the 'Trippenhuys', 29 Kloveniersburgwal [6](#) previous page

Within the *property*:

- ⌘ the 'Huis met de Hoofden', 123 Keizersgracht [7](#) previous page
- ⌘ Deutzenhofje, 857-897 Prinsengracht [8](#) previous page

Amsterdam: municipality and boroughs

Amsterdam's fourteen boroughs have their own administrative bodies (executives and councils) and legal and administrative powers. A key document here is the City Boroughs Bye-Law (29 November 2006 version) (*Verordening op de stadsdelen*. Versie 29 november 2006) (see annexe).

This bye-law lists all the powers delegated to the boroughs, except for a number of specified powers that have remained with the municipality (particularly city-wide projects such as the 'Banks of the IJ' project and the construction of the new North-South Metro Line). Legal powers concerning the care of historic buildings/sites have also been delegated to the boroughs.

The Building Regulations (*Bouwverordening*) are drawn up by the municipality. A borough may propose that parts of the regulations be adopted for a particular borough (List A of the City Boroughs Bye-Law, VI. Environment and Building Inspection, 7).

With effect from 14 March 2002, the powers of the municipal executive were transferred to the Central Borough executive.

Designation of the urban conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'

Following approval by the municipal council in 1997, the order designating 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as an urban conservation area under the Monuments Act 1988 was promulgated by the State Secretary for Education, Culture and Science and the Minister of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment on 29 January 1999 (and became irrevocable with effect from 24 January 2003). The area measures 670 hectares.

Procedures for listing an urban or village conservation area are laid down in a separate chapter of the Monuments Act 1988 (Sections 35-37).

The designation of 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as a listed conservation area was proposed in a letter of 12 September 1989 from the then Minister of Welfare, Health and Culture to the municipality. The director of the former Netherlands Department for Conservation (now the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Monuments, RACM) had already submitted this proposal on 25 May 1989 to the member of Amsterdam municipal executive with responsibility for urban renewal (L.J.O.M. Genet).

The proposal was made in view of the intact historic and spatial structure of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht, as well as the largely intact historic appearance of its buildings.

The purpose of listing an urban or village area is to ensure that renewal, development and alteration take place in such a way that existing historic and spatial qualities are preserved and new ones are added to it, in a process of 'integrated development'.

One particular issue had prevented the area from being designated as an urban conservation area for many years. Another legislative provision (article 8a of the Housing Rent Decree) (*Besluit Huurprijzen Woonruimte*) stipulated that rents for dwellings within a listed urban area would be calculated on the basis of the costs incurred by owners in order to maintain the existing heritage value of their property. The municipality felt that this would result in high or indeed excessive rents in the city centre, which was politically unacceptable. It would also undermine Amsterdam's policy of promoting the housing function of the city centre.

The State Secretary for Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment informed the municipality that the relevant article of the Decree would have to be amended in respect of housing within urban or

village areas that were due to be listed. The State Secretary amended the Decree on 1 July 1992.

The amendment raised other issues, particularly regarding the calculation of rents for cheap rented dwellings that had been identified as essential to the appearance of the city. It was decided that residential buildings which were State-listed or listed by the municipality, or identified by the municipality as essential to the appearance of the city, would no longer be subject to article 8a of the Decree. Another factor was that rents in Amsterdam were calculated differently from those in listed urban or village conservation areas elsewhere.

Another thing the municipality had to take into account was that in 1982, the *Nieuwmarktbuurt* district, part of 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' which is now to be designated as an urban conservation area, had already been designated as such under the Monuments Act 1961 (*Monumentenwet 1961*) as it read at the time (1961). In addition, a procedure to designate the *Jordaan* district as an urban conservation area had been started in 1986. If 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' were to be designated, the separate procedure for the *Jordaan* would be halted and incorporated into the new procedure. And according to the procedure laid down in the Monuments Act 1988, the designation procedure for the *Nieuwmarktbuurt* would have to be withdrawn in favour of the designation of 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as an urban conservation area.

Another important consideration for the municipality in agreeing to the designation of 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as an urban conservation area was the announcement in 1995 of the Netherlands' decision to propose to the UNESCO World Heritage Committee that the 'historic centre of Amsterdam' be placed on the 'Tentative List' of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

On 23 January 1997, the municipal executive recommended that the council agree to the proposal that 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' be designated as an urban conservation area, as made by the Minister of Welfare, Health and Culture in 1989 (*Gemeentebld*, Section 1, No. 40, '*Positief advies aan de staatssecretaris van Onderwijs, Cultuur en Wetenschappen inzake het voorstel om Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht aan te wijzen tot beschermd stadsgezicht*', Amsterdam, 23 January 1997). On 5 February 1997, the council recommended that the proposal be adopted, and on 29 January 1999 the historic city centre was designated as an urban conservation area (U99/583).

Boundary of the urban conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'

The boundary of the conservation area (see map in annexe) runs from the Singelgracht canal along Spoordijk and Eilandsgracht (round Prinseneiland, Realeneiland and Bickerseiland) to Westerdokskade, and from there along the IJ to a point near the route of the IJ Tunnel. From there it runs parallel to the route of the tunnel and Oosterdokskade, intersects the route of the tunnel, passes in front of the seventeenth-century National Maritime Museum building (the former Admiralty warehouses) [1](#) next page and then to the east behind the buildings on Kattenburgergracht, Wittenburgergracht and Oosterburgergracht. At Funenkade the boundary joins up with the boundary in the middle of the Singelgracht, which encloses the city centre (see map).

Except for the area north-east of Kattenburgergracht, Wittenburgergracht and Oosterburgergracht, the Oosterdok and the area round Planciusstraat and Houtmankade, the whole of Amsterdam's city centre, 'Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht', has thus been designated as an urban conservation area.

Other urban conservation areas within the municipality of Amsterdam

There are several more State-listed village conservation areas within the municipality of Amsterdam: *Ransdorp*, *Holysloot* and *Durgerdam*. Once separate villages to the north of the city, they were absorbed into Amsterdam during the twentieth century.

Forthcoming designations of State-listed urban conservation areas

In consultation with the municipality, the government is currently preparing to designate a number of areas from the period 1850-1940 (*Amsterdam North*; *Amsterdam South*; *Watergraafsmeer*; *Admiralenbuurt-Amsterdam West*) as urban conservation areas.

The designated urban conservation area in North Amsterdam (*Amsterdam North*) will include Waterlandse Zeedijk (including the villages of Schellingwoude, Nieuwendam and Buiksloot, which are located along it and the ribbon development along Oostzanerdijk) as well as parts of the Nieuwendammerpolder and Buiksloterhampolder, a number of garden suburbs built there during the twentieth century, and three parks.

Designation of a municipal urban conservation area

The Geuzenveld-Slotermeer borough council designated part of *Slotermeer* (one of the first 'Western Garden Cities') as an urban conservation area, one of the 'Garden Cities', of the General Expansion Plan (*Algemeen Uitbreidingsplan, AUP*)

The Plan was developed by the Urban Development Section of Amsterdam's Public Works Department under Cornelis van Eesteren, chairman of the International Congress of Modern Architecture (CIAM), and adopted in 1935. As part of the Plan, the Slotermeer Garden City expansion plan was implemented in 1939.

Amsterdam and archaeology

After the Second World War, city-centre research began in Amsterdam; this became an integral part of archaeological practice in the city (*stadskernonderzoek*). From the 1950s onwards, systematic research was carried out by the University of Amsterdam (Institute of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Archaeology, now the Amsterdam Archaeological Centre), for example during the restoration of the Oude Kerk (*Old Church*), as well as along Warmoesstraat.

In the early 1960s the city began to award grants for this research. Between 1954 and 2003, excavations took place at almost 100 sites (churches, chapels, hospitals, dwellings and vanished historic shipyards).

A municipal archaeological department was set up in 1972, in connection with the construction of the first metro line (the Eastern Line) under the historic city centre in the period 1972-1977. In 1980, for the first time, the Dutch government granted the city permission to carry out excavations.

In 2002, the State Secretary for Education, Culture and Science granted Amsterdam permission to excavate until 2009 (see annexe). Under these arrangements, the city is required to report all finds, excavations must be made public, and archaeological research must be performed in accordance with the customary rules.

There is a general duty to report archaeological finds. The finder must notify the municipality within three days.

Historic Buildings and Archaeology Bureau (BMA), Archaeology section

In 2002, the archaeological department was transferred to the Historic Buildings and Archaeology Bureau (BMA) (*Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie, BMA*), which is now part of the municipality's Environment and Building Inspection Department (*Dienst Milieu en Bouwtoezicht*). The BMA's archaeology section now carries out about four excavations a year, as

1



well as archaeological observations.

The section carries out research and excavations, manages the municipal archaeological collection and ensures that archaeological factors are taken into account in construction projects and spatial planning. Responsibility for the municipal archaeological collection lies with the Amsterdam Historical Museum (*Amsterdams Historisch Museum*).

The section works together with the Amsterdam Archaeological Centre at the University of Amsterdam (Faculty of Humanities) (*Universiteit van Amsterdam*), not only as regards teaching, but also practical training, field work and so on.

The Centre has a digital image bank (<http://dpc.uba.uva.nl/aac>) which contains an extensive selection of drawings and slides that have been made since it was set up (originally as the university's Institute of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Archaeology). Its policy '*is aimed at optimum integration of archaeology into the spatial planning process and monitoring of the quality of municipal archaeology*' (*Meerjarendoelstellingen 2008-2010*, BMA).

When reporting on excavations, the BMA uses the Archaeological Programme of Standards for Archaeological Excavation (*Archeologisch Programma van Eisen Archeologische Opgraving*) (see annexe) to report on such aspects of excavations as basic data, the purpose of the research, field work, further details and conservation.

One of its main areas of work is archaeological research into Amsterdam as an international trade metropolis, particularly owing to the presence of the former Dutch East India Company (VOC) and West India Company (WIC). In this connection, it has working partnerships with Japan, North America (especially New York) and the Caribbean (especially St Maarten).

The BMA's archaeological section carries out archaeological research in phases, e.g. desk-based and field surveys. It deals with some 850 archaeological findspots within the Central Borough, and its research data are published in *Amsterdamse Archeologische Rapporten*.

Archaeological Programme of Standards

For each field study, a Programme of Standards (*Archeologisch Programma van Eisen, PvE*) must be drawn up, laying down qualitative conditions and research questions for the study in question. The programme indicates whether archaeological remains can be left in the soil or need to be excavated (selection process). This forms the basis for further planning and cost estimates.

The programme is also part of the building procedure, and must be drawn up by the initiator of the building plan.

Municipal Historic Buildings and Archaeology Bureau (BMA)

The Historic Buildings and Archaeology Bureau (*Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie, BMA*) began life as the Bureau for the Care of Monuments (*Bureau Monumentenzorg*), set up by the municipality in 1953.

By decision of the municipal council no. 281 of 27 May 1998, the BMA was given centralised municipal status, which means that it carries out centralised tasks on behalf of the municipality (including estimates of restoration requirements, programming and distribution of funds for the benefit of Amsterdam's built and archaeological heritage). It is currently part of the municipal Environment and

Building Inspection Department.

On 14 October 2008, the Central Borough and Amsterdam municipal executive, represented by the director of the BMA, signed a revised covenant (see annexe) on the care of historical buildings and archaeology. This contains articles on: protection; consent procedures, management and enforcement; grants and funding (decentralised powers); grants and funding (centralised powers); archaeology; and the knowledge and expertise centre for historic buildings and archaeology. These articles are fleshed out in five additional documents (October 2008 version), which describe the procedures to be followed in each category (see annexes).

The covenant describes the Central Borough's powers in this area and the BMA's existing or potential role as an advisory body or a municipal knowledge and expertise centre.

Amsterdam municipal executive is drawing up a bye-law on grants for historic buildings/sites as well as applications for and use of permits (Section 45 of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act 1988) from the Minister of Education, Culture and Science to carry out excavations.

The BMA's vision is as follows:

'Cultural heritage belongs to all the people of Amsterdam. It is a self-evident, integral part of the city's dynamics, a source of inspiration for spatial development, a major economic driving force and still insufficiently utilised in tackling social issues' (Meerjarendoelstellingen).

The BMA's main task is to act as a knowledge and expertise centre that promotes the conservation, enhancement and sustainable development of Amsterdam's built, archaeological and cultural landscape heritage as a link between the past, the present and the future in an ever-changing environment. The BMA:

- ⌘ spreads knowledge of and increases support for Amsterdam's built, urban and archaeological heritage;
- ⌘ advises on the protection (listing, alteration or demolition) and subsidising and funding of the maintenance of listed buildings/sites;
- ⌘ offers customised archaeological assistance to businesses, private individuals and municipal authorities in connection with large and small-scale building projects, and ensures that research is pragmatically adjusted to spatial planning requirements;
- ⌘ accesses the city's archaeological past by means of excavations, publications and presentations;
- ⌘ advises on how cultural history can contribute to spatial development in the city.

In addition, the BMA:

- ⌘ is Amsterdam's knowledge and expertise centre on the care of archaeological sites, historic buildings/sites and urban conservation areas;
- ⌘ advises the municipality and the boroughs on policy regarding historic buildings/sites;
- ⌘ carries out centralised municipal tasks and advises the municipality and the boroughs on the implementation of relevant legislation;
- ⌘ exercises centralised powers on behalf of the municipal executive in respect of historic buildings/sites and archaeology;
- ⌘ coordinates municipal policy on historic buildings/sites and archaeology;
- ⌘ provides the boroughs (which exercise decentralised powers) with expertise;
- ⌘ carries out architectural history research;
- ⌘ draws up descriptions of historic buildings/sites;

- ⌘ manages Amsterdam's registers of listed buildings (State and municipal) and of urban and village conservation areas;
- ⌘ advises the External Appearance and Historic Buildings Committee (*Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten, CWM*);
- ⌘ advises the municipality and the boroughs on recommendations to the External Appearance and Historic Buildings Committee (*Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten, CWM*) regarding applications for listed building consent (the boroughs keep public registers as required under Section 20, subsection 1 of the Monuments Act 1988);
- ⌘ advises the External Appearance and Historic Buildings Committee (*Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten, CWM*) on the demolition of buildings that are located within a State-listed (Section 37, subsection 1 of the Monuments Act 1988) or municipally listed urban conservation area but are not themselves listed;
- ⌘ advises the municipality and the boroughs on objection and enforcement procedures;
- ⌘ can advise on supervision of compliance with listed building consent (for which the boroughs are responsible);
- ⌘ on request, can advise a borough on compliance with the Monuments Act 1988 or the borough's Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law;
- ⌘ carries out desk-based evaluations, supervises building projects, carries out archaeological field research and excavations, stores archaeological finds, draws up reports and produces publications on archaeological heritage;
- ⌘ through its archaeological section, keeps a list of archaeological excavations and findspots within the city, in order to develop a 'map of archaeological values' as part of the planned 'Cultural and Historical Atlas of Amsterdam' (*Cultuurhistorische Atlas van Amsterdam*).

BMA publications, etc.

- ⌘ The BMA transfers knowledge by means of publications (*Jaarboeken Amsterdam Monumenten & Archeologie; Amsterdamse Archeologische Rapporten*), the internet, lectures, courses (the course on restoration techniques for monuments), Open Heritage Days, symposiums and exhibitions.
- ⌘ The BMA is directly and indirectly involved in various publications such as *Heritage and the Future of the Historic Inner City* (2005, conference collection) and *De Atlas 19de-eeuwse Ring* (2005, with a CD) (lists the city's urban and architectural values immediately outside the Singelgracht).
- ⌘ In 2008, a 'map of values' entitled *Een bouwhistorische waardenkaart voor de stadskern van Amsterdam* (see annexe) was published in the BMA's *Publikatiereeks Amsterdamse Monumenten* series. The map is based on the results of architectural history research in the mediaeval heart of the city (between Singel, Kloveniersburgwal and Geldersekade).
- ⌘ The BMA worked together with Stichting Amsterdam Monumentenstad on the nine-part television series *Schatten van Amsterdam. Jongeren ontdekken monumenten in de stad*, aimed at young immigrants living in Amsterdam. All the schools in Amsterdam were sent a copy of the DVD that was made from the series (see annexe).
- ⌘ The BMA commissioned the DVD entitled *De staat van het steen*, which paints a picture of the history of public housing, including buildings designed by the Amsterdam School and sculpture in buildings, especially in South Amsterdam (see annexe).
- ⌘ The course on restoration techniques for monuments is aimed at those who have to do with the maintenance, reconstruction or restoration of monuments on a daily basis.
- ⌘ The BMA also produces educational publications, mainly for primary and secondary schools, e.g. the teaching package *Klassemonument*, which is aimed at older primary schoolchildren, especially between the ages of ten and twelve (see annexe).
- ⌘ The BMA has taken part in a nationwide project for secondary schools entitled *Terug naar de*

toekomst: de Monumentenkist. This is a teaching package that brings pupils into active contact with cultural heritage (e.g. by taking photographs and holding interviews).

⋮ The BMA publishes the results of its archaeological research in *Amsterdamse Archeologische Rapporten*.

The BMA has a digitalised integrated information system on monuments in Amsterdam (AMIS). This contains information on listed buildings/sites, buildings and areas of cultural and historical significance, archaeological sites, areas of interest and excavations. An extensive list of descriptions of 'characteristic Amsterdam buildings' can be found on the BMA's website (www.bma.amsterdam.nl). The BMA has a staff of 37 (eight of them in the archaeology section and sixteen in the historic buildings section) (see organization chart).

BMA works on the basis of its own multi-year goals (*Meerjarendoelstellingen*), which have been approved by the relevant member of the executive. An annual programme is also drawn up and submitted to the member of the executive and to the Environment and Building Inspection Department. Each year there are some 700-800 listed building consent applications in Amsterdam, in addition to other plans on which the BMA advises.

Restoration and renovation plans are subject to the Programme of Quality Standards for Historic Buildings (*Programma van eisen kwaliteit monumenten, PvEM*). The programme combines the areas of interest of the Environment and Building Inspection Department (emphasis on structural safety) and the BMA (emphasis on protection of architectural history values), and translates them into guidelines for historic buildings/sites.

In connection with State-listed building consent, there is regular consultation with the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Monuments, RACM). The BMA also consults with the Central Borough in the building committee, which has a mandate from the borough executive to make decisions on applications for listed building consent.

Procedure adopted by the Central Borough Building Sector when dealing with building permit applications and applications for listed building consent

- ⋮ building committee (*bouwberaad*)
- ⋮ assessment committee (*afwegingsoverleg*)
- ⋮ enforcement committee (*handhavingsberaad*)

The Central Borough has drawn up rules of procedure for these committees. The 'building committee' (*Bouwbedraad*) (set up in 1980) coordinates substantive recommendations on granting or turning down applications for building or demolition permits or listed building consent. It discusses the application of the Housing Act (*Woningwet*), the Spatial Planning Act (*Wet Ruimtelijke Ordening*), the Monuments and Act 1988 (*Monumentenwet 1988*) and the borough's Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law (*Monumentenverordening stadsdeel Centrum*). Among those attending the weekly meetings is an advisor from the BMA. At the meetings, various municipal agencies discuss whether a particular permit should be granted or turned down. Experience since 2000 has shown that listed buildings consent is granted between 260 and 350 times each year.

The 'assessment committee' (*Afwegingsoverleg*) deals with building initiatives that have raised queries (for example, because they conflict with existing legislation).

The 'enforcement committee' (*Handhavingsberaad*) deals with building activities (construction or

demolition) that take place without or in contravention of a permit or consent.

Architectural history surveys in connection with listed building consent

As a standard part of the consent procedure under the Monuments Act 1988 and the municipal Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law (*Monumentenverordening Amsterdam*), the BMA carries out architectural history surveys to supplement information on the object in question in the Register of Historic Buildings and Sites and the municipal list.

The result should be a detailed description of the object, including the interior. Architectural research into the historical spatial structures in an area, district or urban block, surveys and use of materials is also carried out when applications are made for an object to be included on the municipal list or to carry out alterations to a listed building.

On the basis of such surveys, the BMA was able to publish *Een bouwhistorische waardenkaart voor de stadskern van Amsterdam* (2008) (see annexe), which contains the results of architectural history research in the medieval heart of the city.

Municipal Building Regulations 2003 (author's text 23 January 2008)

The Municipal Building Regulations 2003 (*Bouwverordening Amsterdam 2003, auteursstekst 23 januari 2008*) indicate the conditions that must be met in order to obtain a permit. All buildings must comply with the provisions of the national regulations laid down further to the Buildings Decree (2003, revised on 1 September 2006) (*Bouwbesluit*), which set minimum technical (safety, health and environmental) standards for buildings.

The Regulations were adopted by the municipality in 2003. Various amendments have since been introduced.

Among other things, they regulate permit application procedures (Chapter 2). For example, they include provisions on front and rear building lines and associated building heights. Article 2.5.11(1), which deals with rear building lines, includes provisions (exemptions regarding the location and size of buildings) on the seventeenth-century listed private gardens (27 in total; see annexe) within the urban blocks on Herengracht and Keizersgracht.

Chapter 2 specifies the information to be provided whenever a historic building subject to consent under the Monuments Act 1988 or provincial or municipal monuments and historic buildings bye-laws is to be demolished (article 8.1.3.1.(1) (a) to (b)),

'1. If the demolition for which a permit is requested also requires consent under the Monuments Act 1988 or the provincial or municipal Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law, the applicant for the demolition permit must submit the following documents together with his application:

(a) a copy, certified by or on behalf of the competent administrative authority, of the application for listed building consent, failing which the application for a demolition permit may also be treated as an application for the necessary listed building consent, subject to the relevant provisions in Section 12 of the Monuments Act 1988 or the provincial or municipal Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law on the structure and submission of an application for listed building consent;

(b) a copy of the decision on the application for listed building consent, if such a decision has already been made.'

The municipal executive may grant an exemption:

'regarding the position or size of buildings, wherever this is necessary, on historical/aesthetic grounds, in order for them to remain in keeping with the character of the existing buildings.' (Municipal Building Regulations, Section 2.5.31) (*Bouwverordening*).

If building has taken place without a permit, the offender may be required to restore the former situation at his own expense. If the building work is still unfinished, the borough executive will usually decide to halt it until further decisions have been made.

External appearance (architecture-supervision) (Welstand)

Amsterdam's first regulations on external appearance (architecture-supervision) came into force in 1922. In 1955 the city was one of the first local authorities in the Netherlands to draw up a policy document on the subject, entitled *De Schoonheid van Amsterdam*. In 1999 the document was updated, in 2004 it was divided into a 'framework document' and separate documents for the various boroughs, and in 2006 it was followed by *De Digitale Schoonheid van Amsterdam*. The borough policy documents were adopted by the borough councils in accordance with the Housing Act (*Woningwet*).

Chapter 9 of the Municipal Building Regulations 2003 (*Bouwverordening*) deals with external appearance (architecture-supervision). Among other things, its ten articles describe the rules on external appearance (architecture-supervision), the composition of the External Appearance and Historic Buildings Committee, CWM) (*Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten, CWM*), the appointment and terms of office of its members, its working procedures and the form in which its recommendations are published.

External appearance (architecture-provision) is also one of the criteria that apply to the urban conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' ('assessment map', divided into categories, see below; land-use plans; policy on historic buildings; *Handbook on Public Space (Handboek Openbare Ruimte)*; *Strategy for water in the city centre (Visie op het water van de binnenstad)*).

Within an urban conservation area – the area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' covers almost all of the Central Borough – permits are required for building and renovation of both listed buildings (listed building consent/building permit) and other buildings (building permit).

Buildings exempted from this requirement are listed in the Decree of 13 July 2002 on buildings that require a less stringent permit or no permit at all (*Besluit van 13 juli 2002, houdende voorschriften omtrent het bouwen waarvoor het vereiste van een bouwvergunning niet geldt, en omtrent het bouwen waarvoor een lichte bouwvergunning vereist is (Besluit bouwvergunningsvrije en licht-bouwvergunningplichtige bouwwerken)*).

External Appearance and Historic Buildings Committee (CWM)

The CWM's task is to provide the municipality and the borough executives, on request or on its own initiative, with advice on 'external appearance' (Housing Act (*Woningwet*), section 12; Amsterdam Municipal Building Regulations, author's text 23 January 2008 (*Bouwverordening Amsterdam 2003, auteurstekst 23 januari 2008*), on listed building consent (Monuments Act 1988 (*Monumentenwet 1988*), sections 11 and 37; Amsterdam Municipal Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law 2005 (*Monumentenverordening Amsterdam 2005*), article 10), on designation of listed buildings (Monuments Act, section 3) and of urban conservation areas (Monuments Act, section 35), on listed buildings policy, for which the Advisory Committee on the Care of Historic Buildings (*Adviescommissie*

Monumentenzorg) was set up (Amsterdam Municipal Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law 2005, article 1), on acceptability of advertising (General Municipal Bye-Law 1994 (*Algemene Plaatselijke Verordening 1994*), articles 8.4 and 8.5), on permits for berths (Port and Waterways Bye-law (*Verordening op de haven en het binnenwater*)), article 2), and on drafts, revisions and further details of land-use plans.

The municipality first assesses proposed works for compliance with the 1988 Monuments Act. If they comply with the Act, compliance with external appearance criteria is then assessed.

The CWM assesses whether planned new building complies with the Building Decree (*Bouwbesluit*), the Municipal Building Regulations (*Bouwverordening*) and the land-use plan (*bestemmingsplan*). The Central Borough's 2006 Policy Document on External Appearance (*Welstandsnota Stadsdeel Centrum 2006*) prescribes that all planned new building is subject to the general principle that it may not disproportionately impair the appearance of the city, and that the façade must be clearly divided into a plinth, a mid-section and a gable.

'The main principle governing new building is that it must be compatible with the structure and architecture of the city centre. Anyone wishing to build within Amsterdam's city centre must offer 'haute couture' rather than 'off-the-peg' solutions. In the case of the Central Borough, this means that the characteristics of typical Amsterdam 'town houses' and variations on this are a crucial basis for the external appearance criteria set out in this document....'
(Introduction, 1.3).

The CWM was set up by the Amsterdam External Appearance and Historic Buildings Committee Bye-Law 2005 (*Verordening op de Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten Amsterdam 2005*) (adopted by the municipal council on 21 December 2005, *Gemeentebblad 2005*, Part 3 A, Serial No. 286/722). Its website is www.welstand.amsterdam.nl. Its members are appointed by the municipal council in consultation with the boroughs.

The CWM is made up of independent experts in the fields of urban planning, architecture, architectural history (specialising in historic buildings) and visual arts. Its purpose is to safeguard the architectural and spatial qualities of the present and future built environment. Members are appointed for a maximum period of three years, which may be extended by a further maximum period of three years.

The CWM acts as the advisory committee referred to in section 1 in conjunction with section 8 of the Housing Act and section 15.1. of the 1988 Monuments Act. It was set up on 8 March 2006. Secretarial support is provided by the External Appearance Bureau (*Bureau Welstandszaken*) of the municipality's Environment and Building Inspection Department (*Dienst Milieu en Bouwtoezicht*). The CWM has an advisory board (composed of a member of the municipal executive and three members of the borough executives).

The CWM advises the municipality and the boroughs on applications to alter, demolish or remove listed buildings and structures, and on the designation of municipal or State-listed buildings/sites. It also submits advice on external appearance, on the basis of assessment frameworks and criteria. Its advice must be based on the criteria laid down in a policy document on external appearance adopted by a borough council or by the municipal council, and it must specify which of those criteria it has used in making its assessment. The CWM may indicate what, in its opinion, will help to improve the proposed plans. Its meetings, and those of its subcommittees, are public.

In the case of the Central Borough, the CWM operates on the basis of the External Appearance and

Historic Buildings Committee Bye-Law for the Central Borough of Amsterdam (Central Borough, 31 March 2005-14, see annexe), which came into force on 1 January 2006.

In the Central Borough, administrative responsibility for external appearance and building permits lies with the borough executive, and in the case of city projects with the member of the municipal executive responsible for external appearance.

Documents of relevance to the assessment of external appearance in the Central Borough are the borough's 2006 Policy Document on External Appearance and the municipality's Policy Document on External Appearance in City Areas and Projects, dated April 2004 (see annexe).

Under article 16 of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law for Amsterdam's Central Borough 2005, the CWM also acts as an advisory committee on the management of historic buildings on behalf of the Central Borough. This committee is described as follows:

'a committee set up by the municipal council and executive to advise them, on request or on its own initiative, on the application of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act 1988, this bye-law and policy on historic buildings, apart from permit/consent applications as referred to in sections 11 and 37 of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act 1988 and article 10 of this bye-law.'

External appearance criteria may relate to:

- ⋮ the relationship between the building and its surroundings
- ⋮ the building itself (size, scale and division of façade)
- ⋮ detailing and use of materials and colours.

The criteria are divided into categories, including:

- ⋮ general criteria
- ⋮ criteria relating to a specific area of the city
- ⋮ criteria relating to specific objects.

The CWM also applies the following criteria.

- ⋮ The function of the building must be subordinate to its main form and structure. Not only valuable parts of the exterior, but also valuable parts of the interior, must be preserved.
- ⋮ The changes made in connection with the use of the building must be reversible, so that the main structure is not damaged.
- ⋮ The extent to which the internal and external value of the listed building is preserved must be assessed. Changes that are not necessary in order for the building to be used in this day and age will normally be refused.
- ⋮ The size, division of surfaces, materials, details, colours and finishing of any necessary new parts must be compatible with the existing situation.
- ⋮ Structural traces that are of relevance to the history of the building or the city must normally be preserved and displayed.
- ⋮ Colour must be used carefully in connection with historic buildings.

In this connection, Amsterdam is divided into several areas, each with its own spatial characteristics.

One of these is the 'city centre', which is subdivided into seven separate neighbourhoods, including the medieval heart of the city, the Nieuwmarktbuurt district and the seventeenth-century urban expansion. Another area is known as the 'urbanised port areas', with neighbourhoods including the

Oostelijke Handelskade, the Oosterdokseiland and the Westerdokseiland.

The borough executive must consult the CWM on applications for new buildings and for listed building consent. The resulting advice is normally followed by the borough or municipal executive; however, they may decide not to follow it, provided they state their reasons for doing so.

All planned building in Amsterdam within Singelgracht that requires a building permit is submitted to the CWM by the Central Borough, except for two projects being carried out by the municipality: the development of the banks of the IJ, and the construction of the North-South Metro Line.

The CWM expects to produce 10,850 advisory reports in the course of 2008. The estimated number of reports on listed buildings in that year is 1,050. The CWM also expects to submit some 25 reports on the designation of listed buildings, and some 225 reports on houseboats.

The CWM has a number of subcommittees which are responsible for specific parts of the city. Committee I (city centre), subcommittee IV, advises on municipal or State-listed buildings/sites.

Under the terms of the External Appearance and Historic Buildings Committee Bye-Law, Committee I is made up of at least two architects, two experts on historical buildings and their care, and one non-professional expert. Subcommittee IV makes use of the criteria set out in the 'Guidelines for the selection of buildings and ensembles as municipal listed buildings' (*Handleiding voor de selectie van gebouwen en ensembles voor de gemeentelijke monumentenlijst*) (article 3 of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law for Amsterdam's Central Borough 2005) (see annexe). The Guidelines, which were adopted by the Central Borough executive on 19 June 2007 (No. 07/5716/BWE) and came into force on 2 July 2007, state:

'All buildings, structures, street furniture, parks, cemeteries, waterworks (including bridges and locks) and other infrastructural works may be designated as objects. Objects that are closely interrelated, as well as groups of identical buildings or series of buildings, may be described as objects, including lines of buildings, buildings on squares and series of identical or almost identical dwellings.'

The Guidelines specify the following selection criteria, which are further subdivided:

1. architectural value
2. urban planning value
3. cultural/historical value
4. integrity/characteristic value
5. rarity value.

In order for the CWM to assess a plan in terms of external appearance, the following must be submitted:

- ⋮ drawings of all the façades, including those of adjoining buildings
- ⋮ detailed drawings of the parts of the building that determine its appearance
- ⋮ photographs of the existing situation and surrounding buildings
- ⋮ details of materials and colours to be used.

Policy Document on External Appearance of City Areas and Projects (Welstandsnota grootstedelijke gebieden projecten)

In 2004, a Policy Document on External Appearance of City Areas and Projects was adopted by the

municipal council. The relevant policy rules are based on the following main criteria:

1. sufficient coherence between form, function and structure
2. a positive contribution to the urban space (based on the urban spatial systems that reflect the coherence of buildings in each area, as set out in the Framework Policy Document for the Assessment of External Appearance in Amsterdam)
3. a proper balance between clarity and complexity
4. the structure may not summon up inappropriate associations
5. architectural resources must be used with sufficient restraint.

In addition to these main criteria, there are a number of area-specific criteria taken from urban planning documents (for example, the buildings on the urbanised embankments on the southern banks of the IJ refer back to the former warehouses).

Digitalised policy documents on external appearance

The boroughs' and the municipality's policy documents on external appearance are due to be digitalised, so as to create a system containing all the information on external appearance that can be searched by address. This should become operational in 2009, under the title 'The Digital Beauty of Amsterdam' (*De Digitale Schoonheid van Amsterdam*).

A policy document with the same title, and subtitled 'Basic Policy Document for the Municipality of Amsterdam, forming the basis for policy on external appearance in the fourteen boroughs and Westpoort' (*Basisnota voor de Gemeente Amsterdam, die de basis vormt voor het welstandsbeleid in de 14 stadsdelen en Westpoort*), was published in early 2008. It was drawn up by the municipality's Environment and Building Inspection Department and adopted by the municipal council on 12 March 2008. At the same time, it was determined that the boroughs' decentralised policy documents on external appearance must comply with the basic policy document within eighteen months.

The document superseded the Framework Policy Document for the Assessment of External Appearance in Amsterdam (2004) (*Kadernota voor de Welstandsbeoordeling in Amsterdam (2004)*). 'The Digital Beauty of Amsterdam' is now the basic policy document for the municipality of Amsterdam and its boroughs.

'Digital Beauty' is the name of the boroughs' digital policy document on external appearance. It is divided into two parts:

- ⋮ a system that explains to users the external appearance criteria (and the background to them) for each address
- ⋮ a policy document that reflects the boroughs' shared ambitions and external appearance criteria, with room for each borough to add its own specific policy options.

Policy Document on External Appearance for Amsterdam's Central Borough (2006)(Welstandsnota stadsdeel Amsterdam-Centrum)

The Policy Document on External Appearance for Amsterdam's Central Borough lays down the following basic principles and requirements:

- ⋮ the historic appearance of Amsterdam must be safeguarded
- ⋮ the architectural quality of new buildings and renovations must meet high standards
- ⋮ advertisements must meet high standards
- ⋮ rules and criteria must be clear and easily enforceable.

The document is implemented under the responsibility of the Central Borough executive on the basis of

the advisory reports produced by the CWM.

Among other things, the document lays down strict criteria for skylines, similar to the criteria in land-use plans adopted by the borough for the urban conservation area 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht.' For example, chapter 4.2 lays down criteria for the use of materials in roofs, for roof terraces and roof gardens, as well as for chimneys, rooftop lift structures and aerials.

The document states that

'cheap-looking materials ... and plastic door and window frames are not permitted. Detailing and ornamentation must be compatible with the refined, rich architecture of the historic city centre. In free-standing buildings, serious consideration will be given to their silhouette and its impact on the surroundings.' (paragraph 2.5)

When buildings are renovated, 'the guiding principle must be respect for the existing building.... Function must be subordinated to the main form and the structure of the building. Historic building materials, structures and construction methods must be maintained wherever possible. The result must be in keeping with the colour, use of materials and rhythm of existing parts of the building.... In buildings whose architectural value has already been impaired by earlier renovation work, the guiding principle for further work must be restoration of their architectural value.' (paragraph 2.6)

The document lays down additional criteria for specific areas, including:

- ⌘ alleys in the heart of the city
- ⌘ former shipyards on port islands
- ⌘ areas mainly containing nineteenth and early twentieth-century buildings
- ⌘ areas mainly containing urban renewal architecture.

In the case of shipyard areas, for example, it is stated that, because of the former open character of the shipyards, new buildings must be visible on all sides.

The document states the following about the stoop (Dutch *stoep*) so characteristic of the area:

'When stoops are renovated, this must be done using the original materials and colours (usually stone, sometimes brick or wood, the railings usually cast iron).... Steps down to the basement must be made of the same material as the perron.'

As for 'Category II' buildings (see below), the document states:

'In exceptional cases, Category II buildings may be raised to the maximum building height stated in the land-use plan for the building concerned. This is only permitted if the composition of the façade and the characteristics of the frontage of which the building forms a part are not impaired, and if the façade, and the relationship between the façade and the roof, are not disrupted in any way.' (paragraph 4.1.24)

Amsterdam Urban Development Council (Amsterdamse Raad voor de Stadsontwikkeling)

This independent advisory body, made up of experts from various segments of Amsterdam society, advises on spatial policy, as well as preservation of the quality of the city's cultural and historic heritage. The Council was established by the municipality in 1957, and has between 25 and 40 members. Membership is for a period of four years, and may be extended by a single period of four years. Its responsibilities and powers are set out in the Amsterdam Urban Development Council Bye-Law 2006 (*Verordening op de Amsterdamse Raad voor de Stadsontwikkeling 2006*) (see annexe).

The Council has a 'core committee' which focuses on the 'old city' (located between the IJ and the Ringweg). The Council holds approximately ten plenary meetings a year. On request or on its own initiative, it provides the municipal and borough executives with advice on urban and spatial planning, economic issues, housing, traffic and transport, and public space. Its advisory reports are in the public domain (www.ars.amsterdam.nl). The Council's offices are at 15 Jodenbreestraat, Amsterdam.

Wherever relevant, further information is provided on request by the Amsterdam Historic Buildings and Archaeology Bureau (BMA).

Urban Assessment and Advice Team (STAT) for spatial planning in Amsterdam (Stedelijk toets- en adviesteam (STAT) van ruimtelijke plannen in Amsterdam)

Set up by the municipal executive in 2005, the Urban Assessment and Advice Team (STAT) assesses spatial plans drawn up by boroughs, as well as city spatial plans and projects commissioned by the municipality, for compatibility with relevant current policy. In this connection, the Environment and Building Inspection Department (which the BMA is part of) draws attention to the interests of listed buildings, the urban conservation area and archaeological factors.

Account can be taken of these prior assessments in advisory reports in order to provide an optimum basis for decisions by the borough or municipal executive. Ten municipal departments are represented on the team.

Listing process

The description of this process, as adopted on 8 October 2008, assigns relevant tasks to the boroughs, the Environment and Building Inspection Department and the BMA for each of the eight procedures described, specifying which body is responsible for what.

The description covers the 'archaeology' (*archeologie*), 'consent, management and enforcement' (*proces vergunningen, beheer en handhaving*), 'grants and funding (municipality)' (*proces financiering en subsidiëring centrale bevoegdheden*) and 'grants and funding (boroughs)' (*proces subsidiëring en financiering decentrale bevoegdheden*) procedures (see annexes), and forms part of the Covenant between the Central Borough and the Municipality of Amsterdam on historic buildings and archaeology, dated 14 October 2008 (*Convenant op het gebied van monumentenzorg en archeologie tussen stadsdeel Centrum en het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam, 14 oktober 2008*) (see annexe).

The listing process is divided into the following parts:

- ⌘ advice on State listing of buildings (including amendment or termination of listing)
- ⌘ decision on municipal listing of buildings (including amendment or termination of listing)
- ⌘ advice on designation as an urban or village conservation area under the 1988 Monuments Act
- ⌘ decision on municipal listing as an urban or village conservation area
- ⌘ adoption, amendment or repeal of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law
- ⌘ adoption of a land-use plan for an urban or village conservation area
- ⌘ registration of entry in the municipal list of historic buildings and of availability for inspection.
- ⌘ updating and supplying information from the State register of historic buildings.

Each part of the description includes relevant explanatory notes.

Consent, management and enforcement process

The description of this process assigns tasks to the boroughs, the Environment and Building Inspection Department and the BMA for each of the seven procedures involved.

The procedures relating to applications for consent to alter, demolish or remove a State-listed or municipal listed historic building or structure are described in detail, with explanatory notes. Each description specifies which body is responsible for what. The procedures, which the various municipal departments must follow step by step, are as follows:

- ⋮ application for consent to alter, demolish or remove a State-listed historic building/monument
- ⋮ application for consent to alter, demolish or remove a municipal listed historic building/monument
- ⋮ implementation of consent to renovate and restore State-listed and municipal listed historic buildings
- ⋮ granting of permits to demolish or partly demolish structures in urban or village conservation areas
- ⋮ granting of building permits for unlisted structures in urban or village conservation areas
- ⋮ enforcement
- ⋮ adoption of a bye-law regulating consultation with a committee dealing with the care of historic buildings.

Programme of Quality Standards for Historic Buildings 2003 (Programma van Eisen Kwaliteit Monumenten 2003, PvEM 2003)

Alterations to listed historic buildings within Amsterdam are assessed for compliance with the Programme of Quality Standards for Historic Buildings 2003 (see annexe). The BMA is currently working on an updated version of the 2003 edition (the Programme of Quality Standards for Historic Buildings 2007). This is due to be adopted in the first quarter of 2009. It is intended to supplement the Central Borough's Programme of Quality Standards for Buildings 2007.

The 2007 version of the programme lays down guidelines for the preservation of technical and historical qualities of listed buildings during restoration. These are intended for use as a guide when developing and assessing plans and when carrying out renovation or restoration work. The guiding principles are 'preservation before renewal' and 'respect for architectural history'.

As regards 'respect for architectural history':

'The transformation process that a building undergoes in the course of time as a result of changes in its use or function is of great historical value. A historic building derives much of its value from its architectural history. Later alterations or additions may be of great importance because they reveal the building's architectural history. Reconstruction obscures this. Although efforts are made to create a true historical picture, historically valuable components from later periods are often destroyed in the process.'

- ⋮ Additions and alterations to historic buildings must be reversible. In principle, any changes must be additions that can be reversed without impairing the historic value of the building/site.
- ⋮ **New materials** must be compatible. Historical materials and construction methods may not always be compatible with those used today. The latter may cause physical or chemical reactions that damage the building. The techniques used may not cause mechanical, physical or chemical damage to the building.
- ⋮ Renovation using old materials is still renovation. Nevertheless, re-use of historical building materials is preferable.'

To sum up: additions and changes to the building must be reversible. New materials may not cause damage to the building. Re-use of materials from the previous building is preferable. The programme also includes 'construction standards', in some cases 'functional assessment or designation' and, where necessary, 'further explanation'.

One of the main principles of the programme is that:

'alterations to a historic building must on no account alter or damage the main load-bearing structure. Restoration of the existing structure is the guiding principle....' (paragraph 3, 'Structural components')

The programme states the following about façades (paragraph 4):

'Use of materials, masonry bonds, patina, texture, form and appearance of the pointing are essential parts of the historical value of a façade. Preservation of the existing façade is the guiding principle....'

One of the construction standards (paragraph 4) is as follows:

'If a historic building does not have a cavity wall, a cavity may not be created, even when replacing the façade.'

Stoops are a characteristic feature of Amsterdam dwellings, and the programme therefore states:

'Historic stoops may only be replaced with permission from the Amsterdam Historic Buildings and Archaeology Bureau. If they are in poor condition, the stone elements must be re-used. Elements may be replaced only if they are in demonstrably poor condition and cannot be restored.' (paragraph 4.5)

With regard to roofs, the programme states:

'The existing historic roofing must be preserved'. (paragraph 6)

Paragraph 5.1 states the following about wooden windows and doors:

'Existing wooden windows and doors must be preserved wherever possible.... Old, tried-and-tested bonding techniques must be used when repairing historic windows and doors. Adhesive bonding is not permitted....'

As regards old coats of paint, the programme states:

'Old coats of paint may not be completely removed, but must be painted over to allow for future colour testing, unless.... problems with damp are likely to arise.' (paragraph 5.3)

'Historic glazing must be preserved wherever possible.' (paragraph 5.4)

Regarding interiors, the programme states:

'historically valuable interiors must be preserved, and may not be adapted to new standards for use or current regulations'

and also:

'in principle, historic use of colour must be preserved. Coherence with other stylistic elements is important here....' (paragraph 8).

Regarding fire regulations, the programme states:

'To comply with fire regulations, solutions that do not damage historic components of the building must be sought in consultation with the Building and Housing Inspection Department, the fire service and BMA:

⚡ fireproofing measures must be reversible

∴ *historic doors may not be replaced by fireproof doors*. (paragraph 8.1)

The programme includes various provisions on insulation.

One of the 'Additional construction standards' (chapter 10) is as follows:

'Historical building materials that can no longer be used in the building must be offered for recycling by Monumentenwerf Amsterdam.'

Working relationship between building inspectors, the Central Borough and BMA advisors

The Central Borough supervises restoration and renovation work through inspectors, who may call in BMA advisors where appropriate.

In some cases, it is decided in advance that advice will be provided by the BMA. The BMA may also decide on its own initiative to provide advice on major restoration, renovation or re-use.

Land-use plans for the urban conservation area 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht'

Following State designation of Amsterdam within Singelgracht as an urban conservation area, the existing land-use plans for this part of Amsterdam had to be revised so that the degree of protection intended by the designation of the area would be ensured during its further spatial development.

One direct result of the designation of an urban conservation area is the obligation upon the municipality to adopt a land-use plan or land-use plans that will ensure protection of an urban or village conservation area (section 36, subsection 1 of the 1988 Monuments Act). The subsection in question states that the

'municipality shall adopt a land-use plan as referred to in the Spatial Planning Act in order to protect an urban or village conservation area.'

The procedures for drawing up and revising land-use plans are set out in the Spatial Planning Act (*Wet ruimtelijke ordening*).

A programme has been drawn up to revise the twenty-one land-use plans relating to the urban conservation area 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht' (Policy Document on the Updating of City centre Land-use Plans, Amsterdam Spatial Planning Department, 27 July 1995) (*Nota Vernieuwing Bestemmingsplannen Binnenstad*). The programme was launched around the end of 1995, the aim being to revise two land-use plans a year. Two of the last three plans (concerning Groot Waterloo and the Eastern Islands) are due to be adopted by the Central Borough executive in 2008. The last plan to be revised (2009) concerns Plantage/Kadijken. A start was made on digitalising the city centre land-use plans in 2008 (Central Borough programme budget for 2008).

The guiding principle in revising the land-use plans for Amsterdam within Singelgracht is that the city centre represents a set of functions that are dependent on and characterised by the morphological, functional and other differences between its component districts (the medieval heart of the city and the seventeenth-century urban expansion).

The land-use plans are based on a historical/morphological analysis and a spatial and functional inventory and analysis that will help determine the required urban planning principles for the next ten years. The consequence of this in terms of methods and programmes was that a description and an analysis of the developmental history of the urban planning area concerned was drawn up for each

revised land-use plan. These have been translated into the urban planning and building regulations set out in the plan concerned.

The plans have been revised according to a fixed pattern. The revised plans include regulations on the position and size of buildings, as well as a 'land-use plan map' (*bestemmingsplankaart*) (which, among other things, specifies maximum gutter and building heights), an 'evaluation map' (*waarderingskaart*) and, where appropriate, an 'urban planning map' (*stedenbouwkundige kaart*) (which identifies elements of relevance to the appearance of buildings, such as the height of the first storey, the width of the plot, basements and corner solutions). The ground floor, which includes the main entrance and stoop, if present, is referred to as the 'plinth'. The height of the plinth is of historical relevance to the appearance of the city. Plinths must be at least 3.50 metres high.

The 'evaluation map' provides a cultural/historical evaluation of all the buildings within the area covered by the land-use plan, which are divided into categories according to their importance for the appearance of the city. The purpose of these maps is to indicate which elements are of value to the appearance of the city and should therefore be preserved (see below).

Whenever a land-use plan is revised, the evaluation map (*Waarderingskaart beschermd stadsgezicht. Begrenzinger. Waarderingskaarten 1:1000 behorende bij de Beleidsnota Waarderingskaart Beschermd Stadsgezicht d.d. 21.01.2000. Dienst Binnenstad Amsterdam, 29 februari 2000*) (see annexe) for that part of the city is updated.

The 'urban planning map' indicates urban planning/architectural elements of relevance to the area covered by the land-use plan.

There are always two main objectives in the land-use plans for the areas within the *property*: 'Preservation of the characteristic appearance of the city (Objective A)' and 'Preservation of the dynamic character of the city centre' (Objective B)'. The first main objective of the land-use plans is therefore almost always the primary purpose referred to in the 'General descriptions':

'A. Urban conservation area

The land-use plan is intended to preserve, restore and/or enhance the characteristic appearance of the city. Details of this characteristic appearance are provided on the accompanying map of architectural categories [No.] ('evaluation map') and the urban planning map [No.].'

Urban planning maps

These maps lay down various urban planning principles. These choices may diverge from general building rules. For brevity's sake, reference is made to building regulations and powers of exemption

Dynamic character of the city centre

The other main objective of the land-use plans is almost always the second purpose referred to in 'General descriptions':

'B. Dynamic character of the city centre The land-use plan is intended to preserve and enhance the dynamic character of the city centre and to maintain a mix of functions. In order to preserve the mix of functions, policy is partly focused on maintaining and enhancing the city centre's role as a place of work.'

Objectives within the property

The objectives mentioned in the land-use plans for the nominated *property* are:

- ⌘ mixed objectives
- ⌘ societal objectives
- ⌘ protection of gardens and grounds (possibly including listed interior gardens)
- ⌘ protection of public space and waterways/canals

Clear, restrictive provisions (in some cases dozens of them) have been laid down for each of these objectives. The requirements for 'mixed objectives' and 'societal objectives' are largely parallel.

General provisions include the building regulations. These state that buildings, or structures that are not buildings, may be built only if certain provisions are complied with. The provisions, which are markedly restrictive and are designed to help maintain the characteristic appearance of the city, are as follows (sometimes reproduced in simplified form):

- a. The dimensions and rhythms, gables, detailing, choice of materials and colours of buildings must be compatible with the surroundings such that the characteristic appearance and spatial quality of the city are not disproportionately impaired.
- b. Buildings may only be erected in the building line.
- c. Buildings may be extended at the rear to a depth of no more than 2.50 metres, as measured from the existing rear façade of the least deep adjoining buildings, with the proviso that this regulation does not apply to corners of urban blocks.
- d. The height of the first storey must be at least 3.50 metres from its floor, and this height must be maintained for at least 5 metres from the front façade.
- e. Buildings must be at least 9 metres high [.....]
- f. Maximum building heights and maximum gutter heights are indicated on the planning maps.
- g. The top storey [this refers to special storeys and roofs] must be built up from the maximum gutter height [.....] at an angle of inclination of no more than 60 degrees, measured from the lateral façades or the front and rear façades [.....]
- h. Roof terraces are not permitted.
- i. Except in streets where most buildings diverge from this pattern, the façade must be clearly divided into three parts: a plinth, a mid-section and a gable, with emphasis on vertical positioning of windows and other gaps in the façade.
- j. It is not permitted to construct or alter the façade in order to sell things directly from it, or so as to create an open façade or the possibility of creating one.
- k. It is not permitted to construct or alter the façade so as to create closed plinths; storage areas may not be located on the side facing the street.
- l. Loggias are not permitted on the side facing the street.
- m. When buildings are renovated, restored, improved and/or altered [...], any direct access to the second and higher storeys, independent or otherwise, must be preserved.
- n. If consent has been given for a change to land-use plans that allows internal parking facilities to be created in the cellar or basement or on the first storey of a building, the access thereto may not be more than 3.50 metres wide, and the facilities may not be created in more than two adjoining buildings.

Other general provisions are regulations on urban planning elements and structures, as well as on structures that are not buildings. These are as follows (again sometimes reproduced in simplified form):

- o. With a number of explicitly identified exceptions, building plots may not be amalgamated.
- p. Where indicated as such on the map, access to corner buildings must be via the corner; bevelled corners must be preserved or created.
- q. In plots marked 'alley to be preserved', partitions between plots may only be built to a maximum

- building height of 4 metres or the height of the first storey of the adjoining buildings.
- r. The height of structures that are not buildings may not exceed 2 metres.

Gardens and grounds, and listed interior gardens

In most land-use plans, the purpose for which gardens and grounds are intended is as follows:

'Plots marked on the map as being zoned for gardens and grounds are designated as such, or as listed interior gardens (keurtuinen) in places marked as such on the map'.

The rules governing gardens and grounds and (sometimes separately) listed interior gardens vary slightly in the various land-use plans. Most land-use plans explicitly state that the gardens and grounds are intended to be protected via the 'urban conservation area' measure. However, such a clause is missing from the land-use plans for the western canal ring and the Jordaan district. The latter plan, which partly relates to the *property*, states:

'The purpose of the land-use plan is to improve the quality of interior grounds, to promote a mix of functions and to protect existing buildings.'

Some general rules also apply to gardens and grounds:

'Trees are protected by the municipal tree-felling bye-law. When assessing applications to fell trees, the municipal executive will strictly apply the criterion of the interests of protecting natural, landscape or urban beauty'.

Listed interior gardens (keurtuinen)

The 27 listed interior gardens (see annexe) were designated by bye-laws drawn up when the seventeenth-century canal ring was built, mainly to prevent unwanted building in the interior grounds of urban blocks. In such gardens, buildings and structures may only be erected in places already marked on the map as 'buildings to be preserved in the event of restoration/improvement.' Listed interior gardens are nearly always covered by the 'gardens and grounds' heading, but are shown on the maps as 'listed interior gardens'.

Existing garden houses (summerhouses) on plots marked 'listed interior garden' may be entirely renovated, unless this constitutes major reconstruction or new building under the 'general objectives'. The main purpose of this is to prevent the creation of parking or storage facilities. There are also provisions on the external appearance of garden houses (including a maximum height of 3.40 metres, a maximum depth of 4.25 metres and a maximum surface area of 20 square metres).

Existing buildings in interior grounds

Existing buildings in interior grounds are shown on the map as 'buildings to be preserved in the event of restoration/improvement.' Such buildings may be preserved and entirely renovated, but may not be extended.

Building regulations

The land-use plans may include building regulations that apply, for example, to existing stoops. In some cases there is a maximum permitted width for stoops (1.15 metres), but they may not normally be enlarged.

These regulations also apply to 'other structures' such as pavilions, balconies, bay windows, awnings, platforms, outdoor flights of steps and so on. Such structures, if present when the draft land-use plan was presented for public scrutiny, may be renovated, but not enlarged. Awnings on or over terraces

forming part of the building are not permitted.

Public green spaces

The purposes for which public green spaces are intended are as follows (the exact wording may vary):

'Plots shown on the maps as being zoned for public green spaces are designated for public gardens, parks and playgrounds, including the accompanying cycle paths and footpaths.'

On plots zoned as public green spaces, only structures that are not buildings and that serve the intended purpose of those spaces may be built.... The maximum permitted height ranges from 2 to approximately 4 metres.

Waterways and canals

The concentric and to some extent radial seventeenth-century canal ring, as well as the Amstel and the Burgwallen in the medieval heart of Amsterdam, are a distinctive feature of Amsterdam's historic urban structure and the visual impact of Amsterdam within Singelgracht.

The waterways and canals zoned as such on the maps are used for:

a. navigation and drainage

and include the following

b. locks

c. landing stages (only where the words 'landing stage permitted' appear on the maps)

d. berths for houseboats (only where indicated on the maps; the number of berths per zone may not be exceeded)

e. moorings for pleasure craft (only where indicated on the maps).

The following also appear, for example in the land-use plan for the Western Islands:

f. berths for commercial vessels

g. alternating locations for houseboats.

Exemptions may be granted for the construction of landing stages for water transport, but not within 10 metres of bridges marked 'Category I', 'Category II' or 'Category III' (see *Maps of architectural categories I-IV* below).

Permits for berths are granted or extended for periods of three years.

In September 2007, the municipal executive adopted 'navigation profiles' for the city's canals and other waterways, owing to their intensive use. The profile for a given canal indicates its width and the maximum width of passage for vessels using it.

Assessment criteria for granting exemptions as described in a land-use plan

Assessment criteria have been laid down for granting exemptions or making amendments, for example:

'1. Urban conservation area

The exercise of powers of exemption or amendment may not lead to disproportionate impairment of the characteristic appearance of the city and/or the spatial quality of the area covered by the land-use plan.'

Enforcement

In order to improve enforcement of land-use plans, the Spatial Planning Act requires municipalities to draw up an annual enforcement policy and to report annually to the municipal council on the implementation of spatial policy (including enforcement).

List of current land-use plans for the urban conservation area 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht'

A distinction must be made between land-use plans that cover parts of the urban conservation area 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht' itself and ones that cover areas extending beyond it. A distinction must also be made between land-use plans drawn up and adopted by the Central Borough (at least since 2002, the year in which the borough was created) and 'city land-use plans', which remain the responsibility of the municipality.

The following land-use plans apply to the *property*:

- ⌘ the Haarlemmerbuurt land-use plan (99)
- ⌘ the western canal ring land-use plan 2000 (96)
- ⌘ the Spuistraat area land-use plan (94)
- ⌘ the Jordaan land-use plan (85)
- ⌘ the Leidseplein and Weteringbuurt land-use plan 1998 (83)
- ⌘ the Rembrandtplein area land-use plan (84)
- ⌘ the Vijzelstraat-Amstel land-use plan (95)
- ⌘ the Weesperbuurt land-use plan (105).

The following land-use plans currently apply to the buffer zone round the *property*:

- ⌘ the Western Islands land-use plan (100)
- ⌘ the Haarlemmerbuurt land-use plan (99)
- ⌘ the Spuistraat area land-use plan (94)
- ⌘ the Nieuwendijk-Kalverstraat land-use plan (97)
- ⌘ the Burgwallen land-use plan (193)
- ⌘ the Nieuwmarkt land-use plan (101)
- ⌘ the Binnengasthuisterrein area land-use plan (98)

The following 'city' land-use plans apply within the 'buffer zone':

- ⌘ the North-South Metro Line land-use plan
- ⌘ the Stationseiland land-use plan (procedure not yet completed)
- ⌘ the Rokin multi-storey car park land-use plan
- ⌘ the Westzijde station square land-use plan
- ⌘ the Dutch Railways Technical Centre land-use plan
- ⌘ the Oosterdokseiland land-use plan.

The North-South Metro Line and the urban conservation area 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht' land-use plans

The second revised version of the North-South Metro Line land-use plan explicitly refers to the urban conservation area. It makes additions such as '*in the interests of preserving the urban conservation area, the municipal executive is empowered to lay down additional requirements or to take account of ...*' to the original articles 4, 5, 13 and 20.

Among other things, the explanatory notes to the land-use plan state:

'The conclusion at the time [i.e. in the explanatory notes to the North-South Metro Line land-use plan] was that the plan does not permit the building of structures that are not compatible with the urban conservation area. To make quite certain that the values of the urban conservation area will now be protected, this revised version (1) empowers the municipal executive to lay down additional requirements for the size and location of buildings, as referred to in section 15 of the Spatial Planning Act, and (2) subordinates relevant powers of exemption in the plan to the need to protect the urban conservation area.'

The document announcing the North Holland provincial executive's approval of the second revised version of the plan states:

'[The purpose ...] is to ensure that the sections of the route from Prins Hendrikkade to Dam and from Spui to Singelgracht that lie within the urban conservation area are protected as referred to in section 36, subsection 1 of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act 1988.'

Timetable for the revision of land-use plans for Amsterdam within Singelgracht

The first two land-use plans were for Leidseplein and the Weteringbuurt (1998) and the Rembrandtplein area. The western canal ring land-use plan, which covers the area bounded by Leidsegracht and Beulingracht [1 next page](#) to the south, Prinsengracht [2 next page](#) to the west, Brouwersgracht [3 next page](#) to the north and Singel [4 next page](#) to the east, dates from 2000.

Since land-use plans are legally valid for a period of ten years, the Central Borough is preparing to revise the land-use plans covering that area from 2010 onwards. The number of plans will be reduced to seven, covering:

- ⌘ the southern city centre (2010)
- ⌘ the western city centre (2011)
- ⌘ the Burgwallen (2012)
- ⌘ the Western Islands (2013)
- ⌘ the Nieuwmarkt/Groot Waterloo (2014)
- ⌘ the eastern city centre (2015)
- ⌘ the Eastern Islands (2016)

The Central Borough is digitalising its current land-use plans so that the public can consult them on-line (www.centrum.amsterdam.nl). Each plan consists of:

- ⌘ a land-use plan map
- ⌘ an urban planning map
- ⌘ an evaluation map
- ⌘ regulations
- ⌘ explanatory notes
- ⌘ a summary of progress of the procedure for drawing up and adopting the plan.

Besides the digital version, there is a printed edition of each land-use plan, which has legal force.

The Central Borough has opened a Building Information Desk where citizens and businesses can obtain information about land-use plans, permits/consent and authorised building. It is hoped that from 2009 onwards those who consult land-use plans on the internet will be able to call up the regulations applicable to individual addresses. As of 2008 it has been possible to zoom in on both the land-use plan map and the evaluation map and see how a particular building has been zoned and assigned to a category under the land-use plan.



Evaluation map for the urban conservation area 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht' (Waarderingskaart beschermd stadsgezicht 'Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht')

In 2000, the municipal council adopted an evaluation map for the urban conservation area (Maps of architectural categories I-IV) (see annexe).

The entire urban conservation area is shown on 133 evaluation maps (scale 1:1000), indicating the status of each building within it. The map is updated whenever a land-use plan within the area is revised.

The advantages of the evaluation map are that:

- ⌘ it encourages the maintenance of valuable frontages and so helps protect the appearance of the city;
- ⌘ it ensures that listed buildings are not considered in isolation from their surroundings;
- ⌘ buildings of importance to the appearance of the city or the historical urban planning structure can be listed as Category II buildings even if they do not qualify as listed buildings on architectural history grounds.

The Policy Document on the Evaluation Map for the Urban Conservation Area (2000) (*Beleidsnota Waarderingskaart Beschermd Stadsgezicht (2000)*) includes the additional requirements that planned new buildings must always be compatible with the characteristic appearance of the city and must meet requirements for the division of the façade. These requirements are as follows:

- ⌘ *Characteristic appearance of the city*: The dimensions and rhythms, façade termination, detailing, choice of materials and colours of buildings must be compatible with the surroundings such that the characteristic appearance and spatial quality of the city are not disproportionately impaired.
- ⌘ *Division of the façade*: Except in streets where most buildings diverge from this pattern, the façade must be clearly divided into three parts: a plinth, a mid-section and a gable, with emphasis on vertical positioning of windows and other gaps in the façade.

The Policy Document on the Evaluation Map for the Urban Conservation Area, adopted by the municipal council in April 2000, lays down the following rule on the urban conservation area:

- ⌘ buildings may not be demolished without a permit from the municipal executive;
- ⌘ protective land-use plans are compulsory;
- ⌘ as a rule, the characteristic appearance of the city must be preserved when buildings are replaced;
- ⌘ assessment of external appearance for Category II and Category III buildings;
- ⌘ additional standards for external appearance of new buildings to be laid down by the CWM;
- ⌘ this policy to be incorporated into existing and revised land-use plans for the city centre.

Evaluation maps

The evaluation maps include five evaluation features: the three categories (A1a-c), ensembles and series of buildings (A1d) and the urban conservation area (A1e).

Maps of architectural categories I-IV

In 1998, in connection with the designation of Amsterdam within Singelgracht as an urban conservation area, maps of architectural categories were drawn up for the whole of the historic city centre.

The maps were based on the 'characteristic appearance of the city', and buildings were assessed as part of the local urban planning structure. On 19 April 2000 (*Gemeentebld*, No. 262), the municipal council adopted the evaluation map, which showed all the listed buildings in the urban conservation area.

All buildings from before 1940 were evaluated and assessed in terms of their importance to the appearance of the city, and were divided into three categories according to the degree of coherence in urban planning terms of their canal, street and square frontages:

- ⋮ *Category I*: all State-listed and municipal listed buildings. These are protected under the 1988 Monuments Act, the Central Borough Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law 2005 and the Amsterdam Monuments and Historic Buildings Bye-Law 2005 respectively.
- ⋮ *Category II*: buildings from before 1940 that are not listed buildings but are of great urban planning/architectural importance to the appearance of the city, whose preservation is a matter of priority. Demolition is only permitted in exceptional cases. During renovation, the emphasis is on a restorative approach to the front façade and the roof. In exceptional cases a building in this category may be increased in height (if this does not disrupt the composition of the front façade and the building remains compatible with others in the street).
- ⋮ *Category III*: buildings from before 1940 that are of no immediate importance to the appearance of the city and may be replaced if certain urban planning conditions are met (the guiding principle is preservation and restoration of the original façade elements).

There is a separate *Category IV* for buildings that should be replaced.

Ensembles and series of buildings are groups of buildings that were built at the same time in the past. Such groups may create the impression, architecturally speaking, that the individual buildings together form a larger structure. This is referred to as an ensemble. Series of buildings are a row of identical adjoining buildings. The coherence of ensembles and series of buildings may not be disrupted.

The ensembles and series of buildings category (A1d) was not included in the first land-use plans that are due for revision.

'The guiding principle with regard to ensembles on the evaluation maps is that all the buildings should be treated identically. This means that planning permission will not normally be granted for the total or partial demolition of a single building that is part of an ensemble. In the case of series of buildings, the municipal executive may grant planning permission for total or partial demolition, provided that the unity of the row of buildings is not disproportionately impaired....'

Planning permission

The planning permission system includes the following provisions:

- ⋮ *'buildings designated on the evaluation maps as 'Category II' and 'Category III' buildings may not be totally or partially demolished without, or in contravention of, written planning permission';*
- ⋮ *'such permission will be granted only if the characteristic appearance of the city is not disproportionately impaired'.*

The Central Borough's guideline is that the BMA can carry out a brief survey at the start of the application procedure for the demolition or replacement of a Category II building. This may lead the borough to designate the building as a municipal listed building by means of the appropriate emergency procedure. In that case, listed building consent will be required.

Bridges have traditionally been important features of Amsterdam's city centre. These often historic structures are also divided into three categories:

- ⋮ *Category I* bridges, which are listed structures;
- ⋮ *Category II* bridges, which still largely consist of authentic elements;
- ⋮ *Category III* bridges: other bridges.

*Guidelines for the demolition/reconstruction of Category II buildings
(Richtlijnen voor sloop/herbouw van 'Orde-II'panden)*

In 2005, the Central Borough executive adopted guidelines for the demolition/reconstruction of Category II buildings (see annexe). In the city centre there are about twenty such buildings which will have to be demolished because of their structural condition. To preserve the appearance of the city, the façades facing the street and the roofs must be rebuilt in their former condition wherever possible, using materials and façade elements from the existing building. This will be specified in a demolition permit issued to the owner.

PLABERUM system (PLABERUM-systeem (Plan- en Besluitvormingsproces Ruimtelijke Maatregelen))

The municipality and the boroughs make use of the PLABERUM (Dutch acronym for 'planning and decision-making process for spatial planning measures') system, which is carried out in phases (see annexe). Each of the four phases ends with an administrative decision

1. the strategy phase, including an exploratory study, a risk analysis, a development strategy and a decision as to whether the project can be carried out;
2. the study phase;
3. the planning and design phase, in which the urban development plan is drawn up;
4. the execution phase.

Each phase includes a description of:

- ⌘ the goal
- ⌘ the administrative decision-making process
- ⌘ the planning process.

At each stage the municipality or the borough examines what must be done in order for the legal spatial planning procedures to be completed correctly and on time.

Handbook on the Design of Public Space (2000) (Handboek Openbare Ruimte (2000))

A Handbook on the Design of Public Space (2000, *Gemeentebld* No. 472, see annexe) has been drawn up for the urban conservation area 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht'. It contains guidelines for the design of the various types of public space, as well as a strategy for the use and design of waterways in the city centre.

Standard Canal Profile

The policy document *Een pracht van een gracht*, published in 1997 and adopted in 1998, states the following about the city's canals:

'Spatial unity of the canals

Together, the canals are a key element in the appearance of the city centre. To safeguard their spatial unity, a Standard Canal Profile was drawn up in 1980. Owing to changes in attitude and policy, this profile no longer meets present-day requirements. A new one has therefore been drawn up. This New Standard Canal Profile contains draft guidelines designed to create a clean, attractive spatial environment around the canals. This policy document describes and displays its main features.'

One of the guiding principles is the use of sustainable paving materials:

'The decision to use sustainable paving materials along the canals should be seen as a revival of the tradition of using

natural materials such as cobbles and bricks for paving purposes. In the current profile, reddish-brown clinker bricks, which are in keeping with the brickwork of many canalside houses and also the retaining walls of the canals, are still used (or re-used) for parking lanes along the canals. It therefore makes sense to use them for roadways and footpaths under the New Standard Canal Profile....

It makes equal sense to use stone for kerbs (28-30 centimetres wide) and capstones on retaining walls. Wherever this natural material was used in the original profiles, it was often replaced by cheaper concrete in the 1960s and 1970s.

Obviously, natural paving materials are more expensive than concrete. A clinker brick paving stone costs two-and-a-half times as much as a concrete one, and the total cost of redesign using brick rather than concrete is 25% higher. If stone is simultaneously used for kerbs, the cost is 50% higher, and if it is used for capstones as well the figure rises to 100%. However, natural materials are far more durable than concrete. By the time of the first major maintenance operation (after 10-15 years), concrete paving is more or less worn out and unfit for re-use, whereas brick paving is only just starting to come into its own.'

The Handbook on the Design of Public Space states the following about the profile:

'When canals (main canals, narrow canals and edges of filled-in canals) are replaced, they are designed in accordance with the Standard Canal Profile. This assumes a regular, continuous appearance and preservation of viable trees.... and continuous stone kerbs between the pavement and the roadway (which are both made of clinker bricks). Pothuizen¹ are edged with a narrow (15-centimetre) stone kerb....' (Handbook, A.1.0.1).

Guidelines on advertisements in public space in Amsterdam's city centre

The Central Borough's 2006 Policy Document on External Appearance includes guidelines on façade advertisements (*Richtlijnen Gevelreclame*). Advertisements must be subordinated to the architecture of the building, must be reversible and may not impair the structure of the building. Advertisements along the seventeenth-century canal ring may not be illuminated (p. 92).

In 2008, the Central Borough produced a Policy Document on Draft Policy Rules for Façade Advertisements (*Nota Conceptbeleidsregels Gevelreclame*), regulating the display of advertisements so that they are compatible with the historical appearance of the city and do not clash with historic buildings. The document is also intended to ensure that the display of façade advertisements is more in keeping with the urban conservation area 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht'. The Policy Rules for Façade Advertisements will be submitted to the Central Borough executive for approval in November 2008. See also 4.b.(ii), Environmental pressures.

City centre hotel policy 2008-2011

Under the city centre hotel policy 2008-2011, hotel projects must be assessed as follows:

- ⌘ Hotel projects must be assessed for compliance with the following planning and urban development criteria:
- ⌘ mix of functions;
- ⌘ quality: design that takes specific account of the features of the building and its surroundings, such as:
- ⌘ improvement of the structural condition of the building;
- ⌘ restoration and display of the original elements and structure of the building;
- ⌘ improvement of the quality of the building in relation to its surroundings (e.g. appearance of the

¹ *Semi-underground basement extensions, 'cellarshops'.*

- street, improved public access, discouragement of unwanted functions, greater safety);
- ⌘ no excessive generation of traffic;
- ⌘ Plot boundaries and architectural quality in keeping with the appearance of the urban conservation area, the guiding principles being preservation and enhancement of the historical spatial structure and historically valuable buildings:
- ⌘ vertical division: division of façade in keeping with the appearance of the city;
- ⌘ horizontal division: in keeping with plot boundaries in the surrounding area;
- ⌘ restoration of plot boundaries: must result in restoration of original/historical plot boundaries and structure.
- ⌘ Large-scale development is only acceptable in large buildings.

Central Borough Trees Bye-Law/Trees in Amsterdam within Singelgracht

Various rules apply to the approximately 9,100 trees in the public space of Amsterdam's city centre. A tree may not be felled or moved without a permit (Tree-Felling Bye-Law, 1964) (*Kapverordening, 1964*). Views expressed by those with a particular interest in the matter are also taken into account when granting such permits.

Tree-felling permits are granted on condition that a new tree is planted within a given period of time, if at all possible. If this is no longer possible, the costs of a similar tree and the costs of replanting must be paid into a replanting fund.

In areas for which the municipality is responsible, there is a register of listed trees. Such trees may not be felled. The Central Borough has a register of listed trees in public spaces (Summary of Data from 2008 Inventory of Listed Trees (*Overzicht gegevens uit inventarisatie 2008 Monumentale bomen*)).

There is a more stringent procedure for permits to fell particularly valuable trees, as well as trees in the 27 interior gardens listed under a 1615 bye-law. Such permits may be subject to conditions such as the duty to replant.

The Borough's Green Action Plan (*Groenactieplan stadsdeel Amsterdam-Centrum 20 december 2005*), dated 20 December 2005, was adopted in early 2006, following a 2003 survey of the quality of trees and green spaces in the city centre. One result of this has been the Listed Trees Project. Both the aesthetic function and the social/psychological significance of trees and green space in the city centre are deemed important. A following step was the Multi-Year Green Programme, including a Green Fund into which the borough pays €160,000 a year.

In 2008, the municipal council adopted the Trees Bye-Law (*Bomenverordening*), which applies to the areas of Amsterdam within Singelgracht for which the municipality is responsible. The boroughs will use this as the basis for their own bye-laws on the subject. The Central Borough will draw up such a bye-law in 2009, and will publish a Tree Policy Plan early in the same year.

A particular feature of the urban landscape is the spontaneous recent practice of planting shrubs, plants and flowers on a narrow strip of pavement outside one's house ('pavement gardens'). The municipality has drawn up a number of rules for this; for example, at least 1.50 metres of pavement width must be left clear for pedestrians, and the gardens may not be more than 30 centimetres deep, as measured from the façade.

5d Existing plans related to municipality and region in which the proposed property is located

See 5.b. 1-2 and 5.c. 1-4

5.e Property management plan or other management system

Although the maintenance of World Heritage Sites in the Netherlands is guaranteed by legislation, a December 2001 letter concerning policy on World Heritage Sites in the Netherlands from the then State Secretary for Culture and the Media, Dr Rick van der Ploeg, informed the House of Representatives of the States General that an 'area document' (*Gebiedsdocument*) must be drawn up for each site already on the World Heritage List. In that document, site partners and those directly responsible for the site (*property*) would reach agreements designed 'to clarify governmental responsibilities' on matters including:

- ⋮ specific responsibilities of the various authorities for the maintenance of each separate World Heritage Site, and in particular responsibility for sustainable maintenance after the site has been inscribed on the List;
- ⋮ increased public awareness and support through knowledge transfer, information and education;
- ⋮ site management guidelines to preserve essential values;
- ⋮ input and roles of the various public and private partners;
- ⋮ a programme of measures and projects to preserve and develop the site and its constituent parts;
- ⋮ exploration of ways to achieve a sustainable long-term perspective.

The letter also stated that, whenever the Netherlands nominates new sites for inclusion on the World Heritage List, an area document must be drawn up in advance by those directly responsible (the authorities and site partners).

In addition, the State Secretary indicated that any nomination must be discussed first by the Government, which must give its consent before the nomination is submitted to the UNESCO World Heritage Committee by the Minister of Education, Culture and Science in his or her capacity as coordinating minister for World Heritage Sites.

In 2007, the area document entitled *De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht* (The seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht), commissioned by the municipality of Amsterdam, was drawn up in cooperation with the Central Borough, the municipal Historic Monuments and Archaeology Bureau (BMA) and the World Heritage coordinator at the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM), responsible for preparing and drawing up the nomination.

In June 2007 the area document was adopted by the Central Borough executive and the Amsterdam municipal executive. In November 2007 they submitted the document to the Minister of Education, Culture and Science for his approval. In an accompanying letter, Amsterdam informed the minister that the document

'describes which relevant legislation and policy and which tasks and powers affect the maintenance of the outstanding universal values that should lead to inclusion on the World Heritage List.'

The 106-page document is attached. It is part of *De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht: managementplan voor de nominatie als Werelderfgoed* (The seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht: management plan for nomination as a World Heritage Site), commissioned in 2008 by the municipality and the Central Borough and jointly adopted by the municipal executive and the Central Borough executive on 9 September 2008 (see annexe).

The management plan was drawn up in accordance with paragraphs 108-113, 117 and 118 of the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* (WHC. 08/01 January 2008).

The area document contains five chapters and seven annexes. Chapter 1 provides a brief description of the seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht ('the *property*'). Chapter 2 examines the division of tasks, powers and responsibilities relating to the *property*. Chapter 3 deals with the management, conservation and maintenance of the *property*. Chapter 4 describes the legal framework and structure of land-use plans for the urban conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', indicating what land-use plans there are for the site, and what they imply for the *property*, the buffer zone and 'city land-use plans'. Chapter 5, entitled 'The Central Borough and the day-to-day situation', deals with the following topics: land policy and ground rent; housing; public space; the environment and building inspection; water management, sewers and port policy; traffic, transport and infrastructure; culture, art and recreation; tourism; and policies of public-law bodies operating in the borough.

When adopting the management plan in 2008, the municipality of Amsterdam stated that it wished 'to maintain the balance between the past and the future by:

- ⌘ *protecting outstanding universal values and fitting them into contemporary dynamic developments in the city;*
- ⌘ *using legal, policy and financial resources to ensure that their originality and integrity are maintained;*
- ⌘ *improving communication and cooperation between the various partners and stakeholder organisations at local, national and international level, in order to propagate community support and the joint strategy for maintenance of the canal ring area as a World Heritage Site and thereby help increase public awareness as a precondition for this;*
- ⌘ *communicating the policy that needs to be pursued in order to maintain this heritage site and the action that needs to be taken in order to seize opportunities and turn threats (such as uncontrolled developments and inappropriate structures) into challenges;*
- ⌘ *propagating the notion that the outstanding values and the global, timeless significance of the canal ring area helps maintain the unique nature and appeal of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht;*
- ⌘ *monitoring developments and changes in and around the canal ring area, and periodically evaluating and updating the management plan.'*

The management plan indicates how Amsterdam (the municipality and Central Borough) will manage and maintain the historically multi-tiered urban landscape constituted by the *property* and the buffer zone (*Operational Guidelines*, paragraphs 96-118).

In this connection, the plan:

- ⌘ sets out a common strategy for the heritage area that is endorsed by the various shareholders: the municipality of Amsterdam, the Central Borough and the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Authority;

- ⌘ includes a planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and feedback cycle;
- ⌘ describes how the *site holder* (the Central Borough), the *shareholders* and the *stakeholders* are involved;
- ⌘ allocates the necessary administrative, legal and financial resources;
- ⌘ provides a reliable, transparent description of how the management system works (*Operational Guidelines*, paragraphs 111-112).

The parties directly responsible for maintaining and managing the property as a World Heritage Site are:

- ⌘ the Central Borough executive (the *site holder*);
- ⌘ the Amsterdam municipal executive.

These parties adopted the management plan on 9 September 2008 and are responsible for carrying out the agreements, the Schedule (*Tijdschema*) and the Action Plan (*Actieplan*) set out in it and for the policies and procedures set out in its various chapters.

The governmental shareholders are responsible for policy to protect and maintain the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the World Heritage Site and the function of the surrounding buffer zone. They are aware of the obligations and responsibilities arising from the ratification of international treaties, resolutions and charters on the protection of the world's cultural and natural heritage. In the proposed Canal Ring World Heritage Site Steering Group (*Stuurgroep Werelderfgoed 'Grachtengordel'*) they will determine how these obligations and responsibilities can best be assumed in respect of the property, and how to adapt their own policies so as to ensure optimum protection and maintenance of the site. Together they will ensure implementation of the management plan and the annual action plans arising from it. Paragraph 4.4.5 of the management plan states the following about the Steering Group:

'4.4.5 World Heritage Ring of Canals steering Committee

The property manager sets up an Amsterdam World Heritage Ring of Canals steering committee to be composed of the managers representing the site partners who bear a direct responsibility for conserving the property.

Parties with a seat are:

- ⌘ Central Amsterdam District – chairman of the (Executive) Committee
- ⌘ City of Amsterdam – alderman for built heritage
- ⌘ Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board – chairman of the water board council
- ⌘ Province of North Holland – Executive Metropolitan Region

The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science will be requested to appoint a consultant to advise the World Heritage Ring of Canals steering committee on the direct impact of the obligations borne by the member state in the context of the World Heritage site.

The World Heritage steering committee approves the action plans of the World Heritage Office and facilitates and supports implementation thereof'.

The public service *shareholders* (departments of the relevant government bodies, in their capacity as policy implementers) are responsible for optimum implementation of policy to protect and maintain the outstanding universal value of the World Heritage Site.

The proposed *Amsterdam World Heritage Office* will inform the implementing organisations about the contents of the management plan and will communicate with the official shareholders on the implementation of action plans,

'The Amsterdam World Heritage Office holds responsibility for coordinating the implementation of the management plan. The implementation of the management plan will take place within all relevant levels, departments and sectors of Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam, and, where relevant, the other responsible authorities and the most important stakeholders'. (Management Plan, paragraph 3.3.3)

The public service shareholders will regularly inform the Amsterdam World Heritage Office about developments within the property and policy developments (including within the buffer zone), that may directly or indirectly affect the property.

On request or on its own initiative, the Amsterdam World Heritage Office will provide the governmental shareholders with all information relating to UNESCO World Heritage and of relevance for optimum policy to protect the site.

'4.2.2 Central Amsterdam's responsibilities as property manager

Central Amsterdam has primary responsibility for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal' as a World Heritage Site that falls entirely within both the district boundaries and, furthermore, within the state-designated conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'. For these reasons, Central Amsterdam District is the siteholder, as defined in the Operational Guidelines.

The property manager is required to follow the guidelines for protection and management of the property described in the Operational Guidelines (Sections 96-112).

The property manager is responsible for the management of the property and for preservation of its outstanding universal value and the conditions for authenticity and integrity. The property manager should take all measures required to ensure that the property and its surrounding buffer zone will preserve the significance as established by the World Heritage Committee. The property manager is responsible for the implementation of an effective management plan that should safeguard these conditions in practice. As property manager, Central Amsterdam is responsible for the allocation of staffing and financial resources for the proper implementation of the management plan – in which context, Central Amsterdam District shall receive staffing and financial support from the City of Amsterdam'

'2.3.2 Management and action plan

As property manager, the Central Amsterdam District is responsible for monitoring, assessing and where necessary revising and improving management policy and the administrative measures for the protection of the relevant qualities of the property, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', and the surrounding buffer zone within the Singelgracht canal. To this end the property manager will annually assess the state of affairs within the property and the effectiveness of management and measures taken. Where necessary the property manager will revise the management plan based on its findings' (Managementplan, 2.3.2, p.45).

'2.3.3 The Management Plan's term of validity

Until autumn 2009, the property manager will systematically assess the operation of the plan, revise it where necessary, and report to the World Heritage Committee through the agency of the ministry responsible for coordinating World Heritage, the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science' (Managementplan, 2.3.3., p.45).

'Key point 6:

The parties in charge of determining and introducing the management plan take responsibility for ensuring a support base and the efforts of managers, administrative management, stakeholders and jointly responsible authorities to determine, introduce and implement the management plan and for monitoring, developing and launching annual action plans to ensure the cultural and historic, as set out in the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Committee, of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', are assured in the future' (Managementplan, 4.4.2, p. 115).

'As property manager, Central Amsterdam is responsible for the allocation of staffing and financial resources for the proper implementation of the management plan – in which context, Central Amsterdam District shall receive staffing and financial support from the City of Amsterdam (Managementplan, 4.2.2, p. 91)

The site holder will follow the guidelines for protection and management of the property as set out in the *Operational Guidelines* (paragraphs 96-100, 103-105 and 107).

The property manager is responsible for the management of the property and for preservation of its outstanding universal value and the conditions for authenticity and integrity. The property manager should take all measures required to ensure that the property and its surrounding buffer zone will preserve the significance as established by the World Heritage Committee.

The property manager is responsible for the implementation of an effective management plan that should safeguard these conditions in practice.

The management plan is a 'guideline for the conservation and management of the property and the buffer zone.'

'The management plan describes how the responsible parties are committed to the international UNESCO treaty and the applicable international ICOMOS resolutions and charters concerning the conservation of historic buildings and other cultural heritage. The plan takes these documents as its point of departure, and they determine the course of future developments within the property'. (Management Plan, Summary, p. 24)

As the site holder, the Central Borough will be responsible for

'As property manager, the Central Amsterdam District is responsible for monitoring, assessing and where necessary revising and improving management policy and the administrative measures for the protection of the relevant qualities of the property, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', and the surrounding buffer zone within the Singelgracht canal'. (Management Plan, paragraph 2.3.2, p. 45).

The management plan includes three covenants (*convenanten*), Declarations of Intent and a Declaration of Approval (Province North-Holland).

One of the covenants specifies the division of the site holder's responsibilities, tasks and powers between the municipality of Amsterdam and the Central Borough (see annexe *Convenant tussen het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam en het stadsdeel Centrum over het beschermen en in stand houden van 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO*).

The second covenant sets out the joint strategy and agreements on protection and management adopted by the shareholders (the Central Borough, the municipality and the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Authority) (see annexe *Convenant tussen het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam, stadsdeel*

Centrum en het Hoogheemraadschap Amstel, Gooi en Vecht over het beschermen en in stand houden van 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO).

The Declaration of Intent (see annexe 'Intentieverklaring in het kader van de nominatie van de Amsterdamse grachtengordel voor de Lijst van het Werelderfgoed van UNESCO', met 'Verklaring inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17e eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig erfgoed van UNESCO, dd. 16 oktober 2008) concerns a number of institutions that are directly involved in the *property* and the buffer zone as stakeholders. Among other things, the declaration acknowledges their joint responsibility for protecting and maintaining the *property* as a UNESCO World Heritage Site (see appendixes).

A distinction is made here between 'primary' and 'secondary' stakeholders, depending on the importance of the property to the stakeholder concerned. 'Primary' stakeholders are directly involved in the *property* and the surrounding buffer zone. They have interests in or near the area and may accordingly bring influence to bear upon it. 'Secondary' stakeholders have no direct interests in or near the area, but do have a stake in its values,

'Stakeholders

Stakeholders are both directly and indirectly involved in the World Heritage site. The degree of involvement varies with the importance of the site for the stakeholders. For this reason in communications we distinguish between primary stakeholders and secondary stakeholders.

The primary stakeholders are directly involved in this site, the ring of canals and the surrounding buffer zone. They are involved or have interests in the site and can exert influence in the site because of their involvement. Secondary stakeholders have no direct involvement or interests in the site but do have interests with respect to the site's values. ∴ Primary stakeholders are affected parties with respect to the property. They include residents, residents' organisations, businesses, tourism organisations, interest groups and heritage institutions. Secondary stakeholders are parties who are indirectly affected. They include residents, companies and institutions in Amsterdam outside Central Amsterdam, schools and other educational institutions and the media' (Managementplan, 6.1.5, p. 272, 273).

Concept plan for the management of the ring of canals

The property manager, responsible authorities and stakeholders involved in the ring of canals consider it their shared responsibility and task to ensure the enduring protection and conservation of the outstanding universal value, authenticity and intact planning structure of the ring of canals (Management Plan, paragraph 3.1.2, p.51).

'The first management plan's term of validity is five years, from the date of its adoption by the Central Amsterdam District's Executive Committee and the City of Amsterdam's College of Mayor and Aldermen (Municipal Executive). Until autumn 2009, the property manager will systematically assess the operation of the plan, revise it where necessary, and report to the World Heritage Committee through the agency of the ministry responsible for coordinating World Heritage, the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science'. (Management Plan, paragraph 2.3.3, p. 45) (see above).

A number of municipal departments and sectors of the Central Borough are directly involved in the *property* and the buffer zone. In the case of the municipality, these include:

- ∴ the Environment and Building Inspection Department (*Dienst Milieu en Bouwtoezicht*)
- ∴ the Spatial Planning Department (*Dienst Ruimtelijke Ordening*)

- ⌘ the Research and Statistics Department (*Dienst Onderzoek en Statistiek*)
- ⌘ the Waterways Management Department (*Dienst Binnenwaterbeheer*)
- ⌘ the Social Development Department (*Dienst Maatschappelijke Ontwikkeling*)

In the case of the Central Borough, they include:

- ⌘ Building and Housing (*Bouwen en Wonen*)
- ⌘ Public, Welfare and Economy (*Publiek, Welzijn en Economie*)
- ⌘ Public Space (*Openbare Ruimte*).

The management plan is divided into:

- ⌘ Chapter 1, Property
- ⌘ Chapter 2, Legislation, Regulations and Declarations
- ⌘ Chapter 3, Vision, Objective and Task
- ⌘ Chapter 4, Organisations
- ⌘ Chapter 5, Built Heritage Conservation Policy and Agreements Regarding the Management, Preservation and Maintenance of the site
- ⌘ Chapter 6, Information and Communication
- ⌘ Chapter 7, Finance-related agreements
- ⌘ Chapter 8, Monitoring
- ⌘ Chapter 9, Management Plan Procedure

The management plan includes a Schedule ('Tijdschema') and an Action Plan ('Actieplan'). The schedule is also meant to serve as a model for the annual action plans to be drawn up by the Amsterdam World Heritage Office. The Amsterdam World Heritage Office is responsible for,

'The property manager sets up a World Heritage Office, tailored to the implementation of the management plan and the drafting and implementation of the annual action plans. This requires an implementation-driven approach. Key issues must be put into practice. An action plan will be compiled and implemented to this end. Annual action plans must also be drafted, coordinated, implemented and monitored. All in all, this demands pioneering efforts on the part of the office: the ability to open doors, work in conjunction with the many stakeholders, motivate parties and maintain contact with the press.

a. Tasks of the World Heritage Office

- ⌘ *Execute management plan and action plans*

The principal task of the Amsterdam World Heritage Office is to execute the management plan and the accompanying key issues. Its responsibility therefore is to draw up an action plan and to ensure its implementation. In addition, the World Heritage Office compiles annual action plans and sees to their implementation. The Office monitors the cohesion and progress of the actions in the action plan and will set up a monitoring system to measure the results (see Chapter 8), in compliance with the guidelines for monitoring in the Operational Guidelines.

- ⌘ *Maintaining contact with stakeholders and jointly responsible authorities.*

The World Heritage Office maintains contact with the Central Amsterdam District for the implementation of the management plan and with the sectors of the Central Amsterdam District, the municipal services of the City of Amsterdam and the other jointly responsible authorities and stakeholders for the annual action plans, as the support for and the endeavours of these parties, who are involved and have an interest in the World Heritage site, are of key importance for the effective implementation of the management plan and the annual action plans.

- ⌘ *Coordination point municipal services*

The World Heritage Office acts as coordination point between municipal (district; / City of Amsterdam) services and institutes that are directly involved in and/or responsible for upholding the

Outstanding Universal Value of the '17th-century ring of canals' as a World Heritage site.

⌘ *Website*

The World Heritage Office is responsible for content with respect to the property on the Amsterdam website and posts up-to-date information and monitoring data for the purpose of informing the jointly responsible authorities and stakeholders.

⌘ *Representation in The Netherlands World Heritage Foundation (Stichting Werelderfgoed Nederland)*

The World Heritage Office represents the World Heritage site in the National Office of the Netherlands World Heritage Site Foundation (in which the chairman of the (executive) committee of the Central Amsterdam District has an administrative seat). (*Management Plan*, paragraph 4.4.4, p. 116).

'The property manager appoints a World Heritage Office coordinator who is responsible for the coordination of the Action Plan, for the introduction of the management plan and the development and implementation of the annual action plans and for drafting and coordinating the accompanying timetables' (*Managementplan*, paragraph 4.4.4., p. 117).

'The property manager gives shape to the separate organisation under which the planned implementation will be incorporated, which will set to work prior to the submission of the nomination. This allows the World Heritage Office to acquire timely knowledge and experience, ensuring it will play an important role in the evaluation *in situ* of the nomination to be carried out by ICOMOS (an NGO). This evaluation is aimed in particular at examining whether the conservation of the property is assured in the future by means of rules and regulations, through public participation and by an effective management plan and its implementation'. (*Management Plan*, paragraph 4.4.4.b, p. 116, 117).

'The principal task of the Amsterdam World Heritage Office is to execute the management plan and the accompanying key issues. Its responsibility therefore is to draw up an action plan and to ensure its implementation. In addition, the World Heritage Office compiles annual action plans and sees to their implementation. The Office monitors the cohesion and progress of the actions in the action plan and will set up a monitoring system to measure the results (see Chapter 8), in compliance with the guidelines for monitoring in the Operational Guidelines'. (*Managementplan*, paragraph 4.4.4, p. 116).

Canal Ring World Heritage Site Steering Group

The property manager sets up an Amsterdam World Heritage Ring of Canals steering committee to be composed of the managers representing the site partners who bear a direct responsibility for conserving the property.

Parties with a seat are:

⌘ Central Amsterdam District – chairman of the (Executive) Committee

⌘ City of Amsterdam – alderman for built heritage

⌘ Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board– chairman of the water board council

⌘ Province of North Holland – Executive Metropolitan Region

The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science will be requested to appoint a consultant to advise the World Heritage Ring of Canals steering committee on the direct impact of the obligations borne by the member state in the context of the World Heritage site.

The World Heritage steering committee approves the action plans of the World Heritage Office and facilitates and supports implementation thereof'. (*Managementplan*, paragraph 4.4.5, p. 117)

Canal Ring World Heritage Site Stakeholders' Platform

The site holder will likewise (*Management Plan*, paragraph 4.4.3, p. 115), again with an independent chair: 'Under the auspices of the property manager, the managers and chairmen of the most important

stakeholder organisations (see paragraph 4.3 for an overview and description of the stakeholders) form a platform representing public support for the introduction of the management plan and the annual action plans. The Platform meets annually for this purpose. The results of monitoring activities are discussed with this Platform, prior to compiling the plans for the coming year. Stakeholders will find up to date information on the World Heritage site at the website of the World Heritage site 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals.

Key point 7:

An independent party will be requested to chair the World Heritage Ring of Canals Stakeholders' Platform'.

5.f Sources and levels of finance

∴ *Funding to preserve built heritage sites protected by the state*

Article 34.1 of the Monuments Act 1988 (*Monumentenwet 1988*) provides that state funding can only be granted to preserve built heritage sites protected by the state.

Such funding is provided under the BRIM Decree (*State Funding for the Preservation of Historic Buildings and Monuments*) (*Besluit rijkssubsidiëring instandhouding monumenten, BRIM*), which came into effect in 2006. Two older decrees still apply until 2011 as transitional measures: the BRRM Decree (*State Funding for the Restoration of Historic Buildings and Monuments 1997*) (*Besluit Rijkssubsidiëring Restauratie Monumenten 1997, BRRM*) and the BROM Decree (*State Funding for the Maintenance of Historic Buildings and Monuments 1998*) (*Besluit Rijkssubsidiëring Onderhoud Monumenten, BROM0*).

Amendment to the Monuments Act 1988 in connection with the BRIM Decree

An amendment to the Monuments Act 1988 (22 December 2005) has shifted responsibility for granting funding to preserve built heritage sites protected by the state to the Minister of Education, Culture and Science (OCW).

Art. 34.1 of the 1988 Act reads:

Our minister may grant funding for the preservation of protected monuments and historic buildings. Preservation is defined here as maintenance work carried out on a protected monument or historic building as well as any work exceeding normal maintenance and deemed necessary to restore the protected monument or historic building.

BRIM Decree (State Funding for the Preservation of Historic Buildings and Monuments)
(*Besluit rijkssubsidiëring instandhouding monumenten, BRIM*)

Since 1 February 2006, it has been possible to invoke the BRIM Decree (*State Funding for the Preservation of Historic Buildings and Monuments*) for built heritage sites protected under the Monuments Act 1988 (with the exception of archaeological heritage sites and municipal or provincial built heritage sites) (see appendix) in order to cover the cost of maintenance or work exceeding normal maintenance and deemed necessary to restore the protected monument or historic building. The basic principle is that structurally sound built heritage sites should be maintained in that condition by means of systematic (preventive and ongoing) preservation.

The National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (*Rijksdienst voor Archeologie, Cultuurlandschap en Monumenten, RACM*) and the National Restoration Fund (*Nationaal*

Restauratiefonds) are responsible for implementing the Decree.

The Decree recognises five built heritage categories:

- ⌘ private residences and farms that do not have an agricultural function;
- ⌘ ecclesiastical buildings;
- ⌘ castles, country estates and country houses;
- ⌘ mills and pumping stations;
- ⌘ other protected built heritage (not archaeological).

The category is determined by the original function of the monument or building. Buildings may also be categorised as private residences even if they were not built for that purpose but are now used primarily as such. Historic buildings, both residences and shops, are regarded as private residences under this scheme.

Unlike customary private residences, ecclesiastical buildings, castles, country estates or country houses, and any historic buildings that had a charitable function or former pumping stations that now have a residential function may continue to apply for this funding option owing to their scale and, in many cases, their complexity.

Whether an owner can apply under the National Restoration Fund (see below) for a low-interest loan (Restoration Fund mortgage), or for state funding to defray the cost of preservation depends on the category of state-protected monument or building.

The private owners of private residences protected by the state are eligible for a low-interest loan that can be applied for from the *National Restoration Fund (Nationaal Restauratiefonds)* (www.restauratiefonds.nl). The size of the loan depends on what the Tax and Customs Administration's Listed Buildings Bureau (*Bureau Monumentenpanden*, part of the Ministry of Finance) designates in advance as deductible maintenance costs (cost of maintenance and restoration). The mortgage comes to 70% maximum if the costs are tax deductible, 100% if they are not.

Owners of structures that fall into the other categories (ecclesiastical buildings, castles, country estates, country houses, mills and pumping stations, other built heritage sites) are basically eligible for funding within the context of the scheme.

The decentralised authorities (provincial and local government, water boards and organisations designated by the state as heritage organisations) may invoke the Decree.

A private organisation may be designated by the Minister of Education, Culture and Science as an 'organisation for built heritage conservation' if it meets a number of conditions described in the *Policy Rule issued by the State Secretary of Education, Culture and Science concerning the designation of built heritage conservation organisations (Beleidsregel van de Staatssecretaris van Onderwijs, Cultuur en Wetenschap betreffende het aanwijzen van organisaties voor monumentenbehoud)*, 23 March 2006, no. WJZ/2006/9035 (8187) (see appendix). The organisation must be at least five years old, non-profit, have sufficient expertise at its disposal, and own at least twenty monuments or historic buildings protected by the state.

If the organisation owns protected private residences, it can be granted funding (instead of a loan).

The funding is granted by the state to cover the cost of preserving the building. The applicable upper cost limit for a six-year period (the term of the 'periodic preservation plan') is indicated in the *BRIM Guideline for eligible preservation costs (Leidraad Brim subsidiabele instandhoudingskosten)* (see

appendix) issued by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW).

Owners who do not qualify for a tax deduction receive 10% more funding. If the monument or historic building is exceptionally large and the cost of preservation is EUR 700,000 or more over a six-year period, a higher upper eligible cost limit applies. A maximum sum of EUR 1 million then applies.

In order to acquire BRIM funding, the owner must submit a structural inspection report and a multi-year 'periodic preservation plan' along with the funding application, based on a pre-determined model and covering the subsequent six-year period. The plan must indicate what work will be carried out and when. The order in which funding applications are received determines whether there are sufficient funds available to grant a specific request. Grant applications may be submitted in digital form.

While the work is being carried out, the owner may submit expense statements directly during the term covered by the 'periodic preservation plan'. The funds are paid out by the National Restoration Fund (NRF) in six equal annual instalments.

The Decree contains various provisions obliging owners to assist in investigating the history of the protected monument or historic building. The Decree also obligates the owner to maintain the monument or building, a requirement that is not included in the Monuments Act 1988:

'Once the work for which funding was granted is completed, the owner has the duty to preserve and maintain the protected monument or building in the condition to which that work has returned it' (BRIM, Art. 23.a, 29).

Local councils play no role in this funding scheme. Owners are in direct contact with the state.

Backlog in necessary restoration work for built heritage sites protected by the state

As is always the case when it comes to preserving the built heritage – not only in the Netherlands but elsewhere – the government's financial resources do not always cover the actual necessary expense. In Netherlands, this has led to a 'restoration backlog'. A recent nation-wide investigation – a random survey of 1,800 built heritage sites located in 150 municipalities – has indicated the scale of the backlog (*Report on investigation into the restoration backlog for national monuments*, Bouwadviesbureau PRC/Divisie Bouwcentrum; October 2006, presented to the Lower Chamber of Parliament by the Minister of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) (*Rapportage onderzoek naar de restauratieachterstand bij rijksmonumenten*).

The results indicated that one out of six built heritage sites protected by the state is in urgent need of restoration (an earlier investigation in 1993 showed that 30% required urgent restoration; in 2006, that figure had fallen to 17.1%).

The intention is to reduce the percentage of built heritage sites requiring restoration to 10% by 2010. The Government set aside extra funding for that purpose in the past few years (starting in 2005). In order to achieve this aim, an estimated EUR 201 million extra will be required (as reported in 2006).

Building and restoration costs in the Netherlands

According to the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM), some EUR 70 billion is spent on construction in the Netherlands every year. Of this amount, some EUR 430 million is spent on restoration work.

Extra financial resources

In 2005, the Government made EUR 97.5 million extra available to reduce the 'restoration backlog' for built heritage sites protected by the state. The Minister of Education, Culture and Science set aside EUR 32.9 million of that amount in late 2006 for the restoration of 56 state-protected sites (private residences, ecclesiastical buildings, castles, mills and exceptional buildings), under the Restoration Backlog National Funding Scheme 2006 (*Regeling rijkssubsidie wegwerken restauratieachterstanden 2006*).

Earlier in the same year, EUR 40 million of that amount was committed to complete nine 'large-scale restoration projects'.

Between 1994 and 2008, the national government set aside an extra EUR 767.5 million to preserve built heritage sites protected by the state.

Autumn Budget 2006

In its 2006 *Autumn Budget (Najaarsnota 2006)*, the Government reserved a sum of EUR 140 million to reduce the backlog of necessary restoration work by 2010.

A portion of this amount, EUR 113 million, was made available to implement the *BRIM Decree (State Funding for the Preservation of Historic Buildings and Monuments)* (Article 43).

Of this amount, EUR 88 million was allocated in 2008 on the basis of the *Restoration Backlog National Funding Scheme 2007 (Regeling rijkssubsidieering wegwerken restauratieachterstand 2007, RRWR 2007)* (see appendix). A sum of EUR 38 million went to reducing an obvious backlog in large-scale restoration projects (in Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal, the Roman Catholic Obricht Church). A sum of EUR 50 million was made available for smaller-scale restoration projects (in Amsterdam the historic Ape House at Artis Zoo), provided that they complied with the terms of the scheme.

The remainder, EUR 25 million, was allocated via the *Restoration Backlog National Funding Scheme 2008 (Regeling rijkssubsidieering wegwerken restauratieachterstand 2008, RRWR 2008)* (see appendix). In 2008, the Government made an extra EUR 50 million available to reduce the backlog by 2010, mainly with respect to historic ecclesiastical buildings. In Amsterdam, the Portuguese Synagogue is eligible for this funding.

The state has specified the minimum and maximum funding amounts that can be granted within the context of the 2007 and 2008 schemes.

The aim of this approach is to ensure that after 2010, the built heritage sites that have been restored following an obvious restoration backlog will be eligible for funding to cover further preservation under the *BRIM Decree* as from that year.

Of the EUR 140 million made available, a sum of EUR 27 million has been deposited in the Revolving Fund of the *National Restoration Fund* (see below), which will enable the Fund to grant more low-interest loans to the owners of private residences or farms that do not have an agricultural function. These owners are not eligible for state funding but they are eligible for tax breaks on their heritage property.

The table below indicates the Programme Costs of state funding (in millions of euros) for built heritage sites (2005-2010):

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Restoration						
BRRM	48.6	51.7	56.5	33.8	33.8	33.8
BRGR ('whoppers')		20.0	40.0	63.0	25.0	25.0
BRIM Art. 44	32	2.9	63.0	25.0	25.0	
Allocation to Revolving Fund NRF		20.0	27.0	22.7	22.7	22.7

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Maintenance						
BROM multi-year	8.1	8.9	8.9	7.8	7.5	6.8
BROM single year	6.1	6.1	4.8	3.0	2.8	2.6

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Preservation						
BRIM regular, average per year	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		

BRRM: *State Funding for the Restoration of Historic Buildings and Monuments*

BROM: *State Funding for the Maintenance of Historic Buildings and Monuments*

BRGR: *State Funding for Large-Scale Restoration ('Whopper Scheme')*

BRIM: *State Funding for the Preservation of Historic Buildings and Monuments*

(Source: Annual Report, National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage, 2006.)

National Restoration Fund (NRF)

Westerdorpsstraat 68
3871 AZ Hoevelaken
Postbus 15
3870 DA Hoevelaken

Tel. ++31 33 253 94 39
www.restauratiefonds.nl

The National Restoration Fund was set up in 1985 at the proposal of the state. It provides funding for restoration projects, among other things. The Fund works within the limits set by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, in close cooperation with the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM). The Fund is itself financed by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (see above). Since 1996, the Kingdom of the Netherlands has guaranteed many of the activities of the National Restoration Fund.

The Fund issues loans out of its *Revolving Fund*, which has now reached EUR 273 million. The funds are to be used to preserve built heritage sites protected by the state. The Restoration Fund had 38 staff in 2007.

The National Restoration Fund offers the private owners of private residences and farms that do not have an agricultural function the option of applying for a low-interest *Restoration Fund mortgage* (*Restauratiefonds-hypotheek*).

The interest on such mortgages and the mortgage repayments go back into the Fund; the monies are then used primarily to provide low-interest loans for larger restoration projects.

The *National Restoration Fund* also disburses government grants in a number of cases (from the state [BRIM], the provinces and the municipalities).

If the cost of restoration cannot be covered by funding or by a low-interest loan, the Fund offers private owners various other forms of financing, including the 'pre-financing of tax refunds' (*voorfinanciering belastingteruggave*). The cost of maintaining a national monument is tax deductible for anyone entitled to a tax refund (Tax and Customs Administration's Listed Buildings Bureau (*Bureau*

Monumentenpanden, part of the Ministry of Finance) in Amersfoort determines the 'tax-deductible maintenance expenses').

If an owner is not entitled to a tax deduction, then he/she may take out a 100% Restoration Fund mortgage. If he or she is entitled to a tax deduction, then the percentage is 70%. In both situations, the maximum mortgage that will be granted is EUR 250,000 per historic building or monument.

The *National Restoration Fund* has published a *Restoration Guide* (*RestauratieWijzer*) to explain the procedures and guide applicants through the restoration project and the process of applying for the necessary permits and funding.

The Guide, which takes the form of a *Built Heritage Restoration Planner* (*Monumenten Aanpak Planner*), offers a step-by-step plan for tackling a restoration project (in terms of permits and funding).

During the restoration project, the Restoration Fund has regular contact with the owner of the monument or historic building so as to provide further advice (where necessary). The 'planner' costs EUR 100 (one-off fee).

A Restoration Fund mortgage or funding will not be granted for restoration work that has already commenced. If the expense exceeds the eligible costs for funding or a tax deduction, the *National Restoration Fund* offers the option of 'Total Funding'.

Between 2004 and 2008, the National Restoration Fund issued EUR 25 million in mortgages (263) in Amsterdam; almost EUR 18 million of this was in the form of loans (247 in all) on built heritage sites protected by the state and located with the *property*. The smallest mortgage amount was EUR 5,323, and the largest EUR 1,000,000.

Website 'Monumenten.NL monumenten anno nu' (www.monumenten.nl)

The National Restoration Fund, the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage and the Monument Trust (*Monumentenwacht*) run the website *Monumenten.nl. Monumenten anno nu*. The site provides the owners of built heritage sites with practical information about tax facilities, funding options and other matters.

Listed Buildings Bureau, Ministry of Finance

In 1985, the Ministry of Finance introduced a scheme that allows the owners of a built heritage site protected by the state to ask the Listed Buildings Bureau to indicate possible tax deductions prior to a restoration or maintenance project (the deductions apply both to private income tax and corporation tax). The scheme does not cover those parts of a building that are not designated as protected built heritage.

If the property concerned is a private residence protected by the state, then a distinction is made between an owner-occupier who uses the building as his/her place of residence and an owner who leases the building to others.

⌘ *Urban Renewal Act (2000)*

Article 5 of the *Urban Renewal Act (Wet stedelijke vernieuwing)* (2000) states:

- '1. Our Minister may provide local councils with an investment budget to implement municipal policy on urban renewal.
2. The local councils to be provided with an investment budget by Our Minister will be designated by a general administrative order. The budget will be based in part on the nature and size of the relevant urban renewal programme. The local councils so designated will retain this designation, in any event for the term of an investment period.'

Article 7.1. states:

'An investment budget may be granted to a municipality whose municipal council has adopted a development programme:

- ⌘ that presents sound arguments for the municipal urban renewal targets, described in terms of verifiable results,
- ⌘ that describes the relationship with urban renewal beyond that of the physical living environment,
- ⌘ that concerns the investment period and sheds light on the period thereafter,
- ⌘ that contains a financial section showing the income and expenses expected to result from urban renewal.'

Article 1.1.c describes the 'investment budget' as follows:

c. investment budget: funding allocated to a local council pursuant to Chapter 3 in order to cover part of the cost of implementing an urban renewal development programme or activity, within the meaning of Article 7.5;

d. investment period: a period of five calendar years for which an investment budget is granted.

In accordance with this Act, towns and cities may apply to the state once every five years for an investment budget paid out from the Urban Renewal Investment Budget (ISV) (*Investeringsbudget Stedelijke Vernieuwing, ISV*). The second Investment Budget period (ISV 2) commenced in 2005. Amsterdam has a budget of this kind, which is used to fund the restoration of built heritage, among other things.

Provincial Cultural Funds

The National Restoration Fund (NRF) is also related to the *Provincial Cultural Funds for Built Heritage (Provinciale Cultuurfondsen voor Monumenten)*. Nine Dutch provinces have such a fund. The interest on such loans is lower than the rate of interest charged in the mortgage market. The fund has a revolving fund structure.

The National Restoration Fund and the Prince Bernhard Cultural Fund (*Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds*) work together in this connection by offering low-interest mortgage loans in the Province of Noord-Holland (4.5% below the market interest rate, minimum of 1.5%) for restoring monuments and historic buildings designated by the province or local council and for 'visually prominent' buildings in an urban or village conservation area. The interest and loan repayments are paid back into the Cultural Fund. The minimum loan amount is EUR 10,000, and the maximum in the Province of Noord-Holland is EUR 50,000.

Funding is provided to cover the cost of structural repairs or the restoration of heritage features, but

not the cost of new structures, maintenance or upgrading. Website: www.cultuurfonds.nl

City of Amsterdam/funding for built heritage protected by the state, based on the BRIM, and restoration mortgages

According to information provided by the National Restoration Fund, it paid out the following funding amounts for Amsterdam between 2003 and 2007:

⌘	2003,	€ 7,786,825
⌘	2004,	€ 4,382,915
⌘	2005,	€ 1,364,620
⌘	2006,	€ 7,089,957
⌘	2007,	€ 123,493

The National Restoration Fund issued the following amounts in restoration mortgages for built heritage in Amsterdam between 2003 and 2007:

⌘	2003,	€ 2,088,101
⌘	2004,	€ 253,756
⌘	2005,	€ -
⌘	2006,	€ 8,071
⌘	2007,	€ 106,342

Data on Amsterdam, financial resources for built cultural heritage, 2003-2007

The National Restoration Fund has indicated that it made the following amounts available between 2003 and 2007 for the built cultural heritage in Amsterdam:

⌘	2003,	€ 4,783,000
⌘	2004,	€ 5,092,000
⌘	2005,	€ 4,530,000
⌘	2006,	€ 3,725,000
⌘	2007,	€ 7,413,000

Number of restoration projects completed, 1993-2004

According to the City of Amsterdam, between 1993 and 2004 a total of 1,892 buildings (including 'visually prominent' buildings) were restored in Amsterdam (*Room for History* Policy Document, p. 38) (*Nota Ruimte voor geschiedenis*). These restoration projects involved a total of EUR 474,284,845, funded via two state-run schemes, the *BRRM Decree* (Ministry of Education, Culture and Science) and the *City Renewal Fund*, part of the Netherlands Department for Conservation (*Monumentenzorg*) (now the *Urban Renewal Investment Budget*, ISV). The funding amounted to EUR 101,066,920 in all. Of the 1,892 historic buildings and monuments concerned, 1652 were protected by the state, 129 by the City and 109 were 'visually prominent'. The average investment per structure came to EUR 250,679 and the average amount paid out in funding was EUR 53,418.

Restoration/financial restoration volume for Amsterdam

On average, some 175 funded restorations are carried out in Amsterdam every year. The average eligible restoration costs come to EUR 82,000.

Between 1997 and 2006, the state made EUR 100 million available to Amsterdam for this purpose, pursuant to the *BRRM Decree 2006*. Amsterdam was able to spend EUR 43.2 million on the restoration

of more than 750 historic buildings and monuments between 1996 and 2006 under the state's Urban Renewal schemes.

City of Amsterdam/City Renewal Fund and Urban Renewal Investment Budget (ISV)

Amsterdam's city and – in the present terminology – urban renewal practices emphasise the close links to cultural policy, including heritage conservation. In the past nine budget years (2000-2008), the City of Amsterdam made an average of EUR 4.2 million a year available in restoration funding within the context of the City Renewal Fund and its successor, the Urban Renewal Investment Fund (ISV) (EUR 35 million of this went to the Central Borough). The reduction in the state's contribution to the ISV, which local councils also (must) use to finance many other urban renewal projects and programmes, led in Amsterdam to a reduction in the budgets used to fund built heritage restoration.

Total budget in euros	
2000	6,587,527
2001	5,408,153
2002	6,807,000
2003	3,000,000
2004	5,012,000
2005	4,487,000
2006	2,738,000
2007	1,700,000
2008	2,830,000
2009	3,000,000

The budgets were used to fund projects initiated or developed by the boroughs (including the Central Borough) within the context of public housing construction, or projects with a non-residential purpose that involved the public interest (refurbishing a theatre, community centre, etc.), known as *municipal projects*. Municipal projects might concern monuments and historic buildings protected either by the state or by the City.

In addition, until 2007 a budget was also reserved for *private projects*. This budget mainly covered funding applications submitted by the private owners of built heritage sites protected by the City, as such owners are not eligible for state funding/loans or for the tax measures applying to built heritage sites protected by the state.

As of 1 January 2007, private owners of historic buildings and monuments protected by the City or by the state could no longer invoke the *Funding Regulation for Monuments and Visually Prominent Buildings in Amsterdam (Subsidieverordening monumenten en beeldbepalende panden Amsterdam)*. That is because the College of Mayor and Aldermen (Municipal Executive) decided on 6 May 2008 to introduce the *Amsterdam Restoration Fund (Amsterdams Restauratie Fonds, ARF)* (see below).

Amsterdam Urban Renewal Funding Regulation 2006

Amsterdam's *Urban Renewal Funding Regulation 2006 (Subsidieverordening Stedelijke Vernieuwing Amsterdam 2006)* has as its aim:

'to encourage building activities developed within the context of urban renewal' (Art. 2).

The city council adopts annual budgets for various construction and improvement activities, for example insulating the facades of buildings. The borough councils submit a list of the projects they consider necessary.

Amsterdam, Central Borough/Urban Renewal Funding Regulation 2005

Amsterdam Central Borough

The regulation concerns urban renewal within this particular borough. Urban renewal is defined as:

'Urban renewal: systematic urban planning efforts and social, economic, cultural and environmental/sanitation efforts to maintain, restore, improve, reallocate or remediate areas within the territory of the municipality, whether or not these are built up' (Definitions, Art. 1.1.r).

Chapter 2 of this Regulation states:

Funding granted to the owners of buildings for their improvement and restoration. Adoption of a programme of requirements for architectural quality and a programme of requirements for the quality of built heritage.

Article 2.1

The Executive will adopt a programme of requirements for the architectural quality of the buildings. Only if the conditions set in this programme of requirements are met may owners be considered eligible for funding. For built heritage, the Executive will adopt a Programme of Requirements for the Quality of Built Heritage.

Conditions for awarding funding.

Article 2.3

1. The owner of a building may be awarded funding to cover the cost of measures intended to resolve deficiencies in the shell or other measures within the meaning of Article 14 ff of the Housing Act, as well as to cover the cost of measures intended to remove any serious non-compliance with reasonable building aesthetics requirements within the meaning of Article 19 of the Housing Act.

Chapter 1, General provisions, contains an article concerning the funding ceiling for this regulation, to be determined each year by the borough council.

Determination of funding ceiling

Article 1.3

Each year, when adopting the budget, the Borough Council will determine what amounts will be made available to implement this regulation in the relevant budget year.'

The Central Borough's regulation (see appendix) entered into effect in early 2006. Provided they satisfy the requirements, private owners may be eligible for the *Preservation and Restoration* funding scheme (*Subsidieregeling Behoud en Herstel*), which is part of the borough's *Urban Renewal Funding Regulation 2005*. The maximum amount available is EUR 23,000. Every year, the borough council determines:

'what amounts will be made available to implement this regulation in the relevant budget year' (Article 1.3, Funding Regulation).

The regulation covers buildings that do not or no longer satisfy the requirements of the Housing Act. In calculating the size of the grant, the standard building facilities described in the *Programme of Requirements for Architectural Quality (Programma van Eisen Bouwkundige Kwaliteit)* are taken as a basis. Built heritage is subject to the *Programme of Requirements for the Quality of Built Heritage (Programma van Eisen Kwaliteit Monumenten)*. A monument or historic building protected by the City is eligible under the *Preservation and Restoration (Regeling Behoud en Herstel)* scheme, provided it satisfies the relevant requirements.

The purpose of the regulation is to achieve a good structural quality. If the property is built heritage, the owner-applicant must submit evidence showing that, during the period that funding is provided, he or she has a contract or has taken out a subscription with the Monument Trust (*Stichting Monumentenwacht*) for Noord-Holland or an equivalent independent institution. If funding is granted, the owner has a duty to maintain the property in a good state of repair.

It is also possible to receive funding to cover the cost of renovation, provided a number of requirements set in the regulation are met (Art. 3.3.).

Funding is also available for residential premises above businesses (Art. 7.1). A maximum one-off grant of EUR 25,000 is available in such cases.

Investigation into need for restoration and built heritage restoration backlog in Amsterdam (2008)

See 6.c., Results of previous exercises

Amsterdam Restoration Fund (ARF)

Following cuts in the ISV budgets, ISV funding for the private owners of built heritage was discontinued on 1 January 2007.

The City of Amsterdam is preparing to alter its existing funding options for built heritage. It has decided to set up an *Amsterdam Restoration Fund (ARF) (Amsterdams Restauratiefonds)*. The fund will be used to extend low-interest loans to owners for restorations (5% below the market rate of interest, minimum of 1.5%).

The Municipal Executive of Amsterdam has discussed reserving EUR 2 million from the city's 2009 budget for this fund. At the time of writing, the city council had yet to take a decision (scheduled for December 2008).

Cooperation will be sought with the National Restoration Fund for the fund's financial management. The City of Amsterdam and the NRF already have a cooperation agreement dating back to 1994.

City of Amsterdam/Hendrick de Keyser Society, Amsterdam City Restoration plc.

In 2007, the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM), acting on behalf of the Minister of Education, Culture and Science, granted the Hendrick de Keyser Society a sum of EUR 1.8 million to restore up to 60 percent of its properties in Amsterdam under the *BRIM Decree (State Funding for the Preservation of Historic Buildings and Monuments)*. Amsterdam City Restoration plc. was awarded EUR 1.92 million in this context.

City of Amsterdam/Funding Regulation for Monuments and Visually Prominent Buildings

This is a source of one-off grants for properties held by the City/boroughs, housing corporations and restoration institutions such as Amsterdam City Restoration plc. The regulation will remain in force for non-private owners of built heritage until the *Amsterdam Restoration Fund (ARF)* takes effect.

Central Borough/Programme Budget 2008

The Central Borough's *Programme Budget 2008 (Programmabegroting)* states: '*f. Improving Architectural Quality, EUR 410,000 incidentally*

'The Verifiable Programme Agreement 2006-2010 states as one of its aims a reduction in the number of properties in a poor or moderate state of repair from 3,500-4,000 to a total of 2,000-2,500. Various measures are available to achieve this. In financial terms, extra monies can be made available from the ISV for shell/foundation inspections (a total of EUR 300,000, see below). A further EUR 410,000 has been made available as an incidental priority. The money is to be used to select and supervise the inspections, and to increase the number of active municipal notices issued from 80 to 160 properties. Results will be achieved by hiring in personnel or by contracting out the work to a building/construction firm.'

Central Borough, City of Amsterdam/Borough Fund

This is intended to cover incidental expenses for cleaning and maintaining public spaces in the borough. Contributions to regular maintenance are also paid out from this fund.

Central Borough/Strategic Agenda for Water in the Inner City (2005)

Has an annual sum of EUR 1,000,000 available to implement the *Strategic Agenda for Water in the Inner City* (Source: Verifiable Programme Agreement 2006-2010) (Meetbaar Programakkoord 2006-2010).

Central Borough/Greenspace Fund

The borough contributes an annual EUR 100,000 to the city's Greenspace Fund.

Amsterdam/Funding Regulation for Small-Scale Building Aesthetics in the Inner City 2001(Verordening Subsidie Kleine Welstand Binnenstad 2001)

Intended for the improvement of wall advertisements, affixing transparent roller shutters on shop windows, and restoring or constructing lower fronts that are more sympathetic with their spatial surroundings. Both private owners and businesses may apply for funding under this scheme. This funding regulation has applied since 2000 for the Damrak Project, intended to improve the appearance of the facades in this part of the city (Damarak, Dam Square, Nieuwendijk with intervening alleys) (buffer zone). The budget for 2007 and 2008 came to EUR 100,000.

Funding Regulation for Repair of Foundations in Warmoesstraat and Amsterdam Inner City Environs 2000-2005

This regulation focuses on repairing the foundations of some 15 historic buildings and covered Warmoesstraat, Oudezijds Voorburgwal, Oudezijds Achterburgwal and the alleys situated in this area (buffer zone). It consisted of a lump-sum financial contribution. Funding had a lower limit of EUR 10,000 and an upper limit of EUR 100,000. The regulation now only applies to applications that have already been submitted.

Repair of retaining walls and bridges in Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal

A sum of EUR 2.3 million was spent on these repairs in 2007; a further EUR 2.4 million was budgeted for 2008.

Lotteries

In addition to government funding, cultural institutions may also be awarded money from the *BankGiro Lottery (BankGiro Loterij)*. The Maritime Museum received approximately EUR 1,000,000 in 2007 for

an ongoing restoration and a further EUR 200,000 that same year (museum reopens in 2009). The Amsterdam Historical Museum was awarded EUR 1,000,000 a year for a five-year period from the lottery, commencing in 2007. The same amount was awarded to the Anne Frank Foundation (for the restoration of the Anne Frank House).

FOAM Photography Museum is also a lottery beneficiary (EUR 300,000 in 2007). Our Lord in the Attic Museum received a one-off lottery award. The Hermitage Museum in Amsterdam has also received lottery money since 1999 (EUR 1,362,000 in 2007).

5.h Visitor facilities and statistics

On behalf of the City of Amsterdam, Amsterdam Tourism & Convention Board (ATCB) (www.atcb.nl) is responsible for marketing the city's (cultural) tourism.

The Central Borough wishes to spread (cultural) tourism farther across the historic city centre, particularly to the east, where a number of important museums are located. The borough is also consulting with the city council on increasing the opening hours of museums and other cultural institutions.

Figures show that both the medieval heart of the city and its ring of canals are highly (8.1) valued by tourists. The city's architecture is most highly valued (39%).

Since 2006, the borough has had a culture policy document on the city centre (*Cultuurnota Binnenstad*) (see appendix). One of its main points is to "maintain and display heritage".

In its Long-term Strategic Agenda for Culture to 2015 (*Langetermijnvisie Cultuur 2015*), Amsterdam's Municipal Executive also stressed the importance of its cultural heritage. It also states that the historic city centre, the archaeological heritage and the museum collections are a reflection of Amsterdam's history.

Seven museums (*Museum Our Lord in the Attic*, the *Rembrandt House Museum*, *Willet-Holthuysen Museum*, *Huis Marseille/Museum for Photography*, *Biblical Museum/the Cromhout Houses*, *Theatre Museum*) (www.grachtenmusea.nl/www.canalmuseums.nl) have a joint venture, which allows them to use their historic interiors to offer an overview of styles from seventeenth-century (Dutch) Classicism to nineteenth-century Neo-styles.

Each year, at the end of June, these museums organise "Open Garden Days", when some 30 gardens of canal houses within the ring of canals are opened to the public (www.opentuindagen.nl).

Events are held within the area of the *property*, some of them annually, like the 'Heritage Day' in September, the 'Open Garden Days' and the 'Canal Festival' for classical music.

The *Canal Company* operates the *Canal Bus* (three routes per vessel around the ring of canals with 14 stops at museums and other places of interest), *Canal Bike* (pedalos), *Canal Hopper* (accompanied individual boat trips carrying a maximum of 12 people, with two routes on Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays) and a tour company.

Amsterdam has several companies that provide guided tours (on foot, by bicycle, by boat) in the city centre for large and small groups or individuals (including www.stadswandelingen-amsterdam.nl). The city also has experts on its history and architecture who can be contracted to conduct guided tours.

Museums and historic buildings open to the public

Amsterdam within the Singelgracht boasts a large number of museums and historic buildings which are open to the public.

The list below is divided into the *property*, the seventeenth-century ring of canals, and the surrounding buffer zone of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht.

Museums and historic buildings open to the public, situated within the property, Amsterdam's ring of canals

Korsjespoortsteeg

Multatuli Museum (listed monument)

Korsjespoortsteeg 20

1015 AR Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 638 19 38

Fax: ++31 20 620 49 09

multatulimuseum@zonnet.nl

www.multatuli-museum.nl

Herenmarkt

West-Indisch Huis (West-India House) (listed monument) [1 next page](#)

Herenmarkt 99

1013 EC Amsterdam

www.locaties.nl/congres-en-vergadercentra/het-westindisch-huis.html

Herengracht

Instituut Nederland (Netherlands Theatre Institute) (listed monument) [2 next page](#)

Herengracht 168

1016 BP Amsterdam

PO Box 19304

1000 GH Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 551 33 00

Fax: ++31 20 551 33 03

info@tin.nl

www.tin.nl

The museum closes at this site at the end of 2008

Bijbels Museum (Biblical Museum) (listed monument) [3 next page](#)

Herengracht 366

1016 CH Amsterdam

PO Box 3606

1001 AK Amsterdam



Tel.: ++31 20 624 79 49
Fax: ++31 20 624 24 36
info@bijbelmuseum.nl
www.bijbelmuseum.nl

Kattenkabinet (Cat Collection) (listed monument)
Herengracht 497
1017 BT Amsterdam


Tel.: ++31 20 626 53 78
Fax: ++31 20 626 67 64
info@kattenkabinet.nl
www.kattenkabinet.nl

Geelvinck Hinlopen Museum (listed monument)
Herengracht 518
1017 CC Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 639 07 47
Fax: ++31 20 624 25 41
info@museumgeelvinck.nl
www.geelvinckhinlophenhuis.nl

Tassenmuseum Hendrikje (Hendrikje Museum of Bags and Purses) (listed monument)
Herengracht 573
1017 CD Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 524 64 52
Fax: ++31 20 524 64 53
info@tassenmuseum.nl
www.tassenmuseum.nl

Willet-Holthuysen Museum (listed monument) 
Herengracht 605
Amsterdam PO Box 3302
1001 AC Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20,523 18 22
Fax: ++31 20,620 77 89
info@willetholthuysen.amsterdam.nl
www.willetholthuysen.nl

Keizersgracht

Nederlands Instituut voor Mediakunst, Montevideo/TBA (The Netherlands Media Art Institute, Montevideo/Time Based Arts) (listed monument)
Keizersgracht 264
1016 EV Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 623 71 01
Fax: ++31 20 624 44 23
info@tin.nl
www.montevideo.nl

Huis Marseille, Stichting voor Fotografie (Huis Marseille/Museum for Photography)
(listed monument)
Keizersgracht 401
1016 EK Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 531 89 89
Fax: ++31 20 531 89 88
info@huismarseille.nl
www.huismarseille.nl

FOAM-Fotografisch Museum Amsterdam (FOAM Photography Museum of Amsterdam (formerly Museum Fodor) (listed monument)  [previous page](#)
Keizersgracht 609
1017 DE Amsterdam
Tel.: ++31 20 551 65 00
Fax: ++31 20 551 65 01
info@foam.nl
www.foam.nl

Museum van Loon (listed monument)
Keizersgracht 672
1017 ET Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 624 52 55
info@museumvanloon.nl
www.musvloen.box.nl

Prinsengracht

Tulip Museum
Prinsengracht 112
1015 EA Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 00800 286 285 27
www.amsterdamtulipdepot.eu/about_museum.php

Anne Frank House (listed monument)
Prinsengracht 263
1016 GV Amsterdam
PO Box 730 1000 AS Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 556 71 00
Fax: ++31 20 620 79 99

www.annefrank.org

Houseboat Museum

Prinsengracht (opposite No. 296)
1016 HW Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 427 07 50
info@houseboatmuseum.nl
www.houseboatmuseum.nl

Pijpenkabinet en Smokiana (Pipe Museum and Smokiana Pipe Shop) (listed monument)

Prinsengracht 488
1017 KH Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 421 17 79
info@pijpenkabinet.nl
www.pijpenkabinet.nl

Amstel

Six Collection (listed monument) [1 next page](#)

Amstel 218
1017 AJ Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 622 44 10
www:six@xs4all.nl

Museums and historic buildings open to the public in the buffer zone

Medieval centre

Museum Amstelkring 'Ons' Lieve Heer op Solder (Amstelkring Museum - Our Lord in the Attic) (listed monument) [2 next page](#)

Oudezijds Voorburgwal 40
1012 GE Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 624 66 04
Fax: ++31 20 638 18 22
info@opsolder.nl
www.museumamstelkring.nl

Oude Kerk (The Old Church) (listed monument) [3 next page](#)

Oudekerksplein 1/Oudekerksplein
1012 GX Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 625 82 84
Fax: ++31 20 620 03 71
info@oudekerk.nl
www.oudekerk.nl





Zuiderkerk (The South Church) (listed monument) [4](#) previous page

Zuiderkerkhof 72
1011 WB Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 552 79 87
Fax: ++31 20 552 79 88
zuiderkerk@dro.amsterdam.nl
www.dro.amsterdam.nl

Coffee and Tea Museum (listed monument)

Warmoesstraat 67
1012 HX Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 624 06 83
Fax: ++31 20 622 72 76
info@geels.nl
www.geels.nl

Allard Pierson Museum/Archeologisch Museum der Universiteit van Amsterdam (Archaeological Museum of the University of Amsterdam) (listed monument) [1](#)

Oude Turfmarkt 127
Amsterdam

PO Box 94057
1090 GB Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 525 25 56
Fax: ++31 20 525 25 61
allard.pierson.museum@uva.nl
www.allardpiersonmuseum.nl

Schriftmuseum J.A. Dortmund (J.A. Dortmund Museum of Script and Writing Museum)

Universiteitsbibliotheek
Singel 425
1012 WP Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 525 24 76
informatiecentrum-ub@uva.nl
www.uva.nl

Koninklijk Paleis Amsterdam (Royal Palace in Amsterdam) (listed monument) [2](#)

Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal 147
1012 RJ Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 624 86 98/620 40 60
Fax: ++31 20 623 38 19
info@dkh.nl
www.koninklijkhuis.nl





Houten Huis (Wooden House) (listed monument) (IMG_0872)

Begijnhof 34
Amsterdam

The Begijnhof Foundation
Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal 373
1012 RM Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 623 35 65
info@begijnhofamsterdam.nl
www.begijnhofamsterdam.nl

Amsterdams Historisch Museum (Amsterdam Historical Museum) (listed monument) ¹

Kalverstraat 92/Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal 357
Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 523 18 22
Fax: ++31 20 620 77 89
info@ahm.amsterdam.nl
www.ahm.nl

De Nieuwe Kerk (The New Church) (listed monument) ²

Gravenstraat 17
1012 NL Amsterdam

PO Box 3438
1001 AE Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 638 69 09/626 81 68
Fax: ++31 20 622 66 49
mail@nieuwekerk.nl
www.nieuwekerk.nl

Beurs van Berlage Museum (listed monument) ³

Damrak 243
1012 ZJ Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 624 01 41/530 41 13
Fax: ++31 20 620 47 01
info@beursvanberlage.nl
www.beursvanberlage.nl

Madame Tussauds Amsterdam

Dam 20
1012 NP Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 523 06 23
www.madametussauds.nl

Nationaalbrilmuseum/Brillenwinkel (National Museum of Spectacles/Amsterdam Spectacle Shop)
Gasthuismolensteeg 7
1016 AM Amsterdam

Tel./fax: ++31 20 421 24 14
brilmuseum.brillenwinkel@worldmail.nl
www.brilmuseumamsterdam.nl

Eastern Docklands

Nederlands Scheepvaart Museum Amsterdam (National Maritime Museum Amsterdam (listed monument) (IMG_1001)
Kattenburgerplein 1
1018 KK Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 523 22 22
Fax: ++31 20 523 22 13
info@scheepvaartmuseum.nl
www.scheepvaartmuseum.nl

The museum is closed for renovation and refurbishment until 2010.


newMetropolis/NEMO, Science and Technology Centre (formerly newMetropolis Science Centre)
Oosterdok 2
1011 WX Amsterdam

PO Box 421
1000 AK Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 531 32 33
Fax: ++31 20 531 35 35
info@e-NEMO.nl
www.e-nemo.nl

Werfmuseum 't Kromhout (Kromhout Shipyard Museum) (listed monument)
Hoogte Kadijk 147
1018 BJ Amsterdam

Tel./Fax: ++31 20 627 67 77
frank@scheepspraet.net?subject=Machinekamer
www.machinekamer.nl

Open Haven Museum (Open Harbour Museum) 
KNSM-laan 311
1019 LE Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 418 55 22
www.kunstbus.nl/adres/open+haven+museum.html



ARCAM/architectuurcentrum Amsterdam (ARCAM/Amsterdam Centre for Architecture) [2](#) [previous page](#)

Prins Hendrikkade 600
1011 VX Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 620 48 78
Fax: ++31 20 638 55 98
arcam@arcam.nl
www.arcam.nl

Jordaan district

Theo Thijssen Museum
Eerste Leliedwarsstraat 16
1015 TA Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 420 71 19
j.carmiggelt5@upcmail.nl
www.theothijssenmuseum.nl

Electric Ladyland - The First Museum of Fluorescent Art
Tweede Leliedwarsstraat 5hs
1015 TB Amsterdam

Tel/fax: (0031) - 020 - 4203776
Email: electriclady21@hotmail.com
www.electric-lady-land.com

Pianola Museum
Westerstraat 106
1,015 MN Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 627 96 24
pianolamuseum@planet.nl
www.pianola.nl

Nieuwmarkt district and surrounding area

Joods Historisch Museum (Jewish Historical Museum) (listed monument) [3](#)
Jonas Daniël Meijerplein 2-4
PO Box 16737
1001 RE 16737

Tel.: ++31 20 626 99 45
Fax: ++31 20 624 17 21
info@jhm.nl
www.jhm.nl

Portugees Israelitische Synagoge (The Portuguese Synagogue) (listed monument) [4](#)
Mr. Visserplein 1
Amsterdam

3



4



Tel.: ++31 20 624 53 51
publiekscontacten@jhm.nl
www.esnoga.com

Museum het Rembrandthuis (Rembrandt House Museum) (listed monument) ¹

Jodenbreestraat 4
1011 NK Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 520 04 00
Fax: ++31 20 520 04 01
museum@rembrandthuis.nl
www.rembrandthuis.nl

Plantage district

Hortus Botanicus Amsterdam (listed monument) ²

Plantage Middenlaan 2a
1018 DD Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 625 90 21
Fax: ++31 20 625 70 06
info@dehortus.nl
www.dehortus.nl

Verzetsmuseum Amsterdam (Dutch Resistance Museum) (listed monument)

Gebouw Plancius
Plantage Kerklaan 61
1081 CX Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 620 25 35
Fax: ++31 20 620 29 60
www.verzetsmuseum.org

Nationaal Vakbondsmuseum (National Trade Union Museum) (listed monument) ³

Henri Polaklaan 9
1018 CP Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 624 11 66
Fax: ++31 20,623 37 31
info@deburcht.org
www.deburcht.org

The museum has been closed for restoration since 2008

De Hollandsche Schouwburg (The Dutch Theatre) (listed monument)

Plantage Middenlaan 24
1018 DE Amsterdam
publiekscontacten@jhm.nl
www.jhm.nl





Hermitage Amsterdam (listed monument) ¹

Nieuwe Herengracht 14
1018 DP Amsterdam
PO Box 11675
1001 GR Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 530 87 51
mail@hermitage.nl
www.hermitage.nl

Important museums outside the Singelgracht canal

Rijksmuseum Amsterdam (listed monument)

Stadhouderskade 42
1071 ZD Amsterdam
PO Box 74888
1070 DN Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 674 70 00
Fax: ++31 20 674 70 01

www.rijksmuseum.nl

The museum is scheduled to undergo an extensive programme of restoration, renovation and refurbishment until 2013.

Van Gogh Museum

Paulus Potterstraat 7
Amsterdam
PO Box 75366
1070 AJ Amsterdam

Tel: ++31 20 570 52 00
Fax: ++31 20 570 52 22
info@vangoghmuseum.nl
www.vangoghmuseum.nl

Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam (listed monument)

Paulus Potterstraat 13
1071 CX Amsterdam

PO Box 75082
1070 AB Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 573 29 11
Fax: ++31 20 675 27 16
info@stedelijk.nl
www.stedelijk.nl

The museum is expected to be closed for restoration, renovation and refurbishment until September 2009.


Archives/Libraries

Koninklijk Instituut voor de Tropen (Royal Tropical Institute) (listed monument)

Linnaeusstraat 2
1092 CK Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 568 87 11
Fax: ++31 20 668 45 79
tropenmuseum@kit.nl
www.kit.nl

Over 11,500 land and nautical maps (period 1850-1950) can be consulted online. These maps relate to former Dutch colonies throughout the world (including Suriname, Netherlands Antilles and the former Dutch East Indies/Indonesia).

Stadsarchief Amsterdam (Amsterdam Municipal Archives) (listed monument)  copyright BMA

De Bazel
Vijzelstraat 32
1017 HL Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 251 15 11
informatie@stadsarchief.amsterdam.nl
www.stadsarchief.amsterdam.nl

The Amsterdam Municipal Archives contain some 2,000 archives, covering a total of 35 kilometres, on the history of Amsterdam since 1275. It also contains a library of over 140,000 books and other publications as well as a press section containing 2,500,000 newspaper articles, arranged by subject (since 1847). Several registers are available for consultation for research into houses.

Afdeling Pandenarchief, Amsterdam-Centrum (Property Archive Department, Amsterdam Central Borough)
Amstel 1
1011 PN Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 140 20
www.centrum.amsterdam.nl/smartsite.dws?id=8384

The Property Archive contains the records and historical construction drawings (from 1900 onwards) of properties in Amsterdam's historic city centre.

Openbare Bibliotheek Amsterdam (Amsterdam Public Library)

Oosterdokskade 143
1011 DL Amsterdam
Tel. ++31 20 523 09 00

klantenservice@oba.nl
www.oba.nl



1



Universiteitsbibliotheek Amsterdam (Amsterdam University Library) ¹

Singel 425
1012 WP Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 525 22 66
secr-uba@uva.nl
www.uba.uva.nl

Universiteitsbibliotheek Universiteit van Amsterdam, Afd. Bijzondere Collecties (University of Amsterdam Library, Special Collections Department) (listed monument)

Oude Turfmarkt 129
1012 GC Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 525 24 73
secr-uba@uva.nl
www.uba.uva.nl/bibliotheeklocaties/bibliotheeklocaties.cf+m/B4AF56DF-5AC8-4B59-AA308FF1EEC76F9D

The Special Collections of the University Library include maps and atlases. The Rosenthaliana Library (the library of Lezer Rosenthal (1794-1868), which contains around 6,000 volumes, among the highlights of which are North-Netherlands hebraic and judaic writings from the seventeenth to the nineteenth century) and the University Museum are housed here.

The front and rear walls are those of the former St. Bernardusgesticht nursing home (1842), with the hospital (1642) designed by Philips Vingboons (1607-1678) beside it.

Universiteitsbibliotheek Vrije Universiteit (University Library of the Free University)

De Boelelaan 1103/1105
1081 HV Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 598 52 00
Fax: ++31 20 598 52 59
www.ubvu.nl

The library's collections include a collection of maps

Koninklijk Oudheidkundig Genootschap (KOG) (Royal Antiquarian Society) (KOG)

Frans van Mierisstraat 92
1071 RZ Amsterdam

kog@rijksmuseum.nl
www.kog.nu/index.htm

See also *Private organisations*

The KOG holds a collection of historic ornamental tablets and fragments of buildings from Amsterdam, seventeen of which have been built into the outer wall of the Fragment Building and the brickwork of the Drucker extension of the Rijksmuseum and the garden house constructed there.

Forty-seven ornamental tablets belonging to the KOG have been placed in the wall of the Amsterdam Historical Museum along St Luciënsteeg (*).

Genootschap Amstelodamum (Amsterdam Historical Society)
PO Box 2221
1000 CE Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 617 63 27
phqevers@wxs.nl?subject=aanmelden
www.amstelodamum.nl

See also *Private organisations*

Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie (BMA) (Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology) (BMA)
Herengracht 482
1017 CB Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 251 49 00
Fax: ++31 20 251 49 99
bma@bma.dmb.amsterdam.nl
www.bma.amsterdam.nl

Amsterdamse Maatschappij tot Stadsherstel (Amsterdam City Restoration Company)
(established 1956)
Amstelveld 10
1017 JD Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 520 00 60
Fax: ++31 20 638 20 40
info@stadsherstel.nl
www.stadsherstel.nl

Rijksdienst voor Archeologie, Cultuurlandschap en Monumenten (RACM) (National Service for
Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage) (RACM)
Broederplein 41
3703 CD Zeist

Tel.: ++31 33 421 74 21
Fax: ++31 33 421 77 99
info@racm.nl
www.racm.nl

Universiteitsbibliotheek Leiden (University Library, University of Leiden)
Special Collection/Bodel Nijenhuis Collection
Witte Singel 27 (WSD Building)
2311 BG Leiden

Tel.: ++31 71 527 28 14
helpdesk@library.leidenuniv.nl
www.ub.leidenuniv.nl

This collection includes maps of Amsterdam, as well as an interesting collection of nautical maps, and maps and atlases from the former Department of Colonies.

5.i Policies and programmes related to the presentation and promotion of the property

The management plan for The Seventeenth-Century Ring of Canals of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal (*De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht*) (see appendix), jointly adopted on 9 September 2008 by Amsterdam's Municipal Executive and the Central Borough's executive committee, describes the way in which information on preserving and protecting the site and its OUV has been organised by the *sitholder*, the Central Borough and the City of Amsterdam in accordance with the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*.

Strategies have been devised for dealing with information and communication. In addition to these means of information and communication, the *sitholder*, in conjunction with the stakeholders and/or shareholders will endeavour to inform residents, users and visitors to the Amsterdam's seventeenth-century ring of canals of the cultural values of this World Heritage Site and Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal.

The strategies are focused on promoting the *property* to its residents, users and national and international visitors, as well as on increasing support for preserving and protecting it. Education and information programmes will form part of this approach. Activities are also focused on promoting the expertise of anyone who is involved in the day-to-day situation with regard to the conservation of the *property*, such as stakeholders.

Action Plan for an Information and Communication Strategy for 2008-2010. Nomination of the 17th-century ring of canals of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal for the UNESCO World Heritage List

In October 2008, the Action Plan for an Information and Communication Strategy for 2008-2010. Nomination of the 17th-century ring of canals of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal for the UNESCO World Heritage List (*Plan van Aanpak Informatie en Communicatie Strategie 2008-2010. Unesco Nominatie Werelderfgoedlijst van de '17de eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht*) was signed and approved by the Head of the Building and Housing Sector, Central Borough, and the Director of the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) (see appendix).

The Plan lays down the way in which the City of Amsterdam together with the *sitholder*, the Central Borough, will provide the information and communication on preserving and protecting the site and the associated *Outstanding Universal Value* (OUV) in accordance with UNESCO's *Operational Guidelines*.

The primary target groups for this strategy will be the *stakeholders* and *shareholders*, followed by residents and businesses.

The aim of the strategy is:

'to ensure an efficient, regular supply of information to the various target groups by means of effective communication channels'.

The strategy is based on:

'timely, accessible and complete information from easily accessible, desirable and logical sources'.

The Plan also discusses setting up an Amsterdam World Heritage Bureau and designating a municipal contact point for dealing with issues surrounding this World Heritage Site.

An information and communication matrix, with budget, will be used for the implementation of the Plan.

The "Policy Letter on the World Heritage Site" of December 2001 from the then State Secretary of Culture, Dr Rick van der Ploeg, to the Lower House of the Dutch parliament states that the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science

would give priority to increasing public reach and support by means of knowledge transfer, information and education.

See also *Site document/management plan for a World Heritage Site* (Section 5.c)

In 2003, Amsterdam's Municipal Executive adopted the Long-term Strategic Agenda for Culture to 2015 (*Langetermijnvisie Cultuur 2015*). Two of its key aims are "to promote shareholding" and "to maintain and display heritage".

The line followed by Amsterdam with regard to information and communication concerning the *property* and its designated buffer zone is straightforward and geared to the diversity of target groups (including residents and stakeholders).

The information will be provided by directly accessible sources such as the *Stadsdeelnieuws* (Borough News) as well as the websites of the City of Amsterdam (www.Amsterdam.nl; www.iamsterdam.com), the Central Borough (www.centrum.amsterdam.nl), the Amsterdam Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) (www.bma.amsterdam.nl) and the special website for this World Heritage Site www.werelderfgoed.amsterdam.nl, which is to be set up (see 8.d).

The *Stadsdeelnieuws* has a circulation of 65,000, is delivered door to door, is available in shops, community centres and libraries and offers e-mail subscriptions.

The city council distributes "residents' letters" which provide residents with all kinds of information on developments and plans for the city.

According to the management plan (Section 6.3.2., *Management Plan*), after the inscription of the *property* on the World Heritage List, the *sitholder* will use the World Heritage emblem with care, to ensure that "the importance of protecting World Heritage is emphasised". The emblem will be displayed by the *sitholder* on "data carriers" such as headed notepaper, brochures and websites.

As regards the *stakeholders* – whether directly or indirectly involved in the *property* – as a target group, a distinction is made between "primary" and "secondary" stakeholders (see also Section 5.e). The stakeholders meet together in a body dedicated to the ring of canals as a World Heritage Site (*Stakeholders Platform Werelderfgoed "Grachtengordel"*).

"Primary" stakeholders

The "primary" stakeholders, such as residents and residents' organisations, businesses, tourism organisations, interest groups and heritage bodies are interested parties inside the *property*. They have

a direct interest in up-to-date information on the consequences and the application of the protection and preservation policy within a World Heritage site. They receive information on the boundaries of the area, on its exceptional and universal values and on the effect and significance of protecting World Heritage in general and the World Heritage site “the seventeenth-century ring of canals of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal” in particular, together with the buffer zone. They receive information on what the designation of World Heritage status is likely to mean for their home, workplace, business or parking facilities. They know the website(s) where they can find information on the site and the municipal office where they can ask questions and make suggestions on the contribution that they could make to preserving and protecting the site. They know how to satisfy the requirements arising from the municipal regulations governing the conservation of historic buildings, spatial development, construction and housing, and they know where they can find information on the relevant policy and regulations. They communicate with the shareholders during their Platform meetings to decide what is needed to achieve the best possible cooperation when caring for the World Heritage site, so that they can impart to others the value of World Heritage status.

“Secondary” stakeholders

“Secondary” stakeholders are indirectly involved, such as residents, businesses and institutions in Amsterdam outside the Central Borough, schools, training institutes and the media. They have an interest in information on the World Heritage area (*property* and buffer zone) and on the exceptional and universal values of the *property*, concisely formulated as *unique selling points* of the ring of canals. To achieve the widest possible support, it is important that they in turn are able to pass on this information to other people.

Visitors

Visitors are broken down into tourists and business travellers, those who stay overnight and those who spend a day visiting the historic city centre, broken down by nationality. They can obtain information from websites in several languages before they arrive. At the Amsterdam World Heritage Visitor Centre (*Werelderfgoed Bezoekerscentrum Amsterdam*), they will be able to find specific information and increase their knowledge of the site. Its role is to inform both visitors, tourists and business travellers (national and international), and residents and professionals about the history and architecture of World Heritage site “the seventeenth-century ring of canals of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal” and its significance as a historical urban development.

Amsterdam World Heritage Visitor Centre

One of the means of providing information on this World Heritage site, which the *sitholder* and the City of Amsterdam are planning, as stated in the Management Plan adopted on 9 September 2008 (Sections 6.10.1 and 6.10.3), is the establishment of the Amsterdam World Heritage Visitor Centre. This proposal for a visitor centre using the name *Heritage Centre* – which originated from a private initiative – would have the role of informing both visitors, tourists and business travellers (national and international), and residents and professionals about the history and architecture of World Heritage site “the seventeenth-century ring of canals of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal” and its significance as a historical urban development (*Management Plan*, 6.10.1).

Amsterdam World Heritage Steering Group

Communication within the group of *shareholders* (City of Amsterdam, Central Borough, Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Regional Water Board) will take place within the Amsterdam World Heritage Steering Group (*Stuurgroep Werelderfgoed Amsterdam*).

Amsterdam World Heritage Bureau

The Amsterdam World Heritage Bureau will inform the official implementing organisations of the contents and application of the management plan and communicate with the official shareholders about the implementation of annual action plans to be drawn up under the management plan.

The official shareholders will provide the Amsterdam World Heritage Bureau with regular information on developments within the *property* and on policy developments that could have a direct or indirect impact on the *property* (including inside the buffer zone).

The Amsterdam World Heritage Bureau will provide the official shareholders – at their request or on its own initiative – with all the information relating to UNESCO World Heritage status which is relevant to ensure the best possible conservation policy for the site.

Central Borough's Building and Housing Office

For any questions relating to buildings, permits and financial issues and any complaints about the preservation of the built heritage values in the *property*, residents and businesses in Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal will be able to contact the Central Borough's Building and Housing Office (*Loket Bouwen & Wonen*), which will also start providing information relating to spatial developments or building plans in this World Heritage site.

The Building and Housing Office can provide information on zoning plans, building-related permits and construction opportunities. It can be contacted by telephone and is open to personal callers three days per week. Simple building-related enquiries can be answered, in order of preference, via the Internet, by telephone and, as a last resort, in person at the enquiries desk. In the case of complex enquiries, enquirers have to make an appointment with a permit manager who, if necessary, can request assistance from the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) as the knowledge centre for cultural heritage.

Private) organizations etc.

Through their activities, organisations such as the Association of Friends of Amsterdam's Historic Centre (*Vrienden van de Amsterdamse Binnenstad*), the Amsterdam historical society *Genootschap Amstelodamum* (*Genootschap Amstelodamum*), the Royal Antiquarian Society (*Koninklijk Oudheidkundig Genootschap*), and conservation groups *Cuypers Genootschap* (*Cuypers Genootschap*) and *Bond Heemschut* (*Bond Heemschut*) as well as – inside the *property* and the buffer zone – restoration bodies and services including Amsterdam City Restoration Company (*Stadsherstel Amsterdam NV*), the Hendrick de Keyser Association (*Vereniging Hendrick de Keyser*), the Government Buildings Agency of the Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment (VROM) (*Rijksgebouwendienst*), housing corporations (*De Key Housing Foundation* (*Woonstichting De Key*); *Ymere Housing Corporation* (*Woningcorporatie Ymere*)) and institutional investors play their part in increasing public participation. Existing tenants' and residents' organisations in the historic city centre are also involved in this process.

Amsterdam's museums and the Municipal Archives fulfil a role through presentation and education, as elements of public participation.

Cultural education and heritage education

In Amsterdam, a distinction is made between *cultural education and heritage education*. The relevant policy line is the *Long-term Strategic Agenda for Culture to 2015*.

By "shareholding", Amsterdam's Municipal Executive means – and intends to see to it – that all Amsterdammers feel as if they are joint owners, i.e. that they will become, be and remain proud of their city, by letting them feel jointly responsible for its cultural assets and by paying more attention to the cultural manifestations of "new Amsterdammers".

The City of Amsterdam promotes cultural education by including it as a permanent item on the syllabus, giving schools more leeway and freedom to teach it, and encouraging providers to make a suitable offer. Sixty-three percent of primary schools have a coherent cultural education policy. The City of Amsterdam is developing teaching packs for different levels in order to involve young people in the city's special cultural heritage. The designation of the ring of canals as a World Heritage site will also have a place in the teaching pack.

If, as expected, the World Heritage Committee decides to include the "seventeenth-century ring of canals of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal" on the World Heritage List in 2010, the "seventeenth-century ring of canals of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal", this pack will be offered to all Amsterdam schools. The teaching pack is being developed jointly with Bond Heemschut (*Bond Heemschut*), a Dutch heritage body.

The Central Borough's executive committee adopted a culture policy document on the city centre (*Cultuurnota Binnenstad*) in 2006 (see appendix). It sets out the strategy for the borough's cultural policy.

"Shareholding"

One of the key issues is "shareholding", within which the executive committee distinguishes three types:

1. emotional shareholding
2. shareholding based on joint ownership
3. shareholding in the sense of a feeling of joint responsibility.

The executive committee has formulated a number of policy proposals to promote shareholding via cultural education:

- ⌘ *To promote cultural education as part of the curriculum of all schools in primary education and preparatory secondary vocational education. The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science has set aside additional resources for this.*
- ⌘ *To anchor heritage education in the primary school curriculum in association with museums and training institutions within the "Heritage à la Carte" project, whereby schools receive vouchers to take their pupils on visits to museums.*

Jan Wagenaar Foundation

Established in 1997, the Jan Wagenaar Foundation in Amsterdam – its objective being "to promote research into the history of Amsterdam" – has been commissioned by the Amsterdam Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) to compile an illustrated, academically sound publication on *Amsterdam and the ring of canals*, intended for a wide audience.

Signs, plaques

The Hendrick de Keyser Association [1 next page](#) and Amsterdam City Restoration Company [2 next page](#) are placing signs on the historic buildings in their possession to identify them.

The Winkler Prins Foundation is placing plaques on properties in which important historical figures used to live or work [3 next page](#).

Educational projects

The Amsterdam Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) has a number of educational projects in place. The Class Monument! (*Klassemonument!*) (see appendix) project is aimed at primary schools. It



familiarises pupils with the concept of historic buildings and with historic buildings in their own daily lives.

The package consists of three lessons (introductory lesson; an outdoor lesson in which pupils visit historic buildings in the vicinity of the school. The pupils select a historic building by asking themselves "what would I like to preserve for the future?"; in the third, concluding lesson, they give a presentation on the historic building or buildings they have selected, using photographs, drawings or a story, from which a Class Monument is chosen). A Teachers' Manual is supplied.

The Monuments Chest (*Monumentenkit*) has been developed for first- and second-year secondary school students. It contains a teaching pack designed to familiarise them with historic buildings and conservation issues. This also involves three lessons. Assignment cards are used. Each student receives a magazine. The chest includes books containing background information, as well as a disposable camera and a sound-level meter.

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) has published the DVD *Schatten van Amsterdam* (Treasures of Amsterdam) (see appendix) for secondary schools, which is also intended for out-of-school activities.

Course on Restoration Technology

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) is running a course on *Restoration Technology*, intended for people working in the restoration sector, in which much attention is focused on recognising and repairing damage and the restoration methods used. The course lasts eight days and the subjects include "structures", "facades", "roofs" and "interiors". A reader has been prepared for this course (see also Section 5.g).

Visits are arranged to different locations which are relevant to the subjects being taught that day. Instruction is provided by BMA staff and by staff from related institutions.

A certificate is awarded at the end of the course. A maximum of 15 students can attend at the same time.

Publications by BMA

BMA has been publishing its Year Book of Amsterdam Monuments & Archaeology (*Jaarboek Amsterdam Monumenten & Archeologie*) annually since 2002. This publication, which is devoted to Amsterdam's stock of historic buildings, contains articles written by staff.

BMA has been publishing the Amsterdam Archaeological Reports (*Amsterdamse Archeologische Rapporten, AAR*) since 2003.

Other projects (websites; heritage education)

The Amsterdam Historical Museum (*Amsterdams Historisch Museum*) and Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*) present the website www.bronnenuitamsterdam.nl, which focuses on the years 1848-1917 in Amsterdam's history.

Amsterdam Municipal Archives have developed the website www.buurtenstad.nl. This website uses ten locations to provide information in words and pictures on buildings and on life inside the ring of canals. It is also possible to pay a virtual visit to the Jordaan district, the "old town" (medieval city centre) and the eastern part of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal.

The Netherlands Institute for Heritage (*Stichting Erfgoed Nederland*) (Herengracht 474, 1017 CA Amsterdam) focuses on providing heritage education in primary schools and establishes regional projects for this purpose.

One of them is devoted to Amsterdam, under the title *Erfgoed à la Carte Amsterdam* (Amsterdam Heritage à la Carte). The objective is to create a direct, long-term relationship between a school and a heritage body, in order to give heritage education its rightful place in the educational system. Schools

will specify the educational programmes on cultural heritage that they would like to have and the bodies will develop such a programme or adapt an existing programme accordingly.

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) has on its website the heading “Typical Historic Buildings of Amsterdam” (*Karakteristieke Amsterdamse Monumenten*), which contains descriptions and illustrations of these special buildings.

5.j Staffing levels

The day-to-day management and preservation of the *property* and buffer zone in Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal involves 35.30 FTE posts (staff from Amsterdam city council’s Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) (*Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie, BMA*), Amsterdam Directorate of General Management (*Bestuursdienst*) and the Environmental and Building Department (*Dienst Milieu- en Bouwtoezicht*)).

The Central Borough, Building and Housing Sector (*Sector Bouwen en Wonen*), contributes 15 staff members, the Public Space Sector (*Sector Openbare Ruimte*) also 15, and likewise the Public, Welfare and Economy Sector (*Sector Publiek, Welzijn en Economie*).

The Central Borough has four senior “enforcement” inspectors as well as seven “enforcement” officers. A further seventeen staff members are involved in issuing permits.

The training requirement for an inspector in the field is a qualification from an Institute of Technology (*Hogere Technische School*) plus a supplementary course in Official Building and Housing Supervision.

Building inspectors attend the course in Restoration Technology (*Restauratietechniek*) offered by the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA).

Staff who assess building and monument permits must have a qualification from an Institute of Technology – Architecture (*Technische School Bouwkunde*), have completed a supplementary course in Official Building and Housing Supervision and specialised in building physics and building safety.

The city council’s departments listed below are involved in policy on the protection and preservation of the exceptional and universal values of the “seventeenth-century ring of canals of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal”:

- ⌘ Environmental and Building Department (*Deinst Milieu en Bouwtoezicht*) – issuing permits, supervision and enforcement of building and environmental regulations and policy advice. The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) is part of this department
- ⌘ Physical Planning Department (*Dienst Ruimtelijke Ordening*) – physical planning policy, urban development plans and designs, physical planning research
- ⌘ Department for Research and Statistics (*Dienst Onderzoek en Statistiek*) - provides information to assist in developing and evaluating policy
- ⌘ Inland Waterway Management Department (*Dienst Binnenwaterbeheer*) – supervision of waterways, operation of locks, bridges, etc., permits relating to water
- ⌘ Social Development Department (*Dienst Maatschappelijke Ontwikkeling*) – remit includes art and culture, young people and education
- ⌘ Directorate of General Management (*Bestuursdienst*) – preparation of political decisions and policy

development

- ⌘ Amsterdam City Development Company (*Ontwikkelingsbedrijf Gemeente Amsterdam*) – responsible for area and property development in central Amsterdam.

The organisation of the Central Borough consists of the following sectors:

- ⌘ Building and Housing (*Bouwen en Wonen*) – preserving and improving the quality and safety of the built environment in terms of cultural history, urban development, building technology and function
- ⌘ Public, Welfare and Economy (*Publiek, Welzijn en Economie*) – developing policy to protect the interests, activities and initiatives of the city centre’s residents, business owners and visitors
- ⌘ Public Space (*Openbare Ruimte*) – layout, management and maintenance of public spaces and enforcement of the relevant rules.

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) currently has a formal workforce of 41 staff. These employees include:

- ⌘ Monument advisers, prior education: University of Technology qualification in architecture (specialising in restoration) or similar
- ⌘ Architectural historian, prior education: university qualification in art history/architecture or similar academic subject
- ⌘ Architectural/building historian, prior education: university qualification in art history/architecture or similar academic subject
- ⌘ Archaeologist, prior education: archaeology (Masters)
- ⌘ Technical officer, archaeology, prior education: higher vocational qualification (HBO), cultural history and/or IT
- ⌘ Policy Officer, prior education: academic qualification in public administration or similar
- ⌘ Management assistant, prior education: secretarial qualification
- ⌘ Monument records officer, prior education: higher vocational qualification (HBO), administration or similar course of study.

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) has set aside the sum of EUR 1,300 per FTE per annum to enable them to develop their skills and training.

North Holland Monument Trust

Established in 1977 and affiliated as an independent organisation to the Monument Trust Federation of the Netherlands (*Federatie Monumentenwacht Nederland*), the North Holland Monument Trust (*Monumentenwacht Noord-Holland*) has 22 employees specialising in inspecting the state of repair of historic buildings. They carry out regular inspections of the historic buildings, the owners of which have become members of this organisation. They write a report on each inspection. The Monument Trust can also advise on restoration work to be carried out. It can also be called in to approve completed work and to monitor and supervise restoration and repair work.

Its employees are trained craftsmen in the construction industry specialising in historic buildings. The City of Amsterdam pays the Monument Trust an annual subsidy. In exchange, the city council receives copies of the inspection reports from the members in Amsterdam on their historic buildings. 1,370 owners of national and municipal monuments in Amsterdam are members of the Monument Trust.

Owners who are in receipt of a restoration grant from the city council are required to join this organisation. Houses are inspected twice a year and other historic buildings once.

6

MONITORING

6. MONITORING

6.a Key indicators for measuring state of conservation

Central Borough, City of Amsterdam

The Central Borough and Amsterdam city council use a large number of indicators to monitor the results of the policy pursued by the Central Borough and the City of Amsterdam (see Section 8, *Management Plan*).

As the *sitholder*, the Central Borough is responsible for monitoring, assessing and, if necessary, updating and improving the management, and the official measures to protect the relevant qualities, of the *property*, the “seventeenth-century ring of canals of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal” as a World Heritage Site and of the surrounding buffer zone, situated within the urban conservation area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal.

To this end, the *sitholder* carries out an annual assessment of the situation with regard to the *property* and the effectiveness of the management and the measures. If necessary, the *sitholder* will amend the management plan to take account of the findings.

- ⋮ A so-called monitoring matrix, which will contain the main indicators for the systematic monitoring of the *property* and the designated buffer zone, will be created on behalf of the *sitholder*, the Central Borough.

The *sitholder* is thereby pursuing a systematic monitoring strategy based on an action plan and a timetable.

One of the main points in the *Management Plan* is as follows:

Key Point 44:

The Central Borough will include the annual report on the enforcement policy by the Central Borough and the city council in the Monitoring Matrix, with the aim of monitoring and reporting to the UNESCO World Heritage Committee.

As regards monitoring, the Management Plan states the following on the creation and development of a monitoring matrix (Section 8.1.3 Conservation and management in accordance with the Operational Guidelines (2008):

Systematic monitoring

Monitoring is the systematic analysis of the current situation, based on measurable indicators.

Key Point 59:

In its capacity as sitholder, the Central Borough will develop a monitoring matrix which will make it clear how data is to be interpreted, explained and elaborated and will contain the main indicators to allow systematic monitoring (based on the key indicators and other information specified in Annex 5 of the Operational Guidelines, Section 6.a). Besides the indicators, the matrix will show where information on the indicators can be found. The model of the monitoring matrix produced by the sitholder will be added to the nomination dossier to be submitted.

Key Point 60:

As the sitholder, the Central Borough is the party primarily responsible for the future development and

implementation of the systematic monitoring strategy and will prepare an action plan and timetable for its implementation. They will contain details of the contribution in terms of content, staff and/or funding made on a regular basis by the departments and organisations described in the monitoring matrix (the action plan and timetable will be added to the nomination dossier to be submitted).

- ⌘ Regular monitoring takes place within the City of Amsterdam and the Central Borough under a number of programmes and by council departments.

For example, the Dutch Municipalities Act (*Gemeentewet*) (Article 213 A) states that a city council or the executive committee of a borough council must examine periodically the effectiveness and efficiency of the management provided by the city council or the executive committee of a borough council.

For the Central Borough this is the Central Borough Measurable Programme Agreement for 2006-2010 (*Meetbaar Programakkoord 2006-2010 stadsdeel Centrum*), for which “impact indicators” and “result indicators” have been created. “Impact indicators” are used to gauge the impact on society. “Result indicators” relate to the use of indicators/measurements to monitor the elaboration of agreements made. This monitoring process is based on a “planning and control cycle”.

Two “impact indicators” (‘architectural quality of historic buildings’; ‘rating for historic buildings’) and a number of result indicators are used as indicators, such as

- ⌘ Green Programme: covers protected trees and the establishment of a Green Fund
- ⌘ number of entries on the municipal monument list
- ⌘ enforcement cases, where no permit has been granted (enforcement of advertising and buildings aesthetics, some 1,600 cases a year; 150 enforcement cases a year for illegal alteration/demolition of historic buildings)
- ⌘ notices served where buildings are in a poor structural condition; the objective is that there should be not more than 2,000-2,500 properties in poor condition in the borough by 2010; some 70 notices served by the Central Borough each year
- ⌘ criminal cases
- ⌘ grants awarded for conservation/maintenance of historic buildings (about ten a year, with each grant amounting to around €200,000)
- ⌘ survey of architectural quality of historic buildings (2007-2010)

Both the city council and the Central Borough include impact indicators and result indicators in their annual budgets and plans.

- ⌘ Every two years the Central Borough issues a Trend Report on Amsterdam City Centre (*Tendrapport Amsterdamse binnenstad*). The Trend Report considers the development of the city centre in conjunction with the preservation of the basic values set out in the long-term Strategic Agenda for Amsterdam City Centre (*Strategische Visie Amsterdamse binnenstad*) (2002). The Trend Report also highlights significant trends, which will require additional attention over the next few years and makes suggestions in this regard. The Trend Report is published every two years and its subjects include developments affecting historic buildings in the city centre. The Trend Report can be downloaded from www.centrum.amsterdam.nl - Publicaties – Jaarverslagen – Tendrapport (Publications – Annual Reports – Trend Report). The borough council regards the Trend Report as an important instrument and discusses it in all of its committees.

- ⌘ The Maintenance Implementation Plan (*Uitvoeringsplan Heel*) published annually by the Public Space Creation Department (*Afdeling Realisatie Openbare Ruimte*) of the Central Borough's Public Space Sector lists all the work activities required to maintain the public spaces (roads, green spaces, hydraulic engineering facilities) and the results of maintenance inspections. The Maintenance Implementation Plan is an internal document, the results of which are incorporated into the Central Borough's Annual Report and Annual Accounts.
- ⌘ The two-yearly Housing in Amsterdam (*Wonen in Amsterdam*) survey conducted by the Housing Department (*Dienst Wonen*) contains information on the housing stock and residents' characteristics in each borough. The survey can be viewed on www.wonen.amsterdam.nl - Beleid en onderzoek (Policy and research).
- ⌘ The Quality Monitor for Buildings in the Central Borough (*Kwaliteitsmonitor Gebouwen in stadsdeel Centrum*) contains details on the condition of the shell and foundations of each property; this monitor is continuously updated by the field service of the Central Borough's Building and Housing Sector (every intervention is recorded electronically via a secure electronic system). The monitor is available for internal consultation only.
- ⌘ Amsterdam city council's Department for Research and Statistics (*Dienst Onderzoek en Statistiek*, O+S) provides:
 - ⌘ a control function for the supply of official information
O+S assists Amsterdam city council's policymaking process by providing relevant policy information. The Department has a control function with regard to the supply of official information and facilitates the council's planning and inspection cycle
 - ⌘ a basic measurement set based on indicators
O+S uses a basic measurements set based on a number of indicators, which are used to set new programme budgets
 - ⌘ Stadstat
O+S illustrates the indicators and key figures on the *Stadstat* website, which allows interested parties to monitor the progress of the city council's policy objectives. Stadstat can be consulted on www.stadstat.osamsterdam.nl
 - ⌘ Amsterdam in figures/Boroughs in figures
O+S publishes the annual publications Boroughs in figures, Amsterdam in figures and Amsterdam Region in pictures (*Stadsdelen in cijfers*), (*Amsterdam in cijfers*) en (*Regio Amsterdam in beeld*). These publications contain the statistical information for each calendar year for Amsterdam, its 14 boroughs and its 97 statistical subdivisions. All data can also be consulted or downloaded via the website www.os.amsterdam.nl
 - ⌘ Onderzoeksbank (Research Bank)
O+S maintains the Research Bank, a digital library of all the leading research reports on Amsterdam and the rest of the Netherlands. In addition, the Research Bank contains links to the main sources of information on various areas of research. The Research Bank can be consulted via the website www.os.amsterdam.nl/onlineproducten/onderzoeksbank
 - ⌘ a list of publications
O+S provides a list of the publications which have been published by O+S, most of which can be consulted online. The list of publications can be found on www.os.amsterdam.nl

⌘ *World Heritage Monitor for the "seventeenth-century ring of canals of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal"*

At the request of the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA), Amsterdam city council's Department for Research and Statistics (O+S) has designed a scheme for the monitoring of the *property* (described in the scheme as the "inner area") and of the buffer zone ("outer area"), as a combination of general and policy monitoring.

This scheme is based on three levels with impact indicators, and starts with a reference year:

- ⌘ Level 1 (impact; condition)
 - Land use by type (hectare)
 - Built heritage by type
 - Number of occupied addresses and number of occupiers
 - Number of built properties, on which the local property (*Waarde Onroerend Zaak*, WOZ) tax has been set by the city council
 - Surface area of built properties, on which the local property (*Waarde Onroerend Zaak*, WOZ) tax has been set by the city council
 - Value of local property tax by type of use (x €1,000,000)
 - Number of business premises by type
 - Number of jobs by type of business

- ⌘ Level 2 (operational use, visits)
 - Number of visitors to Amsterdam (x 100,000)
 - International visitors who take a boat trip
 - Alteration permits
 - New build permits
 - Demolition permits
 - Investment in urban conservation/urban renewal

- ⌘ Level 3 (services)
 - Arranging campaigns
 - Educational programmes
 - Commissioning research
 - Systematic assessment of (government) policy on consequences
 - Preparing action plans
 - Analysis of developments in the buffer zone

The Department for Research and Statistics (O+S) has proposed that annual reports be issued. The cost of creating the monitoring matrix will be borne by this department. The cost of periodic updates of the matrix will be borne by the client and will amount to €2,750 per annum.

Management plan, monitoring matrix

Section 8.1.5 of the *Management Plan* states that the following are to be included in the monitoring matrix:

- OCW: Ministry of Education, Culture and Science
- RACM: National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Monuments
- BMA: Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology, Amsterdam city council
- SDC: Central Borough
- City: Amsterdam city council
- DMB: Environmental and Building Department, Amsterdam city council
- UvA: University of Amsterdam
- VU: Free University
- ATCB: Amsterdam Tourism & Convention Board)

Subject	Indicator	Source
OUV	Are criteria for including site on World Heritage List still valid?	OCW/RACM
	Are additional/new criteria desirable?	As above
	Are there changes in OUV values?	As above
	Reason for preparing "state of conservation" report?	As above
Authenticity & Integrity	Evaluation of A&I statements	As above
	Number of participants on BMA restoration technology course	BMA
Management	Regular evaluation of the management plan	SDC
	Siteholder's activities	SDC
	Activities in collaboration with shareholders and stakeholders	
	Number of meetings with steering group and platform	
Spatial Planning	Evaluation of designating property in practice: implementation in policy and regulations	SDC and City
	Evaluation of buffer zone for property in practice: implementation in policy and regulations	SDC and City
	Evaluation of protection of property in urban conservation area: implementation in policy and regulations	SDC
	Evaluation of protection of property in Strategic Structure Agenda: implementation in policy and regulations	City
	Evaluation of protection of property in zoning plans	SDC
	Evaluation of protection of property in strategic high-rise agenda: implementation in policy and regulations	City
	Evaluation of protection of property in protection of buildings/ complexes: implementation in policy and regulations	SDC
	Effect of urban renewal	SDC
	Public space: street lighting	SDC
	Noise nuisance	SDC
	Air quality	
	Environmental impact reports	DMB SDCt
	Visual impact studies	
	Policy on pavement cafes	

Subject	Indicator	Source
Built heritage (above ground, underground)	Changes in monument register and municipal monument list	BMA SDC
	Number and nature of monument permits issued	SDC
	Number of demolition permits	SDC
	Number of enforcement cases concerning building without a permit	SDC
	Number of notices served	SDC
	Number of reports to Public Prosecutor's Office	SDC
	Cultural, Historical Impact Reports (CHER) completed BMA publications and publication policy	BMA
Canals/water	Water level	Waternet
	Houseboats	SDC
	Bridges Waterways	
Influencing factors/ threats	High-rise: number of projects and height of buildings, use of visual impact study	City
	Catering: number of catering establishments	SDC
	Pavement cafes: number of pavement cafes	SDC
	Hotels: number of hotels, hotel beds and overnight stays per year	SDC & EZ
	Parking and traffic: volume of traffic and number of parking spaces	SDC
	Façade advertising: number and duration of permits	SDC
	Water: "vibration damage" during restoration of retaining walls	SDC
	Green spaces: main structure of green spaces, number of protected trees, protected gardens, planting alongside canals, pavement gardens	SDC
	Metropolitan projects: number, nature and location; buildings aesthetics criteria	City
	Miscellaneous developments/spatial planning projects: e.g. reconstructions	SDC
Information, education and tourism	Educational material, activities and programmes	EZ and SDC
	Number of tourists and rating for the site	EZ and SDC
	Number of events within ring of canals	EZ and SDC
	Academic research conducted	BMA, UvA, VU
	Information and promotional material	ATCB
	Number of hits on website for Ring of Canals World Heritage Site	TBA
	Number of boat trips around the ring of canals	ATCB
Finance	Annual budget for maintenance, repair and restoration in property and buffer zone	SDC
	Number of loans made from Amsterdam Restoration Fund	BMA

Section 8.1.6 in the *Management Plan* reports on the “Indicators from sections of the Management Plan”:

6.6 TOURISM, VISITOR NUMBERS (INDICATOR) (RESULT):

Increase repeat visits (measure – reference measurement by ATCB in autumn 2007)

Lengthen average duration of stay (measure – Amsterdam average: 1.9 nights per visit)

Opening hours of museums and cultural institutions (longer than current opening hours)

Marketing Plan for Central Borough - East (Marketing Plan)

Planning for Chinatown (Strategic agenda and action plan)

Yearbook of the Amsterdam Federation of Housing Corporations

This yearbook contains figures on the make-up of the housing stock owned by the corporations, see www.afwc.nl.

Annual Report of the Amsterdam Committee on the external appearance of (historic) buildings (Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten, CWM)

The Annual Report of the Committee on the external appearance of (historic) buildings evaluates the recommendations made by the committee to the Central Borough with regard to “simple” building enquiries, enforcement, enforcement of facade advertising, buildings aesthetics criteria for major building projects, monument permits/restoration plans, the digitising of policy documents on building aesthetics and departures by the executive committee from the agency’s recommendations. The Annual Report can be downloaded from www.bestuur.centrum.amsterdam.nl

Amsterdam Tourism & Convention Board (ATCB)

Amsterdam Tourism & Convention Board (ATCB), which works on behalf of Amsterdam city council, monitors inter alia developments in the area of tourism. Each year, ATCB provides details of the visitor flows to the almost 40 Amsterdam museums and Amsterdam’s principal attractions (Museum and Attraction Monitor). Twice a year ATCB also asks the tourism industry via www.atcb.nl how tourism is faring in the course of the year.

AMIS

In the *AMIS* data system (*Amsterdam Monument Information System*), Amsterdam city council’s Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) maintains registers of the protected municipal, provincial and national monuments in the boroughs of the city.

Interested parties can find out whether a property is a protected monument by entering its street name and house number in AMIS. The general public cannot see detailed information on the property itself.

The Bureau also records procedures for issuing notices for new protected buildings and updates the monument lists for the boroughs.

6.b Administrative arrangements for monitoring property

Re "periodic reporting" (*Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*)

- ⌘ Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW)
National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Monuments (RACM)

Broederplein 41
3703 CD Zeist (until 01.05.2009)
Tel. ++31 30 69 83 211
PO Box 1600
3800 BP Amersfoort
Tel.: ++31 33 42 17 421
www.racm.nl
info@racm.nl

- ⌘ Central Borough, *siteholder*

Stadhuis
Amstel 1
1011 PN Amsterdam
PO Box 202
1000 AE Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 14 020
www.centrum.amsterdam.nl

- ⌘ Amsterdam World Heritage Bureau
Still being set up by City of Amsterdam/Central Borough
- ⌘ Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA), Amsterdam city council

De Bazel
Herengracht 482
1017 CB Amsterdam
PO Box 10718
1001 ES Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 251 49 00
bma@bma.dmb.amsterdam.nl
www.bma.amsterdam.nl

Re regular monitoring by Amsterdam city council

- ⌘ Central Borough, *siteholder*

- ⌘ Amsterdam World Heritage Bureau
Still being set up by City of Amsterdam/Central Borough
- ⌘ Department for Research and Statistics (O+S), Amsterdam city council

Weesperstraat 79
1018 VN Amsterdam
PO Box 658
1000 AR Amsterdam

Tel. ++31 20 527 95 27
www.os.amsterdam.nl
algemeen@os.amsterdam.nl

- ⌘ Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA), Amsterdam city council

6.c Results of previous reporting exercises

In May 2008, the Central Borough's Building and Housing Sector (*Sector Bouwen en Wonen*) issued the Interim Report on the Intensification of Preservation and Restoration (*Tussenrapportage intensivering behoud en herstel*).

The report is based on the borough council's Programme Agreement for 2006-2010 (*Programmakkoord 2006-2010*) and contains the following policy statement:

'during this period, a start will be made on tackling the large number of properties which do not conform to the quality standards laid down in the Dutch Buildings Decree' (Bouwbesluit).

The inspection will be carried out by building and housing inspectors. The objective is to reduce the number of properties in the Central Borough with passable to poor foundations or an unstable shell to between 2,000 and 2,500 during the period 2006-2010.

To this end, some 160 shell and foundation inspections will be conducted each year. On the basis of these inspections, the borough council will be able to serve a repair notice on an owner if the results are negative. In 2008, over 160 foundation inspections have been carried out and 100 repair notices will be served on owners. The general survey to establish the number of "poor quality" properties is set to end in 2008. Problems with foundations and stability are (still) a regular occurrence. This does not in itself mean that there is an urgent structural problem. Settlement is often of an older date.

Since 2003, the borough council has been maintaining a "quality monitor" of some 17,000 properties in Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal.

Survey of repair needs and restoration backlog of historic buildings in Amsterdam

In 2008, the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) commissioned a survey to investigate the restoration backlog in Amsterdam. To this end, 248 historic buildings (national or municipal monuments) were inspected, chosen at random from a group of 1,592 national or municipal monuments (among other things, the survey did not include historic houses owned by private owners because they have tax concessions and can also claim a grant under the Decree on National Grants for Built Heritage

Preservation (*Besluit rijkssubsidiëring instandhouding monumenten*, (BRIM), and have the possibility of obtaining a restoration mortgage from the National Restoration Fund (*Nationaal Restauratiefonds*). The survey was not aimed at the *property* and/or the buffer zone, but the stock of built heritage in Amsterdam itself.

The survey is intended as a contribution to the establishment of the Amsterdam Restoration Fund (*Amsterdam Restauratie Fonds*).

One of the findings of the survey is that the cost of repairing or restoring national monuments is usually higher than that for municipal monuments.

It is estimated that a sum of €191 million is required to repair the selected group of 1,592 historic buildings. The estimated cost which would be eligible for a grant is €164.51 million, 45% of which for national monuments, 50% for items protected by the city council (houses, farms, bridges and locks) and 5% for churches and schools protected by the city council.

The survey showed that 26 of the 248 inspected historic buildings had accumulated a backlog of restoration work. From the group of 1,592 historic buildings, 188 properties would require repair in the near future. A sum of €52.9 million will be needed for this.

Measured according to the principles laid down by the Dutch government whereby the restoration backlog for national monuments must not exceed 10% after 2010, Amsterdam would have to contribute financially – up to and including 2010 – to the grant-eligible cost of 38 major restorations (€10.8 million, of which €7.3 million for national monuments and €3.5 million for municipal monuments). The average grant amounts to some €300,000.

The survey also showed that the national monuments that do not qualify for a restoration mortgage from the National Restoration Fund, but for which the sums stated in the BRIM as maximum grant-eligible costs are too low or, due to an inadequate budget, are not eligible for a grant under the BRIM, would require €74.78 million for Amsterdam.

Annual programme for 2007, Central Borough

Section 3.14 of the Annual Programme for 2007 is devoted to the built heritage. The programme focuses on four areas: policy, permits, enforcement and grants.

“Impact indicators” are used to investigate aspects such as:

- ⌘ Surveying properties in poor structural condition, including historic buildings (see above)
- ⌘ Ratings for the built heritage

In late 2007, the Department for Research and Statistics (*Bureau Onderzoek & Statistiek*) completed a survey to ascertain what rating residents and businesses would give the built heritage and the urban conservation area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal. Maintenance of the built heritage received a rating of 7.3, while the rating for the Central Borough’s policy in this regard was 6.8. The rating for the urban conservation area is shared by almost everyone

- ⌘ Completion of Municipal Monuments Project (*Gemeentelijk Monumentenproject*)

This project, aimed at designating some 1,000 historic buildings as municipal monuments, was completed in 2007

- ⌘ Completion of Garden Houses Project (*Project Tuinhuizen*)

This project involved designating a few dozen historic garden houses as national or municipal monuments

- ⌘ Completion of Inventory of Jewish Cultural Heritage, and ‘Van Houten Houses’

Both inventories have been completed. In 2008, the Inventory of Jewish Cultural Heritage appeared in print (see also 7.c). The city council has initiated procedures to protect the so-called Van Houten houses, fourteen in number.



DOCUMENTATION

7.a. Photographs, slides, image inventory and authorization table and onther audiovisual materials

Authorization Form

Maps and plans (see 1.e. Nomination Document),

by the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Monuments (RACM)/Rijksdienst voor Archeologie, Cultuurlandschap en Monumenten (RACM), Zeist, the Netherlands. Free of copyrights

Photographs (CD) (see appendices)

by Robert de Jong, National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Monuments (RACM)/Rijksdienst voor Archeologie, Cultuurlandschap en Monumenten (RACM), Zeist, the Netherlands.

Free of copyrights

7.b. Texts relating to protective designation, copies of property management plans or documented management systems and extracts of other plans relevant to the property

See

-List (5.b (5.b.1., 5.b.2.)), Means of implementing protective measures 5.c.1-4, Existing plans related to municipality and region in which the proposed property is located, see 5.b, 5.c

-Three copies (2x printed, 1x loose-leaf format), '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'. *Managementplan for World Heritage Nomination* (Three volumes)

-DVD (Documents, Background Topics, Appendices)

7.c Form and date of most recent records or inventory of property

- ⋮ *Het Gemeentelijk Monumenten Project Amsterdam-Centrum. Gebouwd tussen 1850-1940*, by Vincent van Rossem and Han van der Zanden, published in 2008, reviews in text and images the 941 buildings constructed between 1850 and 1940 recently granted conservation status by the local council.

The follow-up to this project is a list of 500 buildings selected by Amsterdam's Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) that may be granted conservation status by the local council; these are located in the nine districts that make up the 'nineteenth-century ring' and the '1920-1940 ring', both of which lie outside the Singelgracht canal.

- ⋮ At the request of the alderman for Conservation, Amsterdam's Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) has in the past year produced an inventory of the city's architecture between 1940 and 1970 and compiled a selection, published as *Amsterdamse Top Honderd Naoorlogse Bouwkunst* (2008).

∴ The Central Borough has the *Waarderingskaart Beschermd Stadsgezicht* (2000, published by Amsterdam's Inner City Department (*Dienst Binnenstad Amsterdam*)).

The publication consists of 133 classification maps (scale 1:1000) which identify the status of each building in the Amsterdam conservation area within the Singelgracht. The maps form part of the Policy Document on Conservation Area Classification Map (*Beleidsnota Waarderingskaart Beschermd Stadsgezicht*) adopted in 2000. The policy document describes the City's policy on the visual quality of the built environment in the inner city (adopted in accordance with Article 9(2) of the *Amsterdam Building Regulations (Bouwverordening Amsterdam 2003)*).

The 'classification' is divided into 'classes' (Class I: historic buildings and monuments granted conservation status by the state or local council; Class II, buildings dating from before 1940 whose architectural quality, place within the urban structure and/or prominent façade make an important contribution to the visual appearance of the city), 'V' (structures to be replaced or gaps to be filled), and 'N' (post-1940 buildings).

THE CLASSIFICATION MAP IS VALUABLE BECAUSE:

∴ *it promotes the conservation of valuable facades, which helps to protect the visual appearance of the city*

∴ *protected monuments are viewed within their context*

∴ *properties important to the visual appearance of the city or the historical urban structure can be designated as Class II buildings, even if their historical architectural qualities do not qualify them for placement on the Municipal Monuments List.*

The main purpose of the Classification Map is to illustrate the building's contribution to the visual appearance of the city by showing it within its urban context and the visual appearance of the street in which it is located. Specifically, it is the façade and the roof of Class II properties that are most important.

The Conservation Area Classification Map (29 February 2000) is printed in A3 format; some parts of the text and maps are now somewhat out of date. The Central Borough updates the classification maps whenever it reviews a zoning plan and ensures that the maps are made available in digital form.

∴ The publication *Bouwhistorische Waardenkaart voor de stadskern van Amsterdam*, published by the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) in 2008, covers the medieval city centre, i.e. the area between the Singel, the former Open Havenfront (Prins Hendrikkade), Geldersekaade and Kloveniersburgwal.

The map is the result of a historical study of the original medieval houses in the oldest part of Amsterdam's city centre. The map is important because it seems that many later facades cover much older, late-medieval houses. The map has not only been published in print but can also be consulted on the Internet (www.bma.amsterdam.nl). It is updated continuously.

∴ The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA), Archaeology Department, is responsible for drawing up the Archaeological Classification Maps (*Archeologische Waardenkaarten*), consisting of two maps, a classification map and a policy map. The first presents the data collected via inventories. The second shows which policy measures apply in which areas with respect to archaeological features.

∴ In 2008, the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) carried out an Inventory of Jewish Cultural Heritage, Central Borough (*Inventarisatie Joods Cultuurhistorisch Erfgoed Stadsdeel*

Centrum). The result of the Jewish Cultural Heritage inventory project is a lengthy list of selections or key properties, preceded by a brief historical review of the history of Amsterdam's Jewish community, conclusions and recommendations.

7.d Address where inventory, records and archives are held

Stadsdeel Centrum
Central Borough

Stadhuis
Amstel 1
1011 PN Amsterdam
Postbus 202
1000 AE Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 14020
www.centrum.amsterdam.nl

The Central Borough holds the Properties Archive (*Pandenarchief*). This contains all the building permit applications/permits and building-related permits that have been submitted since 1900 (including the drawings belonging to the permit). The archive measures two kilometres in length.

The district is currently in the process of digitising all the dossiers and drawings in the archive. A total of 19 district employees are working on this project. Very strict requirements have been set for the digital version.

Any dossiers that are valuable in terms of cultural heritage are sent to the Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*). The district employees are subject to the daily supervision of the Municipal Archives employees. The latter determine which records are valuable for cultural heritage reasons, in accordance with the requirements of the archives system. The project is scheduled to be completed in 2009. Everyone will then be able to consult the Properties archive in digital form.

In addition to the Properties Archive, the district has its own archive, which is managed by the Documentary Information Department (*Documentaire Informatie Voorziening, DIV*). This archive is also being digitised. Once the work has been completed, it will be possible to look up documents by address and/or department.

Kennisbank Ruimtelijke Sector, gemeente Amsterdam
Spatial Sector Knowledge Database, City of Amsterdam

Dienst Wonen
Jodenbreestraat 25
1011 NH Amsterdam

Tel. ++31 20 55 27 152/ 7150
www.wonen.amsterdam.nl/documentatie/kenniscentrum
kenniscentrum@wonen.amsterdam.nl

The digital knowledge database is open to everyone interested in the spatial planning sector in Amsterdam. The knowledge database covers seven municipal departments (including the Physical Planning Department (*Dienst Ruimtelijke Ordening*), the Amsterdam City Housing Department (*Dienst Wonen*) –which coordinates urban renewal – and the Environmental and Building Department (*Dienst Milieu en Bouwtoezicht*)).

Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie (BMA), gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology, City of Amsterdam

De Bazel
Herengracht 482
1017 CB Amsterdam
Postbus 10718
1001 ES Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 251 49 00
Fax: ++31 20 251 49 99
E-mail: @bma.dmb.amsterdam.nl
www.bma.amsterdam.nl

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology is part of the City of Amsterdam's Environmental and Building Department (*Dienst Milieu en Bouwtoezicht*). It runs the Amsterdam Monuments Information System (AMIS), which can be accessed digitally.

The Bureau's website provides access to the digital file Characteristic Amsterdam Monuments (*Karakteristieke Amsterdamse monumenten*).

Dienst Ruimtelijke Ordening (dRO)
Amsterdam Physical Planning Department

Jodenbreestraat 25
1011 NH Amsterdam
Postbus 2758
1000 CT Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 552 77 11
info@dro.amsterdam.nl
www.dro.amsterdam.nl

Amsterdam's Physical Planning Department (*dienst Ruimtelijke Ordening*, dRO) is a central department of the City of Amsterdam. It advises the district council on spatial and urban development by issuing strategic spatial planning agendas and by developing spatial planning strategies. The district council receives recommendations on physical planning, public space and planting. The department succeeded the Municipal Development Department (*Dienst Stadsontwikkeling*) in 1980; the latter was set up 1928 and was responsible for the General Expansion Plan (*Algemeen Uitbreidingsplan, AUP*). Upon request, the department also develops the spatial planning framework within which Amsterdam's 14 districts may determine their spatial planning policy. The department also designs the 'metropolitan' projects that are the responsibility of the City of Amsterdam.

The department is responsible for drawing up the City of Amsterdam's strategic structure agenda, as required under the new Spatial Planning Act (*Wet ruimtelijke ordening*), effective on 1 July 2008). The structural concept sets the strategic agenda for spatial planning in the city. In 2003, the department drafted a structure plan for Amsterdam's spatial development.

The department consists of a number of teams, each one of which is charged with a specific subject/issue (e.g. the Green, ecology, urban Recreation and Water Team (GRW)).

One of the department's publications is the *Amsterdam Pocket Atlas*, which can be accessed on the Internet (<http://opera.amsterdam.asp4all.nl/contents/diensten/dro/dro.swf>), a 48-chapter English-language book that provides information on a wealth of different topics relevant to Amsterdam as a city.

Informatiecentrum De Zuiderkerk voor ruimte, bouwen en wonen
De Zuiderkerk Information Centre

Zuiderkerkhof 72
1011 WB Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 552 79 87
zuiderkerk@dro.amsterdam.nl
www.zuiderkerk.amsterdam.nl
www.dro.amsterdam.nl

De Zuiderkerk Information Centre (Informatiecentrum De Zuiderkerk voor ruimte, bouwen en wonen), part of Amsterdam's Physical Planning Department (dRO), has a digital program on its website that covers the history of Amsterdam, divided into various time periods: 1000-1600, 1600-1800, 1800-1900, 1900-1960, 1960 to the present (www.zuiderkerk.amsterdam.nl/historie_amsterdam).

The information centre itself has various multimedia presentations about Amsterdam in past, present and future, along with a scale model of Amsterdam as it will be in 2020. The model projects such current and future 'metropolitan' developments as the South Axis (*Zuidas*) business district, the North/South metro line, and the new residential and commercial area along the banks of the IJ.

Stadsarchief Amsterdam
Amsterdam Municipal Archives

De Bazel
Vijzelstraat 32
1017 HL Amsterdam
Postbus 51140
1007 EC Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 251 15 11
informatie@stadsarchief.amsterdam.nl
www.stadsarchief.amsterdam.nl
www.beeldbank.amsterdam.nl

The Amsterdam Municipal Archives has an archives bank. It contains government and private records and measures about 35 km in length. The Archives intends to continue digitising present and future documents. The Image Bank has 237,527 images of the city (as of June 2008). Index lists make it possible to search the Image Bank for 'building', for the person who created the 'image', or on its 'geographical name'.

The Municipal Archives has a library (with on-line catalogue), an historical topographical atlas (dating from 1848), various separate collections (such as Splitgerber, Dreesmann, Van Eeghen, Kok), and an audio-visual archive. It also runs an information centre focusing on the history of Amsterdam. There is also a reading room for consulting original documents. There is an exhibition area. The rarest documents related to the history of Amsterdam are exhibited in the Treasury Chamber (*Schatkamer*), part of the former Gold Vault belonging to the bank that formerly occupied the De Bazel Building.

The Municipal Book Shop, which is located here, specialises in publications about Amsterdam. In addition to its storerooms, the Municipal Archives also has a restoration and reproduction atelier.

In 2007, the Municipal Archives moved to the former head office of De Nederlandse Handelmaatschappij, now known as the De Bazel Building (designed by K.P.C. de Bazel, 1926).

Amsterdams Historisch Museum [1 next page](#)
Amsterdam Historical Museum

Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal 357/Kalverstraat 92
Postbus 3302
1001 AC Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 205 23 1882
info@ahm.amsterdam.nl
www.ahm.nl

In 2008, the Amsterdam Historical Museum had more than 65,000 objects either on display or in its storerooms. In addition to its collection, the museum also manages the municipal art collection, which is exhibited at various locations around the city, for example the portrait gallery in the municipal theatre, the movable property in the Beurs van Berlage Building, and the period rooms in the Mayor's official residence (Herengracht 502). Another important part of the city's art collection has been held by the Rijksmuseum since its establishment in 1885. This consists of the collection of seventeenth-century paintings owned by banker Adriaan van der Hoop, which were gifted to the city in 1854. The paintings include Rembrandt's *The Jewish Bride* and Vermeer's *Woman Reading a Letter*. The Amsterdam Historical Museum also manages all artefacts discovered in Amsterdam. There are thousands of objects and tens of thousands of fragments that have been preserved as the tangible result of archaeological excavations. Archaeologists have uncovered many different utensils and personal items, such as footwear, toys and jewellery, which are now on display in the permanent exhibition. Much of the archaeological collection is kept in the museum storerooms.

Gemeente Amsterdam, Geo en Vastgoedinformatie
City of Amsterdam, Geographical and Real Estate Information

Pieter Braaijweg 10
1099 DG Amsterdam
Postbus 94109
1090 GC Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 561 21 60
info.gvi@dab.amsterdam.nl
www.gvi.amsterdam.nl

This municipal department is responsible for survey work and for drawing up maps (the GBK, a 1:2000



detailed topographical map of Amsterdam, and the KBKs, 1:10,000 coloured topographical maps of the city). Aerial photographs have been taken of Amsterdam every year since 1974. The department is working on having Amsterdam available in 3D Google Earth.

Kadaster gemeente Amsterdam
Dutch Land Registry Office, City of Amsterdam
Naritaweg 3
1043 BP Amsterdam
Postbus 20555
1001 NN Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 555 79 11
++31 20 183 22 00
www.kadaster.nl

The Dutch Land Registry Office (*Kadaster*) collects, records and manages information on registered properties and makes this information available (e.g. the owner of a registered good, registered lots, mortgages on property and registered vessels).

Stadsdeel Centrum, Sector Bouwen en Wonen, afdeling Ruimtelijk Beleid
Central Borough, Building and Housing Sector, Spatial Policy Department

Stadhuis
Amstel 1
1011 PN Amsterdam

The prevailing zoning plans for the Central Borough can be found here.

Website, www.monumenten.nl

The website www.monumenten.nl was set up at the initiative of the National Restoration Fund (*Nationaal Restauratiefonds*) and the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (*Rijksdienst voor Archeologie, Cultuurlandschap en Monumenten, RACM*).


Vereniging Hendrick de Keyser. Vereniging tot behoud van architectonisch of historisch waardevolle huizen in Nederland ²
Hendrick de Keyser Society for the conservation of architecturally or historically valuable houses in the Netherlands

Keizersgracht 743
1017 DZ Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 521 06 30
info@hendrickdekeyser.nl
www.hendrickdekeyser.nl

The Society was founded in 1918. It initially focused on Amsterdam, where historic houses were being demolished. Immediately thereafter, the Society decided to also purchase important historical

properties elsewhere in the Netherlands. The Society now owns more than 360 historic residences and other properties (as of 2008), 85 of which are located in Amsterdam. In order to maintain each property in good condition – a process that may involve restoration, renovation and maintenance – the Society carries out an in-depth investigation into each building’s background and architectural history. A series of publications on the Society’s houses appeared a number of years ago. One publication was devoted to its properties in Amsterdam (see bibliography). Each year, the Society reports the results of the past year’s investigations into the history and restoration of its buildings in its annual reports.

Amsterdamse Maatschappij tot Stadsherstel N.V. 
Amsterdam City Restoration Company

Amstelkerk
Amstelveld 10
1017 JD Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 520 00 60
info@stadsherstel.nl
www.stadsherstel.nl

THE AIM OF THE COMPANY IS,

to be solely engaged in the interests of public housing in the Netherlands, particularly where residential space characteristic of the appearance of the city is in danger of being lost owing to urban development and which, when modernized to present-day requirements, can be preserved.

The Amsterdam City Restoration Company (*De Amsterdamse Maatschappij tot Stadsherstel N.V.*) was founded in 1956 with the object of restoring buildings characteristic of Amsterdam but threatened with demolition in order to make the large-scale redevelopment of Amsterdam’s city centre unnecessary. This public limited company (*naamloze vennootschap*) is a non-profit organisation and pays out an annual dividend that must approximate a reasonable rate of interest, according to its articles of association. Its shareholders are members of Amsterdam’s business community, the City of Amsterdam, insurance companies and a housing association. Following a ruling by the European Commission, municipal restoration organisations are exempt from paying corporation tax between 2005 and 2014.

The company uses a particular system to obtain a minimum return on its investment. It reserves a percentage of its rental income for major and minor maintenance. Restoration is financed from the paid-up share capital, loans and government grants.

Since 1956, the company has restored more than 450 historic buildings, including about 1000 private homes and approximately 200 business premises (as of 2008). The company spent more than EUR 9 million on restoration in 2006, and another EUR 1.9 million on maintaining its historic properties in the same year. In 2005, it spent more than EUR 16 million on restoration, and in 2007 EUR 4.6 million.

In 1999, the Amsterdam City Restoration Company merged with the Amsterdam Monuments Fund (*N.V. Amsterdams Monumentenfonds*) to form Amsterdam City Restoration plc. (*Stadsherstel Amsterdam N.V.*).

The Monuments Fund was founded in 1992 as a response to plans to demolish two churches, Vondelkerk and Posthoornkerk (both located within Amsterdam’s conservation area within the





Singelgracht. The Posthoornkerk is located within the boundaries of the *property*).

In the new organisation, the Amsterdam City Restoration Company II (*Amsterdamse Maatschappij tot Stadsherstel II N.V.*) is in charge of restoration, primarily of residential properties. Residential properties granted conservation status by the state are entrusted to the Amsterdam City Restoration Company I; those not granted conservation status are entrusted to the Amsterdam City Restoration Company II. The division is for financial and tax reasons. Non-residential properties are entrusted to the Amsterdam Monuments Fund.

The *Amsterdam Monuments Fund* restores large non-residential buildings (one of its subsidiaries is the private company AMF-werf 't Kromhout).

Within the meaning of the Housing Act (*Woningwet*), Amsterdam City Restoration plc. is an officially acknowledged and registered housing association (*toegelaten instelling*). This means that it can also restore structures for the public housing sector.

Amstercam City Restoration plc. essentially does not sell any renovated or restored properties, except when deemed necessary to organise a restoration project financially (and even then, only with respect to the new part of the building).

In 1986 *Amstercam City Restoration plc.* received the Europa Nostra Diploma for its activities.

In late 2006, *Amstercam City Restoration plc.* owned 499 properties/buildings/lots, distributed throughout Amsterdam. At the end of 2006, its property holdings were valued at EUR 178,437,247. In view of the re-build cost, the properties have been insured for EUR 325,367,500.

Starting in 1966, *Amstercam City Restoration plc.*'s policy was to make the restoration of corner buildings a priority, the thinking being that this would have a positive influence on other buildings in the adjoining rows of facades. It also focused on 'filling in' gaps in historic rows of facades, in addition to restoring groups or complexes of houses where possible.

Starting in 1971, a plaque was affixed to any building in the city restored by *Amstercam City Restoration plc.*

Amstercam City Restoration plc. and the *Amsterdam Monuments Fund* also own other structures, for example churches (including the Roman Catholic church O.L.Vrouw Onbevlekt Ontvangen, also known as 'de Posthoorn', located in Haarlemmerstraat and designed by Dr. P.J.H. Cuypers (1827-1921), 1860/63 and 1887/89 respectively; the Amstelkerk in Amstelveld ¹, the headquarters of the company, a temporary, wooden church, designed by Daniël Stalpaert (1615-1676), 1670, renovated in 1840/43 in neo-Gothic style by architect P.J. Hamer), the West India House in Haarlemmerstraat/ Herenmarkt (originally a covered market, 1617, used by the Dutch West India Company between 1623 and 1647 and as a men's boarding house from 1657. Restored after a fire, 1977/81. It was in this building that the West India Company decided to found the settlement on Manhattan island that would later become New York City); 't Kromhout wharf; and the De Pinto House (St. Antoniesbreestraat) ².

Amstercam City Restoration plc. has restored many properties in certain parts of the historic inner city (Herenstraat, Reestraat, Nieuwe Zijds Voorburgwal, near the Renaissance Hotel (Kattengat) and Grand Hotel Krasnapolsky, in Dam Square).

Woningbouwcorporatie De Key
De Key Housing Association

Hoogte Kadijk 179
1018 BK Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 621 43 33
info@dekey.nl
www.dekey.nl

This association owns a large number of buildings within the limits of Amsterdam, and specifically within the boundaries of the *property*, granted conservation status by the state or the city (see appendix, digital map). It owns a total of 2,650 historic buildings and monuments.

De Key focuses both on historic buildings and monuments and on 'visually defining facades'.

Koninklijk Oudheidkundig Genootschap (KOG)
Royal Antiquarian Society

Frans van Mierisstraat 92
1071 RZ Amsterdam
Postbus 74888
1070 DN Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 674 73 80
kog@rijksmuseum.nl
www.kog.nu

Founded in 1858, the Royal Antiquarian Society (*Het Koninklijk Oudheidkundig Genootschap, KOG*) owns various collections (paintings, pastels, drawings, prints, books, photographs, and ornamental tablets) as well as the historical topographical Atlas of Amsterdam (*Atlas van Amsterdam*) (started in 1877). Parts of the collections are on loan to the Rijksmuseum, the Amsterdam Historical Museum and the Jewish Historical Museum in Amsterdam.

Much of the library collection concerns the history of Amsterdam. The *Atlas of Amsterdam* consists of close to 24,000 objects, mainly eighteenth and nineteenth-century prints and drawings (street maps; the city in profile; views of the city). The KOG also owns the *Atlas J. van Eck* (acquired 1946) and the *Atlas J.M. Coffeng* (acquired 1966, 94 drawings, including street maps).

The KOG purchased its first historic ornamental tablet in 1859. 17 of the ornamental tablets in its possession have been placed in the walls of various buildings belonging to the Rijksmuseum (Fragmenten Building; Drucker extension; garden house), and a large number of them (47) are located in the wall of the Amsterdam Historical Museum along St Luciënsteeg ¹.

The KOG's collection includes the silver trowel used to lay the first stone of Royal Palace (then Town Hall) in Dam Square (1648), ascribed to silversmith Johannes Lutma (1587-1669).



Genootschap Amstelodamum
Amstelodamum Historical Society

Secretariaat Genootschap Amstelodamum
Postbus 2221
1000 CE Amsterdam

Tel. ++31 20 617 63 27
phgerver@wxs.nl
www.amstelodamum.nl

The Society was founded in 1900 as an 'Association to promote our knowledge of the past and present of Amsterdam'. When the City of Amsterdam revealed plans to fill in Reguliersgracht (canal), the Association set as its purpose (1901) '*to preserve the quality of Amsterdam's appearance*'. In 1913 the association became a Society. Its purpose now is '*to represent the interests of Amsterdam and its history*'. It has published an Annual (*Jaarboek*) since 1902 and a magazine since 1914 (published six times a year). By 1899, the Society had acquired an archive.

It has published the popular magazine *Ons Amsterdam* since 1949 (10x a year; address: Kloveniersburgwal 23, 1011 JV Amsterdam, Postbus 611, 1000 AP Amsterdam; www.onsamsterdam.com) and released three CDs in 2000 of all the Annuals and magazines it had published until then. The Society's archives are now located in the Amsterdam Municipal Archives.

Koninklijke Nederlandse Oudheidkundige Bond (KNOB)
Royal Dutch Antiquarian Association

Herengracht 474
1017 CA Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 421 24 97
info@knob.nl
www.knob.nl

Founded in 1899, this was the first national organisation dedicated to preserving the Netherlands' cultural heritage. The KNOB concentrates in particular on researching conservation and architectural history. It publishes a *Bulletin* six times a year. The content consists of scholarly articles, including many that focus on the built heritage in Amsterdam and Amsterdam as an historic city.

Bond Heemschut
Heemschut Association

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Founded in 1911, the Association is dedicated to saving and protecting the built heritage and historic cityscapes. It has a committee in each of the twelve Dutch provinces that keep a close eye on any developments affecting the cultural heritage. Amsterdam has a separate committee. The Association publishes a magazine, *Heemschut*, six times a year. The magazines published between 1924 and 2002 are now available on a DVD. The Heemschut Association has 7700 members.

Vereniging Vrienden van Stadsherstel
Society of Friends of Amsterdam City Restoration plc.

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The *Society of Friends of Amsterdam City Restoration plc.* was founded in 1981 to raise funds to restore ornamental tablets, ornamental gates, public benches, streetlamps and so forth. The Society has approximately 2300 members. It was set up in order to create a method enabling the Prince Bernhard Cultural Fund (*Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds*) to finance the acquisition and restoration of some twenty properties in Blaeu Erf, a side street leading to Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal.

Vereniging Vrienden van de Amsterdamse Binnenstad
Society of Friends of Amsterdam's Inner City

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Founded in 1975. According to its articles of association, its objectives are as follows:

1. ...with respect to the City of Amsterdam, and in particular the inner city:
 - a. to preserve and restore historic buildings and the urban structure;
 - b. to maintain the historic character of the city, promote the quality of its appearance and improve the cityscape;
 - c. to promote the quality of (and public access to) public space, including the water and urban green zones;
 - d. to combat changes that are contrary to the aims described above; and
 - e. to promote a pleasant climate in which to live, work and spend leisure time and to combat nuisance and anything that may be detrimental to the aims described above.
2. The Society will attempt to attain these aims by:
 - a. assessing any plans, resolutions, decisions and actual situations concerning the matters referred to in paragraph 1 and exerting an influence on them, making use of all statutory and other means, including public participation, objection and appeal, whether or not on behalf of other stakeholders;
 - b. promoting discussion with all stakeholders concerning the matters referred to in paragraph 1 and the way in which relevant new trends and developments can be integrated without having a negative effect on these matters;
 - c. disseminating information about Amsterdam and the aims referred to in paragraph 1; and
 - d. deploying all other measures that will be conducive to the aims set out in paragraph 1.

The Society publishes a magazine, *Binnenstad*, six times a year. Since its founding, the Society has published 17 works, all of them concerning Amsterdam and its historic architecture and spatial configuration, in addition to a standard work entitled *Bouwen in Amsterdam* (see bibliography). One working group reviews permit applications submitted for perusal (buildings, historic monuments); another keeps track of developments affecting the city's historical waterways. The Society's website has a gallery of photographs of Amsterdam.

Stichting Amsterdam Monumentenstad
Amsterdam Built Heritage Foundation

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Amsterdam City Restoration plc. also houses the Amsterdam Built Heritage Foundation (*Stichting Amsterdam Monumentenstad*). Founded in 1999, the Foundation works to broaden support for heritage conservation so as to preserve Amsterdam's cultural heritage, in particular in the inner city, by means of publications, exhibitions, conferences and so forth, where possible in cooperation with existing institutions at local, national and international level. One such conference was *Toekomst van de Binnenstad van Amsterdam*, held on 5-7 September 2002, followed by a publication entitled *Heritage and the Future of the Inner City of Amsterdam*, Amsterdam, 2004. It was also involved – along with the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) – in a nine-part television series (*Schatten van Amsterdam*) intended to acquaint young people from ethnic minorities with Amsterdam's built heritage. The series was also released on DVD (see annex). The programme received a Europa Nostra award in 2008.

The foundation wishes to set up a Heritage Centre. It is working with the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) on a project to preserve and restore the architectural sculptures on historic facades and bridges (see the CD *De staat van het steen* in the annex). The aim is to release a publication on the project.

Rijksdienst voor Archeologie, Cultuurlandschap en Monumenten (RACM)
National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage

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The RACM is part of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) in The Hague. In 2006, the Netherlands Department for Conservation (*Rijksdienst voor de Monumentenzorg*, RDMZ) and the

National Service for Archaeological Heritage (*Rijksdienst voor het Oudheidkundig Bodemonderzoek* (ROB)) merged to form the RACM. In May 2009, the RACM will move to Amersfoort, into new offices designed by Spanish architect Juan Navarro Baldeweg, together with the Dutch firm of A+D+P Architecten of Amsterdam.

The RACM's focus is the Netherlands' built heritage from the Middle Palaeolithic to the post-war reconstruction period.

At national level, it is responsible on behalf of the Minister of Education, Culture and Science for the archaeological, built, and man-made landscape heritage in the Netherlands. RACM Lelystad, formerly the Netherlands Institute for Ship and Underwater Archaeology (NISA) and located in Lelystad, is part of the RACM and houses the national repository for ship and underwater archaeological finds.

The RACM is a national knowledge centre for archaeological and built heritage conservation. It conducts research in the fields of archaeology, man-made landscape and the built heritage. It manages the built heritage register based on the 1988 Monuments and Historic Buildings Act (*Monumentenwet*) and a built heritage database in addition to the national ship and underwater archaeology repository. This includes the register of Dutch urban and village conservation areas based on the 1988 Act. The RACM is also entrusted with the central archaeological information system.

With respect to archaeology, the RACM has a computer-based archaeological information system for the Netherlands known as Archis 2. The data concerns archaeological locations (75,000) and sites (around 13,000). The RACM also has the digitised RIV atlas (RIV stands for Spatial Structure and Design).

The RACM is responsible for implementing the 1988 Monuments and Historic Buildings Act. The RACM issues national grants for the preservation and restoration of historic buildings in accordance with various decrees (BRIM for built heritage preservation, BRHB for historic country estates, BRRM 1997 for built heritage and BROM for built heritage maintenance, which still apply as transitional decrees for the Brim, effective 1 February 2006) (see 5.f., 'sources and levels of finance').

The RACM and its predecessors have also prepared the Dutch nominations for the UNESCO World Heritage List (Schokland and Surroundings, 1995, C 739; Defence Line of Amsterdam, 1996, C 759; Mill Network at Kinderdijk-Elshout, 1997, C 818; D.F. Wouda Steam Pumping Station, 1998, C 867; Beemster Polder, 1999, C 899; Rietveld Schröder House, 2000, C 965) in cooperation with various partners (siteholder/shareholders/stakeholders). An RACM official has been appointed by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) as the 'focal point' for World Heritage in the Netherlands.

The RACM's mission is as follows,

Together with the public in general, the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscapes and Built Heritage highlights the value of our built, archaeological and man-made landscape heritage and makes the heritage accessible to others. Our goal is to conserve and develop this heritage in a sustainable manner, imparting meaning to the living environment. The fact that our work involves a combination of science, policy and practice enables us to adapt, enrich and share our knowledge and play a unique role in accomplishing our task.

The RACM maintains contact with other government tiers (provincial, local, dike and polder boards and water boards), heritage organisations and research and educational institutions (including by facilitating

endowed chairs at various Dutch universities). The owners and siteholders of historic buildings and monuments (known as heritage conservation organisations), sites and landscapes (for example the State Forest Service (*Staatsbosbeheer*)) are also in contact with the RACM. The same applies to the building industry (architects, contractors, property developers) and archaeological consultancies.

In addition to its management team, the RACM is divided into four sectors (Regional Service and Policy, Heritage Research, Knowledge Exchange, and Operations). Each sector is itself divided into various departments.

The Knowledge Exchange Sector includes Archives and Collections, which manages a very large administrative archive (including files on each property), a photographic and drawings archive (consisting of a collection of approx. 250,000 architectural drawings, more than 400,000 photographs dating from after around 1875 and a collection of 4000 old prints and topographical drawings), and the library. All these archives and collections are unique in the Netherlands and open to the public. The RACM's library in Zeist is the only library of its size in the Netherlands focusing on non-archaeological heritage conservation (more than 50,000 volumes; more than 500 subscriptions to journals; a collection of old editions, including seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth-century descriptions of towns and villages).

The library also has the collection of the Foundation for Dutch Cultural History Overseas (*Stichting Cultuurgeschiedenis van de Nederlanders Overzee, CNO*), including publications about colonial architecture in Surinam, the Antilles and former Netherlands India, and about the VOC settlements (Dutch East Indies Company) in Ghana, South Africa, Sri Lanka and other locations. The library also contains many unpublished documents (brochures, advisory reports, best practice guidelines and research reports).

Ten thousand of the oldest photographs in the RACM's collection can be viewed at www.geheugenvannederland.nl. The Photographic Collection Digitisation Project resulted in late 2007 in 370,000 negatives (including 30,000 glass plate negatives) and slides held in Zeist having been scanned, with the images being linked to a catalogue that can be consulted by RACM staff (Online Collections).

The RACM has three internal archaeological policy and implementation programmes,

-Archaeological stock, which should lead to a representative pool of historic monuments (to 'correct' and supplement the visible portion of the archaeological heritage – mounds, tumuli, megaliths – which constitute the traditional image of archaeology in the Netherlands). The programme focuses on tracing, evaluating, selecting and possibly excavating and protecting archaeological sites that play a defining role in the archaeological heritage. One of the projects set up for this purpose is the National Archaeological Research Agenda (Nationale Onderzoeksagenda Archeologie, NRC); another is the Covered Soil Archive Project (Afgedekt bodemarchief), which investigates where a potential 'soil archive' (i.e. archaeological record) may exist.

-Archaeology and landscape, focusing on the integration of archaeological heritage factors into the physical planning process in the Netherlands in rural and urban areas.

-Deterioration of the soil archive, the primary purpose of which is to investigate how archaeological material in situ deteriorates and how the relevant archaeological record can be preserved.

The RACM will be publishing its *Erfgoedbalans* (Heritage Report) in 2009 in both print and digital form. This document will function as a monitoring tool and review the current state of affairs in archaeological and built heritage, historical man-made landscapes in the Netherlands, urban planning heritage and conservation.

The Report is intended as a source of information for government for government decision-makers and policy-makers.

Nationaal Archief
National Archive

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The National Archive has an interactive image database that contains photographs and maps of Amsterdam. There are more than 350,000 maps and drawings in the database. The collection includes the archives of the Dutch East India Company (VOC) (<http://obp.tanap.net/index.cfm>), and an archive covering the Netherlands' shared maritime history with the Baltic www.balticconnections.net.

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Amsterdam University, Special Collections

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Owns a huge collection of old 'Amsterdam' prints. The cartographic collection focuses on Amsterdam cartographic prints (16th-18th century), as well as old atlases, street maps, photographs and prints of Amsterdam.

Universiteit Leiden. Universiteitsbibliotheek/Bijzondere collecties/Collectie Bodel Nijenhuis
Leiden University, University Library/Special Collections/Bodel Nijenhuis Collection

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The collection consists mainly of old maps (60,000), atlases (1500), topographical prints (about 12,000) and drawings (1600), left to the university in 1872 by J.T. Bodel Nijenhuis. The collection was expanded considerably in the 20th century.

Atlas van Stolk
Van Stolk Atlas

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The Van Stolk Atlas is a collection of more than 150,000 prints, drawings, photographs and other images. A portion of the collection has been placed on the Internet (www.atlasvanstolk.nl).

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8

CONTACT INFORMATION

8.a Preparer

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In cooperation with

-Stadsdeel Centrum, afdeling Ruimtelijk Beleid, sector Bouwen en Wonen/
Central Borough, Spatial Policy Department, Building and Housing Sector

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Amstel 1
1011 PN Amsterdam
Postbus 202
1000 AE Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 14 020
www.centrum.amsterdam.nl

-Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie (BMA) van de gemeente Amsterdam/
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De Bazel
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8.b Official Local Institution/Agency

Amsterdam. Stadsdeel Centrum (siteholder)
Amsterdam, Central Borough (siteholder)

Stadhuis
Amstel 1
1011 PN Amsterdam
Postbus 202
1000 AE Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 14 020
www.centrum.amsterdam.nl

Executive Committee, Central Borough

Chairperson, Executive Committee

Els Iping, responsibilities include:
Building and Housing
Urban Development
General Administrative and Legal Affairs

Members of the Executive Committee

Wil Codrington, responsibilities include
Finances
Education
Cultural Policy

Erik Koldenhof, responsibilities include
Public Space
Greenspace
Economy and Tourism

Central Borough

In 2002, Amsterdam was divided into fourteen boroughs, each with its own borough council (the port district on the west side, Westpoort, has remained under the authority of the 'central district council'). One of these is the Central Borough.

The City of Amsterdam has its own College of Mayor and Aldermen (Municipal Executive), city council, fourteen boroughs and their borough councils.

Each borough has a *borough council (deelraad)*, an *executive committee (dagelijksbestuur)* and a *chairperson (voorzitter dagelijksbestuur)*. Borough councils are elected every four years by the relevant borough's residents. The elections are held at the same time as the elections for Amsterdam's city council. The borough council for the Central Borough presently consists of a coalition of eight political parties (29 seats in all).

The borough council generally meets (publicly) once every four weeks. Boroughs also have a borough secretary.

Each borough has an executive committee, consisting of a borough chairperson and a number of aldermen. The chairperson is elected by the members of the borough council, as are the other members of the borough committee. The chairperson chairs both the borough council and the executive committee. The executive committee may not vote on proposals that it has itself submitted to the borough council.

The Boroughs Bye-Law (*Verordening op de stadsdelen*, version 2006, see appendix) describes the duties and powers of a borough. Many of the borough's powers have been delegated to it by Amsterdam's city council, the Municipal Executive or the Mayor. An annex to the Bye-Law lists the duties and powers that remain vested in the City of Amsterdam.

Amsterdam's municipal budget is the responsibility of the City of Amsterdam. That is also the case for duties related to the city's cohesiveness and structure (for example 'metropolitan projects' such as the construction of the North/South metro line and the development of the banks of the IJ) and for drawing up the 'strategic urban structure agenda' within the context of spatial planning (from 1 July 2008, when the new Spatial Planning Act (*Wet ruimtelijke ordening*) comes into effect).

The City of Amsterdam consults with the relevant borough governments before identifying any metropolitan projects.

The City of Amsterdam is responsible for a number of duties related to 'building and housing inspectorate', for example adopting the Basic Policy Memorandum on the Beauty of Amsterdam in Digital Form (*Basisnota De Schoonheid van Amsterdam Digitaal*, 2008) with respect to building aesthetics, and the Amsterdam Building Bye-Law (*Bouwverordening Amsterdam 2003*) (boroughs are permitted to deviate from some aspects of this).

Boroughs are authorised to implement area-specific policy. It is also up to the boroughs to define the criteria for building aesthetics. Boroughs also issue building permits and review and adopt zoning plans. They are responsible for urban renewal within their jurisdiction and for managing the public space within that area. Applications for permits (e.g. a building or tree-felling permit) or a monument permit should be submitted to the borough offices.

The political parties that make up Amsterdam's city council have agreed on a programme for 2006-2010, under the motto 'People Make Amsterdam' (*Programakkoord 2006-2010. Mensen maken Amsterdam*).

The borough has seven council committees, including a Building, Housing and Urban Development Committee (*Bouwen, Wonen en Stedelijke Ontwikkeling*) and a Public Space and Traffic committee (*Openbare Ruimte en Verkeer*). Amsterdam's conservation area within the Singelgracht canal, the

related zoning plans and the 'historic buildings and monuments' situated within this area are the responsibility of the Building, Housing and Urban Development committee, which is also responsible for urban plans and programmes of requirements, advertising, building aesthetics, spatial planning and projects.

Administrative documents in the public domain can be perused at www.bestuursinformatie.amsterdam.nl. The Central Borough's administrative archives can be consulted online at www.bestuur.centrum.amsterdam.nl.

Residents and businesses can obtain information on zoning plans and building-related permits at the Central Borough's Building and Housing Information Centre (*Bouwloket stadsdeel Centrum*), where they can also submit permit applications.

The management plan for the ring of canals (*De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht. Managementplan voor de nominatie als Werelderfgoed*) (see appendix) as a World Heritage site, adopted on 9 September 2008 by Amsterdam's Municipal Executive and the Central Borough's executive committee, states the following,

The siteholder will set up a municipal point of contact for residents, business owners, institutions and businesses to which they can apply for information about the effect of the inscription on the World Heritage List.

The municipal point of contact will be combined with the Building and Housing Information Centre. The staff of the Building and Housing Information Centre have the relevant knowledge about built heritage and the World Heritage List, in particular about 'Amsterdam's seventeenth-century ring of canals within the Singelgracht canal' and of the surrounding buffer zone, with a view to their conservation as a World Heritage Site.

Residents and business owners in the Central Borough will be notified about the point of contact.

The siteholder will draw up a document describing the point of contact's working methods. The document will be adopted by the Central Borough's executive committee (Management Plan, Key Point no. 49).

Post-1900 dossiers concerning building may be consulted at the Central Borough's *Properties Archive* (*Pandenarchief*, see also 7.d.)

8.c Other Local Institutions

Built heritage organisations/municipal departments

Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie (BMA)
Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology

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www.bma.amsterdam.nl

Dienst Ruimtelijke Ordening (dRO),
gemeente Amsterdam
*Physical Planning Department, City of
Amsterdam*

Jodenbreestraat 25
1011 NH Amsterdam
Postbus 2758
1000 CT Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 552 77 11
info@dro.amsterdam.nl
www.dro.amsterdam.nl

Informatiecentrum De Zuiderkerk voor
ruimte, bouwen en wonen
De Zuiderkerk Information Centre

Zuiderkerkhof 72
1011 WB Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 552 79 87
Fax: ++31 20 552 79 88
zuiderkerk@dro.amsterdam.nl
www.zuiderkerk.amsterdam.nl
www.dro.amsterdam.nl

**Built heritage organisations/
private initiatives**

Bond Heemschut
Heemschut Association

Korenmeestershuis
Nieuwezijds Kolk 28
1012 PV Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 622 52 92
info@heemschut.nl
www.heemschut.nl

Vereniging ICOMOS Nederland
ICOMOS Netherlands

Herengracht 474
1017 CA Amsterdam

Tel.: ++ 31 20 716 73 50
info@icomos.nl
www.nl.icomos.org

Nationale Unesco Commissie
*Netherlands National Commission
for UNESCO*

Kortenaerkade 11
2518 AX Den Haag
Postbus 29777
2502 LT Den Haag

Tel.: ++31 70 426 02 63
Fax: ++31 20 426 03 59
scunesco@unesco.nl
www.unesco.nl

Restoration organisations

Amsterdamse Maatschappij tot
Stadsherstel N.V.
Amsterdam City Restoration Company

Amstelveld 10
1017 JD Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 520 00 60
Fax: ++31 20 638 20 40
info@stadsherstel.nl
www.stadsherstel.nl

Vereniging Hendrick de Keyser. Vereniging tot behoud van architectonisch of historisch waardevolle huizen in Nederland
Hendrick de Keyser Society for the conservation of architecturally or historically valuable houses in the Netherlands

Keizersgracht 743
1017 DZ Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 521 06 30
E-mail: info@hendrickdekeyser.nl
www.hendrickdekeyser.nl

Historical societies

Koninklijk Oudheidkundig Genootschap (KOG)
Royal Antiquarian Society

Frans van Mierisstraat 92
1071 RZ Amsterdam
Postbus 74888
1070 DN Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 674 73 80
kog@rijksmuseum.nl
www.kog.nu

Genootschap Amstelodamum
Amstelodamum Historical Society

Secretariaat Genootschap Amstelodamum
Postbus 2221
1000 CE Amsterdam

Tel. ++31 20 617 63 27
phqevers@wxs.nl
www.amstelodamum.nl

Koninklijke Nederlandse Oudheidkundige Bond (KNOB)
Royal Dutch Antiquarian Association

Herengracht 474
1017 CA Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 421 24 97
info@knob.nl
www.knob.nl

Vereniging Vrienden van de Amsterdamse Binnenstad
Society of Friends of Amsterdam's Inner City

Aalsmeerder Veerhuis
Sloterkade 21
1058 HE Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 617 27 35
Fax: ++31 20 617 73 85
vvab@amsterdamsebinnenstad.nl
www.amsterdamsebinnenstad.nl

Stichting Amsterdam Monumentenstad
Amsterdam Built Heritage Foundation
Amstelkerk
Amstelveld 10
1017 JD Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 520 00 60
Fax: ++31 20 638 20 40
www.amsterdammonumentenstad.nl
info@amsterdammonumentenstad.nl

Museums, archives within the property boundaries

Stadsarchief Amsterdam
Amsterdam Municipal Archives

De Bazel
Vijzelstraat 32
1017 HL Amsterdam
Postbus 51140
1007 EC Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 251 15 11
Fax: ++31 22 251 15 12
informatie@stadsarchief.amsterdam.nl
www.stadsarchief.amsterdam.nl

Bijzondere Collecties Universiteit
van Amsterdam
Amsterdam University Special Collections

Oude Turfmarkt 129
1012 GC Amsterdam
Postbus 94436
1090 GK Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 525 73 00
Fax: ++31 20 525 73 01
ub-baliebc@uva.nl
www.bc.uba.uva.nl

Multatuli-Museum
Multatuli Museum

Korsjespoortsteeg 20
1015 AR Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 638 19 38
Fax: ++31 20 620 49 09
multatulimuseum@zonnet.nl
www.multatuli-museum.nl

West-Indisch Huis
West India House

Herenmarkt 99
1013 EC Amsterdam
www.locaties.nl/congres-en-
vergadercentra/het-westindisch-huis.html

Theater Instituut Nederland
Theatre Institute of the Netherlands

Herengracht 168 (until end of 2008)
1016 BP Amsterdam
Postbus 19304
1000 GH Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 551 33 00
Fax: ++31 20 551 33 03
info@tin.nl
www.tin.nl

Bijbels Museum
Biblical Museum

Herengracht 366
1016 CH Amsterdam
Postbus 3606
1001 AK Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 624 79 49
Fax: ++31 20 624 24 36
info@bijbelsmuseum.nl
www.bijbelsmuseum.nl

Kattenkabinet
Cat Collection

Herengracht 497
1017 BT Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 626 53 78
Fax: ++31 20 626 67 64
info@kattenkabinet.nl
www.kattenkabinet.nl

Geelvinck Hinlopen Huis
Geelvinck Hinlopen Museum

Herengracht 518
1017 CC Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 639 07 47
Fax: ++31 20 624 25 41
info@museumgeelvinck.nl
www.geelvinckhinlophenhuis.nl

Tassenmuseum Hendrikje
Hendrikje Museum of Bags and Purses

Herengracht 573
1017 CD Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 524 64 52
Fax: ++31 20 524 64 53
info@tassenmuseum.nl
www.tassenmuseum.nl

Museum Willet-Holthuysen
Willet-Holthuysen Museum

Herengracht 605
Amsterdam
Postbus 3302
1001 AC Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 523 18 22
Fax: ++31 20 620 77 89
info@willetholthuysen.amsterdam.nl
www.willetholthuysen.nl

Nederlands Instituut voor Mediakunst,
Montevideo/TBA
The Netherlands Media Art Institute,
Montevideo/Time Based Arts

Keizersgracht 264
1016 EV Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 623 71 01
Fax: ++31 20 624 44 23
info@nimk.nl
www.montevideo.nl

Huis Marseille, Stichting voor Fotografie
Huis Marseille Museum for Photography

Keizersgracht 401
1016 EK Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 531 89 89
Fax: ++31 20 531 89 88
info@huismarseille.nl
www.huismarseille.nl

Foam-Fotografisch Museum Amsterdam
Foam-Photography Museum of Amsterdam

Keizersgracht 609
1017 DE Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 551 65 00
Fax: ++31 20 551 65 01
info@foam.nl
www.foam.nl

Museum van Loon
Van Loon Museum

Keizersgracht 672
1017 ET Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 624 52 55
info@museumvanloon.nl
www.musvloon.box.nl

Tulpen Museum
Amsterdam Tulip Museum

Prinsengracht 112
1015 EA Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 00800 286 285 27
www.amsterdamtulipdepot.eu/about_
museum.php

Het Anne Frank Huis
The Anne Frank House

Prinsengracht 263
1016 GV Amsterdam
Postbus 730
1000 AS Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 556 71 00
Fax: ++31 20 620 79 99
www.annefrank.org

Woonbootmuseum
Houseboat Museum

Prinsengracht (tegenover nr. 296)
1016 HW Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 427 07 50
info@houseboatmuseum.nl
www.houseboatmuseum.nl

Pijpenkabinet en Smokiana
Pipe Museum and Smokiana Pipe Shop

Prinsengracht 488
1017 KH Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 421 17 79
info@pijpenkabinet.nl
www.pijpenkabinet.nl

**Museums, historic buildings and monuments
open to the public outside the
boundaries of the property**

Museum Amstelkring 'Ons Lieve Heer op
Solder'
Our Lord In the Attic Museum

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www.museumamstelkring.nl

Oude Kerk
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De Nieuwe Kerk
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Zuiderkerk
The South Church

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Koffie- en Theemuseum
Coffee and Tea Museum

Warmoesstraat 67
1012 HX Amsterdam

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www.geels.nl

Allard Piersonmuseum/Archeologisch
Museum der Universiteit van Amsterdam
*Allard Piersonmuseum/Amsterdam
University Archeological Museum*

Oude Turfmarkt 127
Postbus 94057
1090 GB Amsterdam

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allard.pierson.museum@uva.nl
www.allardpiersonmuseum.nl

Schriftmuseum J.A. Dortmund
J.A. Dortmund Museum of Script and Writing

Universiteitsbibliotheek
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Koninklijk Paleis Amsterdam
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Amsterdams Historisch Museum
Amsterdam Historical Museum

Kalverstraat 92/Nieuwezijds
Voorburgwal 357
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Fax: ++31 20 620 77 89
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Beurs van Berlage Museum
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www.beursvanberlage.nl

Madame Tussauds Amsterdam
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Dam 20
1012 NP Amsterdam

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Nationaalbrilmuseum/Brillenwinkel
Amsterdam
*National Museum of Spectacles in
Amsterdam*

Gasthuismolensteeg 7
1016 AM Amsterdam

Tel./fax: ++31 20 421 24 14
brilmuseum.brillenwinkel@worldmail.nl
www.brilmuseumamsterdam.nl

Nederlands Scheepvaartmuseum
Amsterdam
National Maritime Museum Amsterdam

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1018 KK Amsterdam

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newMetropolis/NEMO, Science and
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Werfmuseum 't Kromhout
't Kromhout Wharf Museum

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1018 BJ Amsterdam

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frank@scheepspraet.net
www.machinekamer.nl

Open Haven Museum
Open Harbour Museum

KNSM-laan 311
1019 LE Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 418 55 22
www.kunstbus.nl

ARCAM/architectuurcentrum Amsterdam
*ARCAM Amsterdam Centre for
Architecture*

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1011 VX Amsterdam

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Theo Thijssen Museum
Theo Thijssen Museum

Eerste Leliedwarsstraat 16
1015 TA Amsterdam

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Electric Ladyland-The First Museum of
Fluorescent Art
*Electric Ladyland-The First Museum of
Fluorescent Art*

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Pianola Museum
Pianola Museum

Westerstraat 106
1015 MN Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 627 96 24
pianolamuseum@planet.nl
www.pianola.nl

Joods Historisch Museum
Jewish Historical Museum

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1001 RE Amsterdam

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Portugees Israëlitische Synagoge
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Museum het Rembrandthuis
Rembrandt House Museum

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Hortus Botanicus Amsterdam
Amsterdam Botanical Garden

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www.dehortus.nl

Verzetsmuseum Amsterdam
Dutch Resistance Museum

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1081 CX Amsterdam

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Nationaal Vakbondsmuseum
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Fax: ++31 20 623 37 31
info@deburcht.org
www.deburcht.org

De Hollandsche Schouwburg
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1018 DE Amsterdam

publiekscontacten@jhm.nl
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Hermitage Amsterdam
Hermitage Museum in Amsterdam

Nieuwe Herengracht 14
1018 DP Amsterdam
Postbus 11675
1001 GR Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 530 87 51
mail@hermitage.nl
www.hermitage.nl

**Museums in 'Amsterdam outside the
Singelgracht'**

Rijksmuseum Amsterdam
Rijksmuseum Amsterdam

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1071 ZD Amsterdam
Postbus 74888
1070 DN Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 674 70 00
Fax: ++31 20 674 70 01
www.rijksmuseum.nl

Van Gogh Museum
Van Gogh Museum

Paulus Potterstraat 7
Amsterdam
Postbus 75366
1070 AJ Amsterdam

Tel: ++31 20 570 52 00
Fax: ++31 20 570 52 22
info@vangoghmuseum.nl
www.vangoghmuseum.nl

Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam
*Amsterdam Stedelijk Museum for
Contemporary Art*

Paulus Potterstraat 13
1071 CX Amsterdam
Postbus 75082
1070 AB Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 573 29 11
Fax: ++31 20 675 27 16
info@stedelijk.nl
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Koninklijk Instituut voor de Tropen
Royal Tropical Institute

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1092 CK Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 568 87 11
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www.kit.nl

Tourist organisations

Amsterdam Toerisme en Congres Bureau
(ATCB)
Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board

De Ruyterkade 5
1013 AA Amsterdam
Postbus 3901
1001 AS Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 551 25 12
Fax: ++31 20 625 28 69
info@atcb.nl
www.atcb.nl
www.amsterdamtourist.nl

Informatiekantoor Stationsplein -
Koffiehuis (KCS)
*Station Forecourt Tourist Office & Coffee
House (KCS)*

Stationsplein 10
1012 AB Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 0900-400 40 40
Fax: ++31 625 28 69

VVV-Agentschap Leidseplein-
Stadhouderskade (KLP)
*Leidseplein-Stadhouderskade Tourist
Office (KLP)*

Stadhouderskade t/o 1
1054 ES Amsterdam

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Fax: ++31 20 625 28 69

Passenger Terminal Amsterdam
Amsterdam Passenger Terminal

Piet Heinkade 27
1019 BR Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 509 10 00
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www.ptamsterdam.nl

Canal cruise companies

Rederij 't Smidtje
't Smidtje Shipping Company

Ruysdaelkade 174
1072 AT Amsterdam

tel.: ++31 20 670 60 67
fax ++31 20 673 95 72
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Holland International Rondvaart
Holland International Cruises

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Holland River Tours
Holland River Tours

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Rederij Lovers B.V.
Lovers Shipping Company

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Housing corporations, organisations of tenants

Woonstichting De Key
De Key Housing

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1018 BK Amsterdam
www.dekey.nl

Amsterdamse Federatie van
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Amsterdam Federation of Housing Corporations

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Huurdersvereniging Centrum
Amsterdam City Centre Association of Tenants

Eerste Laurierdwardsstraat 6
1016 PX Amsterdam

Tel.: ++31 20 623 72 72
www.huurdersverenigingcentrum.nl

Wijksteunpunt Wonen Centrum
Central District Housing Office

Nieuwe Doelenstraat 55
1012 CP Amsterdam

www.wswonen.nl

Kamer van Koophandel
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De Ruyterkade 5
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Amsterdam Public Library

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1011 DL Amsterdam
Correspondence
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1011 DK Amsterdam

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Fax: ++31 20 523 09 41
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Amsterdam-Inside
Amsterdam-Inside

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1012 CJ Amsterdam

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info@amsterdam-inside.nl
www.amsterdam-inside.nl

Vereniging Amsterdam City
Amsterdam City Association

Damrak 279
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Tel.: ++31 20 618 93 55
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Amsterdam Village Company
Amsterdam Village Company

Prinsengracht 754
1017 LD Amsterdam
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9 Signature on behalf of the State Party

The Minister of Education, Culture and
Science

Dr. Ronald H.A. Plasterk

(see his separate letter)

Kingdom of the Netherlands - 2009

The seventeenth-century canal ring area of **Amsterdam** within the Singelgracht

MANAGEMENT PLAN







City of Amsterdam

**'17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam
within the Singelgracht'
(part 1)**



Management plan for World Heritage nomination

***17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam
within the Singelgracht***

Management plan for World Heritage nomination

City of Amsterdam

Amsterdam, 14 January 2009

Colophon

This management plan has been commissioned by the City of Amsterdam, Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology.

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Foreword

After an intensive period of careful preparation, the City of Amsterdam (*Gemeente Amsterdam*) is pleased to present the management plan for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'. The plan is the final element of the nomination dossier for the inscription of this part of Amsterdam on the UNESCO World Heritage List. The plan contains guidelines as referred to in the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention on the conservation of a World Heritage site. We would note that this is the first management plan drawn up for a World Heritage site in the Netherlands, thus meeting the requirements of the World Heritage Committee, which has now made such a plan compulsory.

The ring of canals, or canal belt (*grachtengordel*), was constructed around the medieval centre in an expansion of the city more than 400 years ago. Its grandeur and particularly historic structure as an example of urban development has been admired internationally for centuries. This extensive heritage site has been well preserved, and its attractiveness and accessibility remain undiminished.

Amsterdam, as the capital of The Netherlands, is a dynamic metropolis, the scientific, cultural and touristic heart of the *Randstad* conurbation and the country's financial centre. The national airport and an important dockland area are located close to the city. Amsterdam has a population of 743,104, and is a place of work for 423,241 people. Its centre is home to 80,819 people and comprises 27,000 buildings – of which 7,824 are protected as built heritage – 14,236 businesses and shops in which 85,270 people work, universities and colleges, dozens of museums and many concert venues, theatres, cinemas and festivals. Amsterdam has 348 hotels with 37,763 hotel beds, and 1250 restaurants. Each year 4.9 million overnight visitors and 15.7 million day-trippers generate a total turnover of 5 billion euros. The atmosphere of the canal belt with its culturally and historically valuable buildings makes it one of the most important reasons to visit Amsterdam.

The permanent protection and conservation of Amsterdam's ring of canals is the joint responsibility of the district and municipal councils, respectively the Central Amsterdam District (*Stadsdeel Amsterdam Centrum*) and the City of Amsterdam (*Gemeente Amsterdam*). In fulfilling this responsibility, these two local government bodies seek to maintain a balance between conserving heritage and welcoming the future. The careful integration of heritage with contemporary social, cultural and societal developments adds qualitative value to the ring of canals' exceptional cultural and historic significance for the future of our lively, creative and ambitious capital city.

This management plan describes how the responsible authorities carefully manage the societal, socio-cultural and spatial developments in and around the ring of canals by monitoring and tackling opportunities and threats, and how these processes are organised and directed. Here Amsterdam finds itself in good company, as it is surrounded by other World Heritage sites: the Defence Line of Amsterdam, and the Beemster Polder, reclaimed in the 17th century using capital from Amsterdam.

The policy set out in this management plan has come about through cooperation between the parties that bear governmental responsibility, and in consultation with those concerned with the ring of canals, such as residents, businesses and institutions, heritage organisations and interest groups. There is great public support for the conservation and enhancement of the canal belt's tangible and intangible heritage, and this inspires the administrative parties in their responsibility for careful day-to-day management of the area as World Heritage, and its lasting protection and development in the future.

Organisation of the management plan

Summary of contents

In nine chapters, the management plan (part 1) describes the specific characteristics of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' and the way in which the directly responsible parties will preserve it for the future, in accordance with the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value set down by the World Heritage Committee.

The management plan (part 1), which contains the main text, comes with two appendixes. The first appendix (part 2) contains signed covenants and declarations, and action plans. The second appendix (part 3, Key Issues) comes with Chapter 5, paragraph 5.3. It contains extended information and illustrations.

- Chapter 1 specifies the boundary of the area to be nominated as World Heritage and the buildings within it that have a special status as monuments or historic buildings.
- Chapter 2 contains an undertaking by the responsible parties to preserve the monumental value of the property and the buffer zone in accordance with international treaties, resolutions and charters and local regulations and legislation.
- Chapter 3 presents the management plan's objectives and the responsible parties' vision and ambitions concerning the preservation of the property. The chapter also summarises the principles of Outstanding Universal Value (the substantive basis for the nomination and hence the crux of the nomination dossier) and the responsible parties' vision on the conservation of this unique, outstanding universal value, and of the property's integrity and authenticity. It also contains the Operational Plan and Action Plan on the basis of which the management plan is to be implemented.
- Chapter 4 explains which parties (the property manager, the jointly responsible governmental authorities, and the stakeholders) are concerned with the property, and their role, competences and responsibilities in conserving the property's exceptional value. Overall administrative responsibility for the property is shared among three government bodies at local level plus the ministerial department concerned; day-to-day management of the property is primarily the responsibility of the property manager: the district council. Stakeholders have an interest as user, advisor, historical society, business or resident.
- Chapter 5 describes how the responsible parties ensure the protection, conservation and management of the value of the property and buffer zone, by means of regulation and policy. This chapter also explains factors that present a potential risk to the property, and specifies agreements made by the responsible parties on risk management or limitation. (for Chapter 5, paragraph 5.3: see also part 3 "Key Issues")

- Chapter 6 indicates how communication with the public on the World Heritage site takes place, by means of information, education and publicity.
- Chapter 7 contains an outline of the costs and financial resources for the intended World Heritage site. To this end a survey has been carried out of all financial resources currently allocated to the conservation of the property and designated buffer zone.
- Chapter 8 explains how the property's unique value is monitored and how and when reports are to be submitted to UNESCO.
- Chapter 9 concludes with an outline of the procedure for approval and periodic revision of the management plan.

Introduction

Amsterdam and the ring of canals

“Throughout the ages, innumerable visitors to Amsterdam – monarchs, diplomats, architects, researchers and ordinary travellers – have expressed their admiration for this unique urban phenomenon. In particular it is the ring of canals that arouses their enthusiasm and still appeals as the pièce de résistance of this unique city of water. The same particular characteristics are always mentioned: the open layout, the large scale, the clear and consistent urban planning, the fine, opulent buildings and the remarkable integration of waterways, streets, houses and urban greenery, the like of which is not to be found in any other city. To these people, the ring of canals is a monument of urban planning and architecture of world significance.”¹

“We look at these three canals in amazement. It is as if we find ourselves in an earthly paradise, a vast pleasure garden, veined with long streams and with long rows of immaculate and splendidly decorated houses, some like festive palaces. Moreover, beneath the green trees and along the watercourses, they are furnished with long, even footpaths and roadways stretching further than the eye can see.”

Philipp von Zessen, German urban topographer, 1664²

“The ‘grachtengordel’ is a uniquely important and magnificent historical and cultural document (...) As a result of the canal belt Amsterdam, by all travellers’ accounts, came to surpass nearly all other European cities in grandeur. Today there is no other comparably impressive urban historical phenomenon dating from the 17th century that exists on a comparable scale, is so well preserved, so attractive and so easily accessible.”

Jonathan Israel, Princeton University, 2008³

¹ Amsterdam and the ring of canals (*Amsterdam en de grachtengordel*). Bakker, B., Jan Wagenaar Foundation, commissioned by the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology, p1

² *ibid*

³ *ibid*

Amsterdam as 'open' city: a free port in the past

It was not only the canal belt as urban planning and the architecture along its canals that attracted visitors, but also the city's open cultural climate. The ring of canals is still an eloquent witness to the two features that made Amsterdam an exception among European capitals: its openness to other cultures and religions and the unusually wide-ranging care for the socially underprivileged. These two characteristics produced a wide cultural diversity as well as social stability in the city at the time, and this proved to be a rich medium for the city's unparalleled economic prosperity in the 17th century.

"Amsterdam is a beautiful city. (...) There is a great influx of people from every country, of which the multitude and diversity create an impression of ancient Babylon. (...) Amsterdam is the most agreeable place in Europe and there is neither a Persian nor an Armenian who does not feel as at home here as he does in his mother country."

Hortense des Jardins, French writer, 1688⁴

"From the way Amsterdam cyclists ride, it is possible – with the necessary degree of caution – to infer some of their typical characteristics: intelligence, mild anarchy, and at the same time respect and an eye for other people. (...) The atmosphere of Amsterdam, free and characterised by humanism, seems to me to be a good deal more conducive to artistic inspiration (...).

Lilian Faschinger, Austrian writer, 2008⁵

"It fascinated me from the start that nobody minded my being here. Quite the opposite, it was as if people were glad I was here. (...) The Netherlands really is a country that gives you wings. You can fill your lungs, break free of the bonds that constrain you, one after another. Mr Amsterdam is anything but oppressive."

Petra Hulová, Polish writer, 2008⁶

⁴ ibid

⁵ from: www.writersinresidence.nl, an initiative of the Foundation for the Production and Translation of Dutch Literature (*Fonds voor de Letteren en het Nederlands Literair Productie- en Vertalingenfonds*), with the support of the University of Amsterdam and the Johan Polak Foundation.

⁶ ibid

World Heritage Convention

On 16 November 1972, the member states of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), established the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage at the General Conference in Paris. In 1992, the Kingdom of the Netherlands ratified this convention. The country thus assumed joint responsibility for the preservation of World Heritage around the globe, and in particular for World Heritage on Dutch territory.

As a State Party to the World Heritage Convention, The Netherlands has the responsibility “to ensure the identification, nomination, protection, conservation, presentation, and transmission to future generations” of the cultural and natural heritage found within its territory, (Article 15 of the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention; hereafter referred to as the Operational Guidelines). The inscription of cultural and natural heritage on the World Heritage List by the World Heritage Committee represents a recognition of its outstanding value and significance to a worldwide public. World Heritage is heritage that is indisputably unique and irreplaceable, of a significance that transcends national concerns.

The State Party provides for the protection and management of the ‘Outstanding and Universal Value’ of the World Heritage within its borders. The state is thus directly responsible for conserving and passing on its authenticity and integrity.

World Heritage in The Netherlands

Six cultural monuments of outstanding international value in The Netherlands have been inscribed on UNESCO’s World Heritage List: the former island of Schokland, the Defence Line of Amsterdam, the mill network at Kinderdijk, the D.F. Wouda Steam Pumping Station, the Beemster Polder and the Rietveld Schröder House; the seventh Dutch cultural heritage site inscribed on the World Heritage List lies beyond Europe: the historic city centre of Willemstad on the island of Curaçao in the Netherlands Antilles.

For its nominations to the World Heritage List, The Netherlands has selected the following three themes:

- The Netherlands – a country of water
- The Republic of the Seven United Provinces of the Netherlands
- The contribution of Dutch New Building (*Nieuwe Bouwen*) to the International Movement in architecture at the beginning of the twentieth century.

Protecting Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals

The State of the Netherlands would like to nominate '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' for the UNESCO's World Heritage List.

The Dutch government, the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District intend this as a contribution to strengthening the world community's awareness, understanding and appreciation of this valuable cultural and architectural heritage site.

'17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' falls both within the theme of 'The Netherlands – a country of water' and the theme of 'the Republic of the Seven United Provinces of the Netherlands'.

The City of Amsterdam and the property manager, the Central Amsterdam District, will preserve the '17th-century ring of canals within the Singelgracht' for present and future generations of residents of and visitors to Amsterdam. Together with UNESCO's World Heritage Committee, they regard the canal belt as irreplaceable heritage to be treated with great care.

The district and municipal councils recognise the importance of the long-term management of the site, within the dynamics of the constantly changing capital city of Amsterdam. The City of Amsterdam aims to maintain the balance between past and future by:

- protecting the outstanding universal value and integrating it into the city's present-day dynamic development;
- ensuring the preservation of the authenticity and integrity of the outstanding universal value, by legal and financial means, and by means of policy;
- strengthening the communication and cooperation among the various parties and organisations concerned at local, national and international level, to promote the common support for, and shared vision of, the preservation of the canal belt as World Heritage, thus at the same time contributing to the increased public awareness that is a necessary condition for this heritage site;
- promoting the policy that must be implemented in order to preserve this heritage site, and the measures that should be taken in order to seize opportunities, and to counter threats such as uncontrolled development and inappropriate construction;
- promoting the fact that the canal belt's outstanding value and worldwide, enduring significance contribute to the conservation of the particular quality and appealing character of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht;
- monitoring development and change in and around the ring of canals and periodically evaluating and updating the management plan.

The management plan

Each nominated property should have an appropriate management plan or other documented management system which should specify how the outstanding universal value of a property should be preserved by the parties involved (Operational Guidelines, Art.108). The management plan describes how the urban landscape of the ring of canals and Amsterdam within the Singelgracht in its historical stratification should be managed and preserved (Operational Guidelines, Art. 114).

To this end, the management plan comprises:

- A vision of the heritage site shared by the responsible authorities concerned, namely the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District;
- The operation of a cycle of planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and feedback;
- A definition of the involvement of the property manager (the Central Amsterdam District), stakeholders and jointly responsible authorities;
- The allocation of the necessary administrative, legal and financial resources;
- An accountable, transparent description of how the management system functions. (Operational Guidelines, Art. 111).

The run-up to the nomination

In 1995, the Dutch government informed the World Heritage Committee that it intended to nominate the historic centre of Amsterdam for the World Heritage List. In recent years, the World Heritage Committee has become increasingly cautious in inscribing additional European historic city centres on the list. The nomination has therefore been prepared with the utmost care.

In 2006, the City of Amsterdam and central government announced they were to nominate the canal belt because of its unique historical significance. On 9 September 2008, Amsterdam's municipal executive (its College of Mayor and Aldermen) and the Central Amsterdam District's Executive Committee approved the management plan. After the plan's acceptance by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, and after the cabinet has also approved its submission, the nomination will be submitted to the World Heritage Committee for evaluation.

- 1995 – Provisional List of Dutch cultural heritage nominations submitted

In 1995 the Provisional List of properties to be nominated, including the historic centre of Amsterdam, was submitted to the World Heritage Centre by the then state secretary for culture, Aad Nuis. The City of Amsterdam then announced its approval of a nomination in principle.

- 1999 – Amsterdam within the Singelgracht designated as conservation area under the 1988 Monuments and Historic Buildings Act

- 2003-2007 – The Netherlands is a member of the World Heritage Committee

Prior to its election to the World Heritage Committee, the Netherlands indicated that it would not submit any Dutch nominations during its term of office.

- 2006 – Focus shifted from historic centre to ring of canals

On the basis of the Global Strategy for World Heritage to be followed in future by UNESCO, in consultation with the City of Amsterdam and central government it was decided to shift the emphasis of the nomination to the ring of canals as being the most outstanding and universal area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht in terms of cultural history.

- 2007 – Site Document for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'

In a letter of 20 November 2007, Amsterdam's Municipal Executive and the Central Amsterdam District's Executive Committee submitted the Site Document to the Minister of Education, Culture and Science for approval.

- Summer 2008 – 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals within the Singelgracht' management plan agreed

On 9 September 2008, Amsterdam's Municipal Executive and the Central Amsterdam District's Executive Committee approved the management plan and submitted it to the Minister of Education, Culture and Science in autumn 2008.

- Autumn 2008 – Nomination Dossier by National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage

The National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM), a department of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, completed the Nomination Dossier, after which it was submitted to the cabinet for approval.

- Autumn 2008 – Cabinet decision on submission of nomination

In accordance with the then state secretary Rick van der Ploeg's Policy Letter of December 2001 to the Lower House of Parliament, cabinet approval is required for the coming nominations.

- 1-2-2009 – Nomination Dossier to UNESCO World Heritage Centre

- Autumn 2009 – Evaluation of the nomination by the World Heritage Committee NGO, the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)
- Summer 2010 – The UNESCO World Heritage Committee is expected to come to a decision on the nomination.

Parties responsible for the management of the property

The parties directly responsible for the preservation and management of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as World Heritage are:

- the property manager: the Executive Committee of the Central Amsterdam District (the central district council within the City of Amsterdam).
- The municipal executive of the City of Amsterdam

These parties are signatories to the management plan, and will be responsible for the implementation of the agreements, policy and operational procedures set out in the chapters that follow.

Summary of the management plan for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'

History of the nomination

In 1999, the state designated 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as a national conservation area. This was a precondition for The Netherlands to nominate the historic centre of Amsterdam for the UNESCO World Heritage List. On the basis of this listing as a conservation area, Amsterdam drew up wide-ranging policy on the preservation, protection and accountable functioning of the historic city centre. Until 2007, The Netherlands was not able to submit any nominations due to its membership of the World Heritage Committee.

In 2006, with the approval of the City of Amsterdam, it was decided to focus the nomination that had been in preparation since 1999 on the '17th-century ring of canals'. In 2006-2007, in cooperation with the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (*Rijksdienst voor Archeologie, Cultuurlandschap en Monumenten* – RACM), Amsterdam drew up the 'Site Document' for this nomination, as referred to in the Policy Letter on World Heritage of December 2001 directed to the Lower House by the then state secretary for Education, Culture and Science. In 2007, work on the nomination and required management plan was resumed.

The Netherlands submits nominations within the framework of three themes:

- The Netherlands – a country of water;
- the 17th-century Republic of the Seven United Provinces of the Netherlands;
- the Dutch contribution to the architecture of the early 20th century.

The country has also submitted a nomination on the basis of archaeological value. The nomination of Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals within the Singelgracht is based on the first two themes.

Procedure

The application for inscription on the World Heritage List is made by means of the submission of a nomination dossier by the Kingdom of the Netherlands, in its capacity as State Party to the UNESCO World Heritage Convention (1972), at the World Heritage Centre, the committee's offices in Paris.

The National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM) prepares the nomination dossier according to the World Heritage Committee guidelines. This takes place in consultation with the Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam's Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology. One part of this dossier is the so-called Site Document, approved both by the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District. The Site Document contains the national, provincial and local legislation and regulations according to which the cultural and historical value of the ring of canals and the historic centre is to be protected. The final document which Amsterdam has provided for inclusion in the nomination dossier is the management plan.

Objective of the management plan

The management plan describes how the parties with governmental responsibility are to preserve the unique cultural and historical value of 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals within the Singelgracht' as World Heritage.

- The management plan is a guideline for the conservation and management of the property – the 17th-century ring of canals and the buffer zone within the Singelgracht designated for its protection. The plan combines the policy of the various responsible parties to create a single shared vision on the long-term management of the intended World Heritage site. The shared vision and agreements on protection and management are set down in two covenants made among the jointly responsible authorities: the City of Amsterdam (*Gemeente Amsterdam*), the Central Amsterdam District (*Stadsdeel Amsterdam Centrum*) and the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board (*Hoogheemraadschap Amstel, Gooi en Vecht*). The signed covenants make up part of the management plan, as does a Declaration of Intent made by the stakeholders concerned with property.

As indicated in the Policy Letter mentioned above, the cabinet must approve the nomination. It is thus submitted to the cabinet by the Minister of Education, Culture and Science.

The property and the buffer zone

The '17th-century ring of canals' is the property: the site to be nominated as World Heritage. The rest of the historic centre within the Singelgracht forms the buffer zone required for a World Heritage site.

The boundary of the property (see map in chapter 1) follows the axis of the surrounding streets and canals. The core of the property is formed by the Singel, Herengracht, Keizersgracht and Prinsengracht canals and the radial streets and intersecting canals that lie between them.

The boundary of the buffer zone is practically the same as that of the conservation area. The buffer zone is protected in the same way as the property, on the basis of the regulations that apply to the conservation area and the almost 8,000 designated national and municipal monuments and historic buildings within it.

Vision of the conservation of heritage

With the approval and signature of the management plan, the Central Amsterdam District Executive Committee and the City of Amsterdam Municipal Executive confirm their shared responsibility for the tangible and intangible World Heritage entrusted to them.

The management plan describes how the responsible parties are committed to the international UNESCO treaty and the applicable international ICOMOS resolutions and charters concerning the conservation of historic buildings and other cultural heritage. The plan takes these documents as its point of departure, and they determine the course of future developments within the property.

The municipal government thus gives expression to its desire to protect the ring of canals and its surroundings as World Heritage, as a unique and outstanding source of cultural and historical information, reflected in the building, architecture and water management, as well as in such intangible value as tolerance and diversity, science and philosophy, business sense and free trade. These aspects made Amsterdam a hotbed of creativity, and consequently the city made a key contribution to the blossoming of the 17th-century Golden Age in the Netherlands. The city of Amsterdam has this intangible value to thank for its world renown and global influence as a 'free port' and 'open city', a reputation that persists to this day.

The ring of canals is not only the tangible remains of a time in which the Netherlands flourished economically, politically and culturally, beginning in the 16th century and reaching an unprecedented climax in the 17th century, but is also the embodiment of intangible value. The 17th-century expansion of Amsterdam is the most complete and successful example of baroque urban development in Europe, and is the only example of urban expansion on this scale at the time. It represents the Dutch canal city in its most ideal form. The layout in concentric semicircles and radial streets with tall, generally narrow buildings around the medieval centre gives Amsterdam its unique spatial and architectural character. Having remained virtually intact over the centuries, today it is the ring of canals in particular that defines the image of the city as heritage, and gives Amsterdam its unique world status and renown.

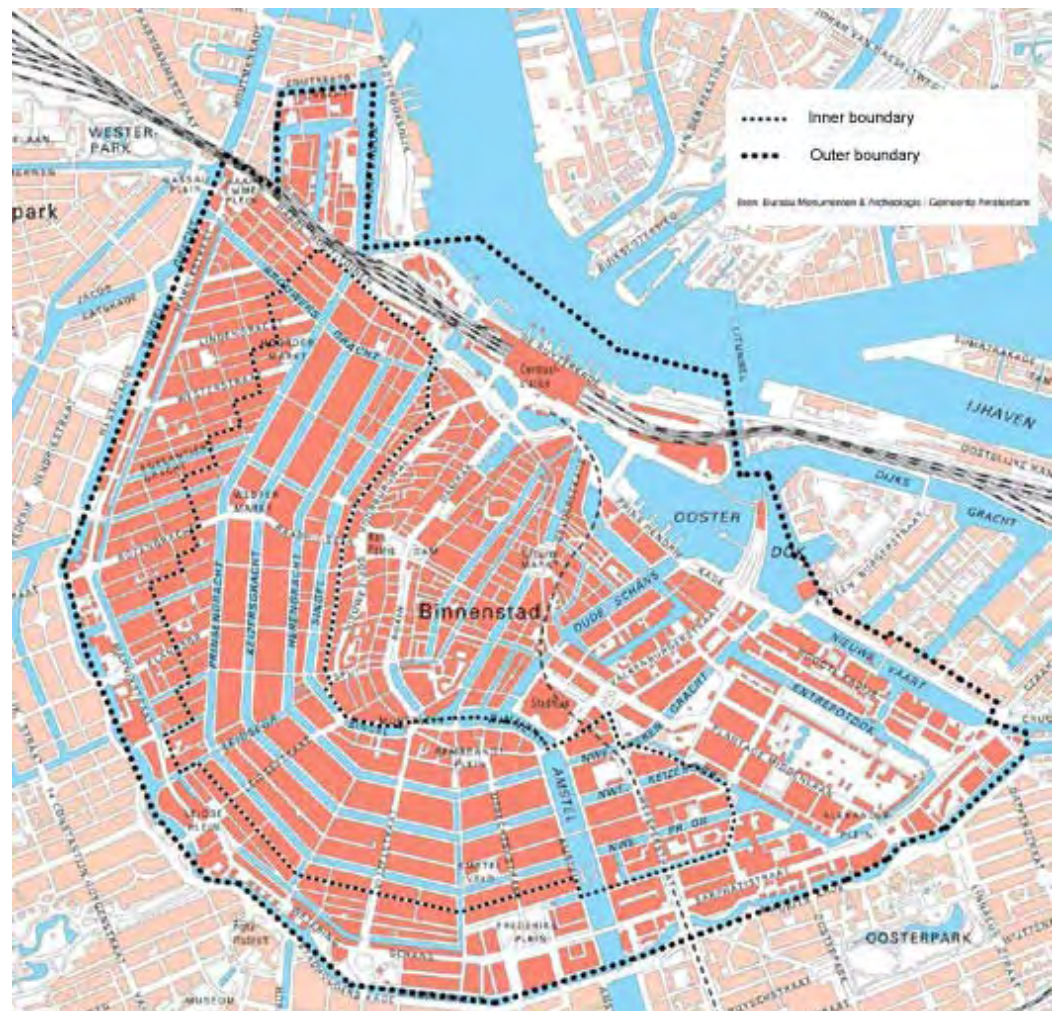
Chapter 1: Property

Introduction

Chapter 1 defines the boundary of the World Heritage site and the buildings within it that have a special status as protected monuments.

1.1 Map of the protected area: property

The map of 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals within the Singelgracht', shows the World Heritage site, the property. It is surrounded by the buffer zone, which practically corresponds with the boundaries of the conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.



1.2 Boundary of the property

The boundary of the property – 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals within the Singelgracht' – runs through the following neighbourhoods: the *Haarlemmerbuurt*,

the *Jordaan*, the *Spiegelkwartier*, the *Leidsebuurt*, the *Weteringbuurt* and the *Utrechtsebuurt* and runs via the Hortus Plantsoen along the centre of the Binnen Amstel past the medieval city centre via the Singel and the Spui back to the *Haarlemmerbuurt*. The boundaries of the property follow the axis of the surrounding streets and canals.

1.3 Boundary of the buffer zone

With the exception of the Eastern Islands and the small area northwest of the centre, bordered by the Zoutkeetsgracht and Westerkanaal canals and the IJ waterway, the rest of the city centre lies within the buffer zone. The boundaries of these zones correspond to the boundaries of the conservation area of 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal'.

1.4 Monument list/register

On the basis of data recorded in the national monument register and the municipal monument list, as of 1 January 2008 a total of 7824 protected monuments and historic buildings are located within the Central Amsterdam District. Table 1 provides an overview of the number of national and municipal monuments, divided according to whether they lie within the property, the buffer zone, or the remaining area.

Table 1 Number of monuments

	National monuments	Municipal monuments
Property	3466	443
Buffer zone	3188	697
Remaining area	8	22
Total	6662	1162

Chapter 2: Legislation, regulations and declarations

Introduction

Under Dutch law, the inclusion of 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals within the Singelgracht' as World Heritage on the UNESCO World Heritage List has no separate legal force as such, but does imply an obligation under international law. The Kingdom of the Netherlands, State Party to the World Heritage Convention (UNESCO, 1972) since 1992, recognises its resulting international obligations. The State and UNESCO depart from the assumption that the protection of World Heritage is guaranteed by existing legislation and regulations in the Netherlands, such as the Spatial Planning Policy Document (*Nota Ruimte 2006*), regional plans, structural concepts (*structuurvisies*, visions on future urban development) and zoning plans, as well as via specific legal measures and regulations to protect the value of monuments, historic buildings and cultural landscapes, or on the grounds of relevant provincial or municipal regulations.

In ratifying the World Heritage Convention, the State of the Netherlands has taken on the international obligation and responsibility to realise the protection of World Heritage via existing instruments. For World Heritage properties, not only existing monuments in the form of buildings, urban planning and archaeological sites but also cultural landscapes must be adequately protected via existing legislation, for example the 1988 Monuments and Historic Buildings Act (*Monumentenwet*), the Spatial Planning Act (*Wet op de Ruimtelijke Ordening*), and provincial and municipal regulations such as regional and zoning plans, alongside regulations relating to monuments or other matters, and monument lists.

In accordance with former state secretary Rick van der Ploeg's Policy Letter of 2001 and the Spatial Planning Policy Document, and in consultation with the authorities concerned, the state will establish in site documents – to be submitted to UNESCO – how the preservation of the heritage site is to be guaranteed in terms of planning and finance. The state will facilitate the preservation of the site by means of existing legal and financial instruments for cultural and natural heritage. Moreover, in accordance with the Operational Guidelines and the policy set down in them by the World Heritage Committee, an approved management plan must be in place. The evaluation of this management plan is an element of the nomination procedure.

This chapter provides an overview of the most important treaties, conventions and resolutions that relate to World Heritage at international, national, regional and local level.

The chapter is organised as follows:

- 2.1 Government decisions regarding the World Heritage site the '17th-century ring of canals within the Singelgracht canal'
- 2.2 The management plan in accordance with the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act and regulations

- 2.3 The management plan's term of validity
- 2.4 A declaration of the property manager's tasks and responsibilities
- 2.5 The direct responsibilities for coordination and preservation
- 2.6 A signed declaration by administratively and politically responsible authorities; a declaration of intent by stakeholders

2.1 International treaties, conventions and charters

2.1.1. Introduction

The measures for the supervision of developments within the intended World Heritage site and for the preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property (the 17th-century ring of canals) and the buffer zone (the other urban area within the boundary of the conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal') of the intended World Heritage site must be in accordance either with international treaties ratified by the Kingdom of the Netherlands, or with internationally applicable charters on cultural heritage.

These treaties, conventions and charters have been drawn up by UNESCO, the Council of Europe or by ICOMOS⁷. The most important international treaties, conventions and charters for the protection of cultural heritage, which are thus also applicable to the City of Amsterdam, are described below.

2.1.2. World Heritage Convention⁸

Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage.
(UNESCO, Paris, 16 November 1972, ratified by the Netherlands in 1992)

In 1972 the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) adopted the World Heritage Convention, because it was seen as necessary to identify irreplaceable cultural and natural heritage, of inestimable and irreplaceable value to the history of humankind, and permanently to protect it on the grounds of its 'outstanding and universal value'.

The Convention's intended purpose is the protection of cultural and natural World Heritage, based on the principle of international cooperation. The Convention came into force in 1975 after ratification by an initial 20 countries.

The Convention charges the world community with the protection and management of cultural and natural heritage of 'outstanding universal value' as a shared responsibility, with the objective of conserving its value for future generations. The cultural and natural heritage comprises archaeological sites, artistic and cultural monuments, historic cities or city centres and modern urban expansion, nature reserves and cultural landscapes which, having been nominated by States Party, the World Heritage Committee judges to be of outstanding universal value, and thus

⁷ A complete overview of UNESCO, Council of Europe and ICOMOS international treaties, conventions and charters is included in the annexes.

⁸ Link: [Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, whc.unesco.org/en/conventiontext/](http://whc.unesco.org/en/conventiontext/)

inscribes on the World Heritage List. This heritage is irreplaceable and unique and must be regarded as the property of the entire world and all its peoples. The States Party to the Convention are themselves responsible for its preservation, however, in accordance with the World Heritage Committees 'Statement of Outstanding Universal Value', and for passing on its authenticity and integrity to future generations.

The World Heritage Convention is implemented by the World Heritage Committee, which is made up of 21 representatives of States Party, elected for a term of six or four years. The Committee's task is:

- to identify cultural and natural heritage of outstanding universal value that should be protected by the Convention, and inscribe it on the World Heritage List;
- to evaluate reports and monitor sites by means including periodic monitoring, reactive monitoring, state of conservation reports and reinforced monitoring;
- to decide whether heritage on the World Heritage List should be inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger;
- to determine how and under what conditions UNESCO's World Heritage Fund can be used to help countries protect their World Heritage. Likewise, the committee makes decisions on Funds-in-Trust established for World Heritage sites by States Party, which are held by the World Heritage Committee offices, the World Heritage Centre, and with which financial assistance can be provided to States Party that are not in a position to bear the expense of nominations.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands became a State Party to the World Heritage Convention on 26 August 1992. As of November 2007, 185 countries had ratified the convention.

2.1.3 Operational Guidelines⁹

Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention (WHC 08/01 January 2008)

The World Heritage Committee has developed and drawn up the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

The Committee periodically revises the guidelines on the basis of decisions resulting from new concepts, knowledge and experience of World Heritage.

The Operational Guidelines (last revised 1 February 2008) include the following procedures for the protection of World Heritage:

- inscribing heritage sites on the World Heritage List ;
- inscribing heritage sites on the List of World Heritage in Danger;
- protecting and conserving World Heritage, drawing up a management plan;
- monitoring: state of conservation reports, active/re-active monitoring;
- providing international assistance via the World Heritage Fund, and from Funds-in-Trust;
- mobilising national and international support for the Convention;
- using the World Heritage and UNESCO emblems.

⁹ Link: The Operational Guidelines, <http://whc.unesco.org/en/guidelines/>

The Operational Guidelines also provide directives on the protection and conservation of World Heritage inscribed on the World Heritage List:

- Protection
 - Legislation, regulations and contractual measures for protection
 - Delineation of boundaries for effective protection
 - Buffer zones
- Management
 - The state of affairs regarding the World Heritage site
 - The specification and assignment of tasks and responsibilities for the preservation of the World Heritage site as a historic unit, and for the development of projects and activities to this end
 - Changes in the World Heritage's circumstances, and strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats
 - Monitoring processes
 - Changes in the World Heritage site boundary
 - Action plan for the future
 - Implementation plan with timetable and responsibilities
 - Need for international assistance where applicable
- Use and preservation
 - Capacity-building, research
 - Education

In accordance with the Operational Guidelines, for new nominations UNESCO requires a specially established management plan. This is seen by the World Heritage Committee as the direct instrument for the protection and preservation of a World Heritage site, and the conservation of its social function and significance. Moreover, for the Netherlands, in a Policy Letter of December 2001 concerning World Heritage (*Beleidsbrief van december 2001 inzake het Werelderfgoed*) addressed to the Lower House of Parliament, the then state secretary for Culture, Rick van der Ploeg stipulated that prior to a future nomination a 'site document' must first be drawn up. For cultural heritage sites in the Netherlands that have already been inscribed on the World Heritage List, such documents must also be drawn up by the parties directly responsible for their conservation.

2.1.4 The Venice Charter¹⁰

International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (Venice, 1964)

ICOMOS Charter – approved by the ICOMOS General Assembly

The Venice Charter contains the basic principles for the conservation and restoration of heritage sites and in particular of monumental buildings. The essence of the Charter is that a heritage site is permanently conserved and thus serves a social purpose.

¹⁰ Link: International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (The Venice Charter), http://www.icomos.org/venice_charter.html

The Venice Charter was drawn up by ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites), an advisory body (NGO) to UNESCO, and in particular to the World Heritage Committee.

UNESCO has accepted the Venice Charter as a key reference on matters of World Heritage. The Charter prescribes that particular attention should be given to the maintenance of characteristic features, the *genius loci* – the monument's environment.

2.1.5 World Heritage List¹¹

World Heritage List (1972)

UNESCO

In inscribing sites of cultural or natural heritage on the World Heritage List on the nomination of the State Party in which it is located, UNESCO (the World Heritage Committee) establishes that the site is of outstanding universal value to the world community and the history of humankind.

At present (as of July 2008), the World Heritage List comprises 878 cultural or natural World Heritage sites.

2.1.6 Washington Charter¹²

Charter on the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas (Washington, 1987)

ICOMOS Charter – Charters approved by the ICOMOS General Assembly

The Washington Charter provides guidelines for the conservation of historic towns and urban areas. It stresses the importance of urban planning policy as an integral component of the further social and economic development of historic urban areas. The Charter aims at conserving the historic character of urban monuments, both tangible and intangible, both in design and structure, in terms of architecture, scale, size colour, and use of materials. New functions and developments must accord with the character of historic towns and cities.

2.1.7 Nara Document¹³

The Nara Document on Authenticity (1994)

ICOMOS Resolution – Resolutions adopted during or originating from ICOMOS symposiums

The Nara Document is a guideline for ICOMOS and the World Heritage Committee for the identification and conservation of authenticity in historic environments, given that authenticity is one of the fundamental principles in the World Heritage Convention and associated Operational Guidelines.

¹¹ Link: The World Heritage List, <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list>

¹² Link: Charter on the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas, www.international.icomos.org/charters/towns_e.htm

¹³ Link: Nara Document on Authenticity, <http://whc.unesco.org/archive/nara94.htm>

In 2008 the World Heritage Committee stated that 'authenticity' and 'integrity' form an integral part of the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), as it applies to World Heritage sites.

The document declares that the diversity of cultures and heritage in our world is an irreplaceable source of spiritual and intellectual richness for all humankind. The protection and enhancement of cultural and heritage diversity in our world should be actively promoted as an essential aspect of human development.

2.1.8 International Cultural Tourism Charter¹⁴

International Charter on Cultural Tourism; Managing Tourism at Places of Heritage Significance (1999)

ICOMOS Charter – Charters approved by the ICOMOS General Assembly

In an age of increasing globalisation, the protection and presentation of our cultural heritage is an important challenge. However, the management of heritage sites is the responsibility of the regional community.

A primary objective for managing heritage is to communicate its significance and the need for its conservation both to its host community and to visitors. Heritage brings with it a duty of respect for the values and interests of the past and present community, and for the landscape and culture within which the heritage has evolved. National and international tourism is the most important source of information exchange on past and present-day societies. Tourism can underline the economic importance of heritage. Heritage conservation is thus an essential part of the regional and national economy and is important for development and innovation – provided it is well managed.

2.1.9 Vienna Memorandum¹⁵

Vienna Memorandum on World Heritage and Contemporary Architecture – Managing the Historic Urban Landscape (Vienna, 2005)

UNESCO Memorandum – approved by the UNESCO international conference and the World Heritage Committee

The Vienna Memorandum deals with the influence of present-day urban developments and contemporary architecture on the value of cultural built heritage. The memorandum sets out principles for the long-term conservation of heritage and monuments. Constant change in dynamic towns and cities requires policy makers and stakeholders to have a vision both on the city as a whole and on future urban development, in keeping with the historical pattern of development. The challenge for contemporary architecture and urban planning is to meet the needs of dynamic and socio-economic developments, at the same time respecting cultural heritage and the historic urban landscape.

¹⁴ Link: International Charter on Cultural Tourism, http://www.international.icomos.org/charters/tourism_e.htm

¹⁵ Link: Vienna Memorandum, whc.unesco.org/uploads/activities/documents/activity-47-2.pdf

2.1.10 Malta Convention¹⁶

European Convention of the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta, 1992)

Council of Europe treaty – Council of Europe Treaties, ratified by the Netherlands

The Malta Convention governs the approach to archaeological heritage, given that such heritage is increasingly under threat, not merely due to natural processes or unscientific excavation, but also due to urban development.

The convention is founded on three principles: firstly, that where possible archaeological heritage should be conserved *in situ*, as this offers the best guarantee of effective conservation; secondly, that urban development should take account of the possible presence of archaeological heritage, leaving room for archeologically-friendly alternatives; and thirdly, that the party responsible for disturbing the site should pay for the excavation and documentation of archaeological heritage where conservation *in situ* is not possible.

2.2 Relation to legislation and regulations

2.2.1 Introduction

The state and UNESCO depart from the assumption that the protection and conservation of World Heritage is guaranteed by existing legislation and regulations in the Netherlands. This may be via national heritage legislation, such as the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act, or the Preservation of Archaeological Monuments and Historic Buildings Act, as well as via urban planning legislation such as the Spatial Planning Act and the Water Boards Act, or on the basis of regulations at provincial or local level.

This section explains what national, provincial and local legal instruments are available to protect '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal' as World Heritage. In doing so it discusses legislation relating to heritage that has recently come into force (such as the Archaeological Built Heritage Conservation Act and associated amendment to the 1988 Monuments and Historic Buildings Act, and the new Spatial Planning Act) or which is soon to come into force (the Water Act and the Environmental Licensing [General Provisions] Act). A comprehensive overview of legislation, regulations and policy that have already been in force for some time is included in Annex 4 of the Site Document for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'. The **Site Document** in its entirety is included as an annex to the management plan.

2.2.2 Monuments and Historic Buildings Act (Monumentenwet – 1988)

The Monuments and Historic Buildings Act governs the designation and protection of national monuments. Monuments designated by the Minister of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) are listed as such by the National Service for Archaeology,

¹⁶ Link: European Convention on the Protection of the Archeological Heritage (Revised), <http://www.racm.nl/content/rubriek-n6-6.asp>

Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (*Rijksdienst voor Archeologie, Cultuurlandschap en Monumenten – RACM*). As of 1 January 2008, 3466 buildings designated as national monuments are located within the Amsterdam canal belt. The Monuments and Historic Buildings Act includes provisions regarding the alteration of monuments; under Article 11, a permit is required for their maintenance, restoration and alteration.

Article 1, Monuments and Historic Buildings Act

In this act and the provisions it contains, the following terms shall be understood:

- a) the minister: the Minister of Education, Culture and Science;
- b) monuments and historic buildings;
 - 1) all buildings that have existed for at least 50 years, which are of public importance due to their beauty, scientific significance or cultural and historic value;
 - 2) areas which are of public importance because of the buildings referred to under 1 that are located within them;
- c) archaeological monuments: monuments as referred to in Subsection b under 2;
- d) protected monuments: immovable monuments listed in the registers established pursuant to this act;
- e) Religious monuments: immovable monuments which are the property of a religious denomination, an independent section of such a denomination, a body within which religious denominations are allied, or of another society with a spiritual basis and which is used exclusively or principally for the shared practice of the religion or philosophy of life.
- f) village and cityscapes: groups of buildings that are of public importance due to their beauty, spatial or structural coherence or scientific or cultural and historic value and within which one or more monument or historic building is located;
- g) urban and village conservation areas: village and cityscapes designated as such by the Minister of Education, Culture and Science and the Minister of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment pursuant to Article 35 of this act, as of the date of the designation's publication in the State Gazette;
- h) excavation: the performance of activities aimed at locating or investigating monuments or historic buildings, which involve a disturbance of the ground;
- i) the Council: the Council for Culture (*Raad voor Cultuur*) as referred to in Article 2a of the Specific Cultural Policy Act.

Article 2, Monuments and Historic Buildings Act

1. In the implementation of this act, the use of the monument or historic building shall be taken into account.
2. With regard to religious monuments, decisions pursuant to this act shall only be made after consultation with the owner.

Article 11, Monuments and Historic Buildings Act

- 1 It is prohibited to damage or destroy a protected monument or historic building.
- 2 Without being in possession of a permit, or in contravention of a permit, it is prohibited to

- 1) demolish, interfere with, relocate or in any way alter a protected monument or historic building;
- 2) restore a protected monument or historic building, or use it or allow it to be used in such a way that it becomes defaced or is endangered.

Local councils decide on applications for permits relating to monuments or historic buildings (see also Section 5.6).

Owners of national monuments who are entitled to tax relief facilities are eligible for a restoration fund mortgage under the State Subsidy for the Preservation of Monuments Decree (*Besluit Rijkssubsidiëring Instandhouding Monumenten – BRIM*). This is a loan on favourable terms through the National Restoration Fund (*Nationaal Restauratiefonds*). They are also eligible for tax deductions. Owners of national monuments who are not entitled to tax relief facilities are eligible for subsidy under the BRIM (see also Section 7.1).

Urban and village conservation areas

The Monuments and Historic Buildings Act offers the ministers of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) and the Ministry for Housing, Regional Development and the Environment (VROM) the possibility to designate 'urban and village conservation areas' (*beschermde stads- en dorpsgezichten*). The local council is obliged to establish a zoning plan for the protection of such areas, concentrating on the preservation of historic value as described in the explanatory notes accompanying the designation of the conservation area.

Article 36, Monuments and Historic Buildings Act

1. For the protection of an urban or village conservation area, the municipal council shall establish a zoning plan as referred to in the Spatial Planning Act. In the decree designating an urban or village conservation area, a deadline may be set for this to be carried out.
2. In the decree designating an urban or village conservation area, it shall be stipulated whether and to what extent applicable zoning plans may be seen as a conservation plan in the sense of the previous clause, or if a management order as referred to in the Spatial Planning Act, on the advice of the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage, may be established.

In February 1999, 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal' was designated by the state as an urban conservation area (see also paragraph 5.1).

Proposal for the Modernisation of Built Heritage Conservation - 2009

In 2008, the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) carried out the Modernisation of Built Heritage Conservation Project (MoMo). To take account of new developments in built heritage conservation, the Minister of Education, Culture and Science initiated a broad public debate on the possible revision or extension of the available legal instruments, and an associated redistribution of responsibility. The results are to be presented to the Lower House of Parliament early in 2009. A

firm basis for cultural history and spatial development and the reclassification of built heritage feature as important themes within the debate.

2.2.3 The Archaeological Built Heritage Conservation Act (Wet op de Archeologische Monumentenzorg – 2007)

New archaeology act

The crux of the new legislation, inspired by the Malta Convention, is that the conservation of archaeological value *in situ* is a basic principle and that archaeology is should be embedded within spatial planning. In zoning plans it is compulsory to include regulations on archaeological policy in the area in question. A further principle is that the party responsible for the disturbance of the site should bear the cost of the excavation and documentation of its archaeological value if conservation *in situ* is not possible.

Regulations concerning archaeology in existing legislation

Under the Archaeological Built Heritage Conservation Act, as of 1 September 2007 supplementary regulations on archaeology have been included in four acts: the 1988 Monuments and Historic Buildings Act (1988), the Excavation Act, the Environmental Management Act and the Housing Act (respectively *Monumentenwet*, *Ontgrondingenwet*, *Wet milieubeheer* and *Woningwet*). The Archaeological Built Heritage Conservation Act (*Wet op de archeologische monumentenzorg*) also provides for the introduction of a quality system for archaeology (KNA 3.1), and for the operation of a competitive market in excavation and archaeological research. Market competitors may apply to the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM) for a permit. The RACM is has the authority either to grant or refuse the permit. Further explanation of policy on archaeology in Amsterdam can be found in section 5.8.

2.2.4 Housing Act (Woningwet – 2007)

Building permit

Under the Housing Act, a local council may grant building permits. The council evaluates the building plans of an applicant for such a permit according to the Building Decree (or building code), which contains technical construction requirements on matters including structural safety, fire safety, municipal building regulations, the zoning plan and the policy document on building aesthetics (*Welstandsnota*).

Under the Housing Act, the building regulations and the Building Decree, a local council can issue orders, for example in response to the neglect or defacement of buildings. For protected monuments or historic buildings, the monument permit takes precedence over the building permit: without a monument permit, it is not possible to make use of any building permit that has been granted.

Provisions concerning monuments

Articles 43, 44 and 54 of the Housing Act contain special regulations concerning monuments and historic buildings. Under Article 43, no permit is required for

smaller-scale construction work, with the exception that a permit is required for all construction work on monuments or historic buildings, or within an urban or village conservation area.

Article 44 states that a building permit may and should be refused if the building plan contravenes the Building Decree, the building regulations, the zoning plan, the building aesthetics criteria and the 1988 Monuments and Historic Buildings Act or monument and historic buildings regulations. Where no monument permit has been granted, this provides automatic ground for the refusal of a building permit. Articles 43 and 44 apply both to national, provincial and municipal monuments.

Article 54 provides for the deferral of a decision on a building permit for a national monument until such time as a monument permit has been granted.

2.2.5 Spatial Planning Act (Wet ruimtelijke ordening – 2008)

New Spatial Planning Act

The new Spatial Planning Act (Wro) came in to force on 1 July 2008. It replaces the previous spatial planning act (*Wet op de Ruimtelijke Ordening – WRO*) and contains a great number of changes. Its introduction necessitates amendments to many other acts, carried out under a special act providing for the establishment of the Spatial Planning Act.

Consequences of new regulations under the Spatial Planning Act

The Spatial Planning Act has major consequences for the roles, tasks and competences of the various layers of government in the field of spatial planning. Provincial government no longer has a supervisory role in spatial planning at municipal level, and provincial approval of municipal zoning plans is no longer required. Each layer of government is responsible for its own planning policy: central government for national policy, the provinces for provincial policy and local councils for local policy. Important changes are:

- Provincial Executive approval is no longer required
- The 10-yearly renewal of zoning plans is compulsory
- Article 19 is to be replaced by the Project Order
- Management regulations are to be put in place
- The digitisation of zoning plans is to become compulsory

Legal instruments for spatial planning

Up to now, the most important legal instruments concerning spatial planning for central government, the provinces and the local councils have been respectively the National Spatial Planning Key Decision (*Planologische Kernbeslissing – pkb*), the structural concept (*structuurvisie*) and structure plan (*structuurplan*). Under the Spatial Planning Act, these instruments are replaced by a national, provincial and municipal structural concept. The concept is binding only for central government, not to other levels of government or to citizens. The structural concept is a strategic policy document, which has effect only through the application of legally binding instruments, such as a zoning plan, spatial integration plan, management regulation, instruction, General Administrative Measure (*algemene maatregel van bestuur – amvb*), or provincial regulation. See table:

Comparison of old and new Spatial Planning Acts

Government	Old Spatial Planning Act (WRO)	New Spatial Planning Act (Wro)	Legal nature of Wro
Central government		Structural concept	Self-binding only
	National Spatial Planning Key Decision (PKB)	spatial integration plan (national zoning plan)	binding
		General Administrative Measure (AMVB)	binding
	NIMBY/intervention (not in my back yard) ¹⁷	instruction	binding
	national project	Project Order	binding
		Structural Concept	Self-binding only
	regional plan	spatial integration plan (provincial zoning plan)	binding
		provincial spatial regulation	binding
		instruction	binding
		Project Order	binding
Local council	structure plan	structural concept	Self-binding only
	zoning plan	zoning plan	binding
		management regulation	binding
	Art. 19 exemption	Project Order	binding

Structural concept for Amsterdam

Under the new Spatial Planning Act, the City of Amsterdam is to draw up a municipal Structural Concept, which is binding at municipal level. The City of Amsterdam aims to bring the Structural Concept into force in 2010. Without change in policy, the present 2003 Structure Plan will be legally converted into

Zoning plans

Under the new Spatial Planning Act, the Zoning Plan remains the central document that regulates land use and is binding for both citizens and government. To improve the enforcement of zoning plans, the Spatial Planning Act obliges local councils

¹⁷ The NIMBY exemption was a competence for the exemption of the Provincial Executive with regard to urgent projects of supra-municipal importance under Article 40 of the Spatial Planning Act (WRO). This exemption is no longer in effect and in the new Spatial Planning Act it is replaced by the order.

annually to draw up enforcement policy and to report to the city council on the implementation of spatial policy (including enforcement). Likewise, local councils must send a draft zoning plan to the government departments that bear responsibility for the affairs or interests that are at issue in the draft (Art. 3.8.1.b).

Zoning plans are enforced by means of building regulations, construction permits and regulations on use, with the associated coercive and criminal provisions.

Norms are primarily established at non-central government level: the local council. If the nature of interests or the scale of the planning issue transcends local or provincial level, zoning plans may also be laid down by central or provincial government. Evaluation at provincial level at a later stage is replaced by:

- a point of evaluation for provincial and central government during the zoning plan procedure itself, to assess whether the draft plan is in line with provincial or central government policy.
- the authority for provincial and central government to set conditions or quality requirements which zoning plans must fulfil.
- the authority for provincial and central government to give specific instructions;
- the authority for provincial and central government directly to establish a zoning plan themselves

The authority of central and provincial government to establish norms

Central and provincial government has the authority to establish norms:

- the authority to establish or amend zoning plans in whole or in part;
- the authority to set general or specific requirements for local government decrees on spatial planning by means of a by-law or general administrative measure.

Under a provincial by-law, a province can set regulations governing the content of municipal zoning plans and provincial spatial integration plans (Art. 4.3.1. A province can also instruct a local council to establish a zoning plan by a certain date (Art. 4.2.1).

Central government can set regulations on the content of municipal zoning plans and provincial spatial integration plans (Art 4.3.1). Central government can equally instruct a local council to establish a zoning plan by a certain date (Art. 4.4.1.a).

2.2.6 Water Act (Waterwet – to come into force in 2009)

New Water Act

On 25 March 2008 the Lower House of Parliament passed the new Water Act. The act replaces a number of existing laws in the field of water management, such as the Water Management Act, the Flood Defences Act, the Groundwater Act and the Pollution of Surface Waters Act. The new Water Act will come into force in 2009.

Consequences of the new Water Act

The Water Act has important consequences for the Directorate-General for Public Works and Water Management, in areas including the granting of permits. It is not

yet entirely clear how these changes will take effect because although the act has been passed by the Lower House, many details still have to be finalised in the Water Decree and the act providing for the establishment of the Water Act, which are both still in preparation.

Replacement by the Water Act

The Water Act replaces existing legislation on water management in the Netherlands

- Water Management Act (1989) (*Wet op de waterhuishouding*)
- Flood Defences Act (1995) (*Wet op de waterhuishouding*)
- Groundwater Act (1981) (*Grondwaterwet*)
- Pollution of Surface Waters Act (1969) (*Wet verontreiniging oppervlaktewateren*)
- Marine Pollution Act (1975) (*Wet verontreiniging zeewater*)
- Reclamation and Dike-building Act (14 July 1904) (*Wet droogmakerijen en indijkingen*)
- Public Works (Management) Act (1996) where related to water (*Wet beheer rijkswaterstaatswerken*)
- Public Works act (1900) where related to water (*Waterstaatswet*)
- Wrecks Act (1934), also to be integrated via legislation for the establishment of the Water Act (*Wrakkenwet*)
- the section on decontamination in the Soil Protection Act (1986) (*Wet bodembescherming*)

Water Boards Act (*Waterschapswet – 1991*)

Alongside the Water Act, the Water Boards Act will continue to exist as an organic law for the water boards. An organic law is prescribed by the constitution and relates to the organisation of the state and its subdivisions. Moreover, within Dutch government, environmental policy will remain separate from water policy. Policy on water quality will remain under the Ministry for Housing, Regional Development and the Environment.

Competences of water boards

Water Boards Act sets out the position and competences of water boards within the Dutch system of government. A water board is responsible for water management in the following areas:

- Flood defences: protection against floods by means of sound dunes, dikes and quays.
 - dikes and quays of adequate height, sufficiently robust and in good repair
- Water quality: clean water, combating pollution, and improving the quality of surface water
 - clean and clear water in ditches and ponds
 - purification of wastewater by means of sewage treatment plants
- Water quantity: water level management, managing the quantity of water and maintaining the correct water level
 - ensuring that the level of surface water is neither too high nor too low
 - storing as much rainwater as possible for use in times of drought
- Management of waterways and country roads
 - providing and maintaining facilities for the professional and recreational navigation of waterways

- Regulation of water traffic.

Responsible water board in Amsterdam

Water board boundaries are determined in relation to water management. The Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board (Hoogheemraadschap Amstel, Gooi en Vecht - AGV) is responsible for water management in Amsterdam and a part of the provinces of North Holland and Utrecht.

Regulation by means of statute (*keur*)

The regulations made by water boards are laid down in by-laws and statutes. Private individuals, companies and other government bodies must comply with the Statute in the management and maintenance of public works. Where contraventions take place, if necessary a water board can take measures, such as repairing damage to dikes, waterways or roads at the expense of the offender. The Statute prescribes that third parties should carry out allocated maintenance to public works. It is prohibited under the Statute to make any alterations to public works such that they no longer function correctly.

Inspection by means of survey

The regulations in the Statute are set down in a so-called statute document. A register accompanying the Statute contains maps with management information. The register stipulates where orders and prohibitions in the Statute are applicable. The water board regularly inspects whether the regulations in the Statute are being observed. This takes place via a survey. (For more information on the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Statute see paragraph 5.2.7.)

2.2.7 Disclosure of Restrictions under Public Law in respect of Real Estate Act (2007) (Wet kenbaarheid publiekrechtelijke beperkingen onroerende zaken – Wkpb)

The new Disclosure of Restrictions under Public Law in respect of Real Estate Act

The Disclosure of Restrictions under Public Law in respect of Real Estate Act is aimed at improving the registration of all restrictions under public law imposed by the government, making it easier for purchasers of or owners to gain insight into restrictions under public law that apply to a building or plot of land. At present it is hard for a purchaser or owner to gain an overview of all the legal restrictions, because their registration is scattered and diverse.

The new act is aimed at improving this situation. By consulting the register of limitations on buildings or land, owners or potential purchasers of a house or plot of land can ascertain what obligations apply to the property. A zoning plan, monument status or soil decontamination order may restrict the possible use of a building or piece of land.

The role of local councils and the Land Register

A first principle is that the registration should take place as close as possible to the source (the government body imposing the restriction). The actual provision of information must be straightforward, and duplicate registrations must be avoided. The system departs from the idea of registration at two administrative levels: the

local council and the Land Register. These two registrations are to be connected online, so both the local council and the Land Register are able to produce a complete overview of restrictions at all times.

Registration completed in 2009

The Disclosure of Restrictions under Public Law in respect of Real Estate Act came in to force on 1 July 2007. However, the act has a transitional period of two years. During these two years, restriction orders dating from before 1 July 2007 which still apply are to be entered into the system. In this period interested parties can nevertheless make use of the incomplete system. By 1 July 2009, all orders that restrict the use of a building or plot of land will have been entered into the system and government provision of information should have undergone a genuine improvement.

Responsible parties in Amsterdam

The Geo and Real Estate Information Service (*Dienst Geo en Vastgoedinformatie Amsterdam – GVI*) is responsible for the registration. The municipal districts are responsible for the provision of information to the public. The Geo and Real Estate Information Service has drawn up an operational plan for the districts. This lays out the steps that the municipal districts and the departments involved are required to take in order to register current orders.¹⁸

Disclosure of information to the public in Amsterdam¹⁹

Via Land Register Online (*Kadaster Online*) The public (and notary's, real estate agents etc.) are able to access all restrictions that apply to a plot of land. Land Register Online provides information on all national restrictions and gives access to the Central Registry for Addresses and Buildings (*Landelijke Voorziening Basisregistraties voor Adressen en Gebouwen – BAG*). Information on the municipal orders that serve as the source of the registration is not provided.

Municipal restriction orders can be consulted via Atlas Amsterdam. Atlas Amsterdam (www.atlas.amsterdam.nl) is the City of Amsterdam's digital Geographic Information System (GIS), which has been in operation since the end of 2007. Data under twenty themes can be accessed via a digital map. In the coming years, Atlas Amsterdam is to be extended. In future, it will be possible for transactions such as applications for permits and the submission of objections to be handled via this service. Because Atlas Amsterdam is now only accessible within the municipal system, each district office has been equipped with a counter at which Atlas Amsterdam can be consulted, and at which the public can request information from the Atlas. The Geo and Real Estate Information Service is responsible for additions and updates to Atlas Amsterdam.

It is thus possible for the public to access information on municipal and national restrictions, including municipal restriction orders, free of charge. However, it is not

¹⁸ Geo and Real Estate Information Service Operational plan for the registration of current orders under the Disclosure of the Restrictions under Public Law in respect of Real Estate Act (*Draaiboek inschrijven vigerende besluiten Wkpb, Geo en Vastgoedinformatie Amsterdam*)

¹⁹ Disclosure of Restrictions under Public Law in respect of Real Estate Act procedure in Amsterdam (*Werkproces Wkpb in Amsterdam*); Version 2.1. Geo and Real Estate Information, p8

possible to consult the so-called 'source documents' of national restrictions. The source documents, on which the data in the registry is based, are held in the Central Registries for Addresses and Buildings.

It is possible for district councils to enter into a more comprehensive contract with the Land Register to enable them to provide this service as well. For the provision of a Land Register counter, the district council then makes an agreement with the Land Register. The advantage of this service is that the charge for this contract is lower.

2.2.8 Environmental Law (General Provisions) Act (Wet algemene bepalingen omgevingsrecht – Wabo) to come into force in 2010

New Environmental Law (General Provisions) Act

The Environmental Law (General Provisions) Act was initially to come into force in 2009, but has now been postponed provisionally until 2010. The act is to provide the framework for a new environmental permit: a single integrated permit for construction, housing, spatial planning, nature and the environment.

To this end, around 25 permits,²⁰ exemptions and reports granting approval in the field of spatial planning construction, the environment, nature, monuments and historic buildings are to be integrated into a single environmental permit. This will require a single application to a single counter resulting in a single decision, following a single application and appeals procedure, with a single supervisory body. The majority of these permits will be issued by local councils. The revision of the permit system does not result in new or altered assessment criteria. This means that the new act makes no changes to the existing level of protection for public interests contained in the existing legislation. The same is true of the degree of policymaking freedom for the competent authorities, allowing them to attach conditions to the permits.

Consequences of the Environmental Law (General Provisions) Act²¹

The introduction of the Environmental Law Act particularly affects municipal service provision. The local council is to become the counter issuing environmental permits, and as the competent authority it will be responsible for assessing applications. In preparation for the act's introduction, the City of Amsterdam has made a plan of approach, under the direction of the City Programme for Regulation and Enforcement (*Stedelijk Programma Regelgeving en Handhaving*). The Central Amsterdam District has drawn up a Project Plan for the Introduction of the Environmental Law (General Provisions) Act under the direction of the districts Construction and Housing Department (*Sector Bouwen en Wonen*).

Under the Environmental Law Act, local councils have to meet a number of requirements. They must:

- provide a single counter for the environmental permit
- be able to receive applications digitally

²⁰ For an overview of the permits to be combined under the new act, see the Project plan for the introduction of the Environmental Law (General Provisions) Act (*Projectplan invoering Wet algemene bepalingen omgevingsrecht*), District of Central Amsterdam, Annex 5

²¹ City of Amsterdam Building Bulletin (*Bouwbrief Gemeente Amsterdam*), issue 2007-V05

- be able to issue a single permit for decisions pursuant to or ensuing from the act
- be able to organise coordinated supervision
- be able to act as an enforcement agency under administrative law

2.3 The Management Plan's term of validity

2.3.1 Introduction

The management plan describes how the intended World Heritage site '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' is to be managed, and with it the designated buffer zone within the boundary of the conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal'. It sets out action items for an action plan, which is to be updated annually. To this end, indicators will be monitored, on the basis of which the management plan and the annual action plans can be evaluated and revised. After a period of time the management plan must therefore be updated.

2.3.2 Management and action plan

The management plan describes the way in which the management of the conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal' and in particular of the property, the '17th-century ring of canals' and its associated buffer zone, is presently regulated. The plan also sets out a number of action items to be developed in the coming two years, prior to World Heritage Centre's decision on the nomination, which is expected mid-2010.

Monitoring, evaluation and revision

On the basis of a large number of indicators, the Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam monitor the results of their policy (see Section 8). As property manager, the Central Amsterdam District is responsible for monitoring, assessing and where necessary revising and improving management policy and the administrative measures for the protection of the relevant qualities of the property, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', and the surrounding buffer zone within the Singelgracht canal. To this end the property manager will annual assesses the state of affairs within the property and the effectiveness of management and measures taken. Where necessary the property manager will revise the management plan based on its findings.

2.3.3 The Management Plan's term of validity

The first management plan's term of validity is five years, from the date of its adoption by the Central Amsterdam District's Executive Committee and the City of Amsterdam's College of Mayor and Aldermen (Municipal Executive). Until autumn 2009, the property manager will systematically assess the operation of the plan, revise it where necessary, and report to the World Heritage Committee through the agency of the ministry responsible for coordinating World Heritage, the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science. As specified in the Operational Guidelines, Section 108-119, the property must have a functioning management plan or system.

Key point 1:

The Central Amsterdam District will inform the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science of the evaluation and any revisions in a memorandum, which can also be submitted to the World Heritage Committee.

2.4 Declaration regarding the tasks and competences of the property manager

2.4.1 Introduction

The City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District will conserve '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as World Heritage and protect the property in accordance with the management plan. As property manager, the Central Amsterdam District is responsible for its day-to-day management.

2.4.2 Joint declaration

The Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam jointly declare, as the parties directly responsible for the protection of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as World Heritage, that they will preserve this internationally recognised cultural heritage site for present and future generations of residents of and visitors to Amsterdam, in accordance with the World Heritage Convention (UNESCO, 1972) and associated Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention, and the Statement of Outstanding Value set down by the World Heritage Committee.

The City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District, together with UNESCO's World Heritage Committee and the Kingdom of the Netherlands, recognise the canal belt (*grachtengordel*) as irreplaceable cultural heritage. This recognition implies an obligation to respect the outstanding universal value, authenticity and integrity of this 17th-century urban landscape, and to take the necessary measures to preserve it carefully as a historic part of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal.

The City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District strive for the lasting management of this World Heritage site, within the dynamics of a constantly changing, vibrant capital city.

The management plan, drawn up in collaboration with the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM) and approved by the Central Amsterdam District Executive Committee and the Municipal Executive, sets out the way in which the effective protection and conservation of the nominated property and designated associated buffer zone is to be secured in a way appropriate to World Heritage site.

After inscription, the Central Amsterdam District will act as property manager. Sections 4.2.2 and 4.2.3 detail the district's responsibilities and competences in this function.

The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW), representing the Netherlands as State Party to the World Heritage Convention, can make solicited

and unsolicited recommendations to the Central Amsterdam District on the day-to-day management of the property.

Covenant between the Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam

The covenant signed between the Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam on the implementation of the property manager's responsibilities, tasks and competences makes up a part of the management plan.

Key point 2:

Subsequent to the management plan's approval by the Central Amsterdam District Executive Committee and the Municipal Executive, the Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam will have the covenant referred to in the declaration in Section 2.4 signed by the Executive Committee and Municipal Executive. The signed covenant will accompany the management plan and will be among the documents in relation to the nomination which the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science will submit to the cabinet, for inclusion with the nomination subsequent to cabinet approval.

2.5 Direct responsibility for coordination and conservation

2.5.1 Introduction

Many parties are involved in the effective protection of the property, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'. However, a single party is directly responsible for the coordination and implementation of the property's conservation: the property manager.

2.5.2 Property manager

Subsequent to the property's inscription on the World Heritage List, the Central Amsterdam District will be directly responsible as property manager for coordinating and implementing the protection and preservation of the property, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'. The district also bears direct responsibility for the conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal, within which the property and designated buffer zone are located.

In consultation and with the support of the City of Amsterdam, the property manager will establish a World Heritage Office to fulfil an advisory role (see Section 4.4.4).

The measures for the preservation of the property and buffer zone within the conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal' are detailed in Chapter 5.

2.6 Declaration of authorities' governmental responsibilities; stakeholders' declaration of intent

2.6.1 Introduction

The protection and conservation of an internationally recognised World Heritage site requires efforts on the part of many organisations, businesses and individuals. The management plan provides guidelines for the day-to-day management of the site, specifying the efforts required of the most important jointly responsible authorities and the stakeholders (see chapter 4).

2.6.2 Responsible authorities' declaration

1. The authorities below confirm their shared responsibility for the protection and preservation of the cultural heritage site '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as UNESCO World Heritage.
- 3 They will base their policy and action on internationally recognised treaties, conventions and charters for World Heritage, intended for the protection of cultural and natural heritage, as referred to in Section 2.2.
- 4 They will use the nomination dossier, of which the management plan and site document are a part, as a guideline for the management, protection and preservation of the outstanding and universal value, authenticity and integrity, and for agreements on cooperation pertaining to such management.
- 5 They hereby declare that they will actively cooperate in preserving '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as internationally recognised World Heritage for present and future generations of residents of and visitors to Amsterdam, in accordance with the World Heritage Convention (UNESCO, 1972) and associated Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention.
- 6 To this end they declare that they will contribute to a lasting and forward-looking approach to use, maintenance, research, education and tourism in relation to the property.

Signatories:

City of Amsterdam

Central Amsterdam District

Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board

Key point 3:

Subsequent to the management plan's approval by the Executive Committee and Municipal Executive, the Central Amsterdam District and City of Amsterdam will have the declaration in Section 2.6 signed as a covenant by the jointly responsible authorities referred to in this section. The signed covenant will accompany the management plan and will be among the documents in relation to the nomination which the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science will submit to the cabinet, for inclusion with the nomination subsequent to cabinet approval.

2.6.3 Stakeholders' declaration of intent

2. The responsible authorities and stakeholders below confirm their joint responsibility for the protection and perseveration of the cultural heritage site '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as UNESCO World Heritage.
- 7 They will base their policy and action on internationally recognised treaties, conventions and charters for World Heritage, intended for the protection of cultural and natural heritage, as referred to in Section 2.1.
3. They will use the nomination dossier, of which the management plan and site document are a part, as a guideline for the management, protection and preservation of the outstanding and universal value, authenticity and integrity, and for agreements on cooperation pertaining to such management.
- 8 They hereby declare that they will actively cooperate in preserving '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as internationally recognised World Heritage for present and future generations of residents of and visitors to Amsterdam, in accordance with the World Heritage Convention (UNESCO, 1972) and associated Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention.
- 9 To this end they declare they will contribute to a lasting and forward-looking approach to use, maintenance, research, education and tourism in relation to the property.

Signatories:

- Amsterdam Federation of Housing Corporations (*Amsterdamse Federatie van Woningcorporaties*)
- Amsterdam Urban Restoration (*Stadsherstel Amsterdam N.V.*)
- Hendrick de Keyser Association (*Vereniging Hendrick de Keyser*)
- Amsterdam City
- Amsterdam Partners

Key point 4:

Subsequent to the management plan's approval by the Executive Committee and Municipal Executive, the Central Amsterdam District and City of Amsterdam will have the declaration of intent referred to in Section 2.6 signed as a covenant by the stakeholders referred to in this section. The signed covenant will accompany the management plan and will be among the documents in relation to the nomination which the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science will submit to the cabinet, for inclusion with the nomination subsequent to cabinet approval.

Chapter 3: Vision, objective and task

This chapter forms the core of the management plan. It examines the management vision, the basic principles of the management plan and the objective, task and measures associated with it. This section also describes the outstanding universal value, the authenticity and the integrity of the property. This section concludes with an operational plan and an action plan for the implementation of the management plan and the further improvement of the property's management.

3.1 Management Vision

3.1.1 Introduction

Ensuring effective protection and preservation of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as a World Heritage site requires a wide-ranging management vision shared by property manager, responsible authorities and stakeholders alike. The management vision is the foundation of the strategy for the plan.

3.1.2 *Concept plan for protecting '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as a World Heritage site*

The urban landscape of the ring of canals

Nomination for the status of World Heritage site requires that the site in question has a place among the irreplaceable heritage of human history. The significance of the 17th-century ring of canals is not only to be found in the exceptional tangible character of this extensive urban expansion with no contemporaneous equal in Europe and the architecture of the Dutch Renaissance, Dutch classicism and later styles, but also in its intangible, universal, historical value. The ring of canals is an urban landscape interwoven with the historical developments and stratifications of contemporary Amsterdam within the Singelgracht.

The 'story' of the ring of canals

As well as protecting and presenting the material value of a World Heritage site, it is also imperative that its intangible values are protected and presented. What does the cultural heritage convey and within which socio-cultural and societal environment does the heritage site become significant?

Concept plan for the management of the ring of canals

The property manager, responsible authorities and stakeholders involved in the ring of canals consider it their shared responsibility and task to ensure the enduring protection and conservation of the outstanding universal value, authenticity and intact planning structure of the ring of canals.

The system for built heritage conservation in the Netherlands and the intensive policy measures taken by the Central Amsterdam District, the City of Amsterdam, and the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board over the last decades for the

protection of cultural-historic values together provide all the necessary guarantees for effective conservation of the property.

The management plan is, as intended by the World Heritage Committee, the instrument for coordination and integration. To these ends, it defines the objectives and site-specific tasks, examines the effect of relevant legislation and regulations, describes the types of collaborations and agreements it will be necessary to enter into, and clarifies the monitoring apparatus. It also discusses protocols with respect to social responsibility.

The effect of the management plan

The management plan is stratified, having functional effects and significance on three levels.

- Strategic level: how will the City of Amsterdam and Central Amsterdam District preserve the outstanding universal value of the World Heritage site in the medium to long term?
- Tactical level: what impact does nomination have on the property manager, responsible authorities and stakeholders?
- Operational level: what is necessary to maintain the status of a World Heritage site?

Strategic level – the long-term objective – is detailed in *3.4 Outstanding universal value*

Tactical level – the short term benefits for the site holder, responsible authorities and stakeholders – is detailed in *3.5 Authenticity and integrity*

Operational level – the actual measures for protection and management – is detailed in *3.6 Management and points for improvement*.

3.2 Basic principles of the management plan

3.2.1 Introduction

States party to the UNESCO World Heritage Convention 1972 declared their willingness to exercise their moral duty to identify, protect, conserve, present and transmit to future generations those World Heritage sites situated on their territory.

The inscribing of a site in the World Heritage List signifies universal recognition of the exceptional significance of the World Heritage site for a global audience. A World Heritage site is heritage about which it can unequivocally be stated that it is unique and irreplaceable and that its importance surpasses national concerns. This section details the basic principles of the management plan for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', based on the internationally applicable obligations ensuing from this convention.

3.2.2 *International obligations*

Each state party to the World Heritage Convention is responsible for developing and implementing effective management for each of its World Heritage sites. States do this in close collaboration with the property manager, responsible authorities and stakeholders of the properties comprising the World Heritage site (Operational Guidelines, Section 117).

Any heritage site, whether cultural or natural, that is nominated as a World Heritage site should have an appropriate management plan or other documented management system which should specify how the outstanding universal value of a property should be preserved by involved and affected parties (Operational Guidelines, section 108). A management plan contains an accountable, transparent description of how the management system functions (Operational Guidelines, section 111).

3.2.3 *Basic principles of the management plan for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'*

The management plan for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' must satisfy the conditions laid down by the World Heritage Committee. Specifically, it must conform to the following four basic principles:

- Effectiveness – the plan should ensure realisation of the objective;
- Coherence – the outlook, objectives, measures and tasks should be consistent;
- Functionality – the plan should be workable
- Realism – the plan should be achievable and implementable.

In order to satisfy these basic principles, the management plan describes:

- A declaration signed by property manager, responsible authorities and stakeholders (as partners in the site) detailing their direct involvement in, their shared outlook on, and their agreement to combine efforts in protecting and conserving the property and the buffer zone. This will supplement the nomination dossier.
- A cycle of planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, adjustment and re-evaluation of the management plan, set down by the property manager and coordinated by the World Heritage Office.
- Allocation of resources: provision of sufficient manpower, relevant expertise and sufficient time will be estimated and prepared for operation in the project plan to be drawn up for the World Heritage Office.
- Financing by the World Heritage Office: a project plan drawn up for this purpose by Central Amsterdam, with sections on implementation. A balanced and transparent description of the implementation of the management system. (management plan, specifically Chapter 4, agreements on tasks, competences and responsibilities, and Chapter 3 Section 3.6, improving management: operational plan and action plan)
- It is the task of the yet to be established Amsterdam World Heritage Office to realise the implementation of the plan and to direct and coordinate its execution.
- The operability of the management plan will be assessed in practice and adjusted where necessary.

3.3 Objective, task and measures

3.3.1 Introduction

This section describes the objective of the management plan, the task defined by the implementation a management plan and the measures to be taken for effective implementation.

3.3.2 Objective

The purpose of a management plan for a World Heritage site is to ensure the effective protection of the nominated property for present and future generations. (Operational Guidelines, Section 109).

The management plan for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' provides a guiding framework for effective protection of the site with:

- a specification of administrative responsibilities;
- attention for the tangible and intangible social significance of the property;
- an outline of future developments in and around the property.

3.3.3 Task

The management plan assumes contractual measures – determined by legislation, policy or mutual agreement by the property manager, responsible authorities and stakeholders – that will safeguard the effective coordination of conservation of the values of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as a cultural World Heritage and integrated with developments within and outside (bordering on) the property.

The Amsterdam World Heritage Office holds responsibility for coordinating the implementation of the management plan. The implementation of the management plan will take place within all relevant levels, departments and sectors of Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam, and, where relevant, the other responsible authorities and the most important stakeholders.

3.3.4 Measures

The management plan describes the measures necessary for the protection and conservation of the property. The measures are laid out in Section 3.6 of the project plan and action plan and parts of the management plan, which should be updated on an annual basis by the World Heritage Office.

Effective management involves a cycle of long-term and short-term actions to protect, conserve and present the nominated property. (Operational Guidelines, Section 112). It involves Reactive Monitoring and Periodic Reporting to the *World Heritage Committee* of UNESCO (Operational Guidelines, Section 113) (see section 8.1).

3.4 Outstanding universal values of World Heritage sites and '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'

3.4.1 Introduction

The city centre of Amsterdam is unique – in many ways. Amsterdam attracts an enormous amount of visitors to its mediaeval heart with its variegated interplay of streets and pedestrian paths, its intimacy and atmosphere and the diversity of its inhabitants. The museums of Amsterdam are greatly renowned nationally and internationally, drawing many visitors to the city. Cultural life is richly multifaceted. Public space is used and experienced intensively.

This section describes the characteristics of the '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' that the UNESCO World Heritage Committee will use as a basis for determining the site's outstanding universal value. The section concludes with an explanation of remaining factors for consideration.

3.4.2 Procedure for determining Outstanding universal value

Global significance

'Outstanding universal value' means cultural and/or natural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity.

The objective of the de UNESCO's 1972 World Heritage Convention is the the permanent protection of this heritage, which has been part of human history throughout the centuries and is therefore considered irreplaceable.

It is the World Heritage Committee that defines the criteria for the inscription on the World Heritage List of properties proposed by a nation that has agreed to implement the international treaty. (Operational Guidelines, Section 49).

Proposal by State Party

In its proposal – the nomination – the State Party must demonstrate by what means it wishes and will be able to ensure the conservation of the proposed site into the future. The member state must demonstrate to the world community its extent, size and significance, its possible historical significance and a vision of its future. In addition, the nomination must demonstrate why the property merits the status of cultural or natural World Heritage site. All these points are covered using a list of questions drawn up by the World Heritage Committee.

Recommendation by Advisory Bodies

Submission of the nomination dossier to the secretariat of the World Heritage Committee (annually, before 1 February), is followed by on-site evaluations by UNESCO's official international advisory bodies, non-governmental organisations (NGOs). In the case of cultural World Heritage, this is the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS). The NGOs advise the World Heritage Committee on whether outstanding universal value can be established and whether it would be justified for the heritage site to be placed on the World Heritage List.

The World Heritage Committee adopts the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

At the time of inscription of a property on the World Heritage List, the Committee, the Committee, advised by the NGOs, adopts a Statement of Outstanding universal value. From that moment on, this statement is the key reference for the future effective protection and management of the property as a World Heritage site, by the State Party (*Operational Guidelines*, Section 51).

States Party commitment to outstanding universal value

Nominations presented to the Committee shall demonstrate the full commitment of the State Party to preserve the heritage concerned, within its means. Such commitment shall take the form of appropriate policy, legal, scientific, technical, administrative and financial measures adopted and proposed to protect the property and its outstanding universal value (*Operational Guidelines*, Section 53).

. Dutch policy is that primary responsibility for the conservation of the World Heritage site lies with those directly involved with the property and the responsible authorities. This policy was expressed in December 2001 by the former state secretary for culture and approved by the Second Chamber of the Dutch parliament.

3.4.3 Criteria for 'Outstanding Universal Value'

Ten criteria

In order for a cultural or natural heritage site to be added to the World Heritage List it must satisfy a least one of ten criteria specified in the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* (Section 77). This list of criteria was adopted for the purpose of assessing and determining whether Outstanding universal value can be established. In its Statement of Outstanding universal value the World Heritage Committee indicates whether the property concerned satisfies one or more of these criteria.

Criteria relevant to the ring of canals

Of the ten criteria, three are of primary importance to determining the outstanding universal value of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' (i), (ii), and (iv).²² These state that the site concerned should:

- (i) '*represent a masterpiece of human creative genius*'
- (ii) '*exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design*'
- (iv) '*be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history*'

²² Operational Guidelines, par. 77

Characterising themes

To reach the conclusion that the nomination for the inscribing on the World Heritage List of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' is justified, in the preceding period it is necessary to distinguish those matters for consideration that demonstrate the significance of the property; they form the basis of the Statement of Outstanding universal value.

This is the departure point for outlining the importance of the property; the reasons why it is superior to comparable sites in human history and historical sites shall also be examined.

Relevant criteria in relation to characterising themes

The nomination dossier to be submitted by the Netherlands for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal' contains the explanatory details of those characterising themes for a World Heritage site in with respect to criteria (i), (ii) and (iv). These descriptions should justify the inscription of the property, or, in other words, indicate why these criteria should apply in this case. Criteria (i), (ii) and (iv) are expounded upon in the following using several of the characteristics that are further details in the nomination dossier.

Criterion (i)

Here follows the definitions of the most important terms in criterion (i) 'represent a masterpiece of human creative genius,' as used in this document:

- 'masterpiece': an exceptional example of complete and perfect craftsmanship;
- 'creative': the first or best of a cultural or stylistic development with regard to inventiveness and originality;
- 'genius': the product of a great intellectual or artistic talent producing work of high (unique) artistic, technical or technological standard;
- 'a masterpiece of creative genius' is thus an exceptional example of a work by a great intellectual or artist that is also of high artistic, technical or technological standard, developed within an existing cultural environment or came into existence in a particular period.

In this context, characteristics will be described of the '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' that constitutes an exceptional example of a historical urban landscape:

- urban planning 'artefact'
 - the urban landscape of the ring of canals, a milestone in the history of the development of canal cities in the Republic of the Seven United Provinces of the Netherlands in the 17th century -

- icon
 - a pinnacle in the history of town planning: the consistently implemented geometric system of canals, concentric and juxtaposed, creating 'islands' of closed blocks of houses with their ornate shared gardens (*keurtuinen*), transected radially by connecting canals and side streets -

- scale
 - the scale of the ring of canals: the most extensive urban expansion in 17th-century Europe -
- system based on principles drawn from antiquity
 - the core organising principles when laying out the city in the 17th-century: mathematics, functionality, efficacy, and beauty -
- technical skills
 - the tools required for this urban expansion: land surveying, water management techniques, architecture and civil engineering -
- ideology defined not on a state level, but on a city level
 - the civic leaders, investors and merchants, who, in an expression of civil culture and their role as guiding patricians with a pragmatic urban ideology, gave the city its unique layout and its unique place in the world of the 17th-century.

Criterion (ii)

Criterion (ii) – ‘exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town planning or landscape design’ – recognises the importance of interchange between historical and present day cultures that made contributions to the development of architecture, technology, art, town planning and landscape design through the centuries.

To demonstrate this, and in accordance with the *Operational Guidelines*, the nomination should also contain a comparative study. It should make clear that what is being proposed here is superior to comparable sites.

The following are examples of some of the features of 17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal that can be used to illustrate progress and innovation.

- economic development
 - the freedom of conscience and religion that existed in the 17th-century that was a catalyst for immigration from elsewhere in Europe, and which triggered and sustained the economic development of Amsterdam, and gave the city its global economic status -
- exchange
 - global trade and freight transport as bearers of mutual influence and cultural, scientific and artistic exchange throughout Europe, the Asian world, the Caribbean region and some coastal regions South America
- arts and crafts
 - trade and the freedom of conscience, press and religion as sanctuary for cartographers, writers, publishers, philosophers, painters and composers -
- city planning
 - the enormous urban expansion and the geometric layout as a model for urban planning elsewhere in the world -

- architecture
 - the late 16th-century and early 17th-century Dutch Renaissance and 17th-century Dutch classicism as a source of stylistic inspiration for architecture around the Baltic and in England -
- World Heritage sites
 - Amsterdam as a key and a link to many World Heritage sites throughout the world and elsewhere in the Netherlands -

Criterion (iv)

Criterion (iv) - *'be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history'* – requires detailing of the exceptional and unique qualities of the property, which can only be achieved through comparison.

Characteristics demonstrating the exceptional nature of the urban architectural landscape of the '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' include:

- urban landscape
 - the geometric concentric layout of the ring of canals, the conservation area and the thousands of listed historical buildings located there as determinant for the exceptional characteristics of this urban landscape -is
- hierarchy
 - the canals varied in function and grandeur, in accordance with the urban planning principle of the 'functional city '
- canal cross-section
 - consistent arrangement of facade, street, avenues of trees, quayside, canal and so on; the facades constructed to equal heights creating a balanced canal profile.
- the architecture of the canal house as an architectural theme
 - the typological phenomenon of canal house architecture as typified by the consistent arrangement of the facade in plinth, storeys, vertical joints and varied gables -
 - 'keurtuinen', ornate shared gardens
 - the *keurtuinen*, ornate shared gardens instituted as a protection of the urban environment as early as the 17th century, preventing undesired construction in the open area within the residential area -
- Dutch Classicism
 - the master builder as the artist-architect of Dutch Classicism, creating a directly interpretable 'translation' of international classicism within a distinct idiom -
- architecture without architects
 - the craftsmen, draughtsmen and masons employed by the construction companies were the actual architectonic designers of most of the buildings in the ring of canals -
- interior
 - the rich interior decoration of the palatial buildings along the canals, including ornamental stucco work, painted wallhangings, marble hallways, the characteristic reception rooms and the bow-fronted *'koepelkamers'* -

- bridges as a feature of the canal city
- the historical bridges as visually and spatially determinant elements of the cityscape
- warehouses
- historical warehouses built for storage of goods as outstanding and characteristic elements of the urban landscape, now primarily used as residences, focusing on the method of their construction and their scale.

3.4.4 Other factors to be considered

It is a fundamental condition for the inscribing of a property on the World Heritage List that the World Heritage Committee is convinced of its outstanding universal value. The Comparative Analysis underpins the justification of the criteria and themes inherent to outstanding universal value.

The condition 'authenticity' is used to assess the credibility and genuineness of the outstanding universal value of a property and requires a description of the characteristics of the property. To this end, the nomination dossier contains a Statement of Authenticity (*Operational Guidelines*, Sections 79-86).

The condition 'integrity' is used to assess the comprehensiveness and integrity of the outstanding universal value of a given property and requires for that purpose a description of the characteristics of the property. A statement of integrity must then also be included in the nomination (*Operational Guidelines*, Sections 87-94)

3.5 Authenticity and integrity of the ring of canals as a World Heritage site

3.5.1 Introduction

Amsterdam city centre is a coherent system of architectural urban planning structures that have undergone multiple developments over the centuries. The principal structure of the urban planning of the city centre is determined by its late mediaeval heart, the ring of canals and other 17th-century urban expansions with districts such as the Jordaan, the Leidsebuurt, the Weteringbuurt (Noortse Bos), the Utrechtsebuurt, and the Plantage (which was constructed in the 17th century and allowed to become a residential area in the 19th century). Other notable urban developments in Amsterdam include the 19th-century ring located on the inner side of the Singelgracht, the spatial interventions in the years following the Second World War (Weesperstraat and the IJ tunnel through-road), the large-scale urban renewal of the Nieuwmarkt district, and finally the most recent changes along the south bank of the River IJ.

The urban landscape of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht is characterised by the strong coherence of the predominantly intricate historical spatial structures and, in most areas of the historical city centre, by a visual appearance that is homogeneous in its parcelling, building type and architecture.

This section focuses on clarification of 'authenticity' and 'integrity' as key concepts contained in the *Operational Guidelines* (Sections 79-95) with respect to '17th-

century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'. This section also describes how the World Heritage Committee and its advisory body ICOMOS take these conditions into consideration when drawing up a Statement of Outstanding universal value and how these conditions remain in force subsequent to the inscription of World Heritage site on the World Heritage List.

3.5.2 Determining authenticity and integrity

A. Authenticity

International obligations in accordance with the Convention

The World Heritage Convention requires states party to indicate in their nominations those attributes that distinguish the authenticity of the site (Operational Guidelines, section 82). The statement of authenticity drawn up by the state party should assess the degree to which authenticity is present (*Operational Guidelines*, Section 85).

Operational Guidelines

The Operational Guidelines document provides guidelines for the identification and description of the authenticity (Operational Guidelines, sections 79-86). The guidelines include:

- The reliability of source material determines the extent to which value can be ascribed to a heritage site

- Knowledge and understanding of these sources of information, in relation to original and subsequent characteristics of the cultural heritage, and their meaning, are the requisite bases for assessing all aspects of authenticity (section 80);
- Depending on the type of cultural heritage, and its cultural context, properties may be understood to meet the conditions of authenticity if their cultural values are truthfully and credibly expressed through a variety of attributes including:
 - form and design;
 - (building) materials used;
 - use and function;
 - (existing) traditions, techniques and management systems;
 - location and setting/intangible context;
 - language (linguistics) and other forms of intangible heritage;
 - deeper significance, spirit and feeling;
 - other internal and external factors (Section 82).

- The use of source material permits meticulous elaboration of the specific artistic, historic, social, and scientific dimensions of the cultural heritage being examined (Section 84).
- In relation to authenticity, the reconstruction of archaeological remains or historic buildings or districts is justifiable only in exceptional circumstances. Reconstruction is acceptable only on the basis of complete and detailed documentation and to no extent on conjecture (Section 86).

- The Nara Document on Authenticity, which is included in the Operational Guidelines in Annex 4, provides a practical basis for examining authenticity in or of a property (Section 79).

Guidelines for addressing authenticity

*Nara Document*²³

The Nara Document on Authenticity (1994)

ICOMOS Resolution – resolutions adopted during or originating from ICOMOS symposia

The Nara Document provides a practical basis for the identification and maintenance of the condition of authenticity. Authenticity is one of the founding principles of the World Heritage Convention and its Operational Guidelines. The document also identifies cultural diversity and diversity of heritage.

In 2008, the World Heritage Committee pronounced that authenticity and integrity are essential components of the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value for any World Heritage site.

The Nara Document is intended to clarify the notion of authenticity. Since 2005, the Nara Document has also been included in the Operational Guidelines, simultaneously with the adoption of the condition of integrity (for cultural heritage).

The authenticity of a property, and all components thereof characterised by their authenticity, make the outstanding universal value of the property convincing and credible.

B. Integrity

International obligations in accordance with the Convention

The *World Heritage Convention* states that all properties nominated for inscription on the World Heritage List shall satisfy the conditions of integrity (Operational Guidelines, Section 87). In its statement of integrity, the States Party will indicate to what extent the property in question has integrity (Operational Guidelines, Section 88).

Operational Guidelines

The Operational Guidelines provide a practical basis for establishing and describing the integrity of the property (Operational Guidelines, section 87-94). These principles include the following:

- integrity is a measure of the wholeness and intactness of the natural and/or cultural heritage and its attributes. Indicating the condition of integrity in a statement therefore requires assessing the extent to which the property:

²³ Link: The Nara Document on Authenticity, <http://whc.unesco.org/archive/nara94.htm>

- includes all elements necessary to express its outstanding universal value;
- is of adequate size to ensure the complete representation of the features and processes which convey the property's significance;
- suffers from adverse effects of development and/or neglect (section 88).
- For properties nominated under criteria (i) to (vi), the physical fabric of the property and/or its significant features should be in good condition, and the impact of deterioration processes controlled. A significant proportion of the elements necessary to convey the totality of the value conveyed by the property should be included. Relationships and dynamic functions present in cultural landscapes, historic towns or other living properties essential to their distinctive character should also be maintained (par. 89).

3.5.3 Integrity of the property

Conservation area

The extent to which the cultural heritage site of the property, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', has remained whole and intact, is described in the explanatory notes to the designation of 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' (1999):²⁴

'The historical spatial structure of the area is almost entirely whole and intact. It is characterised by a systematic and, in comparison with the mediaeval city, more spacious and larger scaled construction of waterways, roads and blocks of buildings. The spatial structure is determined primarily by the four inner canals the Singel, Herengracht, Keizersgracht and Prinsengracht that curl around the mediaeval city centre and the streets on the quaysides on both sides of these canals. (.) Several narrow radial canals intersect the above-mentioned primary structure of the canal system. These are accentuated on the diagonal by the bay windows and/or turrets of the buildings at the corners of the primary and radial canals. (.) The trees on the quaysides on both sides of the canals are prominent features in the overall profile and visual effect. The pavements laid out around the buildings form an important characteristic in the profile, with their stairways, often made of stone, leading up to the main front door or the basement.'

Built heritage policy

The built heritage and archaeology policy that has been operational in Amsterdam the last several decades has also sparked a great deal of interest in the value of existing spatial structures in the cultural-historical value of built heritage and the city in general.

in accordance with the Monuments and Historical Buildings Act 1988 and the municipal Monument Regulation, the cultural-historical values of the ring of canals are protected in the following ways:

- Amsterdam within the Singelgracht designated a conservation area by Dutch central government;

²⁴ Amsterdam within the Singelgracht, conservation area (Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht, beschermde stads-en dorpsgezichten), p. 21

- 3466 structures within the ring of canals designated as monuments by central government and 443 structures placed on the municipal monuments list (as of 1 January 2008)
- 3466 structures within the buffer zone designated as monuments by central government and 443 structures placed on the municipal monuments list (as of 1 January 2008)

In addition to these conservation measures, the City of Amsterdam is uses several other tools to protect, maintain and increase the cultural-historical values of the ring of canals and its characteristic features.

- Zoning plans have been adopted with the explicit objective of protecting the conservation area;
- The protective zoning plans included the drawing up of Classification Maps (*Waarderingskaarten*) indicating the locations of buildings of Class 1, Class 2 and Class 3, all of which benefit from a higher level of protection than other buildings in the area.
- In the event of large-scale restoration, the Amsterdam Office for Built Heritage and Archaeology provides assistance in the form of research into the history of the building's construction and advice and guidance with respect to the restoration itself;
- Restoration protected buildings are subject to the regulations on execution contained in the Built Heritage Quality Requirements Programme (*Programma van Eisen Kwaliteit Monumenten*).
- The Office for Built Heritage and Archaeology may choose to implement a Cultural-Historic Impact Report (*Cultuurhistorische Effectrapportage, CHER*) for spatial planning;
- The Office for Built Heritage and Archaeology is developing a digital Cultural-Historic Atlas which will provide a clearer understanding of the characteristics of specific locations.

See section 5.1.2 for a closer examination of these instruments.

The nomination dossier should contain a Statement of Authenticity and a Statement of Integrity

3.6 Management of World Heritage, including points for improvement

3.6.1 Introduction

The management plan for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' contains several different kinds of points of particular interest. They have been included to, in the light of these, systematically and effectively implement the plan – initially by the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District. The operational plan is a component of the management plan. The points of particular interest, which will become action items, are laid out schematically in the table below.

In preparing and framing the management plan it understandably became apparent that there were gaps in the municipal apparatus between the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District. These must be filled (as indicated by the Operational Guidelines section 109: 'The purpose of a management system is to ensure the effective protection of the nominated property for present and future generations.') in order to achieve a coordinated and integrated management system. A management system and with the active objective of preserving preserve into the future the outstanding universal value of the ring of canals and directing the orderly application of the relevant conditions of authenticity (Section 82) and integrity (Section 87).

Following submission of the nomination, the feasibility of the management plan will be assessed by the UNESCO's World Heritage Centre and the advisory body the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS). Their findings will form part of the World Heritage Committee's decision-making process.

The project plan is also intended to serve as a model for the Action Plans that will be drawn up on an annual basis by the Amsterdam World Heritage Office. These action plans describe which action items will be carried out to further implement, update and supplement the management plan. To this end, the action plan drawn up on annual basis will contain specific action points with objectives and results indicators, schedule and participants.

3.6.2 Operational plan for the management plan for the World Heritage site '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal'

NOTES FOR READERS

- The left column contains the preconditions for an operable management plan.
- The second column from the left contains the themes of the management plan.
- The upper row defines the phases for framing and implementing the management plan: 'orientation' indicates the phase during which the plan is to be framed; 'planning' indicates the phase during which those tasks will be realised that are required for the nomination dossier; 'implementation' indicates the implementation phase of the management plan devoted to the assessment for the nomination dossier.
- In the 'orientation' column, information following 'issue' indicates information about lacunas, and 'assessment' indicates how those lacunas are to be filled.
- The planning column contains information about the choice of method to fill the lacuna. Each theme ends with a 'product'
- The last column, 'execution', contains information about the result to be achieved for the purposes of assessment for the the nomination dossier

NB Further detailing of the products can be found in the corresponding Action List

	THEME ↓ PHASE ⇒	ORIENTATION	PLANNING	IMPLEMENTATION
T A S K	<p><u>1. VISION OF MANAGEMENT OF WORLD HERITAGE</u></p>	<p>Issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Responsibilities unclear - Lack of management leadership - Insufficient development of support among and collaboration with responsible authorities and stakeholders <p>00000000000000000000000000000000</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Urgent need to arrange organisation and coordination 	<p>Selected model:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - World Heritage Office - World Heritage Steering Committee - World Heritage Platform <p><i>Plan for organisation and coordination</i></p>	<p>Result:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - World Heritage Office coordinates and directs. - World Heritage Steering Committee decides upon, is responsible for, and regulates preconditions. - World Heritage Platform ensures that there is support and shared effort
	<p><u>2. COMMUNICATION</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>OBJECTIVE</u> - <u>TARGET GROUP</u> - <u>INTERVENTION</u> 	<p>Issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of clear view on objective, target group and intervention <p>00000000000000000000000000000000</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Urgent need for action towards responsible authorities - Urgent need for action directed towards stakeholders (most important are those owning real estate in the property) - Communication plan aimed at informing residents and occupants must be drawn up as soon as possible. 	<p>Selected information and communications strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - responsible authorities – consultation at (local) government level - stakeholders – bilateral consultation and later platform meetings - provision of information for residents and occupants - <p>00000000000000000000000000000000</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Communication Plan</i></p>	<p>Result:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - covenant on outstanding universal value and implementation of management plan - Declaration of intent for stakeholders on conservation of outstanding universal value and implementation of management plan - facilities for acquiring information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o municipal information centre

	<p>inventoried</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - organisations conducting measurements and examinations have been inventoried 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - who measures wha when - hoe analysis and interpretation of data: who and how - reporting: who, when, how and to whom <p>00000000000000000000000000000000</p> <p>Monitoring plan</p>	
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<p><u>5. CONSERVING OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE, AUTHENTICITY & INTEGRITY, AND RISK PREPAREDNESS</u></p>	<p>Issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Built heritage conservation and conservation area arranged - There are developments influencing the property - There are lacunas in the risk preparedness <p>00000000000000000000000000000000</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - consequences of protection of outstanding universal value and authenticity and integrity on the urban planning instrumentation required - Inventory of risks and measures required - Action plan for measures relating to lacuna in risk preparedness 	<p>Views on (possibly negative), and legitimisation of, policy and choices with respect to influencing factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - high-rise buildings at various locations - Metropolitan projects in, under and adjacent to the property <p>Risk Preparedness, summary of risks and measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - fire, vandalism, water level <p>00000000000000000000000000000000</p> <p>Conservation Plan</p>	<p>Result:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Framing of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Zoning plans o Policy documents on building aesthetics o overall structural plan (<i>Structuurvisie</i>) <p>with the effect of preserving outstanding universal value and authenticity and integrity in accordance with international guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - formulation and implementation of Safety Plan - Progress monitoring
<p><u>6. MANPOWER</u></p>	<p>Issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regular deployment for built heritage 	<p>Frame World Heritage Office</p>	<p>Result:</p>

		<p>conservation and a liveable city centre is available on a structural basis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extra deployment for World Heritage site has not been arranged on a structural basis and is insufficiently available on an incidental basis. - Assessment of the required extra deployment of manpower has not yet been carried out - Assessment of the required expertises has not yet been carried out <p>00000000000000000000000000000000</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Urgent need to establish project organisation 	<p>Project Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - required deployment, in hours - required deployment with respect to expertise <p>00000000000000000000000000000000</p> <p>World Heritage Office Project Plan</p>	<p>- Operationeel Bureau Werelderfgoed Operational World Heritage Office</p>
<p><u>7. FINANCE</u></p>		<p>Issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - financial resources for standard measures relating to built heritage conservation and a liveable city centre have been budgeted for on a structural basis - additional financial resources for additional measures relating to the World Heritage site have not been reserved <p>00000000000000000000000000000000</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use management plan and operational plan to draw up a budget for extra measures 	<p>Allocation of financial resources for manpower and materials</p> <p>00000000000000000000000000000000</p> <p>Budget</p>	<p>Result:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adequate resources for the execution of the management plan and operational plan - Annual statement of accounts
<p><u>8. TIME</u></p>		<p>Issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amount of time available for realisation 	<p>Schedule outline</p>	<p>Result:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Progress monitoring of

	<p>of implementable management plan and operational plan is very limited.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No step-by-step plan available for the realisation of implementable management plan <p>00000000000000000000000000000000</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Operational plan serves as reference for a step-by-step plan for realisation of the management plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - who does what when - operational plan and action plan form basis <p>00000000000000000000000000000000</p> <p>Calendar and schedule</p>	<p>calendar and schedule</p>
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M A N G E M E N T	<p><u>9. LEADERSHIP</u></p> <p>Issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - insufficient management and direction <p>00000000000000000000000000000000</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - arrange management of World Heritage site, preferably Project Management Bureau 	<p>Appointment of Coordinator to World Heritage Office</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - formal appointment - competences - setting of tasks - communication with Office members, administrators, responsible authorities and stakeholders <p>Assignment for the coordinator</p>	<p>Result:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direction and coordination - Balanced collaboration
	<p><u>10. ORGANISATION</u></p> <p>Issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - manpower deployment uncoordinated - no harmonisation on collaboration and division of tasks <p>00000000000000000000000000000000</p> <p>Assessment:</p>	<p>World Heritage Office plan of action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - mobilisation of energies - formalisation of competencies, responsibilities and setting of tasks - communication 	<p>Result:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information - Progress monitoring - Reporting

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - willingness and support exists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - reporting <p>00000000000000000000000000000000</p> <p>Conference Plan</p>	
<p><u>11. INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION</u></p>	<p>Issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - as present, no implementation plan available <p>00000000000000000000000000000000</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - management plan, operational plan and action items provide a basis 	<p>Develop Operational Plan and Action Plan into a short-term Implementation Plan and Annual Operating Plan</p> <p>00000000000000000000000000000000</p> <p>Implementation Plan (short-term)</p> <p>Annual Operating Plan</p>	<p>Result:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Start Implementation Plan - Heritage Office Annual Operating Plan - World Heritage Office Annual Report

3.6.3 Action Plans

This section contains the following action plans

1 Organisation and coordination	5 Conservation of outstanding universal value and authenticity & integrity
2 Communication	6 World Heritage Office Project Plan (including operational plan, themes 8-11)
3 Publicity	7 Budget
4 Monitoring	

1. Organisation and Coordination Plan

No.	Section	Time	Action Point	Objective/Result	Key Players
6	4.4.2	Aug	Adopt, introduce and, implement management	Safeguarding of the cultural historical values, laid down in a	Responsible parties

No.	Section	Time	Action Point	Objective/Result	Key Players
			plan Development of the model for formulation of annual action plans with respect to the working method for regular monitoring	Statement of Outstanding Universal Value, of the World Heritage site 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals within the Singelgracht canal'.	
2	2.4.2	Aug	Frame a covenant between the two main parties sharing responsibilities – Central Amsterdam (property manager) and the City of Amsterdam – that lays down the rules for division of tasks and responsibilities with respect to the property.	A clear division of tasks and responsibilities between the main responsible authorities for the property and the buffer zone.	Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam
3	2.6.2	Sept	Signing of Covenant by responsible authorities with respect to shared responsibility for the implementation of the management plan.	Assurance of shared administrative responsibility for the management and preservation of the World Heritage site's outstanding universal value	Central Amsterdam, Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board (AGV)
4	2.6.3	Sept	Consultation with most important stakeholders (with real estate in property) and signing of declaration of intent with respect to shared commitment to the conservation of the values of the World Heritage site	Support for, and cooperation in, the preservation of the outstanding universal value of the World Heritage site.	Central Amsterdam, BMA, 'most important' stakeholders
1	2.3.3	Till end 2009	Evaluation and, where necessary, readjustment of management plan; draw up memorandum on this subject for the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW).	Memorandum for the nomination dossier	World Heritage Office in consultation with Steering Committee

2. Communications plan

No.	Sect.	Time	Action Point	Objective/Result	Key Players
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7	4.4.3	Sept	Create World Heritage site Steering Committee (preferably with supervisory board), World Heritage site Office and World Heritage site Platform . Invite external chairperson to chair the Ring of Canals World Heritage site Stakeholders Platform.	Ensure proper organisation and coordination, in order to realise an effective, precise and a operable management plan that will have the support of the organisations in the Steering Committee and the Platform and that can be coordinated by the World Heritage Office	property managers and responsible authorities
	6.1	Sept	Formulate communication plan for the further development and implementation of the information and communications strategy. The plan should indicate the staffing or financial contribution to be made by the departments and organisations named on the yet to be formulated Communications Resource Matrix.		Office for Built Heritage and Archaeology in consultation with Central Amsterdam

No.	Sect.	Time	Action Point	Objective/Result	Key Players
	6.4	Oct	Formulate action plan for informing and communicating with the local community.	Creation and preservation of support and communal commitment.	Central Amsterdam and Office for Built Heritage and Archaeology
8 21	4.5.3 5.1.3	Dec	Inform the Amsterdam Urban Development Board and the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency of the intended Dutch proposal for the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value and the authenticity and integrity of the World Heritage site '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as part of the nomination (Section	Board and Agency refer to these conditions when advising on permit requests within the property and surrounding buffer zone.	Office for Built Heritage and Archaeology

			3.b., nomination format).		
	6.2	2009	<p>Set up municipal information centre for residents, employers, institutions and companies where these parties can get information over the consequences of registration as a World Heritage site.</p> <p>Make the existence of the information Centre known to residents and employers in Central Amsterdam.</p> <p>Formulate document and establish working method of this Information Centre</p>	Informing of affected parties about the consequences of inscription on the World Heritage list.	Office for Built Heritage and Archaeology in consultation with Central Amsterdam

No.	Sect.	Time	Action Point	Objective/Result	Key Players
11	5.1.1	2009	In consultation with the stakeholders, develop a strategy for optimising the focus of attention on both the material 'conservation' and the intangible 'presentation'	Support for both tangible and intangible support for heritage site.	Central Amsterdam and the City of Amsterdam: the Office of Built Heritage and Archaeology and the Social Development and Economic Affairs Department
	6.9	2009	Formulate implementation plan with respect to educational projects in the area of the canal rings as a World Heritage site, in collaboration with educational partners.	Understanding for and appreciation of the outstanding universal values of the World Heritage site	Office of Built Heritage and Archaeology, Central Amsterdam, the Social Development and Economic Affairs Department, City Archives, educational institutions, museums.

3. Publicity Plan

No.	Sect.	Time	Action Point	Objective/Result	Key Players
	6.1	Sept	Formulate publicity plan for the further development and implementation of the information and publicity strategy. The plan should indicate what contribution to the staffing or funding will be provided by the departments and organisations named in the yet to be formulated communications resource matrix.	Implementation of the publicity plan	Central Amsterdam, Office of Built Heritage and Archaeology, Communications Department, Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board

No.	Sect.	Time	Action Point	Objective/Result	Key Players
	6.5	2009	Agreements between Central Amsterdam District as property manager and the Built Heritage and Archaeology Office, on the one hand, and the museums located in the canal rings and in the buffer zone and the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board and Amsterdam Partners, on the other, about the possibility of increasing cultural tourism to 'Amsterdam's 17th-century rings of canals within the Singelgracht'.	High-quality attractions for cultural tourism in and on the ring of canals and information about them. If necessary, take measures to counteract undesirable effects of excessive numbers or concentrations of visitors.	World Heritage Office and various cultural and tourism-related organisations
	6.8	2009	Enter into agreement with Amsterdam Partners and the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board to ensure that city marketing relating to the canal rings as a World Heritage site promotes tourism. And that it does so in such a way that it has positive results for the heritage site and helps prevent damage.	Promote sustainable tourism that contributes to the atmosphere of the Ring of canals and does not damage the heritage. If necessary, take measures to counteract undesirable effects of excessive numbers or	World Heritage Office, Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board, Amsterdam Partners.

No.	Sect.	Time	Action Point	Objective/Result	Key Players
				concentrations of visitors.	
	6.3	2010	Consult with the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board and relevant municipal services about signposting of property and supervision of proper implementation.	Signposting of the property.	Central Amsterdam, Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board
	6.12	2008	Development of a official in multilingual website 'Amsterdam canal rings World Heritage' and link this to relevant municipal, tourist with a cultural historical websites (Section 8.d., format nomination)	Provision of digital information	World Heritage Office
	6.3	2010	As a component in the communication plan, coordinate the use of the World Heritage emblem in accordance with the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention	Clarity with respect to use of the World Heritage emblem	Central Amsterdam/World Heritage Office
	6.7	2010	Take into consideration the possible risks for the internationally recognized cultural historical values of the canal rings when evaluating licence requests for events, and also bring to the attention of event organisers their shared responsibility for appropriate behaviour with regard to the nature and significance of the World Heritage site, 'Amsterdam's 17th-century canal ring within the Singelgracht', and its designated buffer zone.	Prevent threat to cultural historical values through organised events	City of Amsterdam, Central Amsterdam/World Heritage Office
	6.7	2010	Establish whether the event celebrating Of 400 years of canals can be related to the possible designation of Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of	Awareness of and support for ring of canals as World Heritage site	Central Amsterdam/World Heritage Office

No.	Sect.	Time	Action Point	Objective/Result	Key Players
			canals as a World Heritage site.		
	6.7	2010	Examine in what ways the City of Amsterdam shall communicate the pronouncement of the World Heritage Committee on the nomination of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', and make preparations for it.	Awareness of and support for ring of canals as World Heritage site	City of Amsterdam, Central Amsterdam/World Heritage Office

4. Research and monitoring

No.	Par	Time	Action Point	Objective/Result	Key Players
	5.1.2	Sept	Adopt a memorandum containing the key monitoring indicators for reporting to UNESCO's world Heritage Centre from the Built Heritage Programme in the Programme Agreement 2006-2010, the annual Central Amsterdam budgeting programme and Central Amsterdam's annual report. The result indicators shall be included in the elaboration of the nomination format, 6a, 'Key indicators for measuring state of conservation'.	For the nomination dossier. Periodic report to the World Heritage Committee (via RACM).	Central Amsterdam, Office for Built Heritage and Archaeology, Department for Research and Statistics
	8.1	Sept	Monitoring matrix to be established that includes the most important indicators for systematic monitoring. Besides the indicators, the matrix shall also indicate where the information about the indicators can be found. See also 5.1.2.	For the nomination dossier. Periodic report to the World Heritage Committee (via RACM).	Central Amsterdam, Office for Built Heritage and Archaeology, Department for Research and Statistics
	8.1	Sept	Monitoring plan to be adopted for the further development and implementation of the regular monitoring strategy. The Monitoring plan should delineate which contributions with regard to content,	For the nomination dossier. Periodic report to the World Heritage Committee (via RACM).	Central Amsterdam, Office for Built Heritage and Archaeology, Department for

			staffing and/or funding will be provided by the services and organisations included it in the Monitoring matrix. See also 5.1.2.		Research and Statistics
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No.	Sect.	Time	Action Point	Objective/Result	Key Players
	6.8	Dec	Agreements with the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board to systematically monitor the effects of tourism on the heritage site	Prevention of damage to heritage site through tourism through systematic activation of public awareness. Periodic report to the World Heritage Committee (via RACM).	Central Amsterdam, Office for Built Heritage and Archaeology, Department for Research and Statistics
	6.9	2009	Indicator forms for educational materials, activities and programs about the '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' World Heritage site , with which the development of cultural education can be monitored systematically.	Periodic report to the World Heritage Committee (via RACM).	Central Amsterdam, Office for Built Heritage and Archaeology, Department for Research and Statistics
5 16	4.2.7 5.1.2	Annually	Ensure that through the intermediation of the RACM the built heritage programme in the programme agreement 2006-2010 (et seq), the Central Amsterdam's budgeting programme and Central Amsterdam's annual report are brought to the attention of the World Heritage Committee.	To be mentioned in the nomination dossier Periodic report to the World Heritage Committee (via RACM).	Central Amsterdam, Office for Built Heritage and Archaeology,

35	5.6.9	Annually	Formulate report on the annual evaluation of maintenance task in the area of building and housing inspection and make available to RACM.	Periodic report to the World Heritage Committee (via RACM).	Central Amsterdam

No.	Sect.	Time	Action Point	Objective/Result	Key Players
	6.6	Annually	In consultations between Central Amsterdam, the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board and the Department for Research and Statistics, evaluate what information existing measurements of data on tourism yield on visitors to, and appreciation of, the ring of canals.	Include in standard monitoring cycle. Periodic report to the World Heritage Committee (via RACM).	Central Amsterdam, Department for Research and Statistics, Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board
	6.6	2009	In consultations with the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board and the Bureau for Research and Statistics and the canal cruise companies establish measurable indicators and make agreements about the measuring and monitoring of same, in order to assess ring of canals visitor numbers and visitors' levels of appreciation.	Include in regular monitoring cycle. Periodic report to the World Heritage Committee (via RACM).	Central Amsterdam, World Heritage Office, Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board Department for Research and Statistics,
	5.1.1	Annually	Monitoring and evaluation of the activities required for the purposes of tangible maintenance and the intangible significance of the world heritage.	Safeguard the outstanding universal value and authenticity and integrity of the 17th-century ring of canals as World Heritage site	Central Amsterdam, World Heritage Office,

5. Conservation plan

No.	Sect.	Time	Action Item	Objective/Result	Key Players
13	5.1.2	Sept	Sign the covenant on built heritage conservation and archaeology between Central Amsterdam and the City of Amsterdam with the processes described therein (conservation; licences; funding and financing by decentralised authorities; funding and financing by centralised authorities; archaeology).	For the nomination dossier	Central Amsterdam, Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology
24	5.1.4 5.3	Sept	Formulate up memorandum and dossiers on factors that could impact on the property	Description and explanation of the factors that could influence the buffer zone (Operational Guidelines, Nomination Format, Annex 5, 4.b).	Central Amsterdam and City of Amsterdam
	5.1.4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Overhoeks ii. Westerdokseiland (Western Dock Island) iii. Westelijk stationseiland, (Western Station Island), if any construction of more than about 60m in height is planned iv. Haringpakkerstoren (Haringpakker Tower) v. Binnengasthuis area vi. North-South metro line / Vijzelgracht station vii. Rode Loper / Project 1012 (Red Carpet/ Project 1012) 	Memoranda for the management plan. Dossiers for the nomination dossier	
26	5.2.10		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> viii. Chinatown ix. Ground water and water level 		

No.	Sect.	Time	Action Item	Objective/Result	Key Players
36	5.7.3	Sept	Recognise that contemporary urban developments and modern culture can have a visual impact on the silhouette of the city, roofscapes, sightlines and views,	Realise contemporary architecture and urban planning while also respecting and integrating the cultural	City of Amsterdam, Physical Planning Department, Bureau of

			<p>and thus can impact on or violate the authenticity and integrity of the historical landscape as a cultural, spatial and built heritage, inscribed as World Heritage.</p> <p>Develop and actualise, in consultation with involved and interested parties, as part of the overall structural plan for the policy driven operation of a still to be developed system of visual impact studies on sightlines/views urban silhouettes and roofscapes.</p> <p>High-rise buildings should not now or in the future be at variance with the contractually agreed responsibility for the maintenance and conservation of the property's outstanding universal value and its authenticity and integrity</p>	<p>heritage and the historic urban landscape</p> <p>Periodic report to the World Heritage Committee (via RACM).</p>	<p>Monuments and Archaeology, Central Amsterdam</p>
28	5.4.6	Sept	<p>When framing and establishing policy on new buildings apply those basic principles laid down in the Vienna memorandum with respect to the preservation of the property's outstanding universal value, as so described by the World Heritage Committee</p>	<p>Realise contemporary architecture and urban planning while also respecting and integrating the cultural heritage and the historic urban landscape</p> <p>Report to the World Heritage Committee (via RACM).</p>	<p>City of Amsterdam, Central Amsterdam</p>

No.	Sect.	Time	Action Item	Objective/Result	Key Players
37	5.7.3	Sept	<p>Ensure that when further detailing and adopting policy on high-rise construction, emphasis is placed on those international charters and treaties pertaining to World Heritage. These include the Washington Charter, the Vienna Memorandum on the content of more recent papers from the World Heritage Committee and its advisory organ ICOMOS on the social and cultural significance of the historical urban landscape in relation to</p>	<p>Realise contemporary architecture and urban planning while also respecting and integrating the cultural heritage and the historic urban landscape</p> <p>Report to the World Heritage Committee (via RACM).</p>	<p>City of Amsterdam, Physical Planning Department, Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology, Central Amsterdam</p>

			contemporary developments in the urban planning and architectonic design. Keep RACM informed about planning, progress and decision-making with regard to policy on high-rise construction.		
	5.11	Sept	When formulating the vision on the future urban development of Amsterdam (<i>structuurvisie</i>) consider making a supplementary assessment framework for cultural history. A supplementary assessment framework belonging to the <i>structuurvisie</i> can be established for functions requiring particular attention or protection. The supplementary assessment frameworks can be consulted when assessing plans. Provide substantiation of reasons for making a supplementary assessment framework in a memorandum to the RACM	Realise contemporary architecture and urban planning while also respecting and integrating the cultural heritage and the historic urban landscape Report to the World Heritage Committee (via RACM).	City of Amsterdam, Physical Planning Department, Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology, Central Amsterdam
	5.11	Sept	The <i>structuurvisie</i> should in any case examine the municipality's 'interests and principle qualities', and interpretation of these in spatial planning, based on the nomination dossier for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', the Site Document and the management plan.	Realise contemporary architecture and urban planning while also respecting and integrating the cultural heritage and the historic urban landscape Report to the World Heritage Committee (via RACM).	City of Amsterdam, Physical Planning Department, Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology, Central Amsterdam
No.	Section	Time	Action Item	Objective/Result	Key Players
14	5.1.2	Nov, Dec	Report to RACM on progress with respect to heritage legislation and establish heritage legislation.	For the nomination dossier.	Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology
17	5.1.2		Remarks in the explanatory notes (in article format)		
38	5.8.4		for the Heritage Regulation to include a statement that if '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' is inscribed on the World		

			Heritage List the guiding principle with respect to it will be the protection and conservation of its outstanding universal value, its authenticity and its integrity.		
	5.1.2	Nov, Dec	Realise those matters described in 5.1.2, such as the actualisation of a classification map of historical constructions for the mediaeval heart of Amsterdam, the designation of new built heritage from the 1852-1940 period, a drafting of archaeological policy maps, the creation of a restoration fund for Amsterdam and the setting up and implementation of educational projects.	For the nomination dossier.	Bureau of Monuments in Archaeology, Central Amsterdam, City of Amsterdam
18	5.1.3 and 5.1.4	Dec	Add to the criteria for buildings aesthetics in the framework plan of the Buildings Aesthetics Review that the outstanding universal value and the authenticity and integrity of the World Heritage site '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' will be preserved	Satisfy World Heritage Convention requirements.	City of Amsterdam

No.	Sect.	Time	Action Item	Objective/Result	Key Players
20	5.1.4	Dec	.Add to the criteria for buildings aesthetics in the policy document on building aesthetics for urban areas and projects in Amsterdam that the outstanding universal value and the authenticity and integrity of the World Heritage site '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' will be preserved	Satisfy World Heritage Convention requirements.	City of Amsterdam
27	5.2.13	Dec	Report to RACM on progress with respect to legislation relating to trees and with respect to	For the nomination dossier.	Central Amsterdam

			policy on trees and to establish Heritage bylaw.		
	5.2.7	2009	Report to RACM with respect to progress on the action items relating to water level/groundwater level.	Satisfy World Heritage Convention requirements.	Responsible authorities and Waternet
32	5.6.6	2010	Include in City of Amsterdam legislation that if the 17th-century ring of canals is inscribed on the World Heritage List the guiding principle in the area will be the protection and conservation of its outstanding universal value, its authenticity and its integrity.	Safeguard the outstanding universal value and authenticity and integrity of the 17th-century ring of canals World Heritage site	City of Amsterdam
39 40	5.8.4 5.8.4	continuing	Inform the RACM on a systematic basis about the continuing framing of archaeology policy (including the five components that still have to be realised: covenants with the various districts of Amsterdam, archaeological policy map, handbook for all instruments, fundamentals of budgeting, basis for recouping of costs, archaeological policy document)	For the nomination dossier. Periodic report to the World Heritage Committee (via RACM).	Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology

No.	Sect.	Time	Action Item	Objective/Result	Key Players
30	5.5.4	Dec	Make agreements with Central Amsterdam about implementing the use of a classification map of historical constructions as a procedural instrument when considering permits and zoning plans.	For the actualisation of the management plan Report to the World Heritage Committee (by RACM).	Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology
31	5.5.4	asap	Report about the effects of possessing a classification map of historical constructions for the Amsterdam's mediaeval city centre. Notify the RACM if the outcome is positive and the intention exists to create a classification map of historical constructions for '17th-century canal ring	Report to the World Heritage Committee (by RACM).	Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology

			area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.		
33	5.6.7	2010	Process the consequences of implementing the General Provisions Act (<i>Wabo</i>) in a management plan and report on this matter to the World Heritage Committee	For the actualisation of the management plan Report to the World Heritage Committee (by RACM).	Central Amsterdam

6. World Heritage Office project plan

No.	Sect.	Time	Action Item	Objective/Result	Key Players
		Sept	Formulate and establish project organisation	Coordination and control of the implementation of the management plan Supply of information for the nomination dossier	Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology, Central Amsterdam, City of Amsterdam
		Sept	Formulate tasks of the coordinator of the World Heritage Office.	Set up project organisation: World Heritage Office	Central Amsterdam
		Sept	Make an inventory of necessary expertise		Central Amsterdam
		Sept	Calculate deployment hours required		Central Amsterdam

		Sept	Create schedule, calendar and agenda.		Central Amsterdam
		Sept	Draw up a meeting plan		Central Amsterdam

7. Financiën

No.	Sect.	Time	Action Item	Objective/Result	Key Players
		Sept	Resource planning for management plan, operational plan and action plans.		
			Amsterdam Revolving Fund.		
			Notify RACM of annual budgets and annual reports		

Chapter 4: Organisations

Many groups, organisations and other parties are involved in, and necessary for, the proper operation and conservation of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal'. Firstly, there are the *jointly responsible authorities* who have administrative responsibility for the protection and conservation of the property. Secondly, there are the many partners who play a role not only in protection and conservation, but also in communication and promotion of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal'. This chapter describes all these parties and their responsibilities.

4.1 Organigram of responsibilities and parties involved

4.1.1 Introduction

Part A of this section describes the responsibilities of each administrative body with respect to the protection and conservation of the property, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal'. Part B of this section details the allocation of administrative authority and the way in which associated tasks are to be carried out.

4.1.2 part a: responsible administrative bodies

The following organisations are jointly responsible authorities and site partners with respect to '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal'. They share administrative responsibility for the protection and conservation of the property and its surrounding buffer zone as World Heritage. They ensure that the outstanding universal value, authenticity and integrity of the property remain intact for present and future generations of the world's population. They make legislation, regulations, policy and budgets that support the conservation of the property and they facilitate the implementation of the management plan. The jointly responsible authorities are:

- Central Amsterdam District (also property manager)
- City of Amsterdam
- Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board
- Ministry of Education, Culture and Science – The National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (State Party)

Jointly responsible authorities' covenant

The jointly responsible authorities' collective responsibilities for the conservation of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal' are laid out in a signed covenant (see chapter 2) that forms part of the management plan, and hence also of the nomination dossier.

4.1.3 Part B: division of administrative authority

City of Amsterdam

The administrative organisation

The City of Amsterdam authority is made up of the following administrative bodies: the council (*gemeenteraad*), the chairs of the executive committees (aldermen, *wethouders*) and

the mayor. The council has general administrative authority and monitors the municipal executive (college of Mayor and Aldermen, *college van Burgemeester en Wethouders*, B&W).

The city of Amsterdam is split into 14 districts, as defined in the Municipalities Act (*Gemeentewet*). Amsterdam City Council has adopted the City Districts Ordinance (*Verordening op de stadsdelen*) which regulates the authority of the various districts.

Administrative organisation

The municipal organisation comprises a large number of municipal departments, public works and project offices. They carry out tasks for the metropolitan area under the authority of the City of Amsterdam, and advise and support the municipal districts. A full overview of these organisations can be found at http://amsterdam.nl/gemeente/diensten_bedrijven. The following departments are important to policy for the protection of the outstanding universal value of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal'.

- Environment & Building Department (*Dienst Milieu en Bouwtoezicht*) – granting of permits, supervision and enforcement of building and environmental regulations and policy advice.
- the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (*Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie*) is part of this department.
- Spatial Planning Department (*Dienst Ruimtelijke Ordening*) – spatial planning policy, town planning and design, zoning inspection.
- Department of Research and Statistics (*Dienst Onderzoek en Statistiek*) – supplies information for developing and evaluating policy.
- Inland Waterways Board (*Dienst Binnenwaterbeheer*) – supervision on the water, operation of water works, issuing of water-related permits
- Department for Social Development (*Dienst Maatschappelijke Ontwikkeling*) – responsibilities include arts and culture, youth and education
- Civil Service (*Bestuursdienst*) – preparation of political resolutions, policy development
- Amsterdam Development Corporation (*Ontwikkelingsbedrijf Gemeente Amsterdam*, OGA) –municipal responsibility for regional and real estate development in Amsterdam

The competencies of the City of Amsterdam

The City council has delegated a great deal of its competencies to the council districts, but maintains responsibility for a coherent policy for the urban area and any affairs that cannot be decentralised for either legal or practical reasons. The City of Amsterdam administration is responsible for setting the City of Amsterdam budget and distributes central government resources among the district councils. The City of Amsterdam council is also responsible for Amsterdam's main roads, maintenance of public order and safety, and projects that affect the entire city.

Central Amsterdam District

Organisation of administration

Central Amsterdam District's administrative bodies comprise the district council, the executive committee and the chair. The district council creates the policy framework; the executive committee prepares and implements policy. The council monitors the implementation of policy. The subjects of policy are divided among the departments; one member of the executive committee is responsible for each of these.

Organisation of bureaucracy

District-level organisation consists of four sectors and a policy unit:

- Building and Living (*Bouwen en Wonen*) – preservation and improvement in quality of cultural history, town planning and technical and functional aspects of construction, as well as safety in built-up areas.
- Public, Welfare and Economy (*Publiek, Welzijn en Economie*) – develop policy for the benefit of the concerns, activities and initiatives of residents, employers and visitors in the city centre
- Public Space – organisation, management and maintenance of public space and enforcement of related legislation.
- Resources – district finances
- Corporate policy unit - policy support

The competencies of Central Amsterdam District

The district council is responsible for the management of public space and authorises zoning plans. In accordance with the City Districts Ordinance, Central Amsterdam District has the power to adopt policy affecting built heritage, archaeology and building aesthetics within the district boundaries. The district is largely responsible for policy on arts, sport, recreation and social affairs. The district draws up regulations that are binding for citizens and local authority alike. Finally, the district rules on applications for permits, including those relating to construction and built heritage.

Central Amsterdam Policy Programme 2006-2010

The 2006-2010 Central Amsterdam Policy Programme²⁵ (*Programmakkoord 2006-2010 Stadsdeel Centrum*) contains the political programme it intends to carry out within its four-year term. For this purpose, the three coalition parties, the People's Party for Freedom and Democracy (*Volkspartij voor Vrijheid en Democratie, VVD*), Labour Party (*Partij van de Arbeid, PvdA*) and Green Left (*Groen Links*), negotiated a Policy Programme for 2006-2010, their period in office. The programme agreement has an associated 2006-2010 Measurable Policy Programme²⁶ (*Meetbaar Programmakkoord 2006-2010*), in which the goals of the policy programme are rendered quantifiable using figures.

More detailed information on Central Amsterdam District's competencies and programme can be found in section 4.2.

Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board²⁷

Administrative organisation

The executive board of the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board (AGV) determines policy and regulations relating to water control, water level (water level ordinance, *peilbesluit*) and quality standards for surface water. The executive board also sets the budget and taxation levels pushed. The executive committee is responsible for day-to-day business. Both the executive board and the executive committee are headed by the chair of the water board, the dike warden (*dijkgraaf*)

²⁵ link: 2006-2010 Central Amsterdam Programme Policy (in Dutch):: www.centrum.amsterdam.nl/PDFjes/Nieuws/Programmakkoord2006-2010.pdf

²⁶ link: 2006-2011 Measurable Programme Policy (in Dutch): www.centrum.amsterdam.nl/PDFjes/060919%206656-SC-PROGR-ACC-AC-LOS.pdf

²⁷ link: Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board, www.agv.nl

N.B. Waternet has the task of implementing AGV policy.²⁸

Competencies

The 26 water boards in the Netherlands are governmental bodies. The AGP has responsibility for water control in the greater Amsterdam region. Its designated tasks are to:

- protect the region from flooding;
- maintain correct water level in rivers, lakes, canals and ditches.
- maintain sustainable quantity of water;
- preserve water quality (ditches, ponds, lakes, rivers);
- properly purify waste water;
- maintain navigability of waterways (secondary task).

The regulation of water level in the AGP water management area is described in the Water Management Plan (*Waterbeheerplan*, WBP). This is a legally binding plan drawn up by water boards every five years. It sets out the aims of water control and the means of achieving these aims. The three provinces in which the AGV water management area falls (Utrecht, North Holland and South Holland) evaluate the WBP and are required to ratify it.

Ministry of Education, Culture and Science – National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage²⁹

Administrative organisation

The National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (*Rijksdienst voor Archeologie, Cultuurlandschap en Monumenten*, RACM) is part of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (*Ministerie van Onderwijs, Cultuur en Wetenschap*, OCW) and acts under the authority of the OCW minister. Where the values of built heritage, archaeological heritage or the cultural landscape come into play on a national or international level, the RACM takes the lead with respect to conservation, protection (legislation), maintenance and research into and knowledge transfer about the heritage.

Duties and competencies

As an implementing body of the OCW, and in cooperation with other authorities and institutions, the RACM is involved in, among other things, the preservation and sustainable development of archaeological values, built heritage and cultural landscapes.

In its function as a knowledge centre, the RACM provides advice and information. It advises on, and implements, funding regulations and rules and laws pertaining to cultural heritage. The RACM administers the national monument list.

The Netherlands is a State Party to the World Heritage Convention. The RACM coordinates the implementation of this convention and its associated *Operational Guidelines on World Heritage on Dutch national territory*. The RACM prepares nominations for the inscription by the World Heritage Committee of cultural properties on the World Heritage List. The RACM coordinates monitoring and periodic reporting on World Heritage in The Netherlands. The RACM advises the property managers of World Heritage in the Netherlands on the protection and conservation of the site in accordance with relevant international conventions, resolutions and charters.

²⁸ link: Waternet, www.waternet.nl

²⁹ link: National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage, www.racm.nl

4.2 The property manager: Central Amsterdam District

4.2.1 Introduction

This section first describes Central Amsterdam's responsibilities and competencies as day-to-day manager of the district and, by extension, the district's responsibilities and competencies with respect to the values of the state-designated conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal'.

Furthermore, this section describes the responsibilities and competencies of Central Amsterdam District as future property manager of the intended World Heritage Site '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal'.

This is followed by descriptions of the basic principles and aims of the Central Amsterdam District coalition parties with respect to policy in the 2006-2010 coalition period, and the steps taken by them to realise those aims formulated in the 2006-2010 Policy Programme.

This section concludes with a description of the package of measures taken by Central Amsterdam in this period with respect to built heritage in the district.

4.2.2 Central Amsterdam's responsibilities as property manager

Central Amsterdam has primary responsibility for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal' as a World Heritage Site that falls entirely within both the district boundaries and, furthermore, within the state-designated conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'. For these reasons, Central Amsterdam District is the siteholder, as defined in the *Operational Guidelines*.

The property manager is required to follow the guidelines for protection and management of the property described in the *Operational Guidelines* (Sections 96-112)

The property manager is responsible for the management of the property and for preservation of its outstanding universal value and the conditions for authenticity and integrity. The property manager should take all measures required to ensure that the property and its surrounding buffer zone will preserve the significance as established by the World Heritage Committee.

The property manager is responsible for the implementation of an effective management plan that should safeguard these conditions in practice.

As property manager, Central Amsterdam is responsible for the allocation of staffing and financial resources for the proper implementation of the management plan – in which context, Central Amsterdam District shall receive staffing and financial support from the City of Amsterdam

Because of its direct responsibilities for the property and buffer zone, Central Amsterdam shall make a clear and timely contribution to the formulation of the (upcoming) structural concept (*Structuurvisie*) with regard to spatial planning and urban projects.

Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam shall enact a covenant setting out the responsibilities of Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam for the conservation of the property as a World Heritage Site. After signing by the executive committee of Central Amsterdam District and the municipal executive of the City of Amsterdam, this covenant (see chapter 2) will form part of the management plan and of the nomination dossier.

4.2.3 Competencies of Central Amsterdam District

City Districts Ordinance

The City Districts Ordinance (*Verordening op de stadsdelen*)³⁰ regulates the division of responsibilities and competencies of the City of Amsterdam and the district councils. The competency of the district administration is described in the Ordinance, Section 1, Articles 25-29. In summary, these are:

Article 26

- 1 The City of Amsterdam council transfers all its duties and competencies to the district councils, except for those competencies that cannot be delegated to the districts, in accordance with article 156 with the Municipalities Act.
- 2 The municipal executive transfers all its competencies to each district's executive committee.
- 3 The mayor transfers all his powers to the chair of each district council's executive committee, with the exception of those competencies that cannot be transferred, as described in Article 178 of the Municipalities Act.
- 4 Competencies referred to in clause 2 and 3 include administrative coercion (*bestuursdwang*) and the power to issue a warrant for entry into a residence.
- 5 The transfer of duties and competencies as intended by clauses 1 and 2 do not include the duties and competencies mentioned on List A, supplementary to this Ordinance.
- 6 The district council is permitted to transfer any competencies allocated to it to the executive committee; article 157 of the Municipalities Act is correspondingly applicable to the transfer of powers.

Relationship between City and district

The relationship between the City and the district is described in the Ordinance, Section 2, Articles 30-33; these stipulate that both the district and the City can request information regarding affairs about which the other has decisive authority.

The City is empowered to require the district authority to provide information on a systematic basis. The City can oblige the district authority to formulate a plan, which must also be presented to the City authority, when harmonisation of policy is necessary between district and City authorities, or if developments in a new area of policy make harmonisation necessary.

Violation of district authority and competencies

Paragraph 3 of the Ordinance, Articles 34-37, describes the instruments that supercede the competencies of the district authority. Article 34, Clause 1, reads: The City council, college and mayor can, independantly or in concert, decide to designate urban projects, each to the extent of their transferred competencies.

Core issues:

Article 34

- 1) The City council, college and mayor can, independantly or in concert, decide to designate urban projects, each to the extent of their transferred competencies.

³⁰ City Districts Ordinance (*Verordening op de Stadsdelen*, version 29, November 2006); List A has been altered in accordance with the ammendment of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act (*Monumentenwet*, March 2008).

- 2) The designation order (*aanwijzingsbesluit*) stipulates the following:
 - a) requirement of an accurate description of the project, including geographical boundaries;
 - b) the municipal districts to which the designation order applies;
 - c) the duration of the validity of the designation order;
 - d) for which competencies the cooperation of the district authorities will be required;
 - e) specification of which district council responsibilities will be retracted;
 - f) specification of which official capacity of the district councils involved is required; a capacity on which a claim can be made if necessary;
 - g) specification of the costs incurred, as determined in point f, and how these will be shared.
- 3) The designation of a metropolitan project can only occur if:
 - a) the planning/implementation and/or administration relate to large-scale project or projects that are unique to the greater City area, and also if
 - b) the materialisation of the project requires such a decisive approach that the immediate cooperation of the district council administration can be demanded, or their authority can be overruled.
- 4) The district council administrations responsible are consulted in advance regarding the designation of the metropolitan project.
- 5) The explanatory notes to the proposal to designate a metropolitan project indicate that the provisions of clauses 3 and 4 have been met.

Rescinding of district orders

Article 42 states that district authority orders can be annulled by the City council, by the college and by the mayor, to the extent that they are in conflict with existing legislation or the city's common good.

List A: Non-transferable competencies

List A is a supplement to the City Districts Ordinance. It lists all City authority competencies that have not been transferred to the districts. The competencies contained in List A include:

- *Built heritage and archaeology*
 - The enactment of a Grant Statute (*Subsidieverordening*) for built heritage and prominent buildings.
- *Spatial planning*
 - The adoption of a Structural Concept (*Structuurvisie*) based on the Spatial Planning Act.
 - The establishing of policy regulations and the issuing of instructions with respect to the adoption or review of zoning plans.
- *Housing*
 - The adoption of the Structuring Building Aesthetics Policy Document (*Structuurnota Welstand*)
NB. The setting of criteria with respect to building aesthetics in accordance with the Housing Act (*Woningwet*) is a decentralised competency. The districts set criteria with respect to building aesthetics within the limits set by the Structuring Building Aesthetics Policy Document.

4.2.4 Central Amsterdam Policy Programme 2006-2010

The 2006-2010 Central Amsterdam Policy Programme³¹ (*Programakkoord 2006-2010 Stadsdeel Centrum*) contains the political programme it intends to carry out within its four-year term. For this purpose, the three coalition parties (VVD, PvdA and Green Left) negotiated a Policy Programme for 2006-2010, their term of administration. The programme agreement has an associated 2006-2010 Measurable Policy Programme³² (*Meetbaar Programakkoord 2006-2010*), in which the goals of the policy programme are rendered quantifiable, using figures.

The policy programme is examined in detail below because Central Amsterdam District has already taken measures that contribute to the conservation of the conservation area and that impact directly on the preservation and improvement of the outstanding universal value of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal'.

Central Amsterdam District's ambitions

Amsterdam's historical city centre is its showpiece. It is the focus for culture, tourism and the economy, and the most important area for shopping in the region. Furthermore, it is where more than 80,000 inhabitants live and work. This mixture of functions is the central Amsterdam's greatest asset. Employing an integrated and balanced policy, coalition parties are set on improving quality of the city centre and the balance between work, home life and recreation. The definitive annual programme budgets are harmonised with policy programme.

Over four years, the Central Amsterdam District coalition parties want to achieve the following:

- A central district with a mixed population;
- A central district characterised by solidarity and social cohesion;
- A cultural and creative central district;
- A central district with a broad diversity of activities;
- A clean and attractive centre with good building aesthetics policy for built heritage in the heart of the city;
- A safe, pleasant and clean central district;
- An accessible central district with a good quality of life;
- A district that makes every effort for the benefit of its rich cultural heritage.

4.2.5 Measures described according to policy area

Building and Housing

These are the basic principles for the 'Building and Housing' policy area in the programme policy, on which concrete measures are based:

- Housing is a fundamental requirement. The demand for affordable housing exceeds supply. Central Amsterdam strives to maintain a diverse resident population in the district through a broad range of rental prices and types of residence.
- The local authority works together with housing corporations and other partners to realise the aims set out in housing policy. Because of central government and municipal

³¹ link: 2006-2010 Central Amsterdam Programme Policy (in Dutch): www.centrum.amsterdam.nl/PDFjes/Nieuws/Programakkoord2006-2010.pdf

³² link: 2006-201 Measurable Programme Policy (in Dutch):: www.centrum.amsterdam.nl/PDFjes/060919%206656-SC-PROGR-ACC-AC-LOS.pdf

government regulation, the limited opportunities for constructing new buildings, the requirement for cooperation on the part of housing corporations and the limited influence on the private sector, there is little room for policy making on the part of the district authority.

- The guiding principle with regard to construction is 'maintenance and repair'.
- Policy is shaped by the Policy Document on Building Aesthetics (*Welstandsnota*) and the Policy Document on Housing (*Nota Wonen*). The aims set out in the Policy Document on Housing form the basis of district policy.
- The guiding principle on implementation is: sustainable construction (particularly with regard to renovation, built heritage and business premises) and the encouragement thereof through provision of information.

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Built heritage

- Basic principles
 - A diverse and mixed Central Amsterdam, with the preservation of the historical urban planning structure.
 - Amsterdam's central district, characterised by its built heritage of 4500 properties of, designated by central government as a conservation area.
 - There are a number of threats to the historical city centre. These include damage to built heritage properties, overdue maintenance, inadequate foundations and the decline in the quantity of class 2 and class 3 buildings.
 - Policy is shaped by the Policy Document on Building Aesthetics and the Policy Document on Housing.
 - Objectives
 - Building conservation: complete Municipal Built Heritage project (*Gemeentelijke Monumentenproject*).
 - In the matter of urban development and expansion, priority is given to the red light district (*de Wallen*) the Leidseplein area (*Leidsebuurt*) and the eastern section of the city centre (*Oostelijke Binnenstad*).
 - Advertising must meet the requirements of the relevant building aesthetics policy. Prevention of unsightly elements, such as inappropriate advertising on facades and inappropriate scaffolding screens.
- Measures:
 - *Complete Municipal Built Heritage project* – sufficient resources for the completion of the Municipal Built Heritage project
 - *Intensification of criminal prosecution*: more stringent criminal prosecution measures with respect to illegal construction, demolition and extension.
 - *Maximise effectiveness of deployment of existing funds* – harmonise activities with activities of other funds, such as the North Holland Cultural Fund (*Cultuurfonds Noord-Holland*) and the Conservation and Repair Fund (*fonds Behoud en Herstel*) and bring these to the attention of the owners of built heritage. In the case of insufficient financing, seek out resources – internally and externally.
 - *Deploy process supervision* – district supervises built heritage and foundation repair process
 - *More restrained advertising on scaffolding screens*: develop policy on advertising leading to more restrained advertising on scaffolding screens, while maintaining revenue for district authority. State date of removal.

Urban development

- Basic principles

- With respect to urban development and expansion, priority is given to the red light district the Leidseplein area and the eastern section of the city centre.
- Area-oriented approach
- Measures:
 - The area-oriented approach focusses on:
 - *Leidseplein* - the framework is formed by the adopted plan of approach of the Leidseplein area.
 - *The red light district* – Central Amsterdam seeks to re-establish the balance between housing, work and the availability of hotels, catering and shops, on the one hand, and the sex and drugs-related activities, on the other, by actively creating interest in the area among bona fide businesspeople and investors. This is achieved through combating criminality, enforcing regulations, protecting residents and bona fide businesspeople, prevent nuisance caused by drug addicts and homeless people and ensuring the welfare of prostitutes.
 - *Eastern part of the city centre*: the plan adopted for a development of tourism in the eastern part of the city centre forms the policy framework.
 - *'Red Carpet' along the North-South metro route (Noord/Zuid-lijn)* – The renovation of the 'Red Carpet', the route along the North-South metro line, will include work, together with the City of Amsterdam and the districts involved, on the creation of an exceptional, sustainable, and beautiful public space stretching from Central Station to the Pijp (south central neighbourhood).
 - *Rembrandtplein (Rembrandt Square)* – developments on the Rembrandtplein and in the surrounding area give cause to examine the extent to which it should be designated as a priority area.

Culture

- Guiding principles:
 - Culture is an important determining factor for the unique atmosphere and charm of the city centre
 - The City of Amsterdam is responsible for policy on arts and culture, with respect to both content and finance; the district authority sets boundary conditions.
 - Central Amsterdam authority is aware of its role as guardian of the urban planning and cultural historical heritage in the central district.
 - Despite the central district's status as a conservation area, the Central Amsterdam area should not be a no-go zone for new architecture.
- Objectives:
 - Cultural policy is based on the Central Amsterdam Cultural Policy Document and is four core themes:
 - Improve the position of the central district as the bearer of Amsterdam's cultural identity
 - Promote Central Amsterdam as a meeting place for the creative industry
 - Ensure that Amsterdammers become, are, and remain proud of the historical city centre by making them co-owners of it and making them feel jointly responsible for this cultural centre
 - Increase accessibility to culture for residents of Central Amsterdam.
- Measures:
 - Implementation of Cultural Policy Document: continue current level of stimulation of art and culture.

Economy

The economy deserves broader attention. The policy document *City Centre with a Heart for Business (Centrum, met Hart voor de Zaak)* forms the basis for the policy. Central to this policy is the strategy aimed at supporting new creative entrepreneurs. The retail, financial services and catering industries also have a stake in these developments

Tourism

- Guiding principles:
 - Tourists are drawn to the city by its cultural and tolerant climate. Large institutions as well as many small and culturally avant-garde and small-scale initiatives, together with the creative industry, form an important motor for the economy of Amsterdam.
 - Parties see Amsterdam as an attractive, high-quality international location for tourism.
 - The qualities of the historical city centre and of Amsterdam as a cultural centre should be emphasised more strongly.
- Objectives:
 - To make a larger proportion of Central Amsterdam more attractive to tourists, by expanding to the eastern part of the city and increasing the quality of tourist facilities. The Central Amsterdam Cultural Policy Document (*Cultuurnota Binnenstad*) is the basis for policy.
 - More flexible opening times for cultural institutions and museums, providing an impulse to nightlife.
 - Increase of art in public space
- Measures:
 - Distribution of tourism
 - Further detailing of plans for Chinatown
 - Increase the quality of facilities for tourism
 - Provision of information for tourists

Catering industry

Central Amsterdam intends to allow expansion of the hotel and catering industry if sustainable.

Outdoor cafes can be open in summer and winter, as long as outdoor heating is environmentally friendly and meets the requirements set for built heritage and building aesthetics.

Hotel expansion will primarily be encouraged in the eastern part of the city, not in the centre.

Organisation and management of public space

- Guiding principles:
 - Public space should be clean, intact, safe and accessible.
 - The central area of Amsterdam is a state-designated conservation area and it is expected that it will be inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List. This will result in a need for high-quality organisation for continual care for public space.
 - The Public Space Organisation Handbook (*Handboek Inrichting Openbare Ruimte*) will continue to be the basis for organisation of public space. Its motto, 'Functional, sustainable and beautiful', will serve to underpin the contribution public space makes to the city's positive atmosphere and the quality of the built heritage, both of which are integral to the conservation area.
- Measures:
 - Speed up carrying out of overdue maintenance, in accordance with the Maintenance Strategy Action Plan (*Plan van aanpak Onderhoudsstrategie*)

- Each neighbourhood receives an annual service.
- Choose either maintenance or renovation; in the event of insufficient financial resources, delay or phase.
- The reprofiling of the canals will continue in accordance with the New Standard Canal Profile (*Nieuw Standaard Grachtenprofiel*), based on the adopted layout.
- Continue necessary reprofiling, priority for streets and squares with a cultural and economic function.
- The district authority enforces strict, fair and consistent maintenance of control over policing, sanitation and maintenance, the Achilles heel of any policy on public space. The district authority seeks the best possible cooperation with district managers, local police officers and local community and management groups.

Greenery

- Guiding principles:
 - Greenery is important for the climate of the city and the well-being of central Amsterdam's inhabitants, employers and visitors.
 - Respect for the lives of animals, plants and trees is a given.
 - In an urban environment, green spaces are a breath of fresh air, literally and figuratively.
 - Proper maintenance of flora and green spaces is a main priority.
 - Trees are often important determinants in the visual perception of the city.
- Objectives:
 - More greenery in the city, and proper care for greenery.
 - The enclosed gardens and courtyards that are presently publicly accessible, should remain so.
 - The area in which trees are planted will be expanded.
- Measures:
 - Implement the Greenery Action Plan (*Groenactieplan*). The Central Amsterdam Greenery Fund (*Groenfonds Binnenstad*), which has been included in the budget since 2007, finances the Greenery Action Plan.
 - Residents can apply for support from local budgets for the creation of pavement gardens or maintenance of greenery in public space.

- Those trees designated for conservation should receive sufficient care. Where it is necessary to fell trees, an equal number of replacements will be planted.
- Expand the area in which trees are planted.
- Enhance the green aspect of the city centre's character through renovation of public space above the North-South metro line.

Water

- Guiding principles:
 - The canals of the 17th century city contribute to the attractiveness of the city centre and draw a great number of visitors
 - Water has a positive effect on city's climate.
 - In addition to its important function in contributing to the quality of life, water is also important for recreation and transport.
- Objectives:
 - Order on, and quality of, water; resolve bottlenecks; clear standards of aesthetics.
 - Extend water transport of goods and people.
 - Increase opportunities for leisure and recreation on and near the water.
- Measures:

- Amsterdam Inland Waterways Board (*Binnenwaterbeheer Amsterdam*, BBA) combat nuisances on the water.
- In collaboration with Waternet and the Regional Water Board (*Hoogheemraadschap*), combat negative effects on the environment.
- Perform research into environmentally friendly fuel for ships, transport of people on the water and distribution by water; conveyance by water of (industrial) waste; realisation of a floating swimming pool.

Traffic and parking:

- Guiding principles:
 - Air quality:
 - It is important to have a clean living environment.
 - Prevent and reverse pollution of the air, water and soil.
 - Improvement of air quality has priority.
 - Mobility and accessibility:
 - The guiding principle is the improvement of accessibility and quality of life in Central Amsterdam
 - Unnecessary car use will be discouraged.
 - With respect to road traffic, the local authority has chosen to place the various means of transport in order of preference 1. Pedestrians; 2. Bicycles; 3. Public transport; 4. Car.
 - Parking:
 - Policy on parking is based on the Policy Document for Accessibility of the City Centre 2004-2009 (*Nota Bereikbaarheid Binnenstad 2004-2009*)
 - Aboveground parking places excessive demands on (scarce) public space.
- Objectives:
 - Air quality:
 - Reduction in large concentrations of dust and nitrogen dioxide.
 - Satisfy the limits for fine dust and the standards for nitrogen oxide in 2010.
 - Mobility and accessibility:
 - Reduction of car mobility, in order to safeguard the accessibility of the city centre.
 - More space for pedestrians and cyclists.
 - An intricate network of good, safe, efficient and cost-effective public transport
 - Parking:
 - The number of parking spaces on the street will be reduced to 11,500.
 - Building of new (underground) parking garages at the boundaries of the district and use of public space for slow traffic (pedestrians and cyclists), local users (*verblijfsfunctie*) and green space

Security

The basis for this policy is formed by those components of the City of Amsterdam's Safety Policy Document (*Nota Veiligheid*) and Safety Index that are implemented at district authority level.

4.2.6 Measurable Policy Programme 2006-2010

The Measurable Policy Programme 2006-2010 (*Meetbaar Programakkoord 2006-2010*) was drawn up in addition to the Central Amsterdam policy programme 2006-2010 (*Programakkoord 2006-2010 Stadsdeel Centrum*) to provide standards for evaluating

ambitions, objectives and measures through agreements on effects and results. It contains effects indicators and results factors for these agreements on effects and results. The Planning and Control cycle is used to monitor and control the evaluation process and its outcome. The Measurable Policy Programme can therefore be viewed as the defining guiding document that will be key to Central Amsterdam District authority policy throughout its 2006-2010 term of office.

4.2.7 Built Heritage Programme

Effect on society

The promotion of conservation and repair of municipal- and state-designated built heritage within the conservation area using a coherent package of measures. The aim in this regard is to improve the quality of these buildings, visually and structurally.

Effect indicators

	Effect indicator	Baseline measurement	Final outcome 2010
1	Built heritage quality	Start in 2006	Improvement compared to 2006
2	Built heritage ratings	Mini survey in 2006	Improvement compared to 2006

The first step towards achieving the objectives is to obtain an insight into the present situation: what is the present state of the structural quality of built heritage.

The second measure is a rating for the conservation area obtained from residents of Central Amsterdam. Both the evaluation of construction quality and the ratings survey will be repeated biannually

Agreement on result and result indicator

In the first half of 2007, an action plan was drawn up with the aim of conserving and repairing the current total of 7600 municipal- and state-designated built heritage properties. This action plan evaluate and assesses various measures in order to arrive at a coherent package of agreements on results. But lead to shifts in the present kitsch of result agreements. In 2008 the implementation of the plan will be evaluated and, if necessary, adjusted. Whether or not these measures will be seen to have achieved the desired effect in 2010, will become apparent through the assessment of the quality of construction built heritage properties at the end of this period of administration. Until the moment of adoption of the 2007 action plan, and thereafter, the following result agreements will form the basis.

	Result agreement	Result indicator	Baseline measurement	Final outcome 2010
a	Completion of Municipal Built Heritage Project (Gemeentelijk Monumentenproject, GMP)	Number is of properties to be placed on the GMP list	Up to 2006: 515 Properties	950 properties
b	Combat illegal construction/demolition	Number of buildings without a permit enforcement cases	150 per year	600 enforcement cases
c	Summons issue (based on total number of poor built heritage properties)	Number of summonses, active - Number of summonses,	20 per year 50 per year	80 summonses 200 summonses

		passive		
d	Criminal prosecution	Number of reports to the Public Prosecutor	2 or 3 per year	At least 12 during this term of office
e	Grants	Number of grants issued for conservation and repair (district) (units). Number of grants issued for renovation of built heritage (BMA)	5 per year 5 per year	20 grants issued for conservation and repair 20 grants issued for renovation of built heritage

In addition to the annually recurring measurable results agreements, measures will also be taken with the intention of setting conditions. Those measures already known for on the 2060-2010 programme period are:

- Leaflet on financial regulations for owners of built heritage (2007)
- Pilot cultural fund for North Holland (started in 2006);
- Development of 'Top Built Heritage' list of top listed buildings (*Topmonumenten*) in collaboration with the restoration company Stadsherstel N.V. (started in 2006)
- Establishment of a wharf for historical construction materials (started operations in 2006)
- Formulate an action plan for Jewish cultural heritage (started in 2006)
- Make preparations for nomination of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal' for inscription on UNESCO's world Heritage list (started in 2006)

Estimated consequences for the financial resources of the result agreements

In reference to the costs to be estimated, it should be noted that they are primarily dependent on the yet to be adopted action plan. It was possible to estimate those matters mentioned below. When examining the structural condition of built heritage properties, advantage will be taken de expertise provided by the both the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology and Central Amsterdam District.

Result agreement	Estimated consequences for financial resources
Completion of GMP	2007 incidental costs €10,000 (priority application) including consultation Commission IV for building aesthetics and built heritage (<i>commissie IV voor welstand en monumenten</i>)
- Baseline structural quality of built heritage - Interim measurement of structural quality of built heritage (in 2008) - Final measurement of structural quality of built heritage (in 2008)	2007 incidental costs €40,000 2008 incidental costs €20,000 2009 incidental costs €20,000

Leaflet on financial regulations for the owners of built heritage	2007 incidental costs € 15,000
Redeployment of measures in accordance with the Action Plan	P.m.
- Conservation and Repair grants (district authority) -BMA grants	Costs for five grants issued per year. €100,000 per jaar

Midterm review of 2006-2010 Policy Programme

Halfway through its tenure, Central Amsterdam instigated a mid-term review to examine the extent to which the objectives set out in the 2006-2010 Policy Programme have been achieved (approved by the executive committee on 3 June 2008, discussed by the council on 26 June 2008)

The results of the first measurement of ratings for maintenance of built heritage (7.3) and the policy on the conservation area (6.8) are contained herein. Furthermore, it can be announced at the Municipal Built Heritage Project (*Gemeentelijk Monumenten Project*) has been completed.

It is expected that result agreements a, b, c, e (see above) will be achieved. Result agreement d cannot be guaranteed because in 2007 no cases were serious enough to be considered for a criminal prosecution.

Key Point 5:

Central Amsterdam shall ensure that the annual Programme Budget for Central Amsterdam and the Annual Accounting for Central Amsterdam as well as the progress of the Built Heritage Programme in the 2006-2010 Policy Programme are all included in annual monitoring and brought to the attention of the World Heritage Committee through by way of the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM).

4.3 Stakeholders – Descriptions

4.3.1 Introduction

The involvement of the *jointly responsible authorities* and the *stakeholders* is important, with respect to both the process leading to the inscription of 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals within a single Canal' on the World Heritage List and for the conservation and responsible use of the ring of canals as core area and the Central Amsterdam District as buffer zone. It is advisable to make distinctions between the two groups. The jointly responsible authorities make actual contributions (they have administrative authority), while stakeholders have interests; they include users, advisers, historical associations, employers and residents. The jointly responsible authorities have administrative responsibility, but it is the stakeholders who make the ring of canals and the city centre the living environment that it is. The jointly responsible authorities make decisions and the stakeholders participate in the discussions. Both groups have an important function with respect to the conservation of the site. The administrative party responsible for daily management of the site is the *property manager*.

4.3.2 The administrative parties: the property manager and jointly responsible authorities

- Central Amsterdam District (also property manager)

- City of Amsterdam, municipal authority
- Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board
- Ministry of Education, Culture and Science – The National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (State Party)

4.3.3 Description of stakeholders' objectives, organisation and activities

Here follow descriptions of the objective, organisation and activities of each stakeholder. These almost thirty organisations, include interest groups, heritage organisations and governmental organisations.

Amsterdam City³³

Objective

Amsterdam City looks after the interests of employers in Amsterdam, with the emphasis on Central Amsterdam. Central Amsterdam has the largest amount area devoted to retail and office space in the entire city.

Organisation

Amsterdam City is an employers' association. Its members come from large and small companies in the retail sector; a hotel and catering; from the cultural, financial and ICT sectors; and from knowledge institutes. Larger businesses are themselves members, smaller businesses are members by way of membership of their employers association.

Activities

Amsterdam City's main concern is keeping Central Amsterdam attractive for employers.

Amsterdam-Inside³⁴

Objective

Hans Tulleners is a city guide, journalist, built heritage expert and writer about Amsterdam. He explains to interested parties why this water-rich city centre with 7364 built heritage properties can be called 'the greatest open air museum in Western Europe'.

Organisation

Amsterdam-inside is an initiative of Hans Tulleners, city guide.

Activities

The city guide conducts tours through Amsterdam by foot, bicycle and boat. He also gives lectures accompanied by slides

Amsterdam Discussion Platform

The Amsterdam Discussion Platform (*Amsterdam-Overleg*) is an informal platform for discussion set up by seven organisations who stand up for the values of built heritage in Central Amsterdam. These organisations are the Royal Antiquities Society (*Koninklijk Oudheidkundig Genootschap*), the Amstelodamum Society (*Genootschap Amstelodamum*),

³³ link: Amsterdam City Association, www.amsterdamcity.nl

³⁴ link: Amsterdam-Inside, www.amsterdam-inside.nl

the Heemschut Society (*Bond Heemschut*), the Hendrick de Keyser Association (*Vereniging Hendrick de Keyser*), the Society of Friends of Amsterdam City Centre (*Vereniging Vrienden van de Amsterdamse Binnenstad*), the restoration company Stadsherstel Amsterdam NV and the Cuypers Society (*Cuypersgenootschap*)

Amsterdam Partners³⁵

Objective

The objective of the Amsterdam Partners foundation, is to ensure coherent city marketing policy.

Organisation

The executive board of Amsterdam Partners is headed by the Mayor of Amsterdam, Job Cohen.

Members of the executive committee include the mayor of Almere, the head of the department of economic affairs for the City of Amsterdam, the CFO of the Schiphol Group, the CFO of Wolters Kluwer and the chair of the Chamber of Commerce.

The executive committee is backed up by management office with a city marketing manager, a festival and events manager and a team of project coordinators

Activities

Amsterdam Partners brings together all the marketing activities of the covenant partners through a website. The Amsterdam portal www.iamsterdam.com is where international visitors, business people and residents find information about Amsterdam

Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board ³⁶

Objective

The Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board (ATCB) encourages the maximisation of outgoings by all visitors, and thereby creating a solid foundation for employment and prosperity in Amsterdam and environs.

Organisation

The ATCB works closely with business, the cultural sector and the City of Amsterdam. The ATCB contributes to tourism policy locally (with the city of Amsterdam), regionally (province of North Holland) and nationally, in accordance with the renewed Ministry of Economic Affairs' Renewed Tourism Agenda (*Vernieuwde Toeristische Agenda*). Amsterdam is included in this agenda as one of the focal points for incoming tours. The Netherlands Board for Tourism and Conventions (*Nederlands Bureau voor Toerisme en Congressen*, NBTC) also takes as the basis for its policy and implementation Amsterdam's function as a draw for visitors.

Activities

- The ATCB works together with Amsterdam Partners in creating an image for Amsterdam. Among other things they develop and implement marketing and promotional activities Amsterdam and environs using the slogan 'I Amsterdam'.

³⁵ link: Amsterdam Partners, www.amsterdampartners.nl

³⁶ link: Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board, www.amsterdamtourist.nl

- The ATCB operates in the American market (Cool Capitals) and in the European market through European Cities Tourism (ECT) and the European Travel Commission (ETC) networks. ATCB is an active member of ECT.
- The ATCB consults with various organisations involved in the sector, such as Royal Dutch Hotels and Catering (*Koninklijke Horeca Nederland*) Amsterdam Museums Consultation Group (*Amsterdams Overleg Musea*), Amsterdam Theatres Consultation Group (*Amsterdams Overleg Theaters*) and the information and ticket centre for culture and entertainment the Amsterdam Uitburo (AUB)
- The ATCB fulfils the function of a tourist information office for Amsterdam and environs, and also seeks to establish collaborative links with tourist information offices (VVV) in the province of north Holland that maximise efficiency and quality.

Amsterdam Top City³⁷

Objective

Working together with the main stakeholders, the City of Amsterdam wants to gain a unique and distinctive place for Amsterdam among the top European cities.

Organisation

In order to realise the ambitions of Amsterdam Top City (*Amsterdam Topstad*) the City of Amsterdam worked together closely with the large number of partners in the city and its environs. A small programme office has been set up for the implementation of Amsterdam Top City. The office works together closely with the municipal departments and districts and (regional) external parties. The Amsterdam Top City programme was initiated in cooperation with more than 60 organisations.

Activities and financing

The City of Amsterdam makes financial resources available for this programme. These resources are primarily used to create interesting connections and elicit interest and investment from private and public investors and to maximise the facilitation, support and implementation of initiatives developed in the business community. One component of the programme that is of particular importance for the Amsterdam ring of canals is:

<p>8 Raise Amsterdam's profile as location for events and for its commitment to city marketing</p>	<p>-Event acquisition -Speedy granting of permits -International press policy -Strong control strategy</p>	<p>- Amsterdam Partners - Business community (KLM)</p>
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Amsterdam Village Company

Objective

³⁷ link: Amsterdam Top City, www.topstad.amsterdam.nl

Amsterdam Village Company focuses on the operation of unique hotel and catering businesses in Amsterdam that are often housed in built heritage.

Organisation

Amsterdam Village Company is a hotel and catering operator.

Activities

In collaboration with Top Tours City Events, Amsterdam Village Company runs an organisation office for innovative excursions in the exclusive and historical surroundings of Amsterdam, such as the Village Dinner Walk which focuses on stories and accounts about the city,

Amsterdam Housing Associations Federation³⁸

Objective

The objective of the Amsterdam Housing Associations Federation (*Amsterdamse Federatie van Woningcorporaties*) promotes the interests of social housing in general and its Members in particular.

Organisation

Members of the federation must be housing corporation's based in or near Amsterdam that operate (wholly or partially) for the benefit of social housing.

Activities

The federation consults with City of Amsterdam authorities and other institutions, public and private, on issues pertaining to spatial planning and social housing. The federation promotes the discussion of ethical, social, economic, technical and other aspects of social housing.

The federation publishes the Social Housing Atlas (*Atlas Sociale Woningbouw*), which contains sixteen detailed maps of Amsterdams districts, indicating a property owned by housing corporations. These maps can also be viewed digitally:

www.afwc.nl/federatie/nieuws > 'atlas sociale woningbouw 2007' > 'stadsdelen in kaart'.

Amsterdam Centre for Architecture³⁹

Objective

The Amsterdam Centre for Architecture (*Architectuurcentrum Amsterdam*, ARCAM) wants to reach as large an audience as possible to broaden awareness of architecture. ARCAM responds to topical themes and developments in and around Amsterdam.

Organisation

The Amsterdam Centre for Architecture Foundation was established in 1986. Its activities are focused on Amsterdam and the surrounding area. ARCAM is a centre for coordination and also maintains contact with a large number of institutions to harmonise existing activities and initiate new one.

Activities

³⁸ link: Amsterdam Housing Corporations Federation, www.afwc.nl

³⁹ link: Amsterdam Centre for Architecture, www.arcam.nl

ARCAM is a public centre providing information about buildings and locations in the city. ARCAM has an archive of a large number of architectural books, magazines, leaflets, sites, maps and cuttings. ARCAM has a wall devoted to current events, providing space for news and topical developments in the fields of architecture, landscape and the city. In its exhibition space, ARCAM holds exhibitions on topical themes. ARCAM regularly organises public debates on plans, problems and current developments relating to architecture and urban planning in Amsterdam.

Heemschut Society⁴⁰

Organisation

The Heemschut Association (*Bond Heemschut*) was established in 1911 and is the oldest and largest (9000 members) private organisation focusing on the protection of cultural built heritage and the urban historical landscape. Heemschut draws attention to developments that form a threat to cultural built heritage, makes an inventory of them, and takes action to combat them.

Organisation

The Heemschut Association collaborates with Heemschut committees in Amsterdam and in the twelve provinces of the Netherlands. Each protects the built heritage in its region.

Activities

The Heemschut Association comes into action in the case of neglect or threatened demolition of built heritage, or when there is a threat to a conservation area by the construction of unsuitable new buildings.

Heemschut Amsterdam acts when:

- monuments are threatened with demolition
- the authentic character of built heritage is threatened
- cultural historical values are threatened

The Cuypers Society⁴¹

Objective

The Cuypers Society is an Association (at least 500 members) which focuses on the protection of cultural built heritage from the period 1850- 1940, also called "junger heritage". Lately the members take a special interest in the period of built Heritage after 1945. The Cuypers Society (*Cuypersgenootschap*), with more than 500 members, was set up for the conservation of built heritage from the 1850–1940 period, known also as 'more recent architecture' (*jongere bouwkunst*). Increasingly, members also focus their attention on the post-1945 period of reconstruction following the Second World War (*Wederopbouw*)

Organisation

The organisation's members have very diverse backgrounds, and utilise their combined knowledge for the benefit of the conservation of 19th- and 20th-century built heritage.

Amstelodamum Society⁴²

⁴⁰ link: Heemschut Society, www.heemschut.nl

⁴¹ link: Cuypers Association, www.cuypersgenootschap.nl

Objective

The objective of the Amstelodamum Society (*Genootschap Amstelodamum*) is the promotion of interest in Amsterdam and its history.

Activities

The society organises lectures and excursions and also publishes the *Amstelodamum* monthly magazine.

Hendrick de Keyser Association⁴³

Objective

The Hendrick de Keyser Association (*Vereniging Hendrick de Keyser*) conserves architecturally or historically valuable houses in the Netherlands. The association is represented at 78 locations in the Netherlands. The Hendrick de Keyser Association owns 350 properties, to which it adds an average of four properties annually. Amsterdam heads the list of locations for these properties with a total of 82.

Organisation

The Hendrick de Keyser Association was established in 1918. It is named for the renowned architect and city stonemason Hendrick de Keyser (1565-1621), an artist of national significance.

Activities

The Hendrick de Keyser Association buys, maintains and lets built heritage properties that are subject to strict requirements. Such properties must be prime examples of a particular architectural style or domestic culture within a given period. It must be possible to deduce each building's history not only from the outside, but also from the inside. Particular attention is paid to the authenticity of the building's construction techniques and the value of the interior. Once a building has been selected for purchase, it is never relinquished.

Central Amsterdam Tenants' Association⁴⁴

Objective

Central Amsterdam Tenants' Association (*Huurdersvereniging Centrum*) acts in the interests of tenants in the Central Amsterdam District.

Organisation

Any tenant in the Central Amsterdam area can be a member of the Central Amsterdam Tenants' Association. The association is an interlocutor on their behalf with landlords and the government.

Activities

Association members promote the provision of sufficient affordable and well-maintained rental accommodation and a good quality of life and surroundings. This is achieved by, among other things, communicating with policymakers about problems, stimulating broad

⁴² link: Amstelodamum Society, www.amstelodamum.nl

⁴³ link: Hendrick de Keyser Association, www.hendrickdekeyser.nl

⁴⁴ link: Central Amsterdam Tenants' Association, www.huurdersverenigingcentrum.nl

discussion about housing and tenancy and keeping each other informed about developments.

ICOMOS⁴⁵

Objective

The International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) promotes international cooperation with respect to conservation and treatment of cultural heritage. Their core activity draws on the expertise of specialists from various disciplines. ICOMOS focuses in particular on 'monuments', 'groups of buildings' and '**areas in which** cultural and natural characteristics are of joint importance'.

Organisation

ICOMOS is one of the World Heritage Committee's two advisory bodies; the other is the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)

Activities

ICOMOS is an independent non-governmental organisation. As such, it carries out specialised professional assessment of cultural and mixed heritage on the provisional list, and issues advice in this regard. This leads to advice and recommendation on the matter of inscription on the World Heritage List. Additionally, ICOMOS reports on the Periodic Reporting and Monitoring with respect to existing sites and offers support on the matter of maintenance and the Global Strategy.

Amsterdam Chamber of Commerce⁴⁶

Objective

The Amsterdam Chamber of Commerce (*Kamer van Koophandel Amsterdam*) is an independent information centre and guide for businesspeople.

Organisation

There are twelve chambers of commerce in the Netherlands, one of which is located in Amsterdam. The Amsterdam Chamber of Commerce is managed by the business community in the region. The 24 members are representatives of the appointing organisations (*benoemende organisaties*). The composition of the appointing organisations ensures a fair reflection of the business community in the region.

Programme Activities

The Chamber of Commerce implements a certain amount of economic legislation, including the Trade Registration Act. Chamber of Commerce provides information to businesspeople and stimulates the regional economy.

Amsterdam Association of Estate Agents⁴⁷

⁴⁵ link: ICOMOS, www.icomos.org

⁴⁶ link: Amsterdam Chamber of Commerce, www.kvk.nl/regio/amsterdam

⁴⁷ link: Amsterdam Association of Estate Agents, www.mva.nl

Objective

The Amsterdam Association of Estate Agents (*Makelaarsvereniging Amsterdam*) is the professional body for estate agents in the Greater Amsterdam area, with a membership of more than 420 estate agents.

Organisation

Members of the Amsterdam Association of Estate Agents have automatic membership of the Dutch Association of Estate Agents (*Nederlandse Vereniging van Makelaars*)

Activities

The Amsterdam Association of Estate Agents act in the interests of member estate agents by the dissemination of information pertaining to developments within the property world. The association offers extra training, and can provide cadastral data, trade register extracts and information from the municipal housing maps. The association also informs 'the public' about member estate agents, ground lease valuations, WOZ (*Waardering Onroerende Zaken*, Act on Property Assessment) valuations and rental accommodation.

North Holland Monument Watch⁴⁸

Objective

The North Holland Monument Watch foundation (Monumentenwacht Noord-Holland) was established in 1977 and is a member of the Dutch National Monument Watch Federation (*Federatie Monumentenwacht Nederland*). Its aim is to prevent deterioration of cultural historical constructions in North Holland by taking and advancing preventative measures; it is a non-profit organisation.

Monument Watch is a professional, independent and expert organisation. Monument Watch staff are architecturally trained experts who have followed additional courses for their specialised work on monuments and regularly receive extra training.

Activities

Anyone who owns property designated as built heritage can become a member of Monument Watch. Monument Watch performs examinations for purchases and sales, and carries out periodic structural examinations involving the inspection and evaluation of the entire property, externally and internally. Monument Watch uses this examination as the basis for an inspection report for use in maintenance and grant applications. Where necessary, Monument Watch performs minor (emergency) repairs.

Amsterdam Passenger Terminal⁴⁹

Objective

The Amsterdam Passenger Terminal receives passengers from sea and river cruises. The passenger terminal is located on the southern banks of the IJ waterway, part of the recent Amsterdam expansion programme on either side of Central Station.

Organisation

⁴⁸ link: North Holland Monument Watch, www.monumentenwachtnoordholland.nl

⁴⁹ link: Passenger Terminal Amsterdam, www.ptamsterdam.nl

Amsterdam Passenger Terminal is a joint venture between NS Poort (51%) and Haven Amsterdam (49%).

Activities

Amsterdam passenger terminal receives passengers, and also serves as a venue for events and meetings.

Government Building Agency⁵⁰

Objective and organisation

The Dutch Government Building Agency (*Rijksgebouwendienst*) manages more than 2000 properties in the Netherlands. 200 of these are designated as built heritage. Of these 29 are located in Amsterdam; some of them within the ring of canals. Well-known buildings in Amsterdam managed by the Government Building Agency include the Palace on the Dam (*Paleis op de Dam*), the Maritime Museum (*Scheepvaartmuseum*) and the Trip House (*Trippenhuys*).

Activities

The Government Building Agency seeks to deal responsibly with cultural heritage. The Government Building Agency performs research into historical construction and architectural techniques to determine the frames of reference for restoration strategy, building usage planning and design of structural changes. The Government Building Agency wants to set an example in the maintenance of these built heritage properties.

Waterway cruise companies in Amsterdam⁵¹

Objective, organisation and activities

There are more than ten waterway cruise companies (*Rondvaartmaatschappijen*) that organise cruises in and around Amsterdam. These include cruises on the canals of Amsterdam using various types of vessel: party ships, cruise boats, pedalos and sloops for example. Several of the cruise companies, including Canal Bus and the Museum Boat (*Museumboot*) stop at museums and offer architecture cruises.

Stadsherstel Amsterdam N.V.⁵²

Objective

Amsterdam NV Stadsherstel acquires, restores, maintains and manages the city's characteristic properties. The main objectives of Stadsherstel are:

- the purchase and restoration of the most endangered properties that are characteristic of Amsterdam
- find a good use for these properties
- taking care of the maintenance of these buildings so that they remain in the state which they reached after restoration
- access to specific buildings or parts thereof.

Organisation

Stadsherstel was founded in 1956 to restore existing characteristic buildings. Stadsherstel

⁵⁰ link: Government Building Agency, www.rgd.nl

⁵¹ links: information about canal cruises www.iamsterdam.nl and www.atcb.nl

⁵² link: Stadsherstel Amsterdam N.V., www.stadsherstelamsterdam.nl

NV is no profit-driven company and is required by statute to use its profits to strengthen Amsterdam's monumental heritage. Jointly responsible authorities are, in addition to the City of Amsterdam, large Dutch banks and insurers, which are satisfied with a lower return on their investment. With the resulting capital, Stadsherstel purchases properties. The restorations are financed partly with its own capital and partly with grants. After restoration, the property is rented. Stadsherstel manages 1000 homes and 200 commercial premises.

Programme

Stadsherstel has restored 450 decaying buildings and contributed to the popularity of Amsterdam city centre. Stadsherstel now acquires properties next to other historic buildings such as churches and industrial monuments, including shipyards, fortresses and windmills.

Amsterdam Monumentenstad⁵³ Foundation

Objective

The Amsterdam Monumentenstad Foundation's aim is to maintain the unique cultural and historical values in Amsterdam, in particular in the city centre, through publications, exhibitions, conferences and other resources. This is also related to the inscription of the city of Amsterdam on the World Heritage List of UNESCO.

Organisation

The Amsterdam Monumentenstad Foundation works with governments, scientific institutes and organisations in the field of preservation of cultural heritage in Amsterdam.

Programme

The Stichting Amsterdam Monumentenstad Foundation seeks the nomination and inscription of the Amsterdam city centre on the World Heritage List, through maintaining contacts with directors and policy makers. In addition, the foundation conducts projects such as conferences, publications and TV series in order to focus attention on the Amsterdam monuments owned by the foundation.

Nieuwe Kerk Foundation⁵⁴

Objective

The Nieuwe Kerk (New Church) was substantially renovated by the Reformed Church and converted into a cultural centre.

Programme

The Nieuwe Kerk houses exhibitions, often of an ethnological nature, plus organ concerts. Since King William I delivered the oath on the constitution in this church in 1814, it has also been used for the blessing of royal marriages and inaugurations.

Oude Kerk Foundation⁵⁵

Objective

⁵³ link: Stichting Amsterdam Monumentenstad, www.amsterdammonumentenstad.nl

⁵⁴ link: Stichting Nieuwe Kerk Amsterdam, www.nieuwekerk.nl

⁵⁵ link: Stichting Oude Kerk Amsterdam, www.oudekerk.nl

The Oude Kerk (Old Church) was extensively restored and now functions as a cultural centre, where (organ) concerts, exhibitions, receptions, dinners, meetings and weddings take place.

Organisation

The Old Church is managed by the Protestant Church Amsterdam.

Programme

The Old Church is the oldest monument in Amsterdam and has the title European Architectural Heritage, and thus on an equal footing with the major monuments Europe.

Amsterdam University⁵⁶

Objective and organisation

The University of Amsterdam, founded in 1632 as a college and officially recognised as a university in 1876, is the largest knowledge centre in the Netherlands. Currently the University of Amsterdam has about 24,000 students and over 5,000 staff. There are 7 faculties. The university is located in the historic centre of Amsterdam.

Vastgoed Belang

Objective

Vastgoed Belang advises its members - private investors in real estate - on legal, financial and policy issues relating to property, and maintains contacts with the national government and regional and local authorities.

Organisation

Vastgoed Belang is an association of members with a board and an office, under the supervision of an executive.

Programme

The office of Vastgoed Belang advises members with questions about issues such as debt problems, illegal occupation, income tax, property tax, architectural issues, insurance, real estate, 'splitting' units in apartment buildings, investment and legal disputes.

VVAB: Friends of Amsterdam City Centre⁵⁷

Objective and organisation

De Vereniging Vrienden van de Amsterdamse Binnenstad (*Association of Friends of Central Amsterdam*, or VVAB) aims to promote a good living and working atmosphere in the City of Amsterdam, particularly in the city centre, and to undertake activities aimed at promoting the conservation and the restoration of historic buildings and the city's urban character, and the broadening of knowledge in Amsterdam. The association currently has around 2400 members.

⁵⁶ link: Universiteit van Amsterdam, www.uva.nl

⁵⁷ link: Vrienden van de Amsterdamse Binnenstad, www.amsterdamsebinnenstad.nl

Wijksteunpunt Wonen⁵⁸

Objective

The Wijksteunpunt Wonen (*Neighbourhood Housing Support Point*) helps all Amsterdam tenants, residents' groups (in formation) and house-hunters, and provides assistance to owner-occupiers. The centre represents the interests of tenants in discussions with the district, municipality, housing associations and other landlords.

Organisation

All districts have a Wijksteunpunt Wonen centre. The Wijksteunpunt Wonen centre is a partnership of Huurteam Binnenstad, the Woonsprekuren housing advice service, and the city-centre community centres.

Programme

Wijksteunpunt Wonen provides information, advice and support in the areas of rents, leases, arrears of maintenance, renovation, rent control, living space division, price-quality ratio of rental housing, renovation, restoration and 'splitting' of homes into other units.

Housing Associations

A large part of the housing in the City of Amsterdam is owned by housing associations, which manage and lease the accommodation to residents. Of the approximately 360,000 homes in Amsterdam, some 60%, or about 210,000 homes, is managed by housing associations. In the central part of Amsterdam, the share of homes owned by housing associations is less than 60%, because a greater percentage of dwellings is in private possession. Within the protected area of "Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal," the housing associations are especially involved in housing management in:

- the medieval centre of town - Ymere and the Algemene Woningbouw Vereniging
- the Jordaan - Woonmaatschappij, Eigen Haard and Ymere
- the Kadijk - the Alliantie Amsterdam
- the Haarlemmerbuurt area, along the Singelgracht, the Bickerseiland - De Key

The housing corporation with the highest proportion of accommodation on the seventeenth-century canals is De Key. Within the protected area, De Key manages 1078 national monuments and 601 city monuments. Of these, 203 are on the canals.

Amsterdam NV Stadsherstel also has some properties on the canals.

The housing associations form the Amsterdam Federation of Housing Corporations (*Amsterdamse Federatie van Woningcorporaties*), featuring the participation of eleven housing corporations and Stadsherstel Amsterdam.

Note: The properties of the various housing corporations are marked on the map, *Kaart Centrum uit Atlas Sociale Woningbouw Amsterdam en Diemen 2007*, from the Amsterdam Federation of Housing Corporations, see Chapter 1.

4.4 Organisation and coordination property ring of canals

4.4.1 Introduction

The management plan contains - in addition to presentations on a wide range of laws, policies and measures that determine how 'the exceptional and universal value' of the property, 'the seventeenth-century ring of canals of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' (with

⁵⁸ link: Wijksteunpunt Wonen. www.wswonen.nl

'authenticity' and 'integrity' defined as in the Operational Guidelines as 'historic urban landscape'), and the surrounding buffer zone within the protected city area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht,' are being and will be protected - a number of additional issues. These issues define how the operation, implementation and coordination of the management plan for the management of the World Heritage site will be implemented, and how the administration can and will be monitored, and where it is necessary and possible to improve it.

The monitoring of the current protection regime and the development and implementation of annual action plans to update or strategically advance, and successfully implement, the protective measures where needed in order to extend the vision, objectives and task of the management plan - with the core objective of ensuring effective protection and conservation of the World Heritage-nominated cultural heritage site for present and future generations. It is essential therefore to ensure a permanent base and constant efforts from both the executive and the officially responsible players, but also the stakeholders: the citizens, businesses and organisations that have interests, but also (directly or indirectly) responsibilities for this (World) heritage area. This section describes how support and commitment are aggregate in different forums.

4.4.2 Implementation management plan and action plans

The following bodies shall ensure that the District of Central Amsterdam and the City of Amsterdam have the ability to implement the management plan effectively, and to develop and implement the necessary annual action plans.

The District of Central Amsterdam is responsible, as *site holder*, for the coordination of these bodies. The City of Amsterdam supports the District of Central Amsterdam in this effort and ensures the district has its joint commitment of manpower and (financial and / or legal) means carry out the responsibilities resulting from the UNESCO World Heritage Listing in a lasting and expeditious manner.

Key point 6:

The parties in charge of determining and introducing the management plan take responsibility for ensuring a support base and the efforts of managers, administrative management, stakeholders and jointly responsible authorities to determine, introduce and implement the management plan and for monitoring, developing and launching annual action plans to ensure the cultural and historic, as set out in the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Committee, of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', are assured in the future.

4.4.3 Stakeholders Platform World Heritage site Ring of Canals

Under the auspices of the property manager, the managers and chairmen of the most important stakeholder organisations (see paragraph 4.3 for an overview and description of the stakeholders) form a platform representing public support for the introduction of the management plan and the annual action plans. The Platform meets annually for this purpose. The results of monitoring activities are discussed with this Platform, prior to compiling the plans for the coming year. Stakeholders will find up to date information on the World Heritage site at the website of the World Heritage site 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals'.

Key point 7:

An independent party will be requested to chair the World Heritage Ring of Canals Stakeholders' Platform.

4.4.4 Amsterdam World Heritage Office

The property manager sets up a World Heritage Office, tailored to the implementation of the management plan and the drafting and implementation of the annual action plans. This requires an implementation-driven approach. Key issues must be put into practice. An action plan will be compiled and implemented to this end. Annual action plans must also be drafted, coordinated, implemented and monitored. All in all, this demands pioneering efforts on the part of the office: the ability to open doors, work in conjunction with the many stakeholders, motivate parties and maintain contact with the press.

a. Tasks of the World Heritage Office

- *Execute management plan and action plans*

The principal task of the Amsterdam World Heritage Office is to execute the management plan and the accompanying key issues. Its responsibility therefore is to draw up an action plan and to ensure its implementation. In addition, the World Heritage Office compiles annual action plans and sees to their implementation. The Office monitors the cohesion and progress of the actions in the action plan and will set up a monitoring system to measure the results (see Chapter 8), in compliance with the guidelines for monitoring in the Operational Guidelines.

- *Maintaining contact with stakeholders and jointly responsible authorities.*

The World Heritage Office maintains contact with the Central Amsterdam District for the implementation of the management plan and with the sectors of the Central Amsterdam District, the municipal services of the City of Amsterdam and the other jointly responsible authorities and stakeholders for the annual action plans, as the support for and the endeavours of these parties, who are involved and have an interest in the World Heritage site, are of key importance for the effective implementation of the management plan and the annual action plans.

- *Coordination point municipal services*

The World Heritage Office acts as coordination point between municipal (district; / City of Amsterdam) services and institutes that are directly involved in and/or responsible for upholding the Outstanding Universal Value of the '17th-century ring of canals' as a World Heritage site.

- *Website*

The World Heritage Office is responsible for content with respect to the property on the Amsterdam website and posts up-to-date information and monitoring data for the purpose of informing the jointly responsible authorities and stakeholders.

- *Representation in The Netherlands World Heritage Foundation (Stichting Werelderfgoed Nederland)*

The World Heritage Office represents the World Heritage site in the National Office of the Netherlands World Heritage Site Foundation (in which the chairman of the (executive) committee of the Central Amsterdam District has an administrative seat).

b. Organisation of the Amsterdam World Heritage Office

- *Implementation within separate organisation*

The property manager gives shape to the separate organisation under which the planned implementation will be incorporated, which will set to work prior to the submission of the nomination. This allows the World Heritage Office to acquire timely knowledge and experience, ensuring it will play an important role in the evaluation *in situ* of the nomination to be carried out by ICOMOS (an NGO). This evaluation is aimed in particular at examining

whether the conservation of the property is assured in the future by means of rules and regulations, through public participation and by an effective management plan and its implementation.

- *Providing staff*

Staff will be made available to the World Heritage Office by both the relevant sectors of the Central Amsterdam District and the relevant municipal services and units, including those of the Physical Planning Department, the Development Corporation of the City of Amsterdam (Ontwikkelingsbedrijf Gemeente Amsterdam), the Social Development and Economic Affairs Department, the Department for Research and Statistics, the Environmental and Building Department, Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology, Waternet and the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board. The Office works on a project basis (heritage, communication, tourism, urban planning, economy and statistics to name a few), enabling staff labour and costs to be determined for each project. If necessary, the World Heritage Office sets up working groups to implement elements of the management plan or action plans and may therefore request existing groups or organisations for assistance.

- *Coordinator*

The property manager appoints a World Heritage Office coordinator who is responsible for the coordination of the Action Plan, for the introduction of the management plan and the development and implementation of the annual action plans and for drafting and coordinating the accompanying timetables.

- *Costs*

The City of Amsterdam will contribute to the staff costs and operational budget of the World Heritage Office.

- *Accommodation*

The World Heritage Office can be housed in the offices of the sector head of the Construction and Housing Department of the Central Amsterdam District, but also at the offices of the director of the Construction and Housing Department or the City of Amsterdam's ProjectManagementBureau.

4.4.5 World Heritage Ring of Canals steering Committee

The property manager sets up an Amsterdam World Heritage Ring of Canals steering committee to be composed of the managers representing the site partners who bear a direct responsibility for conserving the property.

Parties with a seat are:

- Central Amsterdam District – chairman of the (Executive) Committee
- City of Amsterdam – alderman for built heritage
- Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board– chairman of the water board council
- Province of North Holland – Executive Metropolitan Region

The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science will be requested to appoint a consultant to advise the World Heritage Ring of Canals steering committee on the direct impact of the obligations borne by the member state in the context of the World Heritage site.

The World Heritage steering committee approves the action plans of the World Heritage Office and facilitates and supports implementation thereof.

4.4.6 Netherlands World Heritage Platform Foundation (*Stichting Platform Werelderfgoed Nederland*)

The Netherlands World Heritage Platform (Stichting Platform Werelderfgoed Nederland) – in which the property managers of the Netherlands World Heritage sites act as one body at management and administrative level (National Office), authorised accordingly by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science – develops and implements a programme for knowledge transfer, information and education in order to expand public awareness and support for the World Heritage site.

The chairman of the Amsterdam Central District (if the site is added by the World Heritage Committee to the list of World Heritage sites), as property manager of 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals', will sit in this Platform and participate in the development and deployment of the programme for knowledge transfer, information and education. The coordinator of the Amsterdam World Heritage Office forms part of the Foundation's National's Office.

4.5 Relation between the Amsterdam Urban Development Board, the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency and the property

4.5.1 Introduction

The Amsterdam Urban Development Board and the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency are independent bodies that advise the district councils and the city council on urban planning and urban aesthetics and monuments.

4.5.2 Amsterdam Urban Development Board⁵⁹

Under Article 84 of the Municipalities Act, the Board is an advisory committee in the field of urban planning on behalf of the College of Mayor and Aldermen (city executive) as well as the city council.⁶⁰

The tasks of the Board are:

- The Board advises the municipal executive, the city council and the district councils at their request or on its own initiative on policy with respect to urban planning in Amsterdam.
- The Board also advises on policy in the field of urban planning in the areas surrounding Amsterdam, insofar as the policy of other city councils and other managing bodies may affect urban planning in Amsterdam.
- By holding expert meetings and symposia and by means of publications and using all other resources the Board deems necessary to achieve this goal, the Board promotes a forum for ideas in the field of urban planning.

The responsibilities and powers of the Board are set out in the *2006 Amsterdam Urban Development Board bylaw (Verordening op de Amsterdamse Raad voor de Stadsontwikkeling 2006)*.

Objectives

The Amsterdam Urban Development Board (ARS) is an independent advisory body of the City of Amsterdam and gives (solicited and unsolicited) urban planning recommendations to the city council and the various district councils. The recommendations concern such issues

⁵⁹ link: Amsterdam Urban Development Board, www.ars-amsterdam.nl

⁶⁰ Amsterdam Urban Development Board bylaw 2006, Article 2 and 3, page 1

as: urban design, urban planning, cultural and natural heritage, economy, public housing, traffic & transport and public spaces.

Organisation

Since its foundation in 1957, ARS has evolved into a versatile and diversified Board entrusted with the task of giving solicited and unsolicited advice on policy-making in the field of urban planning to Amsterdam's city council and district councils on the basis of its independent expertise and comprehensive insight. The board comprises independent experts who disinterestedly make their knowledge, experience, creativity and a wider vision of the city and its bottlenecks available.

Programme

The ARS takes action in the event of significant spatial developments at urban and regional level should modifications or social tendencies be identified that have a structural impact on that development or if (the preservation of) the quality and the cultural and historical heritage are at stake or the organisation and management in general require that a standpoint be taken. The ARS receives requests for advice from the city council and district councils. The ARS also issues recommendations on the basis of its own agenda.

4.5.3 Amsterdam Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency⁶¹

Under Article 84 of the Municipalities Act, the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency is an advisory body in the field of urban aesthetics and built heritage.

Objectives

The Amsterdam Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency is an independent agency that issues recommendations to the city council and the district councils on matters relating to aesthetics and monuments.

Organisation

The Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency is an independent advisory body established on the grounds of the Housing Act and the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act. The Agency is appointed by the City of Amsterdam on consultation with the districts and is made up of independent experts in the field of urban development, architecture, architectural history and the visual arts. The Agency's secretariat activities are carried out by the Building Aesthetics Office.

Programme

The Agency advises on matters relating to urban aesthetics and historic buildings in the context of the Housing Act, the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act, the Built Heritage Regulations and the Building Regulations. In assessing plans, the Agency departs from the policy document on building aesthetics agreed by the district councils, from the historic buildings policy (the *Programme of Requirements for the Quality of Built Heritage*, among others) agreed and from the fixed urban planning policy (among others, zoning plans) agreed.

The tasks, objectives and procedures of the Building Aesthetics and Historic Buildings Agency are described in detail in paragraph 5.1.3.

⁶¹ Link: Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency, www.welstand.amsterdam.nl

Both advisory bodies are independent bodies advising the municipal executive, the city council and the district councils. Their recommendations are based on the policy relating to urban planning, urban aesthetics and historic buildings agreed at administrative level.

Key point 8:

The Central Amsterdam District and Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology ensure that the Amsterdam Urban Development Board and the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency are kept informed of the outstanding universal value and the authenticity and integrity of the World Heritage site 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals with the Singelgracht', such that the Board and the Agency systematically include these aspects in their recommendations.

Municipalities Act (1992)

Article 84

- 6) The Board, the municipal executive or the Mayor may appoint other agencies than referred to in Article 82, first section, and Article 83, first section.
- 7) Article 83, second section, is correspondingly applicable to another agency, with the exception of an agency that is appointed to advise on issuing decisions to notices of objection submitted and an agency charged with settling and advising on complaints.
- 8) The Board, the municipal executive, respectively the Mayor, ensures that the meetings of any another agency appointed by them are open to the public.
- 9) Article 139, second section, and Articles 140 and 141 correspondingly apply to a decision to appoint another agency.

4.6 Assuring tasks and responsibilities at different levels

Assurance described

The assurance of the primary tasks and responsibilities for the protection, conservation and the management of the property and the designated buffer zone is described in the management plan and its constituent operational plan and action plan.

Assurance agreed

The assurance of the primary tasks and responsibilities for the protection, conservation and the management of the property and the designated buffer zone is agreed in the administratively recorded management plan and in the Covenant between the Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam on the site ownership and the Covenant between the joint responsible authorities: Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam and the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board.

4.7 Avoiding undesirable developments

In the description of the tasks of the World Heritage Office to be established, the procedures and impact strategy will be worked out in detail to ensure that (possibly) conflicting plans, developments and projects are brought into compliance with the World Heritage values, as indicated in the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (see par. 116, Operational Guidelines).

Key point 9:

The assignment given to the coordinator of the World Heritage Office includes the task of ensuring that procedures and strategies to avoid undesirable developments and the risk of affecting the outstanding universal value will be worked out in detail. These procedures and strategies will be communicated to the World Heritage Committee by the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM) so that they may be assessed by ICOMOS in evaluating the nomination dossier, as procedurally provided for in the Operational Guidelines.

4.8 Calamities

4.8.1 Introduction

This paragraph describes the security measures that have been taken in Amsterdam to avoid calamities and in the event of disasters and calamities, the measures to restrict the resulting impact on the population and the physical surroundings. This section also looks at how the responsibilities are divided and which measures have been taken for crisis management.

4.8.2 Current measures

The management plan contains a description of the current measures to be taken in the event of calamities (Operational Guidelines, par. 118).

4.8.3 Crisis management

Physical Safety Manual

The City of Amsterdam, together with the Public Prosecutor and the Amsterdam-Amstelland Police, compiled the *Physical Safety Manual*⁶². This manual describes the policy, the organisation and the liability for a safe Amsterdam and the modus operandi in the event of crisis management.

Mayor is ultimately responsible

By virtue of Articles 170 and 172 of the Municipalities Act, the Mayor is ultimately responsible for physical safety in the City of Amsterdam. The Public Order and Safety Inspectorate (POS Inspectorate) of the Civil Service of the City of Amsterdam supports the Mayor in fulfilling this responsibility.

Responsibility of District councils

By virtue of the Districts bylaw, the city executive transferred all powers to the districts, with the exception of the powers described in List A of the bylaw and those referred to in List E of the bylaw, in which the districts solely have a management task. This means that the chairmen of district councils and the portfolio holders of the districts also bear administrative responsibility for physical safety in the area of calamity management, building safety, fire safety, external safety of developments in the districts and safety in public areas.

Responsibility in the event of disaster

⁶² Link: Physical Safety Manual: <http://fysiekeveiligheid.eenveiligamsterdam.nl>

In compliance with the Disaster and Serious Accident Response Act, the City of Amsterdam has drawn up a disaster response plan, which will take effect if the Mayor declares an incident to be a disaster. Districts have access to a district disaster response plan, which is aligned to the *Amsterdam Disaster Response Act*.

Responsibility in the event of a calamity

The district council is responsible for management in the event of a calamity, in other words, an incident that is perceived as extremely serious but which has not been declared a disaster by the Mayor. In the event of a calamity, the procedures under the calamities response plan of the district will be put into effect. The district's crisis team will be in charge.

j)

Responsibility for physical safety

According to Article 28 of the Districts bylaw, the city council, the College of the Mayor and Aldermen (municipal executive) and the Mayor have transferred all powers to the district council, the executive (committee), and the chairman of the district council, respectively. However, the following powers, which relate to physical safety, continue to be exercised by the city council:

- Determination of the Building Regulations;
- Issuing guidelines with respect to zoning plans;
- The implementation of legislation with respect to the transport of hazardous substances by water;
- Issuing permits in the context of the Environmental Management Act, whereby powers have been delegated to the City of Amsterdam by the Provincial Executive of the Province of North Holland;
- Public order and safety: maintaining public order, police assistance and fire-fighting;
- Implementation of the relevant general municipal bylaws (*Algemene Plaatselijke Verordening, APV*) including permits for the delivery and storage of fireworks.

4.8.4 Organisation and responsibility in the Security Region

Amsterdam-Amstelland Security Region

As of 1 January 2008, the Amsterdam-Amstelland Security Region, a partnership in the field of crisis management, was established for the purpose of coordination. Partners in the Amsterdam-Amstelland Security Region are the fire department, police, Medical aid during Accidents and Disasters, the Public Prosecutor and the municipalities of Aalsmeer, Amstelveen, Amsterdam, Diemen, Ouder-Amstel and Uithoorn. Together, the Mayors of these six municipalities form the Security Board. The Mayor of Amsterdam is chairman of the Security Board.

Security Office

For the purposes of coordinating the multidisciplinary and regional cooperation, a Security Office was established as of 1 January 2008. On the one hand, the Security Office has regional advisory and support tasks on behalf of the Security Board and on the other, it advises the Mayor of Amsterdam with respect to integral crisis management.

4.8.5 Hazardous substances⁶³

Transport by water of hazardous substances

⁶³ Water on course, page. 20

The harbour master is one of the institutes authorised (by mandate) by the Minister of Transport, Public Works and Water Management with respect to the transport of hazardous substances by water. Transport of hazardous substances, including kerosene, takes place in the harbour of Amsterdam, over the IJ River and on the direct shipping route East (via the Amstel and the Nieuwe Herengracht) and West (via the Kostverlorenvaart). This shipping route is the alternative when transport of kerosene through the pipeline is (temporarily) impossible.

For reasons of environmental safety, the fairway in the harbour is surrounded by a nautical security zone. This is a stretch of 15 metres in which ships may navigate, but where no permanent residential construction (edifice, moored vessel) is permitted.

The harbour master must be notified in advance of the transport of hazardous substances. If transport takes place by inland waterways, the harbour master will consult with the nautical waterway managing body, Amsterdam Inland Waterways Board, on the opening of bridges, such that the transporting vessel can navigate through the city's waterways.

4.8.6 Fire prevention through building conditions

In 2005, the City of Amsterdam started structuring the division of tasks between the Amsterdam Fire Department and the Building and Housing Departments (BWT) of the districts:

- On the basis of the statutory provisions, the BWT inspectors themselves carry out the fire safety tests on simple requests for permits. The recommendations given by the Amsterdam Fire Department are invalid. However, in all cases (also simple ones) the Amsterdam Fire Department must have access to the current fire safety information on constructions. The districts inform the Amsterdam Fire Department on the advice issued on decisions with respect to granting permits to the extent in which fire safety was included in mandatory recommendations;
- The Amsterdam Fire Department remains charged with advising on complex cases by means of mandatory recommendations specifying the technical details of fire prevention.

k) The details of this change in the divisions of tasks between the Amsterdam Fire Department and the districts will be worked out by these parties. The agreements to be made in this regard must as yet be set out in writing.

4.8.7 Rules and Regulations

The rules and regulations in Amsterdam⁶⁴ for the purpose of physical safety are based on some forty national laws, decrees, regulations and circulars concerning physical safety. There are, in addition, regulations for the specific situation in Amsterdam; these regulations have been included in ten documents:

- Directive on routes for transport of hazardous substances - gives an overview of the relevant transport routes;
- General municipal bylaw - regulates the mandates of the Mayor's powers;
- Amsterdam Integral Security Guidelines - regulates internal safety in underground tram and metro systems;
- Policy document concerning the transport of hazardous substances in Amsterdam-Noord - identifies responsibilities, rules and agreements with respect to transport and storage of hazardous substances and fireworks that are unclear;

⁶⁴ www.fysiekeveiligheid.eenveiligamsterdam.nl

- Building regulations -
provide further clarity on the requirements under the Housing Act and the related 2003 Buildings Decree;
- Fire Department bylaw -
regulates the activities to prevent, restrict and fight fire, the restriction of fire hazards as well as the prevention and restriction of accidents involving fire and taking action in the event of calamities;
- Collective regulation GHOR Agglomeration Amsterdam -
regulates medical aid in the event of accidents and disasters;
- Central Transport Commission Guidelines -
regulates the task of the Central Transport Commission, which provides solicited and unsolicited recommendations on modifications to the main traffic networks;
- 1995 Harbour and Inland Waterways bylaw -
regulates the use and management of the public waterways;
- Districts bylaw -
regulates the division of powers between the City of Amsterdam and its districts.

Key point 9 (herhaling)

The assignment given to the coordinator of the World Heritage Office includes the provision that the procedures and strategies to avoid undesirable developments and the risk of affecting the outstanding universal value will be worked out in detail. These procedures and strategies will be communicated to the World Heritage Committee by the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM) so that they may be assessed by ICOMOS in evaluating the nomination dossier, as procedurally provided for in the Operational Guidelines.

Key point 10:

The division of tasks between the Amsterdam Fire Department and Building and Housing department of the Central Amsterdam District with respect to requests for building permits will be added as soon as possible by the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage to the nomination dossier to be submitted.

Chapter 5: Built heritage conservation policy and agreements regarding the management, preservation and maintenance of the site

The 17th-century ring of canals is located within the conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal'. This chapter examines its designation as a conservation area and the international, national and municipal guidelines for the protection of the cultural heritage in urban landscapes, as defined in charters, legislation and regulations. This chapter also discusses factors that could have a negative effect on the property and the ways in which the preservation and protection of the property can be guaranteed by anticipating and incorporating these factors in planning and procedures.

5.1 Conservation in the site, the buffer zone and metropolitan projects

5.1.1 Conservation of the property and the buffer zone

Introduction

The protection of the property and the buffer zone of the World Heritage site fall within the urban landscape of 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal', which was designated as a conservation area in 1999. The historical urban structure and spatial qualities are primary considerations when considering further developments in a conservation area. This section firstly describes two internationally ratified charters that deal with the preservation of the character of the monumental urban environment. The legal possibilities relating to the designation of conservation areas are also described, as is the designation in 1999 of 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal' as a conservation area. Lastly, this section discusses the Amsterdam city council's policy regarding the conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal'.

International obligations

Two internationally ratified charters call for more attention to the ways in which the characteristic areas surrounding monuments are preserved by means of spatial planning policy; this also applies to new developments in urban areas. The first charter is the most important charter for the World Heritage site.

*The Venice Charter*⁶⁵

International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (Venice, 1964)

ICOMOS *Charter* – approved by the ICOMOS General Assembly

The Venice Charter contains the basic principles regarding the conservation and restoration of heritage sites and especially of monumental buildings. The essence of the Charter is that a heritage site is permanently conserved to ensure that it fulfils a social purpose. The Venice Charter was framed by ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites), an advisory body (NGO) to UNESCO. UNESCO has adopted the Venice Charter as a key reference on matters of World Heritage. This *Charter* prescribes that particular attention

⁶⁵ Link: International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (The Venice Charter), http://www.icomos.org/venice_charter.html

should be given to the maintenance of characteristic features – the *genius loci* – the monument's distinctive environment.

*The Washington Charter*⁶⁶

Charter on the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas (Washington, 1987)

ICOMOS *Charter* – approved by the ICOMOS General Assembly

The *Washington Charter* provides guidelines for the preservation of historic towns and urban areas. It stresses the importance of urban planning policy as an integral component of future social, economic and spatial developments in historic urban areas.

The *Charter* focuses on conserving the historic character of urban monuments, both tangible and intangible, both in design as well as structure, in terms of architecture, scale, size, and the use of colour and materials. New functions and developments must harmonise with the character of historic towns and cities.

Conservation policy regarding the property and the buffer zone

A legal device in the Netherlands to protect the characteristic features of a monumental environment in a city or village is its designation as a protected conservation area based on the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act of 1988 (*Monumentenwet*, hereafter, Monuments Act). 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal' was designated as a conservation area in 1999. Since then, the prevailing policy of the tailored zoning plans relating to the conservation of buildings, public space and the urban development structure within the conservation area of 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal', has also applied to the property 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals' and its buffer zone, both of which are located inside the conservation area.

Conservation areas

Designation

The Monuments Act has specified the designation of conservation areas since 1961. The Monuments Act of 1988 defines urban and village conservation areas as follows:

Article 1, Clause f:

'Groups of real estate that are of general interest because of their aesthetic appearance, their mutual spatial or structural cohesiveness, or their scientific and/or cultural-historical value and in which groups one or more monuments occur.

The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (*Ministerie van Onderwijs, Cultuur en Wetenschap*, OCW) and the Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment (*Ministerie van Volkshuisvesting, Ruimtelijke Ordening en Milieubeheer*, VROM) are authorised by Article 1, Clause g, of the Monuments Act of 1988 to designate conservation areas on behalf of the government. Article 35 of the Monuments Act specifies that city councils or district councils, the Netherlands Council for Culture (*Raad voor Cultuur*), the Provincial Executive (*Gedeputeerde Staten*), and the National Spatial Planning Agency (*Rijksplanologische Commissie*) should have an advisory role. In addition to protected views designated by the authority of the government, municipalities can also designate protected views. The city council or the district council are authorised to designate a municipal view.

⁶⁶ Link: Charter on the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas, www.international.icomos.org/charters/towns_e.htm

The purpose of designating a protected view is to ensure that future spatial and societal developments within the area do not threaten characteristics relating to historical development and the urban planning of the area. To that end, Article 36 of the Monuments Act obliges municipalities to specify zoning plans relating to the preservation of a conservation area, and Article 37 stipulates stricter requirements that have to be met before a demolition permit is issued.

Conservation areas form a spatial and architectonic whole that is deemed to be of historic value and of general importance. According to government policy the protection of conservation areas should be based on 'preservation through development' and not on preserving an unchanging city or village. This is emphasised in the explanatory notes to the law: new developments should not affect the function of the protected view.

Conservation zoning plan

To preserve a protected view the city council must develop a zoning plan relating to conservation in accordance with the Spatial Planning Act (*Wet op de Ruimtelijke Ordening*; WRO). In addition, the spatial structure and zoning must be specified as accurately as possible. There are no compulsory instructions regarding how this should be achieved.

The obligation to apply for a permit

In a zoning plan relating to conservation, the conservation area is indicated on a detailed map, and specific zoning and operating instructions are proposed. For an owner of real estate this means meeting more stringent demands when applying for a building or demolition permit. The Housing Act (*Woningwet*) of 2002 specifies that any renovations to any of the buildings in a conservation area require official permission. Even buildings that are not protected monuments that are located within the conservation area cannot be altered or demolished without a permit, nor can they deviate from the provisions of the permit.

Demolition permits

Municipal building regulations require that 'a demolition permit must be refused if the intended demolition will have a deleterious effect on the protected conservation area'. The municipal Building Aesthetics Agency (*Welstandscommissie*) evaluates the plans.

Construction permits

Every building or zoning plan relating to an officially protected area requires a construction permit. The municipality evaluates the application for a building permit and has to ensure that the work is undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the permit. The Aesthetic Appearance Document (*Welstandsnota*) provides the opportunity to closely define the criteria for the issuing of building permits. No structure in a conservation area can be demolished without a demolition permit.

Spatial planning

With regard to the public space, municipal regulations define the rules for the profiling of streets, squares and wharfs, views, the types of plants or trees that are introduced, the paving, street furniture and suchlike, with the intention of also preserving the character of the protected site by means of the municipal planning policy apparatus.

Designation of the conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal'

'Considering

that the city centre of Amsterdam still reflects the history of its development and consists primarily of historically significant buildings;

that the visual appearance and the structure of the built-up area are cohesive and valuable;

that the area is of general importance because of its aesthetic appearance and its spatial and structural coherence'.⁶⁷

The conservation area

The protection of the conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal' emphasises the intact historical-spatial structure as well as the all-important historically valuable visual appearance of the historic town centre. The Singelgracht canal was selected as the western boundary of the conservation area, because this forms an important cut-off point from a historical-spatial perspective.

On the IJ-side the conservation area is bordered by the IJ itself, except in those places where historical urban expansion around the IJ has significantly altered the visual appearance of the built-up area. The boundary of the conservation area runs from the Singelgracht canal, via the railway lines, the Eilandsgracht (around the islands: Prinseneiland, Realeneiland and Bickerseiland) and the Westerdokskade, and ends at the IJ. The eastern border runs directly behind the buildings along the canals, the Kattenburgergracht, Wittenburgergracht and Oostenburgergracht, round the back of the Maritime Museum (*Scheepvaartmuseum*) along the Oosterdok, and ends at the IJ. Most of the Eastern Island (*Oostelijke Eilanden*) thus falls outside the conservation area.

Map of the boundaries of the conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal'



Conservation area
District boundary

Map 1

The boundaries of the conservation area

⁶⁷ Decree on the Conservation Area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' (*Besluit aanwijzing beschermd stadsgezicht 'Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht'*), 29 January 1999.

Legal consequences resulting from the designation

Three important legal consequences arise from the designation of a conservation area:

- no permit-free construction;
- building permits and demolition permits must be granted before any building is altered, renovated or demolished;
- the municipality must formulate adequate zoning plans relating to conservation.

The most important legal consequence resulting from the designation of a conservation area is the obligation to specify a zoning plan relating to conservation in accordance with the *Spatial Planning Act* and the *Monuments Act (Ruimtelijke Ordening and the Monumentenwet)* of 1988. The Explanatory Notes serve as a basis for the prioritisation of the designation of a conservation area.

At the time of its designation in 1999 the existing zoning plans were regarded as the legal framework, with the exception of the following: the zoning plan 'Nieuwendijk–Kalverstraat and environs' (12-11-1986), the environmental regulation 'Utrechtsestraat–Amstel' (19-4-1995) and the environmental regulation 'Rembrandtplein and environs' (5-10-1988); a period of three years was proposed for the adoption of a zoning plan for the area 'Binnengasthuisterrein'.

The zoning plans for the conservation area are extensively described in Chapter 4 of the *Heritage Site Document '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' (Gebiedsdocument 'de zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht')* of 2007. The legal framework of the zoning plans relating to conservation is discussed in Section 4.1. The structure of the zoning plans relating to conservation, as specified by the Amsterdam municipality since the designation of 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal' as a conservation area, is described in Section 4.2. An overview of existing zoning plans is included in Section 4.3, and the content of these zoning plans is discussed in Section 4.4.

Amsterdam's policy on the 'conservation area'

Zoning plans relating to conservation

The designation of 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal' as a conservation area has led to the inclusion of regulations in the revised zoning plans for the city centre that focus on preserving and improving the historical-spatial structure as well as the historically important buildings. Following the date of designation as a conservation area, the revised zoning plans were completed in 2005.

The ways in which Central Amsterdam and the City of Amsterdam deal with the compulsory periodic revision of zoning plans is detailed in Section 5.10.

Classification Map of the Conservation Area

A classification map is compiled of each development zone. All the structures in the area are appraised and ranked according to their significance to the conservation area on the classification map. The classification map and regulations relating to each category form part of the revised zoning plan. The classification map specifies three categories:

- Category 1 – Appraisal: National and municipal monuments.

- Category 2 – Appraisal: Structures built before 1940, which, because of their impressive architectural qualities, their place in the urban structure and/or important features on their facades, are important contributions to the conservation area.
- Category 3 – Appraisal: Structures of varying quality built before 1940, which match the facade because of their scale and architectural features, but which do not have architectural or spatial planning value.

Buildings in category 1 are subject to the basic principles of the Monuments Act, the municipal Built Heritage Regulations (*Monumentenverordening*) and the Housing Act: besides requiring a building permit, any changes to built heritage also require a monument permit.

The basic approach for buildings in category 2 is preservation: insofar as possible, renovation has to focus on restoration of the facade and the roof. Original architectural features should be retained and, if necessary, restored. In these instances, the use of non-authentic materials is permitted, as long as these exactly replicate the original shape, colour and architectural features.

The basic principle for buildings in category 3 is preserving and renovating the original visual features. In this instance, changes in material and to architectural features, and customization are permitted, as long as these do not interfere with the original character of the structure.

The *Policy Document Classification Map of the Conservation Area (Beleidsnota Waarderingskaart Beschermd Stadsgezicht)* of 2000 includes detailed building regulations for the evaluation of building plans for structures falling into categories 2 and 3 on the classification map. Moreover, the policy document defines the specific building requirements for structures constructed after 1940 as well as for new construction projects.

The *Policy Document Classification Map of the Conservation Area (Beleidsnota Waarderingskaart Beschermd Stadsgezicht)* of 2000 includes detailed building regulations for the evaluation of building plans for structures falling into categories 2 and 3 on the classification map. Moreover, the policy document defines the specific building requirements for structures constructed after 1940 as well as for new construction projects.

Long-Term Vision on Culture 2015 (*Langetermijnvisie Cultuur 2015*) and the Cultural Policy Document for the City Centre 2006 (*Cultuurnota Binnenstad 2006*)

The policy documents of Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam mention 'maintaining and presenting cultural heritage' as one of the five core issues of the policy. In summary, both documents state the following regarding the importance of the preservation of cultural history in the conservation area:

The protection and conservation of the monumental city centre, including the 17th-century ring of canals, the archaeological heritage and the collections preserved in museums require constant attention. Cultural history is a reflection of the history of Amsterdam; the memories of the city play a unifying and inspiring role in the urban identity of residents of Amsterdam and tourists.

Strictly speaking, the preservation of cultural heritage refers to buildings and collections. A wider understanding would include conservation and collecting so that the cultural-historical and scientific value is presented to the wider public.

The 17th-century ring of canals in the city centre of Amsterdam will be nominated in the near future for inscription on UNESCO's World Heritage List. This creates new opportunities.

Key point 11:

Central Amsterdam District and Amsterdam city council consider the preservation and presentation of cultural assets as a core issue of their policy. In consultation with the stakeholders they have developed a cultural policy strategy of optimising the focus on tangible preservation as well as on intangible presentation. The World Heritage site '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' presents an exceptional opportunity to broaden awareness of and support for tangible and intangible values of the site within cultural policy.

In addition, the promotion of the Central Amsterdam District as the bearer of the cultural identity of Amsterdam is a core cultural policy issue formulated by the Executive Committee of the Central Amsterdam district.⁶⁸

The Central Amsterdam district takes care of cultural identity by means of, among others, building aesthetics policy, the conservation and restoration policy, as described in the *Quantifiable Policy Programme for Central Amsterdam District 2006-2010 (Meetbaar Programakkoord Stadsdeel Centrum 2006-2010)*,⁶⁹ and the municipal monuments policy in Central Amsterdam; nearly 90% of Amsterdam's national and municipal monuments are located in the Central Amsterdam district.

Furthermore, the Executive Committee has formulated the following policy proposals:

'The Executive Committee shall ensure that this cultural heritage, which is accessible to all, is well maintained and, where possible, that it can be expanded insofar as the budget of a district council permits.

This is an exceptional responsibility for a district council. After all, the site is one of the most beautiful and best-preserved European urban centres. This means that we not only impose strict requirements regarding any alterations to structures, but are also reticent when it comes to permitting extensions or additions such as advertising' (Aesthetic Appearance Document 2006).

The conservation and restoration of cultural heritage is also specified in the Aesthetic Appearance Document and the Conservation and Restoration Policy (*Beleid voor Behoud en Herstel*), and by inscribing buildings on the Municipal Monuments List (*Gemeentelijke Monumentenlijst*).⁷⁰

⁶⁸ Cultural Policy City Centre (*Cultuurbeleid Binnenstad*) 2006, p. 15

⁶⁹ Quantifiable Policy Programme for Central Amsterdam District, Construction, Housing and Urban Development Programme (*Meetbaar Programakkoord stadsdeel Centrum, Programma Bouwen Wonen en Stedelijke Ontwikkeling*), p. 22

⁷⁰ Cultural Policy City Centre (*Cultuurbeleid Binnenstad*) 2006, p. 15

Key point 12:

To preserve and present this cultural heritage, and thereby contribute to the preservation of outstanding universal value and the authenticity and integrity of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as a World Heritage site, the Central Amsterdam district monitors and evaluates the required activities for the preservation of the tangible and intangible aspects of the site.

5.1.2 Monuments policy

The provisions of the Monuments Act of 1988 apply to the protection of national monuments, archaeological monuments and government-designated conservation areas. Regulations pertaining to the protection of municipal monuments are included in the Amsterdam Built Heritage Regulations 2005 (*Monumentenverordening Amsterdam 2005*), which apply to built heritage in metropolitan areas, and in the Amsterdam Built Heritage Regulations 2005 which apply to the territory of the district. The Heritage Regulation (*Erfgoedverordening*) currently being drafted is expected to replace the Built Heritage Regulations in 2009.

The Monuments Act of 1988

Designation as a national monument

Based on the Monuments Act of 1988, the Minister Education, Culture and Science can designate immovable monuments as built heritage.

The Monuments Act defines a monument as follows: 'all structures that are at least fifty years old which are of general importance because of their aesthetic appearance, their scientific significance or their cultural-historical value'. An object that conforms to these criteria is only considered as built heritage after it has been included in the Built Heritage Register (*Monumentenregister*). The National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (*Rijksdienst voor Archeologie, Cultuurlandschap and Monumenten*; RACM) administers the Built Heritage Register.

Permit requirements

The following applies to national built heritage:

'Article 11

- .1. Damaging or destroying built heritage is forbidden.
- .2. The following activities may not be undertaken without a permit:
 - a. demolishing, spoiling, moving or in any way altering built heritage;
 - b. restoring and using or allowing built heritage to be used in such a way that it becomes an eyesore or is jeopardised.'

Building- and monument permits

Before any work can be undertaken on a national monument, a building permit and a monument permit are required. These can be requested from the Central Amsterdam district, Construction and Housing Department (*Bouwen & Wonen*) (an information folder is available for permit applicants; the information and accompanying forms are available in digital form at www.centrum.amsterdam.nl/smartsite: Permits and civic affairs – Construction and Housing Department: Monument Permits).

Application procedure for a national monument permit

Applying for a monument permit for a national monument involves a number of stages and proceeds according to the *Outline of Permit Procedures for National Monuments (Schema Vergunningsprocedure Rijksmonumenten*; see the following page). The district council processes the application according to a set procedure that is described in the *Process Description Permits (Procesbeschrijving vergunningen)*, which is part of the *Covenant Between Central Amsterdam District and the Amsterdam City Council Relating to Built Heritage Conservation and Archaeology (Convenant op het gebied van monumentenzorg en archeologie tussen stadsdeel Amsterdam Centrum en het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam)* (for more information, see the subsection Built heritage conservation and archaeology operational plan and covenant). Note: the government's present duty to advise on national monuments will change into an advisory right in the near future (see the following subsection).

Limitations of the advisory duty for national monuments

At the suggestion of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (*Ministerie van Onderwijs, Cultuur en Wetenschappen*), Article 16 of the Monuments Act will be amended on 1 January 2009, changing the government's duty to advise regarding an application for a monument permit into having the authority to advise. After 1 January 2009, municipalities will only have to consult the government regarding the proposed demolition of built heritage, the renovation of built heritage and the allocation of a new function to built heritage. Municipalities have to ask the government for advice in all other cases.

Built Heritage Regulations

Designation of a municipal monument

In addition to national monuments, provincial administrations and municipalities can also designate provincial and municipal monuments respectively. These are monuments of regional or local importance, which are not subject to the 50-year rule, and which are of general importance because of their aesthetic appearance, their scientific significance, or their cultural-historical value. Immovable monuments, which are designated on the basis of the municipal built heritage regulations, are registered in the Municipal Monuments List.

Permit requirements

The *Built Heritage Regulations of the Central Amsterdam District (Monumenten-verordening stadsdeel Amsterdam-Centrum)* of 2005 apply to the Central Amsterdam district. The ramifications for municipal monuments include:

'Article 9; Prohibition Clause:

Damaging or destroying a protected municipal monument is forbidden.

Article 10; Permit:

The following are forbidden from taking place without or in contravention to a permit issued by the Executive Committee, or if they conflict with the regulations attached to the permit:

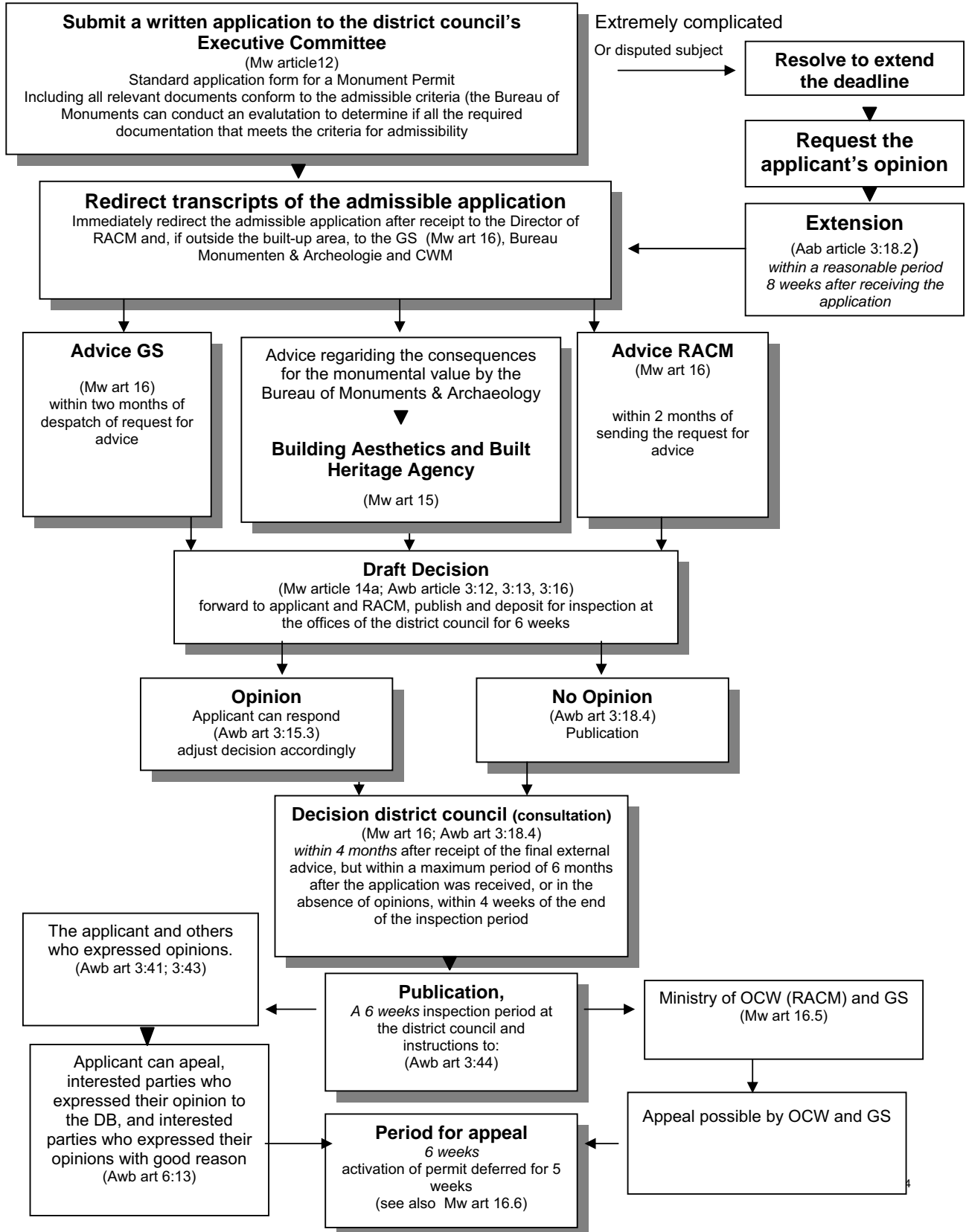
- a. demolishing, interfering with, moving or in any way altering a protected municipal monument;
- b. restoring, and using or allowing built heritage to be used in such a way that it becomes an eyesore or is jeopardised.'

Table of Permit Procedures for National Monuments Monuments Act 1988 effective from 1 juli 2005

Permits granting renovation, alterations, demolition or removal of national monuments
This table is a reference guide only; no rights can be derived from it)

For autohorised district councils with a monument regulation an a monuments commission (Mw, article 16)

Preliminary consultation with Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology based on a skeleton plan is recommended and is expedited by the following procedure



Building- and monument permits

A building permit and a monument permit must be granted before any work can be undertaken on a municipal monument. These can be requested from the Central Amsterdam district, Construction and Housing Department (an information folder is available for permit-applicants; the information and accompanying forms are available in digital form at www.centrum.amsterdam.nl/smartsite: Permits and civic affairs - Construction and Housing Department: Monument Permits). The monument permit specifies the alterations the applicant may make to the monument. In the eventuality of the work taking place in the absence of, or in conflict with, a building- and/or monument permit, the Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam can oblige the infringer to dismantle all the work that has taken place, impose a penalty and/or in the case of irreparable damage, report it to the Public Prosecutor (*Openbaar Ministerie*, OM) who can impose a fine or imprisonment. The Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam is responsible for monitoring the quality of municipal monuments in the district as well as the quality of the conservation area.

Agreement regarding built heritage conservation and archaeology

The Central Amsterdam district and Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology (*Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie*; BMA) of the Amsterdam municipality cooperate in several different ways in the conservation of monuments and archaeology. This interaction is described in five procedures, which are authorised by an agreement between Central Amsterdam district and the BMA that was ratified on 14 October 2008.

The Covenant Between Central Amsterdam District and the Amsterdam City Council Relating to Built Heritage Conservation and Archaeology will be finalised soon.

This agreement (and four associated operational plans) replaces the previous agreement pertaining to built heritage conservation that was ratified in 2000. As a result of the implementation of the Malta Convention and the associated amendments to the Monuments Act as of 1 September 2007 regarding the soil archive, a process description for archaeology was included in the new agreement.

The basic principles of the Covenant are:

- the regulation affecting district councils, in particular the sections that regulate the designation of tasks and responsibilities in the areas of built heritage conservation and archaeology between the district councils and the BMA;
- five procedures, which define the operating procedures and division of tasks between Central Amsterdam district and the BMA:
 - Protection Procedures
 - Permit Procedures
 - Subsidy and financing procedures, decentralised authority
 - Subsidy and financing procedures, centralised authority
 - Archaeology procedures
 - 'Space for history', *Policy Document Monuments and Archaeology Amsterdam 2005-2010* ('Ruimte voor geschiedenis', *Beleidsnota Monumenten en Archeologie Amsterdam 2005-2010*), enacted by the municipal council on 13 April 2005.

Key point 13:

The Central Amsterdam district and the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology signed the Covenant Between Central Amsterdam District and the Amsterdam City

Council Relating to Built Heritage Conservation and Archaeology, including the related procedures (protection; permits; subsidies and funding, decentralised authority; subsidies and funding, centralised authority; archaeology), so that these can be included as an appendix to the nomination dossier for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.

Key point 14:

If the adoption and introduction of the proposed Heritage Regulation result in changes to the Covenant and/or the associated processes, the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology will amend the Covenant and/or the procedures to ensure that a revised appendix is included in the nomination dossier for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.

Policy document Monuments and Archaeology

The city council enacted the 'Space for History', *Policy Document Monuments and Archaeology Amsterdam 2005-2010* ('Ruimte voor geschiedenis', *beleidsnota Monumenten en Archeologie 2005-2010*) on 13 April 2005. The main topics in this document are:

- One cultural-historical policy for the whole city;
- More focus on the spatial context of monuments and the soil archive;
- Intensification of the cooperation with the district councils;
- More methodical maintenance of monuments, resulting in less restoration work;
- Systematic archaeological supervision of spatial- and building plans;
- More focus on the accumulation of information and the transfer of knowledge to increase the awareness of cultural history among all residents of Amsterdam.

This document has resulted in: a classification map of historical structures of Amsterdam's medieval city centre that was presented in 2008, the designation of newer monuments from the period 1850–1940, the preparation of archaeological policy maps, the establishment of an Amsterdam Restoration Fund (*Amsterdams Restauratiefonds*; ARF), and the development and implementation of educational projects. Some of these have been completed; some are still in development.

Key point 15:

The Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology and Central Amsterdam district will ensure that the products that have been finalised or are in preparation can be included as appendices to the nomination dossier for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.

Programme of Requirements for the Quality of Built Heritage (*Programma van Eisen Kwaliteit Monumenten*)

Supplementary to the Building Code (*Bouwbesluit*), Central Amsterdam has, in cooperation with the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology, established the policy regarding the quality of the developed area in the Programme of Requirements for the Quality of Built Heritage, enacted on 21 October 2003. This is a supplement to the Programme of Requirements for Structural Quality (*Programma van Eisen Bouwkundige Kwaliteit*) of 2003, which indicates the level of structural quality required by Central Amsterdam and serves as a guide when developing, assessing and executing restoration plans. The Programme of Requirements for the Quality of Built Heritage combines the areas requiring special attention from the Building and Housing Inspectorate (with an emphasis on structural safety) and those of the Bureau of

Monuments and Archaeology (with an emphasis on protecting historical building values) and renders these as guidelines for built heritage.

The guidelines in this programme are on the one hand intended as strategies for the execution of alterations or restoration works to built heritage, while on the other they are intended as concise guidelines to be consulted when developing and appraising plans for built heritage.

The Programme of Requirements for the Quality of Built Heritage of 2003 is based on two basic assumptions pertaining to present-day built heritage conservation: 'preservation before renovation' and 'respect the history of the building'. Meanwhile the Programme of Requirements for the Quality of Built Heritage of 2003 has been realised; the administrative decision-making process will commence in autumn 2008. Both programmes can be downloaded as PDF documents at www.centrum.amsterdam.nl/smartsite, Living and Housing – Renovations and restoration: The quality of the developed environment (*Wonen - Woningen - Renoveren en restaureren: Kwaliteit van de gebouwde omgeving*)

Measures regarding built heritage conservation

The Monuments Programme in the *Quantifiable Policy Programme for Central Amsterdam District 2006-2010* includes a summary of the measures⁷¹ that the district council will take to stimulate the conservation and restoration of municipal and national monuments in the conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal'. The intention is to tangibly improve the structural quality of these buildings. To that end the following five agreements were reached, which yielded the following results in 2006 and 2007:⁷²

- Completion of the Municipal Built Heritage Project (*Gemeentelijk Monumentenproject, GMP*) (914 buildings have been designated as municipal monuments);
- Limiting illegal alterations/demolitions through enforcement (the indicator is 150 cases per year; statistics have been kept from 2007);
- Summonses issued on the basis of poorly-maintained monuments (the indicators are 20 active summonses and 50 passive summonses per year; statistics have been kept from 2007);
- Criminal cases (the indicator is 2 or 3 registered cases at the Public Prosecutor; there were no registrations in 2007 because of insufficient serious cases);
- Subsidies per district (the indicator is 5 subsidies issued annually; in 2006 4 subsidies were granted, in 2007 financial aid was allocated to 2 buildings containing 8 subsidisable units).

For more information about the results of the Monuments Programme of the Central Amsterdam district, see the 2007 Annual Report of Central Amsterdam district (pages 105-108) at the end of this section.

Key point 16:

Central Amsterdam district ensures that the Monuments Programme in the Quantifiable Policy Programme for Central Amsterdam District 2006–2010, the annual Programme Budget of Central Amsterdam district and the Annual Report of Central Amsterdam district will be included as an appendix to the nomination dossier through the intermediation of the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and

⁷¹ *Quantifiable Policy Programme for Central Amsterdam District 2006-2010 (Meetbaar Programakkoord Stadsdeel Centrum 2006-2010)*, pp. 53/54

⁷² Annual Report 2007 District of Central Amsterdam, pp. 105/108

Built Heritage. In addition, after 2010 it will be included as a memorandum in the reports prepared for the World Heritage Committee. The result indicators are included in the development of the nomination format, 6a, 'Key indicators for controlling the state of conservation' and are subsequently used by Central Amsterdam district for their periodic reports to the World Heritage Committee.

Heritage Regulation

Amsterdam's city council is developing a municipal heritage regulation that will regulate the policy for the aboveground as well as the subterranean heritage. The district councils specify a heritage regulation for their respective districts. The municipal Built Heritage Regulation is being prepared by the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology, because the Built Heritage Regulations have to be revised in response to the adoption on 1 September 2007 of the Archaeological Built Heritage Conservation Act (*Wet op de archeologische monumentenzorg*; WAMz) and the anticipated adoption in 2010 of the Environmental Law (General Provisions) Act (*Wet algemene bepalingen omgevingsrecht*, Wabo). The Heritage Regulation combines the archaeological and built heritage conservation policies in a single regulation, and is expected to be adopted in June 2009.

The main points of the Amsterdam Built Heritage Regulation 2009 are:⁷³

- the designation of built heritage as municipal monuments;
- the permit system for built heritage;
- the involvement of the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency (*Commissie Welstand en Monumenten*) as an advisory body when granting a monument permit for national monuments;
- the designation of urban and village conservation areas as municipal urban and village conservation areas;
- requirements for research with regard to excavations;
- the provision that a rightful claimant has regarding a premises must permit that the premises can be accessed in the interests of archaeological research in accordance with a zoning plan or a project order.

The most important changes to the Amsterdam Built Heritage Regulations 2005 are:

- 1.1. the granting of a monument permit for municipal monuments and of a demolition permit in a municipal urban and village conservation area in anticipation of the implementation of the Environmental Law (General Provisions) Act (Articles 2.21 and 3.9): the decision-making process occurs according to a regular preparatory procedure and the criteria for granting permits is mentioned;
- 1.2. the period allowed for the granting or refusal of a monument permit is a legally prescribed period;
- 1.3. the requirement to conduct research in the event of excavations are included;
- 1.4. the provision has been included that a rightful claimant to a premises must allow the premises to be accessed in the interests of archaeological research in the framework of a zoning plan or a project proposal;
- 1.5. a regulation relating to municipal conservation areas has been included;
- 1.6. the compensation clause has been removed.

⁷³ Construction and Housing Department note relating to the the adoption of the Amsterdam Heritage Regulations 2009 (*B&W-flap t.b.v. vaststellen Erfgoedverordening Amsterdam 2009*); agenda item, Tuesday 30 September 2008.

Key point 17:

The Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology ensures that progress in the area of the Heritage Regulation is reported to the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage, so that a memorandum about this, as well as the Heritage Regulation, is included as an appendix to the nomination dossier through the intermediation of the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage.

The Notes to the Heritage Regulation includes the provision that if '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' is inscribed in the World Heritage List, the conservation and maintenance of the outstanding universal value, authenticity and integrity within the site are considered fundamental.

Overview of established policy

Municipal policy:

- 'Space for History', Policy Document Monuments and Archaeology Amsterdam 2005-2010 (City Council, 13 April 2005)
- Built Heritage Regulations 2005 (Council Ordinance, 22 December 2005)
- Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency Regulation (*Verordening Commissie Welstand en Monuments*) of 2005 (appointed by the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency as the advisory commission for the conservation of built heritage, Council Ordinance, 22 December 2005)

The policy of the Central Amsterdam district:

- Aesthetic Appearance Document of the Central Amsterdam District (*Welstandsnota stadsdeel Amsterdam-Centrum*) (District Council, 26 January 2006): This document includes a framework for the evaluation of the architectonic quality of building plans.
- The Designation of the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency as the Advisory Commission for Monuments (*Aanwijzen van de Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten als Adviescommissie Monumentenzorg*) (District Council, 26 January 2006): on 1 January 2006, the district council designated the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency as an advisory body with regard to monuments.
- Evaluation Quick Scan Procedure (*Evaluatie Quick Scan procedure*) (Executive Committee, 14 February 2006): The Quick Scan tool can be used to conduct an initial rapid inventorisation of potential values of built heritage, which is intended to designate an endangered building as a municipal monument in the short term.
- Manual of the Selection Criteria for Buildings and Ensembles for Inclusion in the Municipal Monuments List (*Handleiding voor de Selectiecriteria van gebouwen en ensembles voor de gemeentelijke monumentenlijst*) (Executive Committee, 19 June 2007): With this manual the Executive Committee has adopted the selection criteria for municipal monuments that were established by the City of Amsterdam in 1997.
- Memorandum Regarding the Demolition or Reconstruction of Category 2 Buildings (*Notitie Sloop herbouw van orde 2 panden*) (Executive Committee, 14 June 2005): This memorandum specifies the provisions that enable the demolition/reconstruction of a category 2 building.
- Evaluation of the Fast-track Procedure for Inclusion on the Municipal Monuments List (*Evaluatie spoedprocedure tot plaatsing op de gemeentelijke monumentenlijst*) (Executive Committee, 5 July 2005): The fast-track procedure is an alternative to legal temporary protector.
- Built Heritage Regulations of Central Amsterdam District 2005 (*Monumentenverordening stadsdeel Amsterdam-Centrum 2005*) (District Council, 29 September 2005): Among

others, this regulation determines the designation of municipal monuments and municipal monument permits.

- 1st Amendment to the Built Heritage Regulations 2005 (*1e Wijziging van de Monumentenverordening 2005*) (District Council, 26 January 2006): This declares that concerned citizens can also submit a request for a fast-track procedure.

From: The 2007 Annual Report of Central Amsterdam District, pages 105-108, 3.14.1 to 3.14.4

(CITATION)

3.14.1 Description of the programme

This programme contains four main topics: policy, permits, enforcement and subsidies. The programme focuses on the actualisation and realisation of policy, including projects and the designation of objects on the (municipal) Monuments List, as well as generating accurate and up-to-date information for policy development and to assist in the making of well-considered (policy-related) decisions. Permits and enforcement have a bearing on the maintenance of the structural quality of monuments and guarantee the legal quality standards. The subsidies relate to the completion of various types of applications (National, Conservation and Restoration, as well as applications under the terms of the Subsidy Regulations for Monuments and Image-defining Buildings [*Subsidieverordening Monumenten en Beeldbepalende Panden*]).

Policy adopted in 2007

- Administrative Annual Report Buildings 2006 (February 2007)
- Manual for the designation of objects and premises as municipal monuments (June 2007)

3.14.2 What has been achieved?

Societal effect

Planned for 2007. Stimulating the conservation and restoration of municipal- and national monuments in the conservation area with a cohesive set of measures. The idea is to demonstrably improve the structural quality of these buildings.

Achieved in 2007. Nearly all the steps regarding planning were completed according to schedule in 2007.

Effect indicators

	Effect indicator		Result	Status
14.1	Quality of monuments	B2007	Inventorisation of structurally poor buildings, including monuments (= baseline measurement)	-
		R2007	The inventorisation has started	
14.2	Rating of monuments	B2007	Questions will be distributed in 2007 via the Department for Research and Statistics (=mini-poll)	√
		R2007	The poll has been distributed	

Quality of monuments (effect 14.1). The inventorisation of structurally poor buildings started in the summer of 2007; the results were expected in the first half of 2008. The Department for Research and Statistics (*Bureau Onderzoek & Statistiek*) completed its survey of the level of appreciation of citizens and employers for monuments and the conservation area at the end of 2007. This report was discussed by the Executive Committee during the first quarter of 2008.

The Municipal Monuments Project was completed with a slightly lower number of buildings than was originally anticipated. The original long-term plan of the project assumed that 1000 buildings would be designated for inclusion on the Municipal Monuments List during the period 2003-2007; this was re-adjusted to 950 buildings, but the actual number totals 914 structures. The most important reason for this is that a number of buildings were not considered as built heritage by the Built Heritage Conservation advisory commission. The number of designations for 2007 was more than anticipated because of the inclusion of several buildings from 2006.

No incidents requiring criminal prosecution were reported to the Public Prosecutor in 2007. The infringements ascertained were not serious enough to warrant such actions. Criminal justice will form part of the evaluation 'Conserving monuments' that will be finalised in 2008. Moreover, we have established that the obligation to restore is a more effective approach than criminal prosecution.

The planning for 2007 included dealing with five subsidisable units in the conservation and restoration regulation. In reality two buildings with eight subsidisable units were granted funding. The ISV budgets for conservation and restoration reserved sufficient funds to do this. Ascertaining the actual amount of financial aid follows after the renovation is completed.

3.14.3 What has been done to achieve this?

Results agreements

	Declared intention	Indicator		Result	Status
14a	Completion of the Municipal Monuments Project (GMP)	The number of buildings placed on the GMP-list	B2007	The last 120 buildings have been designated as Municipal Monuments	√
			R2007	163 (project completed)	
14b	Combating illegal alterations/demolition	Number of enforcement procedures resulting from work undertaken without a permit	B2007	150	√
			R2007	290	
14c	Summonses (based on the total number of poorly-maintained monuments)	Number of summonses	B2007	20 (active); 50 (passive)	√
			R2007	35 (active); 149 (passive)	
14d	Criminal justice approach	Number of registrations by the Public Prosecutor	B2007	2 or 3	-
			R2007	0	
14e	Subsidies district councils	Number of subsidies granted for the conservation and restoration of built heritage (district) (units)	B2007	5	√
			R2007	8	

World Heritage List. The almost 7000 monuments in the urban centre of Amsterdam are unique and form the tangible heart of the city. In 1999 the city centre was declared a conservation area and subsequently nominated for inscription on the World Heritage List. Preparations for the application started in mid-2006 in cooperation with the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology (BMA) and the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM). The presentation and the associated heritage site document were finalised in 2007. It was only announced in the summer of 2007, however, that a management plan must be included in the presentation. This management plan will be developed in consultation with the BMA and the RACM; consequently, the planning has been extended for another year.

Archaeology policy. The Archaeological Built Heritage Conservation Act came into force on 1 September 2007. Based on this act, municipalities were assigned various powers and responsibilities. Municipalities must develop and specify their own archaeology policy. The intention was to formulate policy in 2006. The drafting of the report was consequently moved to 2007, because the model regulations and model policy documents of the VNG and the Provincial Service for Archaeology (*Monumentenzorg Noord-Holland voor archeologie*)

would be completed by this date. These models are not ready yet. The urban district is now working in consultation with the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology on an archaeology regulation as well as on an archeo-friendly zoning plan. The (proposed) zoning plan 'Groot Waterloo' of 2007 is the first zoning plan that is 'archo-proof'.

BRIM. The State Decree for Monument Conservation (*Besluit Regeling Instandhouding Monumenten*; BRIM) replaced the previous Brm and Brom regulations (State Decree for monument restoration [*Besluit regeling restauratie monumenten*] and the State Decree for monument maintenance [*Besluit regeling onderhoud monumenten*]) in February 2006. A large number of Brm applications submitted before 2006 were finalised in 2007 (31 national monuments). In addition, the College of Mayor and Alderman (hereafter, Municipal Executive) decided to spend all the remaining subsidies from the Brm for the years 2006-2011 on the restoration of the Oude Kerk. Taking into consideration the remaining monument-subsidy applications in the district, this has resulted in a deficit of almost €7,1 million in restoration subsidy. This does not include buildings owned by the district council and for which the subsidy regulation has expired (in this case the church spires, Westerkerkstoren and Montelbaanstoren). This financial shortfall, amounting to €556.000, has been remedied by changing the budget in response to the third quarterly report of 2007 and accessing district council reserves (the real estate maintenance fund. There is no point in applying to the BRIM for assistance with the remaining deficit of €7,1 million, because current projects or those that have been completed do not qualify under the terms of this state regulation. Although neither the district council nor the City of Amsterdam is not authorised to replace state legislation, it does create several practical problems. The amount of almost €7,1 million was requested by various owners with whom the district council collaborates on other projects. The progress of several of these projects has been impeded by financial constraints on the part of the owners. Research is currently being conducted in cooperation with the BMA into the possibility of freeing up other budgets. See the section on risks for further details.

Large projects

Municipal Monuments Project (GMP). The GMP was concluded according to plan in 2007. In total 914 buildings from the period 1850-1940 have been designated as municipal monuments. Furthermore, the district council and the BMA have produced a publication briefly describing and illustrating all these buildings.

The Garden House Project. In 2005 and 2006, 33 garden houses were designated as protected municipal monuments. In addition 13 of the 15 garden houses have been designated as national monuments. A municipal procedure has been started for the other two garden houses that have not been designated as national monuments. This means that the Garden House Project – insofar as the district council is involved – has been completed.

Inventories of Jewish Cultural Heritage and the Van Houten buildings. The inventorisation of Jewish Cultural Heritage was completed at the end of 2007, and the report, compiled by the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology (BMA) was completed in 2008. The BMA also embarked on the inventorisation of the Van Houten buildings in 2007. Unfortunately the goal of completing this inventorisation in 2007 was not reached, and the inventorisation was finalised in 2008.

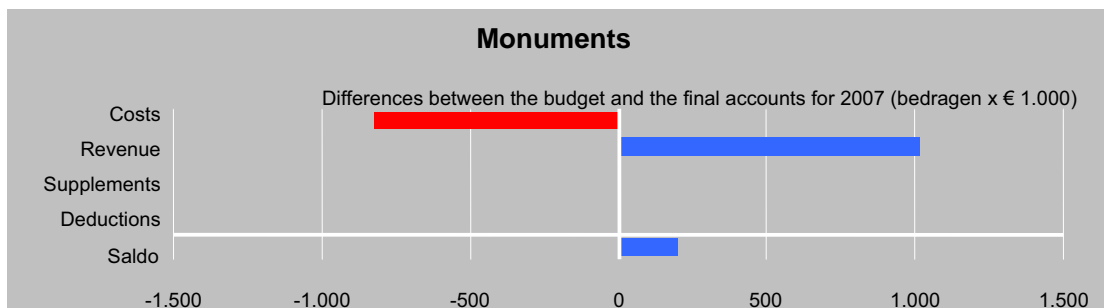
Granting of subsidies for built heritage. The district council receives and assesses subsidy applications on the basis of the municipal Regulation for contributions to owners of monuments and image-defining buildings (*Regeling bijdragen aan eigenaren van monuments en beeldbepalende panden*) of 1999. The subsidy is approved and paid in consultation with the municipal budget manager (Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology; BMA). Several years can separate the allocation of the subsidy and the completion of a project. This procedure has already started. The BMA is currently developing a citywide Revolving Fund (the Amsterdams Revolving Fund).

The following large projects were finalised in 2007:

Second Phase Blaauwklaken block:	38 units
Planciusstraat/Houtmanstraat:	70 units
Vijzelstraat 30 (De Bazel):	1 unit
Willemsstraat 31–41	26 units

3.14.4 What did it cost?

The programme has yielded positive results: €199.000). The increased costs (€819.000) are more than compensated for by the increased profits (€1.018.000).



The results of the programme according to product level are displayed in the table below. The differences between the budget and the actual costs are explained in the notes below the table.

Amounts x €1.000	Expenses 2006	Budget 2007	Expenses 2007	Difference 2007
Costs				
Conservation area and built heritage	6.311	2.488	3.307	-819
Total costs	6.311	2.488	3.307	-819
Profits				
Conservation area and built heritage	5.709	1.723	2.741	1.018
Total profits	5.709	1.723	2.741	1.018
Result	-602	-765	-566	199

Costs

The costs incurred from granting subsidies for monuments in 2007 amounted to €1.003.000 more than budgeted. This is mostly the result of the financial liquidation of four large subsidy projects:

- Second phase Blaauwlaken block €422.481
- Corner Planciusstraat/Houtmanstraat €365.946
- Vijzelstraat 30 (De Bazel) €700.000
- Willemsstraat 31–41 €287.752

Only part of the costs of these projects was included in the budget. In addition, the higher costs are covered by the higher profits of the BMA. See the notes regarding assets.

The higher costs are mitigated somewhat because an amount of €177.000 was deducted from the equalisation provision fees and recorded as a loss for this programme.

The surplus of €9.000 is due to slightly fewer hours worked.

Assets

To compensate for the subsidies granted to owners of built heritage, an amount of €1.003.000, corresponding to the costs, was recorded as revenue. This amount was invoiced to the BMA.

In addition, an amount of €15.000 in monument fees was received that was not budgeted.'

(END OF CITATION)

5.1.3 Building policy

The legal basis of the law that regulates building policy is the first topic discussed in this section. This is followed by a description of the building policy of the Amsterdam city council and Central Amsterdam district, details about when and in what regard the Building Aesthetics Agency should offer advice as well as what the Agency should use as the basis for this advice. In conclusion, there are two tables with a step-by-step plan for assessing building aesthetics both inside and outside the conservation area of Central Amsterdam district.

The legal basis of building aesthetics

Architecture policy measures

Much has changed in the assessment policy of building aesthetics for building permit applications in recent years as a result of an amendment to the Housing Act (on 1 January 2003).

The amendment of the law has resulted in, among others, the policy specifying the duty of enforcement for municipalities, the simplification of legal summonses procedures, the clarification of the requirement for citizens and businesses to comply with the building regulations was primarily intended to make the Building Aesthetics Agency more answerable to the district council. This is defined in four measures:

- 1 advice about building aesthetics must be based on municipal policy principles, which are defined in municipal building policy;
- 2 the Building Aesthetics Agency must report annually to the city council about the building policy that has been implemented, the advice issued and the decisions taken regarding building permit applications based on these;
- 3 members of the Building Aesthetics Agencies must be appointed by the city council; they may serve a maximum of two terms of three years each;
- 4 the protocol and operating procedures of the Building Aesthetics Agency and the procedures for the processing of structures requiring a building permit and structures requiring a minor building permit must be specified in the municipal building regulations.

The legal basis of the architecture policy

The Dutch Housing Act requires that a building permit is granted by the municipal administration before a structure is erected or changed. The text about 'architecture policy' in the law reads as follows:

'The appearance and placement of a structure, both of itself and in relation to the surroundings or the anticipated development of the surroundings, may not conflict with the reasonable demands of building aesthetics, evaluated in accordance with the criteria established by the city council in an Aesthetic Appearance Document'. (Housing Act, Article 12, Clause 1; and Article 12a, Clause 1)

The aims of architecture policy

Architecture policy evaluates the influence of a structure on the existing or desired public space. In this regard, building plans are assessed to see if they:

- are compatible with adjacent structures;
- are a positive contribution to the visual appearance of the street;
- acknowledge the character of the neighbourhood;
- are appropriate to the location regarding choice of materials and technical details.

Evaluation criteria

The Housing Act specifies the areas in which a building plan must be evaluated. A permit can be refused if a proposed structure does not comply with:

- the technical specifications of the Building Code;
- the municipal building regulations;
- the provisions of the current zoning plan;
- reasonable demands of building aesthetics;
- the requirements relating to the monumental status of a structure in the event of it being a listed monument.

Architecture policy criteria

The legislator considers it advisable that there is public supervision of the quality of the construction according to the following criteria:

- with regard to technical aspects (Building Code and municipal building regulations);
- with regard to town-planning (zoning plan);
- with regard to aesthetics (building aesthetics evaluation);
- with regard to cultural-historical value (advice about monuments).

Principles of the property assessment process

The property assessment process enables the local administration to evaluate the aesthetic criteria of a proposed building. The general principles of the property assessment process in this regard are:

- The public interest in the public space;
- And further:
 - the architectonic and town-planning quality;
 - relevant developments in the built-up area;
- The hope is that the advice about building aesthetics has a positive, constructive and inspiring influence on all municipal building initiatives and the building culture

Information distribution

The aim of the Building Aesthetics Agency is described in legally defined tasks in the areas of building aesthetics- and built heritage advice, but also through the transfer of knowledge by means of brochures and reports as well as by compiling reports and plans on spatial quality.

Status of the Building Aesthetics Agency ruling

The mayor and aldermen and the Executive Committees of the district councils are administratively responsible for the granting of a building permit. They consult with the Building Aesthetics Agency on every building permit application, and can diverge from this methodology in the following cases:

- they can overrule the building aesthetics advice if they conclude on substantive grounds that the Building Aesthetics Agency did not interpret the criteria correctly;
- they can diverge from the building aesthetics criteria included in the municipal Aesthetic Appearance Documents if so advised by the Building Aesthetics Agency and based on Article 4:48 of the General Administrative Law Act (*Algemene wet bestuursrecht*, Awb);
- they can grant a building permit even if it contravenes the building regulations, for example, because of critical economic or social reasons.

The relationship between a zoning plan and architecture policy

From a legal perspective, a zoning plan is a generally binding instruction, and an Aesthetic Appearance Document has the authority of policy regulations. The ratification procedure for a zoning plan is couched in many more legal guarantees than that of an Aesthetic Appearance Document:

- zoning plan:
 - assessed by the city council/district council; approval required from the Provincial Executive
 - a compulsory inquiry, objections to and appeals against the plan are possible
 - binding for the authorities and citizens
 - deviation from the plan can only occur by means of safeguarded exemption- and amendment procedures
 - Aesthetic Appearance Document:
 - assessed by the city council/district council
 - a compulsory inquiry, objections to and appeals against the plan are not possible
 - binding for the Building Aesthetics Agency
 - the mayor and aldermen have the inherent authority to deviate from the advice
 - the mayor and aldermen can deviate from the building aesthetics advice because of other considerations

Building policy in Central Amsterdam district

Administrative responsibility

In the Central Amsterdam district, the Executive Committees of the district councils are responsible for the administration of building aesthetics and building permits. The legislator responsible for architecture policy assumes these responsibilities for metropolitan projects.

Spatial policy and building aesthetics

The building policy of Central Amsterdam district is part of a larger framework of spatial policies in the conservation area, which includes the classification map, monuments policy, the renewed and revised zoning plans resulting from the designation of the conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal', the *Manual of Public Spaces (Handboek Openbare Ruimte)* and the *View over the Water of the City Centre (Visie op het water van de binnenstad)*. Within this context, Building Aesthetics aims to supervise the adaptation of ongoing changes to the city centre to societal developments, where the diversity and dynamism of functions is more pronounced than elsewhere. Building Aesthetics supervises these changes to ensure added value to the existing policy. Because of their significant interrelationship with the buildings, the Aesthetic Appearance Document also describes the assessment framework for public spaces and water.

Conservation area

The designation of Amsterdam's city centre as a 'conservation area' has resulted in much new policy and has also played a major role in the drafting of the Aesthetic Appearance Document.

The basic principles and objectives of building policy

Amsterdam has an intact, centuries-old and internationally famous city centre. The most important fundamental principle of building policy for new interventions is ensuring that it suits the structure and architecture of the city. The main objectives of the Aesthetic

Appearance Document are formulating concrete, verifiable building aesthetics criteria for buildings and structures.

Framework Document for Building Aesthetics

One of the amendments to the Housing Act as of 1 January 2003 requires that municipalities that want to implement architecture policy are obliged to compile an Aesthetic Appearance Document. The City of Amsterdam has included the structural principles of urban visual quality for the Aesthetic Appearance Documents of the district councils in the 2004 Framework Document for Building Aesthetics in Amsterdam (*Kadernota voor de welstandsbeoordeling in Amsterdam*), which is based on the document *The Beauty of Amsterdam; A Framework for Building Aesthetics Policy (De Schoonheid van Amsterdam; een kader voor welstandsbeleid)* of 1999. The district councils compile the Aesthetic Appearance Documents for districts. The property assessment process occurs within the framework of the policy as defined in the Aesthetic Appearance Document.

In order to standardise the Aesthetic Appearance Documents of the district councils, the city council adopted the Basic Memorandum of The Digital Beauty of Amsterdam (*Basisnota de Digitale Schoonheid van Amsterdam*) on 13 March 2008. The district councils complete these basic memorandums with specific, unambiguous information and the outlook of the districts. These Aesthetic Appearance Documents must be suitable for publication on the Internet. The complete Aesthetic Appearance Document the Digital Beauty of Amsterdam (*Welstandsnota Digitale Schoonheid van Amsterdam*) is expected to be available in a digital form in April 2009.

The Framework Document for Building Aesthetics in Amsterdam of February 2004 indicates the framework within which the districts and the city centre should develop their Aesthetic Appearance Documents. Based on this Framework Document the fourteen districts and the City of Amsterdam have developed separate Aesthetic Appearance Documents for their districts.

The Aesthetic Appearance Document for Central Amsterdam District of 2006 (*Welstandsnota 2006 stadsdeel Centrum*) and the Aesthetic Appearance Document for Metropolitan Areas and Projects (*Welstandsnota Grootstedelijke gebieden en projects*) of the Amsterdam city council of April 2004 are important for the assessment of building aesthetics in Central Amsterdam district.

Characteristics of the heritage site 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal'

The Framework Document for Building Aesthetics in Amsterdam includes descriptions of the characteristics of the existing environment, with a focus on a number of spatial systems. The area within the Singelgracht canal is defined as one of these spatial systems. The 'historical town planning' of the various sub-sectors in this heritage site are discussed: the City Centre, Nieuwmarkt, the Haveneilanden (harbour islands), the 17th-century urban expansion, and the Singelgracht zone. Next, the 'characteristics of the spatial system' of the heritage site within the Singelgracht canal are detailed, followed by 'considerations and recommendations'.

Because of the importance of these descriptions for the property assessment process within the property '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', the following citations from the Framework Document⁷⁴ are summarised below:

⁷⁴ Framework Document for Building Aesthetics in Amsterdam (*Kadernota voor de welstandsbeoordeling in Amsterdam*), pp. 15/16

'Urban expansion during the 17th-century

During the seventeenth century, Amsterdam was expanded to the Singelgracht canal in two phases (1612 and 1663). The concentric expansion comprised a system of different, but methodical urban planning structures, constructed over time from west to east. Urban development was implemented on a mathematical basis, resulting in orthogonal blocks of buildings with, wherever possible, regular parcelling. The larger canals were constructed close to the city centre. The function and character of the canals largely depends on their location in relation to the city centre. The canals closest to the city centre were designated as residential canals, and the further from the centre the canal, the more practical the functions that were allowed. The Prinsengracht was the most important continuous traffic artery. These differences in functions can still be discerned in the way the canals have been developed. The buildings lining the Herengracht are mostly all monumental structures – frequently residences that are twice as wide as other buildings. Almost every building on the Herengracht is a monument. There are fewer monuments and more new buildings along the Keizersgracht and especially the Prinsengracht.

The radial streets generally serve as the shopping streets. Most of these are still lined with old structures and buildings, while new, sometimes large, monumental premises were constructed during the nineteenth century along other streets, such as the Leidsestraat and the Nieuwe Spiegelstraat. Because of their predominantly commercial functions, the storeys above the ground floor show signs of prolonged neglect. The 'new' radial streets, Vijzelstraat and Raadhuisstraat are typical architectonic thoroughfares, surrounded by large nineteenth- and early twentieth-century buildings, most of which are national monuments.

Less sophisticated neighbourhoods on the fringe of the city, outside '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', were built in the 17th century, as evinced by the smaller parcels of land, the lack of monumental residences and the greater number of business and industrial premises. The appearance of many streets in the Jordaan has changed dramatically over the last twenty-five years due to urban renewal, especially between the Lindengracht and the Egelantiersgracht and between the Rozengracht and the Passeerdersstraat. The urban renewal did not focus on architectonic quality and ensuring that new buildings suited the visual appearance of the neighbouring buildings, but more on the technical qualities of houses, the quality of the surroundings, and on retaining the urban fabric. This also applies to the northern section of the neighbourhood, the Haarlemmerbuurt.

The urban expansion of 1663 started in the west and moved eastwards across the city. Land to the east of the Amstel was less in demand and thus cheaper, which explains the profusion of courtyards in the area between the Nieuwe Herengracht and the Nieuwe Prinsengracht. The breakthrough of the Weesperstraat and the construction of new buildings for the University of Amsterdam in the 1960s introduced a grander scale.

The Plantage is situated in the eastern area of the 17th-century expansion. This area remained undeveloped for a long time; the ground was not sold but rented out, as it was intended for use as gardens. Development of this area commenced around the middle of the nineteenth century, and mostly comprised houses, resulting in fairly homogeneous architecture comprising larger ensembles of houses ornamented to varying degrees. The Amsterdam Zoo (Artis) continues to expand. The Kadijken area was constructed in the seventeenth century as dock facilities along the Nieuwe Vaart.

Characteristics of the spatial system

Amsterdam's city centre is one of the most beautiful, largest and best-preserved historic city centres in Europe. Extensive post-war urban development of the city centre was limited to several traffic arteries and the urban renewal areas, especially in the Jordaan, the Haarlemmerbuurt, the Nieuwmarkt and the Eastern Islands (*Oostelijke Eilanden*). The city centre is a cohesive system of urban planning structures that originated as a combination of subterranean and urban-planning interventions. In general they comprise closed blocks of buildings, with the historical parcelling still intact. An archipelago of harbour islands was constructed outside the dikes in the sixteenth- and seventeenth centuries, the specific structure and development of which can still be discerned in places. The IJtunnel route differs greatly in structure, scale and development from the rest of the city centre. There is a powerful coherence between the buildings and the architectonic appearance.

The small-scale (ownership)structure of parcelling and buildings has brought about a gradual transformation of the city centre, and the incremental incorporation of new functions in the existing urban structure according to lots. The buildings in the city represent a wide range of architectural ideas, but the combination of shared characteristics expressed by the individuality of the architecture, which is almost always accommodated by the historic parcelling, means that the city centre remains a cohesive whole. Caution and restraint are imperative in this context.

Considerations and recommendations

Amsterdam city centre was designated as a conservation area in 1999. In the scope of the Operation Renewal Zoning Plans (*Vernieuwingsoperatie Bestemmingsplannen*) a new zoning plan methodology was developed, which explicitly takes into account the conservation area, by dealing with construction from the perspective of conservation and being more flexible in the ways buildings are used.

Because of the designation, a classification map for developments within the city centre has also been compiled and adopted. This is vital to building policy. The interpretation of the urban planning context is paramount when it comes to new buildings and renovation. As much as possible, buildings have to fit into their surroundings; scale, parcelling and facade composition must be appropriate to the visual appearance of the existing facade. Architectural contrasts must be a carefully considered consequence of the particular function of a building.'

Key point 18:

The City of Amsterdam appends to the building aesthetics criteria of the Framework Document for Building Aesthetics in Amsterdam that the outstanding universal value and the authenticity and integrity of the World Heritage site, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', will be maintained as a result of the responsibilities arising from the World Heritage Convention.

Aesthetic Appearance Document 2006 of Central Amsterdam District

The Aesthetic Appearance Document of Central Amsterdam District (2006) provides more detailed information relating to the building policy of Central Amsterdam district within the scope of the Framework Document for Building Aesthetics in Amsterdam. To that end, the Aesthetic Appearance Document of 2006 describes the legal and managerial framework, as well as the policy and assessment frameworks. Like the Framework Document, the assessment framework includes a description of the urban planning structures of the districts within Central Amsterdam district.

The section about '17th-century urban expansion' is almost identical to the text in the Framework Document, cited above. In addition, the Aesthetic Appearance Document of 2006 describes the typology of buildings in Central Amsterdam district, such as that of Amsterdam's 'city hall'.

Key point 19:

Central Amsterdam district appends to the building aesthetics criteria of the Aesthetic Appearance Document of Central Amsterdam District that the outstanding universal value and the authenticity and integrity of the World Heritage site, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', will be maintained as a result of the responsibilities arising from the World Heritage Convention.

Aesthetic Appearance Document for Metropolitan Areas and Projects (*Welstandsnota grootstedelijke gebieden en projects*)

In April 2004 the Amsterdam city council adopted the Aesthetic Appearance Document for Metropolitan Areas and Projects for the evaluation of spatial plans in the area of building aesthetics. This Aesthetic Appearance Document includes as assessment framework and building aesthetics criteria for structures in areas where the City of Amsterdam wields authority. When a large-scale project is realised in a district, the City of Amsterdam can overrule the authority of the district council in accordance with Article 34 of the Regulation for District Councils (*Verordening op de stadsdelen*). The Aesthetic Appearance Document for Metropolitan Areas and Projects applies to such projects. For more information about this, see Section 5.1.4.

Key point 20:

The City of Amsterdam appends to the building aesthetics criteria of the Aesthetic Appearance Document for Metropolitan Areas and Projects in Amsterdam that the outstanding universal value and the authenticity and integrity of the World Heritage site, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', will be maintained as a result of the responsibilities arising from the World Heritage Convention.

The Amsterdam Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency (*Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten Amsterdam*)

The Housing Act specifies that local councils should base their decisions on the advice of an independent commission or the city's master builder when granting building permits. The Amsterdam city council and the district councils have decided to integrate the Building Aesthetics Agency and the Monuments Commission into a single independent advisory commission called the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency. This decision was approved by the Amsterdam city council in the 2003 Building Regulations. The Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency advises the Executive Committees of the district councils and the Municipal Executive about the visual quality. Visual quality influences the assessment of applications for building permits, monument permits and zoning plans, as well as the placing of advertisements on facades and in the public space, street furniture, houseboats and works of art that are placed in the public space. The Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency thus refers to the Housing Act and the Monuments Act when giving advice.

The Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency is divided into several sub-committees. The scope of these sub-committees is as follows:

- I. Central Amsterdam District;
- II. The 19th-century Ring and the Ring 20-40;
- III. General Expansion Plan (western section), South-east, Amsterdam-North, the Western Harbours area (*Westelijk Havengebied*) and IJ-burg;
- IV. Selection committee for monuments.

The 2007 Annual Report of the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency indicates that a large proportion of the requests for advice from district councils in Amsterdam are from Central Amsterdam district: of the 4315 requests for advice, 1787 were from Central Amsterdam district. According to the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency and the 2006 Annual Report, the Aesthetic Appearance Document 2006 of Central Amsterdam district offers sufficient commonalities for recommendations, and the zoning plans are fairly well organised.⁷⁵ The Commission indicates that Central Amsterdam district considers that each plan should be examined for its cultural-historical value, in consultation with the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology.

The 2007 Annual Report of the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency states that Commission I, which provides advice about Central Amsterdam district, is of the opinion that high-quality modern additions to the conservation area must be permitted. Amsterdam's historic conservation area benefits most from careful conservation and maintenance of buildings and structures from all historical periods, augmented by high-quality new architectonic additions in contemporary style.⁷⁶

Key point 21:

Central Amsterdam district and the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology ensure that the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency is fully informed about the outstanding universal value and the authenticity and integrity of the World Heritage site, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', so that the Commission can incorporate these into its advice regarding applications for building permits, monument applications and zoning plans, as well as for issues such as advertising on facades and in the public space, street furniture, houseboats, and sculptures that are placed in the public space.

Building aesthetics and building permits

Construction work, renovation or introducing new structures in the public space almost always requires a building permit (see also Section 5.6). Applications for building permits have to be submitted to the appropriate district council, or to the Building and Housing

⁷⁵ 2006 Annual Report, Commission for Urban Aesthetics and Monuments (*Jaarverslag 2006, Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten*), pp. 58/60

⁷⁶ 2007 Annual Report, Commission for Urban Aesthetics and Monuments (*Jaarverslag 2007, Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten*), p. 30

Inspectorate of the City of Amsterdam. The plans are checked to ascertain if they are complete, whereafter they are evaluated for aspects relating to spatial planning and technical building and environmental requirements.

The evaluation criteria for the area where the building is located apply to the evaluation of building permit applications for all the buildings in a protected conservation area.

The district council or the City of Amsterdam consults with the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency about the architectonic quality of building permit applications.

The table at the end of this section indicates the procedures are assessed by the Building Aesthetics Agency when applying for a building permit.

Building aesthetics and monument permits

Besides being designated as a conservation area, many individual structures within 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal' are preserved as national or municipal monuments. Each and every alteration of or to built heritage requires a monument permit in addition to a building permit. The question of whether an alteration of or to a national monument or a municipal monument is acceptable, is firstly evaluated according to the criteria of the Monuments Act or the Built Heritage Regulations. The Executive Committee of a district council or the Municipal Executive can request advice about this from the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage. There are three instances for which the city council or the district council must request a recommendation from the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage: in the event of complete or far-reaching demolition, complete or extensive reconstruction, and/or if the changes result in a new function for the built heritage.

If there are no legal objections to the changes of or to built heritage, the designs of the alterations are evaluated by the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency to establish if they conform to the building regulations. The condition of the building prior to the alterations is used as the starting point. The Commission usually opts for an approach that guarantees that the historical stratification, or the history of the development of the building, is retained after restoration or alterations have occurred.

In addition, the Commission applies the following criteria:

- The main features and structure take precedence over the function of built heritage. All the valuable architectural features on the exterior and interior of the building must be preserved.
- The alterations made to facilitate the intended use of the building have to be carried out in such a way that they can be dismantled, thereby ensuring that the main structure remains undamaged.
- It assesses to what degree the monumental value of both the interior and exterior of the building will be preserved. Unnecessary alterations having no bearing on the building's current use are rejected in principle.
- Essential new elements have to conform to the existing situation as regards dimensions, surface divisions, material, details, colour and workmanship.
- Evidence of past structural work that has an important historical value for the building or the city must in principal be left in place and remain visible.
- The application of colour to monuments must be undertaken with great care.

The advice of the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology is always requested when assessing a monument application. Moreover, advice regarding alterations to national monuments can be requested from the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage.

Building aesthetics and zoning plans

The City of Amsterdam and the district councils are collectively responsible for the building policy of Amsterdam. The district council is responsible for the development and adoption of urban design and zoning plans.

The district council specifies binding regulations for physical planning in the zoning plan. A zoning plan indicates the intended uses of the land, for example, houses, industry, shops, recreation or offices. The zoning plan indicates the building- and operating instructions relevant to the intended uses and regulates the size, height and maximum surface area of the structures.

Article 12, Clause 3, of Housing Act prioritises the requirements of a zoning plan above building aesthetics criteria. The Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency can offer advice, whether it is requested or not, during the compilation or revision of zoning plans to ensure that the zoning plan and building policy conform to each other.

The conservation of outstanding universal values

The structural possibilities resulting from by zoning cannot be impeded by the building aesthetics evaluation. The more detailed the structural possibilities are in a zoning plan, the more they require an evaluation for building aesthetics. If there are outstanding universal values in the development zone (for example, the conservation area, built heritage, World Heritage site) the building aesthetics aspects in the zoning plan (and the Monuments Act and the Built Heritage Regulations) can be standardised.

Key point 22:

Central Amsterdam district and the City of Amsterdam include the outstanding universal values of the World Heritage site '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' in new and revised zoning plans and oversee the standardisation of building aesthetics aspects resulting from the designation as a World Heritage site.

The Digital Beauty (*De Digitale Schoonheid*)⁷⁷

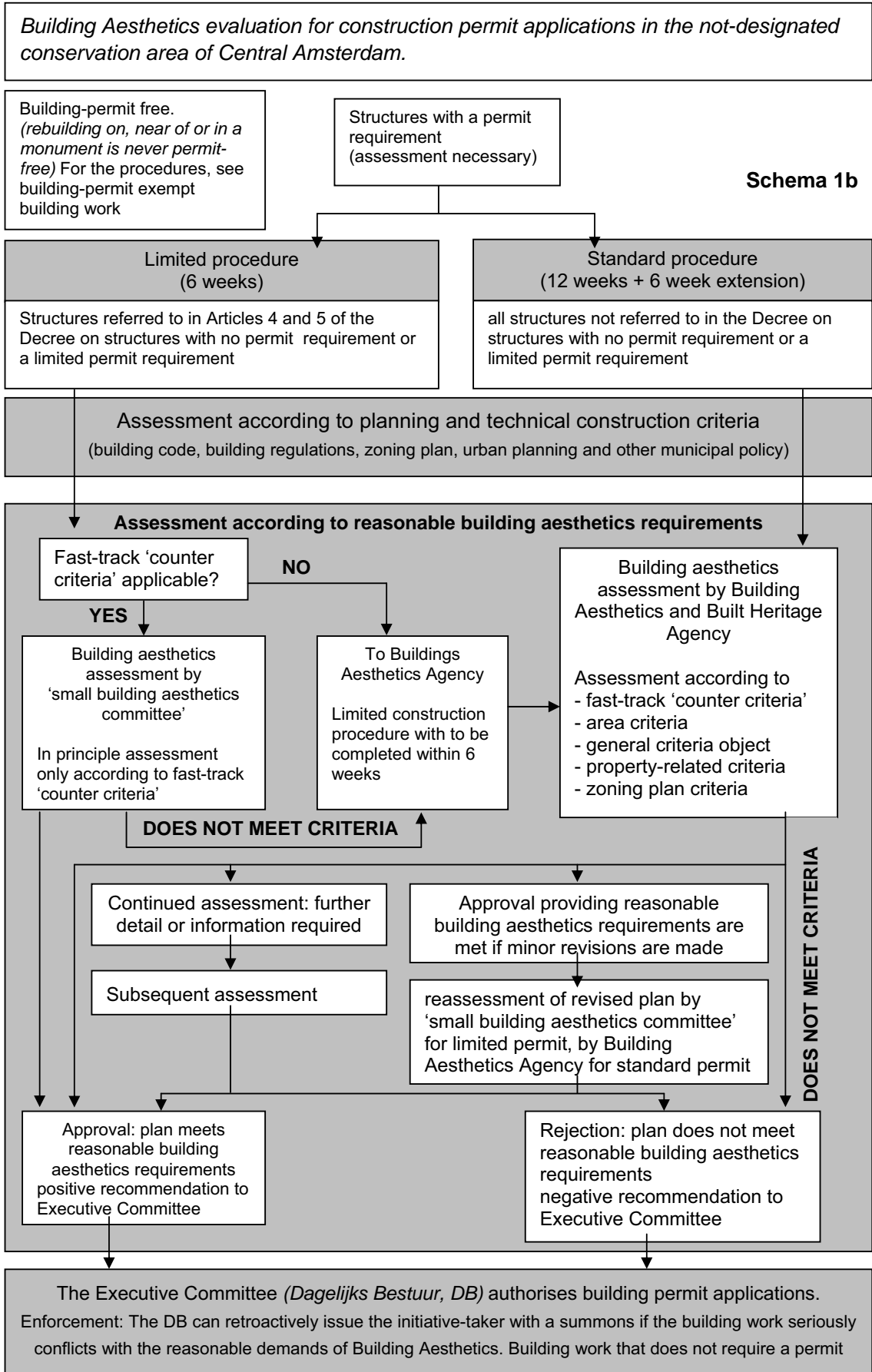
The Housing Act demands that the assessment of building plans must be verifiable by external parties. Building permit applicants must know in advance which policy framework and the areas of special interest that the Commission will use to evaluate the application. The various laws, documents, regulations and application forms are available in digital form –

⁷⁷ Annual Report Amsterdam City Council, 2007 (*Jaarverslag Gemeente Amsterdam 2007*), p. 200

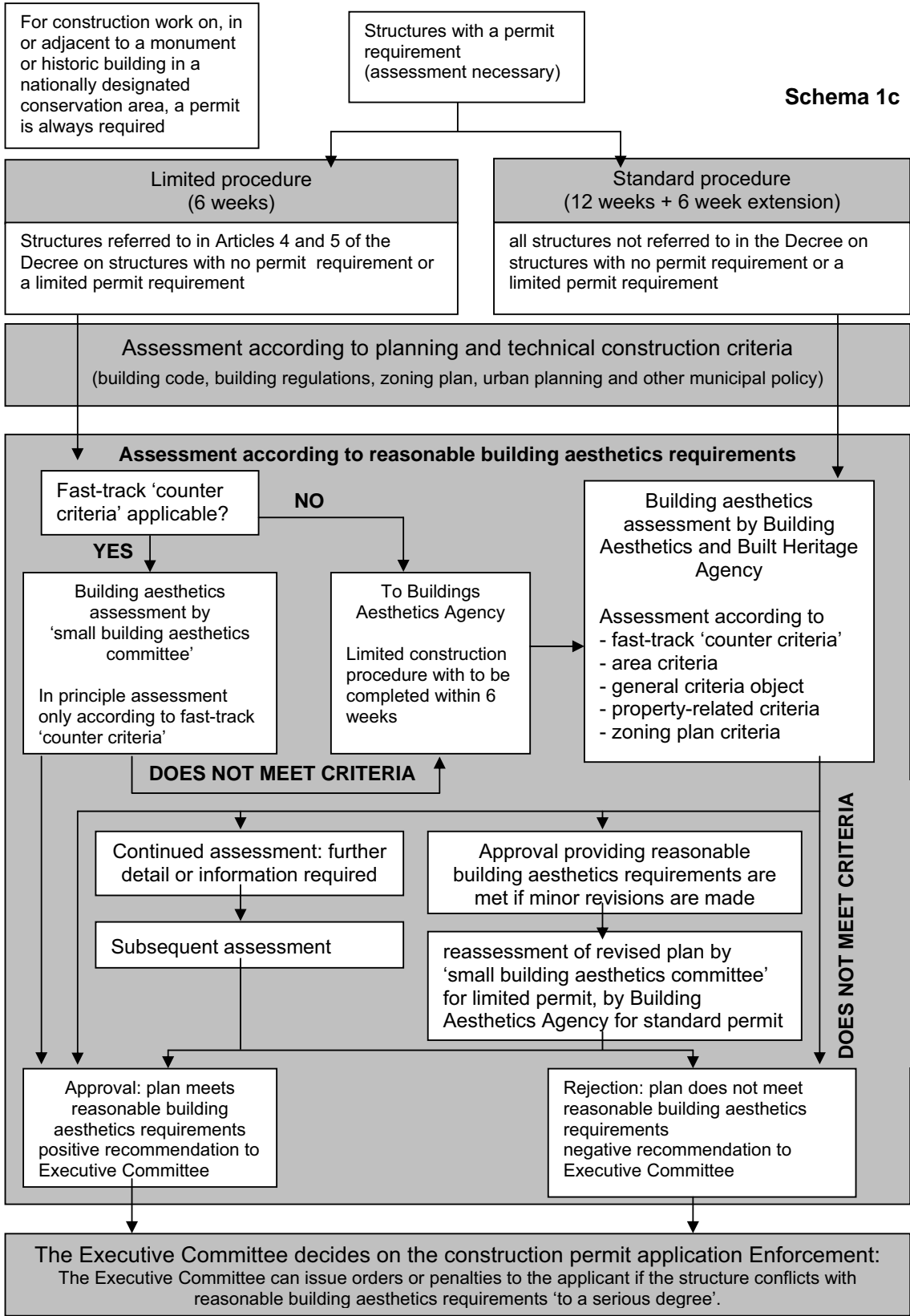
and many can already be downloaded – at the websites and the digital information centres of the district councils, the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology, the Environmental and Building Department (*Dienst Milieu en Bouwtoezicht*) and the Commission for Urban Aesthetics and Monuments. District councils frequently have a Building Information Centre where applicants can retrieve information. To facilitate the accessing and evaluation of such information, the abovementioned agencies are currently creating The Digital Beauty (*De Digitale Schoonheid*), a digital portal where all the information relating to building aesthetics is assembled. Zooming in on a map of Amsterdam will reveal increasingly detailed levels of information. The Digital Beauty portal is expected to be operational in April 2009

Key point 23:

Central Amsterdam district and the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology ensures that the World Heritage Committee will be provided with all the information regarding the progress of The Digital Beauty by means of a memorandum and through the intermediation of the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage.



Building Aesthetics evaluation for construction permit applications in the designated conservation area of Central Amsterdam.



5.1.4 Metropolitan projects

A considerable number of large projects are underway in or in very close proximity to the conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal'. The planning process and administrative decision-making processes relating to metropolitan projects within Central Amsterdam district proceed in a different way from regular spatial projects in Central Amsterdam district.

Three types of spatial projects

The preparation and realisation of spatial projects in the City of Amsterdam can take three project forms, whereby the commissioning, the responsibilities and the authority rest with different parties:⁷⁸

- Coalition project

A coalition project is a project with a district council administrator and a legislator from the City of Amsterdam as commissioning administrative authorities. The administrative role of the City of Amsterdam was specified in the preparatory phase (planning), whereby a distinction is made between projects where the authority is transferred to the City of Amsterdam and those projects where this does not occur.

- Metropolitan project

The City of Amsterdam is entirely responsible for the administration of a metropolitan project until the management phase. The project is transferred to the relevant district council after completion.

- District council project

The district council is entirely responsible for a district council project from its initiation up to and including its management, i.e., the administration of time, money, quality, information, organisation and communication.

Commissioning bodies

The tasks and responsibilities of a (government) project organisation in relation to spatial projects, are divided between:

- Commissioning administrative authority

Generally, the commissioning administrative authority is a legislator (City of Amsterdam) or a department head (district council), who is entirely responsible for the project, and is also authorised to participate in decision-making processes at decisive moments, based on decision documents.

- Official commissioning authority

The official commissioning authority is usually a director of a department (City of Amsterdam) or the head of a sector (district council), who is authorised to evaluate and approve project plans.

- Project manager

If delegated by the official commissioning authority, the project manager is entirely responsible for the project results during its preparation and implementation. The project manager is also responsible for compiling the decision documents.

Metropolitan projects

Metropolitan projects are spatial projects that usually affect several districts, or constitute a unique project for Amsterdam. Implementing large-scale infrastructural projects is technically

⁷⁸ Guidelines for Directing Spatial Projects, Housing Production Directorate (*Leidraad aansturing ruimtelijke projecten, Bureau Woningbouwregie*), City of Amsterdam.

and administratively complex. Efficiency is best achieved if a single competent administrative body oversees the legal-spatial planning frameworks and issues the permits.

Metropolitan plans are implemented by the authority of the City of Amsterdam until the project is completed, whereafter it is transferred to the district council, as specified by the Regulation for District Councils.

The municipal project administrator is responsible for coordinating with the responsible department heads with regard to metropolitan projects. The department heads retain their own responsibility.

The administrative authority of coalition projects – projects that are prepared by a district council in cooperation with the City of Amsterdam – is arranged by means of an administrative agreement between administrators of the City of Amsterdam and the district council.

'The Regulation for District Councils; Section 3. Instruments that can overrule the authority of the district council:

Article 34:⁷⁹

1. The city council, the college of aldermen and the mayor can (...) decide on the designation of a **metropolitan project** (...).
2. The designation decision specifies the following:
 - a. A precise description of the project, including the geographical boundaries;
 - b. The districts affected by the designation;
 - c. The duration of the designation;
 - d. For which competences the cooperation at the district council will be required;
 - e. Which district council responsibilities are retracted;
 - f. Which official capacity of the district councils involved is required; a capacity on which a claim can be made if necessary;
 - g. What the costs incurred in point f are and how these will be shared.
3. The designation of a metropolitan project can only occur if:
 - a. The planning/implementation and/or the administration relate to large-scale project or projects that are unique to the large city, and also if
 - b. The implementation of the project requires such a decisive approach that the immediate cooperation of the district council administration can be demanded, or their authority can be overruled.
4. The responsible district council administrations are consulted in advance regarding the designation of a metropolitan project.
5. The explanatory notes to the proposal to designate a metropolitan project indicate that the provisions of the third and fourth clauses have been met.

Plaberum

Spatial projects such as coalition projects, metropolitan projects and district council projects are implemented in Amsterdam according to a prescribed procedure: the 'Plaberum'. The Municipal Executive adopted the revised Plaberum on 30 November 2005. The roles and

⁷⁹ Regulation for District Councils (*Verordening op de stadsdelen*), version 29 November 2006, p. 8

tasks of the district councils involved are described in the Guidelines for Directing Spatial Projects (*Leidraad aansturing ruimtelijke projecten*), approved by the Municipal Executive on 29 March 2005.

Administrative responsibility

The municipal project administrator is responsible for the administration of metropolitan projects, the department head is responsible for district council projects and a department head and a legislator are responsible for coalition projects by means of an administrative agreement.

Description of the Plaberum procedure

The title Plaberum stands for *Plan en Besluitvormingsproces Ruimtelijke Maatregelen* (Planning and Decision-Making Process for Spatial Measures). This describes the planning process and the administrative decision-making process and provides an overview of the products that have to be supplied for each stage of the planning process. Linking the progress of the process to administrative decisions ensures that the risks remain manageable. The planning of each successive phase is reviewed after decisions are reached. The Plaberum describes the various municipal itineraries: drafting plans, the legal-spatial planning itinerary, drafting contracts and decision-making. Because the Plaberum is a procedure, it is difficult to summarise.

Four phases and four administrative decisions

The Plaberum comprises four phases. Each phase concludes with an administrative decision.

1. Strategy phase – ends with the Strategy Resolution
2. Research phase – ends with the Project order
3. Programme- and development phase – ends with the Investment decision
4. Implementation phase – ends with the Implementation order

The following are described for each phase:

- The goal
- The administrative decision-making process
- The planning process

Description of the four phases

- Phase 1: Strategy

This is a brief phase during which research aimed at exploration and compiling an inventory (sphere of influence and risks) is conducted. Obstacles (legal-spatial planning, environmental, public space, etc.), solutions and partners are identified, and suggestions on how financing will be arranged are included. The plan must be presented to the director of the Construction and Development Department (*Ontwikkelingsbedrijf*) for advice before any decisions are made.

This phase ends with a Strategy Resolution which includes, among others, the status of the planning: will it be continued and if so, who the administrative and official commissioning authorities are and which planning procedures and schedules are going to be followed.

- Phase 2: Research

During this phase, more specific research is conducted into the feasibility of the plan and how the risks can be reduced. This phase does not apply to all projects: relatively simple projects skip this phase and proceed from phase 1 to phase 3.

The second phase concludes with a Project order specifying zoning, opening up the area, mobility requirements and programmes.

- Phase 3: Programme and design

During phase 3 the programmes, the urban design plan, the use of land and the financial section are compiled. One or more construction summaries are compiled and also included as an appendix to the urban design plan.

This phase ends with an Investment decision, the urban design plan, including the construction summaries, the land development budget and an implementation credit (if required).

- Phase 4: Implementation

During phase 4 one or more construction summary agreements and/or ground lease agreements are concluded. The building plans are developed (by the market) and the design of the public space and a management plan are prepared for the public space. This is the phase during which acquisition and compulsory purchases take place. In addition work commences that focuses on preparing for the implementation, such as resolving permit applications, plans, calling for tenders and preparing the terrain for construction. Various decisions are made during this phase.

This phase concludes with the actual implementation.

Legal-spatial planning procedure

During phase 2 of the Plaberum procedure the current WRO-plans for the development area including structural and zoning plans are reviewed (by means of the Urban Evaluation and Advisory Team [*Stedelijk toets- en adviesteam*], see the following subsection). If required, a (pre-)design zoning plan or an Implementation plan is compiled, or a Wro Article 19 exemption procedure is prepared (after receiving input from the Urban Evaluation and Advisory Team) during phase 3.

If necessary, the district council specifies the legal-spatial planning framework for district council projects. (The Executive Committee of the district council will present the plan to the Municipal Executive only in exceptional cases, for example, in the event of significant deviation from the programme and spatial plans that will affect the legal and city council frameworks).

The city council specifies the zoning plan for metropolitan projects.

Cultural-historical research

In 2006, cultural-historical research was included as part of the Plaberum procedure (Plaberum 2006). Since January 2006, the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology has been connected to the Urban Evaluation and Advisory Team through the Environmental and Building Department. It advises on cultural-historical research relating to spatial projects.

Participation

The regulations pertaining to participation apply to metropolitan projects when adjusting the legal-spatial planning framework, as described in the General Public Participation Ordinance Amsterdam (*Algemene Inspraakverordening Amsterdam*) of 2003 (approved by the city council). The General Public Participation Ordinance for Central Amsterdam District (*Inspraakverordening Amsterdam Stadsdeel-Centrum*) of 2004 applies if the legal-spatial planning framework is adjusted for district council projects (approved by the district council).

Urban Evaluation and Advisory Team (*Stedelijk toets- en adviesteam*)

On 28 June 2005 the Municipal Executive created the Urban Evaluation and Advisory Team, and adopted the Urban Evaluation and Advisory Team for Spatial Plans in Amsterdam Regulation (*Reglement voor het Stedelijk toets- en adviesteam ruimtelijke plannen in Amsterdam*). The Urban Evaluation and Advisory Team conducts its evaluation based on the policy approved by the City of Amsterdam, legal provisions, state regulations and similar criteria. District council projects, coalition projects and metropolitan projects are presented to the Urban Evaluation and Advisory Team for evaluation. Ten municipal departments, each operating from its area of specialisation, evaluate and offer advice regarding these spatial plans. The Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology advises on cultural-historical research.

District council projects are evaluated before they are approved by the Executive Committee of the district council, and metropolitan projects are evaluated before they are approved by the Municipal Executive.

Building aesthetics and large projects

A project plan is prepared for larger spatial projects prior to the compilation and adoption of a Urban Development Plan. The district council or city council must specify the building aesthetics criteria as part of the project plan. The City of Amsterdam discusses the building aesthetics criteria for the project plans for metropolitan projects with the relevant district councils.

Determining building aesthetics criteria is a standing procedure when compiling plans. The Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency is informed of these criteria during phase 3 of the Plaberum procedure. The participation is linked to the normal participation regulation. The Urban Development Plan and the building aesthetics criteria are presented to the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency for advice during phase 4 of the Plaberum procedure, before it is presented to the council for a decision. The step-by-step plan for this is as follows⁸⁰:

- The Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency is the only agency that advises on building applications.
- In the event of restructuring, the building aesthetics criteria in the Aesthetic Appearance Document or the specific building aesthetics criteria form the assessment framework for the advice of the Building Aesthetics Agency.
- Any specific building aesthetics criteria are part of a Urban Development Plan and a construction summary. They are compiled by the Physical Planning Department (DRO) or the urban development department of the district council, presented to the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency for advice, and ratified by the Implementation

⁸⁰ Building Aesthetics and Supervision. Directing the design quality of spatial projects. Environmental and Building Department (*Welstand en supervisie. De regie over de ontwerp kwaliteit in ruimtelijke projecten. Dienst Milieu en Bouwtoezicht*), 22-2-2005.

Decision for the project (by the district council for district council projects, and by the Municipal Executive for metropolitan projects).

- The city council or the district council can delegate the coordination of the urban development design process and the compilation of the spatial planning documents to one or more specialists – town planners – who may or may not be staff members of the City of Amsterdam.
- A supervisor can be appointed during the implementation phase, who coaches and supports the architects involved in the project in consultation with the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency.

Framework document for evaluating the building aesthetics of large projects in Amsterdam

In principle, the building aesthetics criteria developed by the City of Amsterdam for large (re)development projects are temporary and last only for the duration of the project. Specific building aesthetics criteria specified for each project in the framework of the urban development planning and the spatial planning procedures apply for as long as the development and implementation of the project lasts. These aspects are addressed by separate procedures in the Aesthetic Appearance Document for Metropolitan Areas and Projects (*Welstandsnota metropolitan gebieden en projects*), drafted by the City of Amsterdam.

This does not only apply to new building locations, as restructuring may be necessary. The criteria during the development phase of the project plan are of a general nature and use the ratified urban development programme as a framework. This ensures that the creativity of the architects is not unnecessarily curtailed. The normal building aesthetics criteria from the Aesthetic Appearance Document for Metropolitan Areas and Projects, which address the administration of the area, are specified after the development phase has been concluded. The actual architecture and urban development form the context for administration. This methodology can also be applied by the district councils to larger (re)development projects that are realised without intermediation by the City of Amsterdam.

Key point 18 (repetition):

The City of Amsterdam appends to the building aesthetics criteria of the Framework Document for Building Aesthetics in Amsterdam that the outstanding universal value and the authenticity and integrity of the World Heritage site, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', will be maintained as a result of the responsibilities arising from the World Heritage Convention.

Aesthetic Appearance Document for Metropolitan Areas and Projects (*Welstandsnota metropolitan areas and projects*)

The City of Amsterdam specifically created the Aesthetic Appearance Document for Metropolitan Areas and Projects to evaluate the building aesthetics of spatial plans (approved by the city council on 16 June 2004).

These policy regulations affect structures located in areas where the City of Amsterdam is authorised to grant building permits. The document describes general policy frameworks and building aesthetics criteria for metropolitan areas and also defines specific building aesthetics criteria for a number of special metropolitan areas and projects, such as the south bank of the IJ (*Zuidelijke IJ-oever*) and the new North-South metro line.

General framework policies and criteria affecting metropolitan projects

Assessment framework. Policy regulation 2.1

Determining if a structure complies with the reasonable demands of building aesthetics, takes the following evaluation criteria into consideration:

- a. the suitability of the structure in relation to the characteristics of the existing or planned development, the public space, the landscape and the urban planning context;
- b. volume, structure, size and scale, architectural features, colour and types of material;
- c. ensuring that the constituent parts of the structure or structures are cohesive.

Criteria. Policy Regulation 2.2

The following criteria are considered when determining if a structure complies with the requirements of building aesthetics criteria:

- d. the structure does not clash with its surroundings; it contributes to the quality of the public space;
- e. there is significant cohesion between the architectonic form, the anticipated functions and the structural composition;
- f. there is a balance between clarity and complexity; a balanced visual structure, while simultaneously ensuring that the appeal provided by simplicity is not lost;
- g. that the design of the structure has carefully considered the associations that certain forms evoke in a social-cultural context;
- h. appropriate architectonic elements are implemented in the structure (the sizes and relationships between spaces, the sizes and division of spaces and surfaces and the types of materials, textures, colours and light that result from the design).

Specific criteria in urban development planning documents. Policy Regulation 2.4

Structures are also evaluated for their compliance with specific building aesthetics criteria that are included in the relevant urban development planning documents.

Key point 20 (repetition):

The City of Amsterdam appends to the building aesthetics criteria of the Aesthetic Appearance Document for Metropolitan Areas and Projects in Amsterdam that the outstanding universal value and the authenticity and integrity of the World Heritage site, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', will be maintained as a result of the responsibilities arising from the World Heritage Convention.

Current metropolitan projects

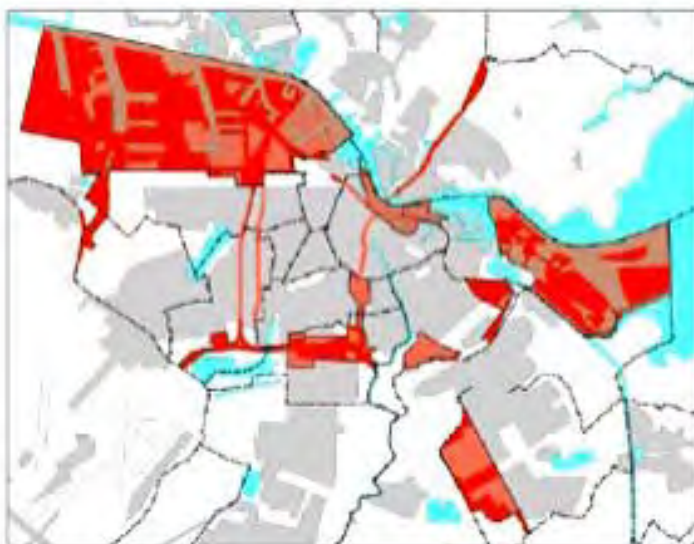
At present, a number of metropolitan projects are underway in or on the boundaries of Central Amsterdam district. This includes the new urban expansion on the south bank of the IJ (*Zuidelijke IJ-oever*), with the Central Station project on Station Island (*Stationseiland*); the construction of the new North-South metro line; and the Overhoeks project on the north bank of the IJ (*Noordelijke IJ-oever*) and the construction on the harbour island, Westerdokseiland (the latter two projects are currently being prepared). Finally, the City of Amsterdam and Central Amsterdam district are implementing Coalition project no. 1012. These projects and their (potential) influence on the property are described in Section 5.3.

Key point 24:

If a structure of approximately 60 metres tall is planned on the Western Station Island (Westelijk Stationseiland), the Central Amsterdam district and the City of Amsterdam will include a memorandum regarding this in the nomination dossier.

Overview map of metropolitan projects (2004)⁸¹

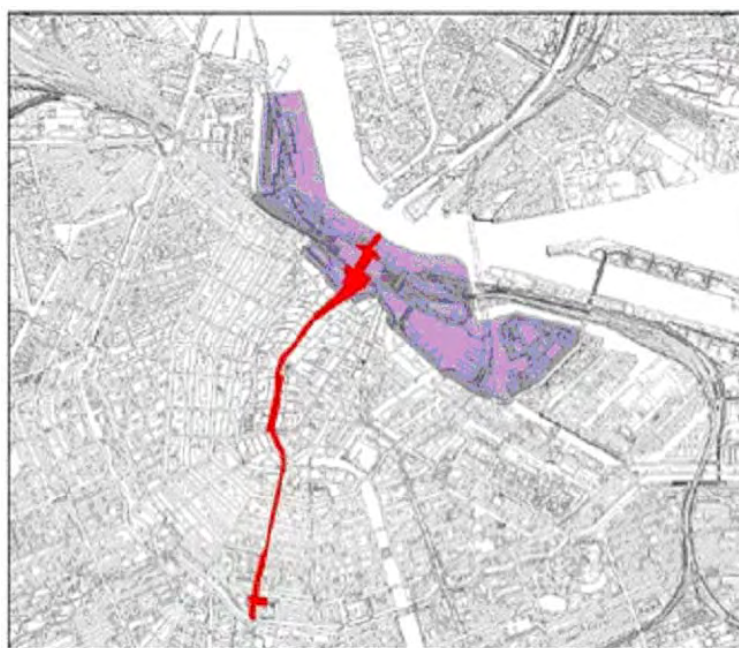
Urban Districts



Metropolitan districts and projects



Coalition districts
North Amsterdam District



South banks of the IJ
North-South metro line

Appended map 2

⁸¹ Aesthetic Appearance Document for Metropolitan Areas and Projects in Amsterdam (*Welstandsnota grootstedelijke gebieden en projecten*), p. 23

The boundaries of metropolitan projects in the city centre

5.2 Opportunities and risks in the property and the buffer zone

5.2.1 Introduction

Amsterdam's city centre – and particularly '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' – enjoys international repute as a cultural-historical, lively and atmospheric historic European city centre. It is a favoured residential and business location and a popular destination for national and international travellers.

The City of Amsterdam, the Central Amsterdam district, and the inhabitants and business operators in the historic city centre and within '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', have invested a great deal of energy, knowledge, care and money in the conservation and maintenance of the many outstanding universal values of the city centre.

In the event of the conservation area being inscribed on the World Heritage List, the following will be added: '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', within the conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal', has outstanding universal values. This means that a World Heritage site is not meant to be an international attraction, but that it becomes global property. In other words, the world community will also keenly observe the conservation and maintenance of the site. This requires an inventory of the opportunities and threats, and the strengths and weaknesses of the property.

Strengths and weaknesses arise wherever there is a responsible built heritage policy, intensive international cultural tourism, in the opportunities and limitations to broadly communicate with residents, tourists and other target groups about the societal significance and how the city centre and '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' can or must be treated. This will be discussed in the chapters about built heritage policy, communication and cultural tourism; this section examines a number of opportunities and threats.

5.2.2 Opportunities and threats

'17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' has many outstanding universal values, three of which are affected by trends or developments that could have a positive or a negative influence on the outstanding universal values. The following outstanding universal values and the opportunities and threats they present are not isolated phenomena, but are interrelated and thus influence each other.

1. '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as an icon

Internationally, the urban development, architectonic and historic qualities of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as well as the historic city centre are considered as iconic: the size, scale and clarity of the geometric, linear pattern of concentric canals is unique.

- The significance of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht as an icon' offers the opportunity for Amsterdam to distinguish itself from other European historic city centres, making it an appealing place to settle or establish a business.
- The significance of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht as an icon' has consequences for the use of and life in '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' and the surrounding buffer zone. This significance can be threatened by socio-economic and spatial developments that do not respect the

outstanding universal values of 'the size and scale of the spatial geometric pattern of concentric canals. This section discusses high-rise developments that relate to this.

2. The preservation of the monumental '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'

'17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' has been preserved and maintained for many years with much care and attention by both the responsible authorities as well as owners of the, mostly monumental, structures located within '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.

- The value of 'preserving the conservation area '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' offers the opportunity for the cultural-historical and built heritage values to be widely recognised and respected, resulting in long-term maintenance of the site, making living in the site more appealing.
- The value of 'preserving the monumental 17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' also has consequences for the level of conservation and the expectations of involved parties. These values can be threatened by developments that can undermine good maintenance, or could dominate built heritage values. This section examines developments relating to water, green areas, parking facilities and advertising on facades.

3. The orderly spatial structure and human scale

'17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' is characterised by its urban planning and geometric layout comprising four concentric main canals, four transverse canals, and radial streets. These enclose the conservation area '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', creating an intimate atmosphere.

- The value of the 'orderly spatial structure and human scale' offers the opportunity for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' in all its architectonic diversity and spatial dynamism to retain its intimate atmosphere and human scale. This means that besides being a place where people live and work, Amsterdam will also have added value as an appealing destination.
- The value of the 'orderly spatial structure and human scale' also has consequences for the reason for visiting and the length of the visit. These values can be threatened by concentrating too many visitors in the available space. This section examines developments in the area of *hotels, catering, outdoor cafes* and *round trips*.

5.2.3 High-rise buildings

A dynamic city like Amsterdam is continually being developed. Contemporary spatial developments in the area of high-rise buildings can affect the symmetry, views, or the silhouette of the historic cityscape. This subsection discusses the influences high-rise developments can have and the measures that can be taken to safeguard the outstanding universal value.

Preceding the Vienna Charter that applies to the World Heritage site, that formulates principles for safeguarding built heritage in an urban environment.

International obligations

*Vienna Charter*⁸²

Vienna Charter on World Heritage and Contemporary Architecture – Managing the Historic Urban Landscape (Vienna, 2005)

UNESCO Charter – approved by the international conference of UNESCO and the World Heritage Committee

The Vienna Charter describes the influence contemporary urban developments and modern architecture can have on the significance of built cultural heritage. The Charter formulates principles for the long-term conservation of built heritage and monuments. The constant changes to dynamic cities require that policy makers and concerned parties regard the city as a whole and that future urban developments harmonise with the historic urban development. The challenge for contemporary architects and urban planners is to realise dynamic and socio-economic developments while simultaneously safeguarding the cultural heritage and the historic cityscape.

The development of high-rise buildings and high-rise policy in Amsterdam

The City of Amsterdam has had a high-rise policy since 1991. The number of high-rise initiatives has increased in the last few years. The issue of the visibility of high-rise buildings from the historic city centre was tabled recently. The City of Amsterdam intends to be extremely protective of the visual qualities of the city centre.

The current high-rise policy, dating from 2005,⁸³ is a reactive policy and does not include any evaluation criteria for high-rise development plans. A clearly formulated high-rise policy, especially in regard to the conservation area and the nomination of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', is urgently required. This means formulating precise policy relating to high-rise buildings that may have a visual impact on the property and the buffer zone. The current high-rise policy will be revised to this end.

A new high-rise policy is being prepared in the framework of the development of the Structural Concept (1st concept at the end of 2009, adoption at the end of 2010, see also Section 5.11). The Physical Planning Department of the City of Amsterdam has recently drafted its first high-rise plan that addresses this issue and also accounts for the policy that has been conducted thus far (see the Appendix High-Rise Development In Amsterdam [*Bijlage Hoogbouw in Amsterdam*], 2008).

The starting point is that high-rise developments that can be seen from the property and the buffer zone will be evaluated for their effects on the World Heritage site and the conservation area. An assessment framework and an evaluation procedure will be developed to this end.

Aesthetic Appearance Document for Metropolitan Areas and Projects

The Aesthetic Appearance Document for Metropolitan Areas and Projects includes several criteria that also have a bearing on high-rise developments:

'Criteria relating to erecting a building or structure of substantial size, or the expansion or alteration of an existing building or structure for which a building permit is required. Policy

⁸² Link: Vienna Charter, whc.unesco.org/uploads/activities/documents/activity-47-2.pdf

⁸³ Supplementary Evaluation Framework for High-Rise Developments (2005) to the Structural Plan: Opting for an Urban Environment (*Aanvullend toetsingskader Hoogbouw (2005) op het Structuurplan: Kiezen voor stedelijkheid*; 2003).

*regulation 6.1.2*⁸⁴

a. Position with respect to the surroundings:

- Height of the structure: conform to the specific urban development spatial planning documents;
- Placement: conform to the specific urban development planning documents. Views are taken into consideration. If located within the boundaries indicated in the urban development planning documents the existing views on expanses of water and urban corridors and the proximity of traffic routes and waterways (water, rail, automotive) have to be taken into account.'

High-rise advice from the Board of National Advisors (*College van Rijksadviseurs*; CRA) to the VROM

According to the Board of National Advisors (comprising the government architect and the national advisers for Landscape, Infrastructure and Cultural Heritage), high-rise developments have a great impact on the Dutch landscape. The Board of National Advisors has conducted research into high-rise buildings in The Netherlands and has established that the Spatial Planning Policy Document provides insufficient guidelines for provinces and city councils and that a wide-ranging plan addressing high-rise developments is lacking.⁸⁵ Among others, the advice presented by the Board of National Advisors to Minister Cramer of the VROM included:

- supplementing the current municipal policy with a State plan;
- making the compilation of a High-Rise Impact Report (*HoogbouwEffectRapportage*; HER) compulsory.

The Board of National Advisors has indicated that state intervention is only justified when national values⁸⁶ (the core principles of the Spatial Planning Policy Document) are affected, and if the state authority has established guidelines in advance. All other high-rise projects are the responsibility of the city council. The core principles of the Spatial Planning Policy Document relate to the National Landscape Areas and in particular valuable areas of buildings that have been inscribed on the World Heritage List. The state has specific responsibilities towards these areas and properties.

The Board of National Advisors presented its assessment of current developments in Amsterdam's high-rise policy in its advice to the Minister of VROM as follows:⁸⁷

'The City of Amsterdam is currently of the opinion that it should formulate its high-rise policy primarily from a restrictive point of view. The most important reason for such a policy is safeguarding the nomination of the city centre for designation as a UNESCO World Heritage site. The heights of buildings within the A1 ring road are evaluated for their (in)visibility from the conservation area '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'. The regulation is interpreted from a historical perspective and with consideration for the urban landscape, the landward side and the IJ side. High-rise buildings are permitted at important public transport nodes such as Sloterdijk, Bijlmer/Arena, Amstel and Zuid; considering its proximity to the historic city centre, no high-rise buildings should be allowed in the area surrounding Amsterdam Central Station.

⁸⁴ Aesthetic Appearance Document for Metropolitan Areas and Projects, pp. 15-16

⁸⁵ The Spatial Planning Policy Document (*Nota Ruimte*, 2005, Ministries of VROM, LNV, VenW and EZ) contains the Cabinet's plan for spatial development in The Netherlands and the most important associated goals for future decades.

⁸⁶ Board of National Advisors Draft High-Rise Advice (*Concept Hoogbouw Advies College van Rijksadviseurs*), 24 June 2008, p. 5

⁸⁷ Board of National Advisors Draft High-Rise Advice (*Concept Hoogbouw Advies College van Rijksadviseurs*), 24 June 2008, p. 7

According to the CRA, this more restrictive approach by the city council is an interesting approach to protecting valuable cultural-historical heritage while simultaneously enabling further urban development. This also conforms to the State's approach to the National Landscape Areas: 'preservation through development'.

Threat	Measure
Dynamic socio-economic development and conservation of built heritage and the historic urban landscape can hinder each other.	Policy makers and parties involved in the city form a vision of the city as a whole and ensure that future urban developments that harmonise with the historical development.
Obscuring views and changing the profile of the city within and around the property with high-rise developments.	Protecting views within, from and of the property, the conservation area and buffer zone by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. respecting the outstanding universal value, the authenticity and the integrity; b. by converting the internationally recognised treaties and principles relating to the administration of a World Heritage site and modern architecture in historic urban landscapes into a plan for the development of Amsterdam; c. formulating an dynamic high-rise policy, including an assessment framework and an evaluation procedure; d. to determine evaluation criteria by conducting an investigation into the historical significance of views and city profiles;

Threat	Measure
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. by making the compilation of a High-Rise Impact Report (HER) compulsory; b. through requesting clear guidelines from the State for areas and buildings inscribed on the World Heritage List, so that it can intervene if required; c. by amending and enforcing existing laws, regulations and policy frameworks; d. by introducing, actualise and evaluate a feasible management plan.

Opportunity	Value – 17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht as an icon
The significance of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the	'17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as well as the historic city centre

<p>Singelgracht as an icon' provides an opportunity for Amsterdam to distinguish itself from other European historic city centres, making it a more appealing place to settle or establish a business</p>	<p>are internationally regarded as urban planning, architectonic, historic icons: the size, scale and clarity of the geometric, linear arrangement of concentric canals is unique.</p>
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5.2.4 Hotel and catering industry

The hotel and catering industry is extremely important for Amsterdam's city centre. It is a source of pleasure, relaxation and contact and is integral to leisure activities in the city centre – shopping, cultural excursions, a night out and a short stay. The hotel and catering industry contribute to the diversity of functions and facilities in the city centre, such as residing, working, culture, art, economics, recreation and historical values, i.e., how residents and visitors experience the conservation area and the World Heritage site. The hotel and catering industry can also endanger the cultural-historical value of buildings that are equipped for hotel and/or catering functions and can contribute to problems associated with noise, high concentrations of people and vandalism. This subsection describes developments in the area of the hotel and catering industry and the measures that can (or could) be taken to safeguard the outstanding universal value.

Current catering policy

Current catering policy is described in the Hotel and Catering Industry Memorandum 'Towards a Contemporary, Transparent Hotel and Catering Industry Policy in Amsterdam's City Centre' (*Horecanota 'Naar een eigentijds, transparant horecabeleid in de Amsterdamse Binnenstad*) that was approved by Central Amsterdam district council in 2003. This Memorandum proposes the replacement of existing opening- and closing times for the hotel and catering industry on the condition that they close for 2 hours a day. Central Amsterdam district does not have the authority to change the business hours of the hotel and catering industry. These fall under the authority of the city council and are regulated by the Local Bylaws (*Algemene Plaatselijke Verordening, APV*).

Reacting to a request from Central Amsterdam district, the city council endorsed the Amendment to the Local Bylaws on 23 March 2005, whereby it agreed to expand business hours for the hotel and catering industry subject to the following provisions:

- Enforcing the quiet period at night when no alcohol can be obtained.
- There should be enough manpower to enforce public order and protect the living environment, the idea being that extending opening hours should not result in more policing.
- The hotel and catering industry have to make an important contribution by ensuring that no additional demands are made on the available enforcement capacity and that the living environment is not inconvenienced any further.

With the coming into force of the amended Local Bylaws evening and night businesses can operate from 09h00. They can also apply for a outdoor cafe permit. Regarding the extension of closing times, the 2005 Local Bylaws stipulate that Central Amsterdam district must first have an approved hotel and catering industry policy because closing times affect the living environment and public order.

New hotel and catering industry policy plans

Central Amsterdam district is preparing a draft Hotel and Catering Industry Policy Plan (*Horecabeleidsplan*) 2008. After being endorsed by the Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district, the draft was released for preliminary discussions by concerned parties on 18 December 2007. The adoption of the policy was expected to occur after the 2008 summer recess. The following parties participated in the adoption of the policy:

l) Mayor, Public Prosecutor and the police: safety and public order

m) Mayor: Local Bylaws (APV)

n) District council: other aspects Central Amsterdam district

The draft Hotel and Catering Industry Policy Plan 2008 is intended to establish specific hotel and catering industry policy with the underlying question: how can the expansion of hotels and catering establishments take place (including extending closing times). Moreover, where necessary area-specific policy is being drafted for outdoor cafes. Coffee shops will not be allowed to extend their closing times.

The conservation area and hotel and catering industry policy

The proposed hotel and catering industry policy intends to expand the possibilities for the hotel and catering industry and has the following consequences for the intended World Heritage site.⁸⁸

'In general a maximum area of 150 m², with a possibility of exemptions up to 300 m² for a hotel or catering establishment is permitted by current zoning plans. This area is based on the most widespread parcel width in the city centre. According to the revised zoning plans, the cellar of a building can be used as a kitchen, for toilet facilities, and/or as storage space for the hotel or catering establishment located above it.

Expanding the hotel and/or catering establishment to upper and/or adjacent storeys is prohibited, the most important reasons for this being that they harmonise with the conservation area and reduce the inconvenience to residents. Hotel and catering facilities are permitted on several storeys only around the Leidseplein and Rembrandtplein. (...) Several aspects play a role when evaluating an expansion in square metres. Firstly, hotel and/or catering facilities larger than 300 m² will only be considered if they do not have a negative effect on the conservation area and do not negatively impact on the living environment. In addition, the physical characteristics of the building play an important role. Breaking through buildings in the conservation area must be prevented, as these negatively affect the historic structure. (...) A maximum expansion of 1000 m² per building is proposed. Compliance with the fire safety code is an important pre-condition.'

Enforcement

Local Bylaws regulate the enforcement of closing times van hotels and catering facilities as well as public order. The police are responsible for supervising and enforcing the regulations in the Local Bylaws. This enforcement is described in step-by-step plans, and is supervised by the city council. Environmental inspectors from the Environmental and Building Department monitor and act to counter noise pollution. All hotel and catering establishments in the city centre are subject to a thorough control of all relevant aspects once every three years by inspectors from Central Amsterdam district and the Environmental and Building Department. A Hotel and Catering Office (*Loket Horeca*) has been set up for hoteliers and restaurateurs wishing to apply for permits.

⁸⁸ Draft Hotel and Catering Industry Policy Plan 2008 (*Concept Horecabeleidsplan 2008*), p. 15

Threat	Measure
Damaging buildings by breaking through the historical structure.	Specifying the limitations of size in zoning plans for hotels or catering establishments in cultural-historical buildings, as well as ensuring that they harmonise with the conservation area. The two entertainment areas (Leidseplein and Rembrandtplein) are exempted.
Encroaching on the 'orderly structure and the human scale' of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' because of large concentrations of visitors.	The structure of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' is protected as much as possible by, demanding that they do not encroach on the conservation area. (This also applies to larger hotel and catering facilities on the Rembrandtplein.) They must also comply with fire safety regulations.
Hotels and catering facilities can have a negative effect on the living environment of surrounding residents, including noise pollution.	The police and environmental inspectors from the Environmental and Building Department enforce the regulations. Hoteliers and restaurateurs must assist in preventing trouble and ensuring that additional policing is not required.
Opportunity	Value
Ensuring that the hotel and/or catering establishments are of limited scope in '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' offers the opportunity for the appealing intimate atmosphere and 'human scale' to be preserved, thereby ensuring that it remains an appealing recreational or holiday destination for all visitors.	The orderly spatial structure and human scale of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' imbues the area with a spatially enclosed and intimate character.

5.2.5 Outdoor cafe policy

The new outdoor cafe policy for Central Amsterdam district came into force on 1 April 2008. The old regulations were unclear and out-of-date. The new outdoor cafe policy adapted existing regulations and introduced new regulations. There are 888 outdoor cafes in the city centre; many consider them pleasant facilities for residents and visitors and valid contributions to a sociable city environment.

New outdoor cafe policy

The former outdoor cafe policy (as described is in the Heritage Site Document '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' [*Gebiedsdocument 'de zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht'*; 2007]) was based on policy regulations dating from 1992, operational plans pertaining to outdoor cafe policy that were enforced from 1995 and 1996, administrative experience, jurisprudence and exemptions. The policy was out-of-date and difficult to enforce. Central Amsterdam district has therefore drafted a new Outdoor Cafe Memorandum 2008 (*Terrassennota*), which was presented to

the district council for approval and approved by the chairperson of the Executive Committee on 27 March 2008.

The basis of the outdoor cafe policy

The crux of the outdoor cafe policy is to encourage a provocative and creative nightlife while simultaneously acknowledging the limitations of the historic city centre. Besides being an appealing recreational city, people also live and work in Amsterdam.

The basic principle of the Outdoor Cafe Memorandum 2008 is that public spaces are accessible to everyone and that the functions of public space as traffic routes and residences are safeguarded. The most important policy regulations are:

- Enough space for pedestrians, crossing streets and the safety of pedestrians is paramount;
- Pedestrian access past outdoor cafes is at least 1,5 metres;
- No newly built outdoor cafes are allowed;
- Outdoor facilities are no longer allowed at fast-food outlets (transition period 3 years);
- No objects may be permanently fixed to the ground or on facades;
- Enforcement must be conform to the Mayor's step-by-step plan;
- The operator of the outdoor cafe is responsible for its appearance (including the furniture).

The conservation area and outdoor cafe policy

The outdoor cafe policy is based on the basic principles described in the Policy Programme 2006-2010 (*Programmakkoord 2006-2010*), the Manual for the Redevelopment of the Public Space Manual for Organising the Public Space (*Handboek Inrichting Openbare Ruimte*) and the Hotel and Catering Memorandum (*Horecanota*) of 2003. The aim of hotel, catering and outdoor cafe policy is to foster a lively city centre with multiple functions. The city centre must be organised in such a way that it is serviceable, durable and aesthetically appealing and the public space must be clean, intact, safe and accessible. Although the Executive Committee concentrates on maintaining the status of the conservation area, it has decided not to formulate (building aesthetics) criteria for objects placed on the sidewalk, based on the understanding that hotel and/or catering establishment operators have a vested interest in making their businesses appealing.

Authority in relation to outdoor cafes

The division of authority in relation to outdoor cafes is regulated by the Local Bylaws (APV), the Municipalities Act (*Gemeentewet*) and the Regulation for District Councils, which also define the relationship between the mayor, the chairperson of the Executive Committee and the Executive Committee. This has to take into account two issues that are the responsibility of two different bodies:

1. Public order and the protecting the living environment (responsibility of the mayor);
2. Regulating the functions of the public space (responsibility of the Executive Committee).

Evaluation framework for the outdoor cafe policy

Chapter 3 of the Local Bylaws and the outdoor cafe policy describe the evaluation framework for an operating licence for a outdoor cafe. The outdoor cafe policy takes other legislation into consideration, such as: other chapters in the Local Bylaws, the Environmental Management Act, AmvB Resolution for Hotel, Catering, Sport and Recreational Facilities, Environmental Management, Waste Products Regulations, Building Regulations Amsterdam 2006 (*AmvB Besluit horeca-, sport- en recreatie-inrichtingen milieubeheer, Afvalstoffenverordening, Bouwverordening Amsterdam 2006*).

If required and warranted, the chairperson of the Executive Committee determines if a permit application qualifies as an exception to the general regulations (estimated at 10% to 15% of applications).

Enforcing outdoor cafe policy

The enforcement policy is specified in the 2005 Integrated Enforcement Policy Plan (*Beleidsplan Integrale Handhaving*). The mayor has compiled step-by-step plans relating to the regulation of hotel and catering establishments. Central Amsterdam district is responsible for coordinating the enforcement of these regulations. The actual supervision of outdoor cafes is carried out by the Sanitation Police; the legal-administrative issues are handled by the Enforcement Department of Central Amsterdam district's Construction and Housing Department.

Based on the ratified Quantifiable Policy Programme (*Meetbaar Programmakoord*) 2006-2010, Central Amsterdam district has also established a hotel and catering information centre and a complaints procedure to facilitate the granting of permits, overall supervision and enforcement.

Threat	Measure
Damaging buildings by affixing materials to them.	Prohibiting the attachment of materials to buildings or sidewalks.
Visual pollution of the canals or cityscape resulting from poor quality outdoor cafe provisions. No aesthetic regulations have been specified for furniture used at outdoor cafes.	Enforcement is aimed at ensuring that the public space is clean, aesthetically appealing, durable, intact and safe. Hotel and/or catering establishment operators have a vested interest in maintaining the public space and should do so without it having to be regulated.

Opportunity	Value
The combination of recreation, living and working with respect to the outstanding universal values and limitations of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' and the historic city centre offer the opportunity for the intimate atmosphere and the human dynamic is retained, ensuring that visitors will find it an appealing place to recreate.	The orderly spatial structure and human scale of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' provides the area with a spatially enclosed and intimate atmosphere.

5.2.6 Hotel policy

Tourism in general and hotels in particular are important for the economic development and employment opportunities in the city, especially for 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal'. Cultural history, museums, cultural facilities and places of entertainment attract millions of visitors to Amsterdam's city centre each year. The City of Amsterdam wants to expand hotel capacity (also in the city centre) to ensure that the city's appeal as a tourist, congress and business centre does not diminish. Hotels can contribute to facilities in the city

centre, whereby visitors who stay in these facilities can directly experience the conservation area and the World Heritage site. Hotels developments can result in damage to historically valuable buildings and mono-functional developments in high-concentration areas. This subsection describes developments in the area of hotel policy in the property and the buffer zone as well as the measures that can – or should – be taken to safeguard the outstanding universal value.

Hotel policy in the City of Amsterdam

The Municipal Executive of the City of Amsterdam adopted the Hotel Policy Memorandum 2007-2010 (*Nota Hotelbeleid 2007-2010*) on 20 November 2007. This Memorandum maintains that sufficient hotel capacity is a basic requirement to achieving its economic goal for the City of Amsterdam as a business and congress hub and a tourist location. The Memorandum ascertains that existing hotel capacity is insufficient, while the number of overnight stays increases by 4% each year, which is why it recommends considerable expansion of hotel capacity.

The Municipal Executive and the Executive Committees of the district councils have agreed in the framework of the Hotel Policy Memorandum to jointly strive to achieve the goal of an additional 9000 hotel rooms by 2015. The Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district has promised to focus on generating an additional 2010 plans for 1000 rooms (over and above the existing plans), including at least 2 high-end hotels (above a five-star rating).

The Hotel Policy Memorandum states that the policy implemented by Central Amsterdam district only permits a new hotel development if it provides a quality impulse to the surrounding area: 'In practice, the term 'quality impulse' is very strictly interpreted, in various ways'.⁸⁹ The Memorandum states that it is desirable that Central Amsterdam district also provides a degree of leeway and specifies the ways in which this can occur.

Hotel policy in the Central Amsterdam District

To supplement the Hotel Policy for the City Centre 2004-2007 (*Hotelbeleid Binnenstad 2004-2007*), Central Amsterdam district has formulated new approaches and new policy in the Hotel Policy for the City Centre 2008-2011 (*Hotelbeleid Binnenstad 2008-2011*). The draft policy document was made available for discussion by the Executive Committee on 18 December 2007 and was approved by the Executive Committee on 19 February 2008; the district council adopted the policy document on 29 May 2008.

Criteria for expanding hotel capacity

The Hotel Policy for the City Centre 2008-2011 specifies the evaluation of hotel initiatives as follows:

- Hotel initiatives are evaluated for their compliance with each of the four spatial and urban planning criteria:
 - Encouraging multiple functions;
 - Quality impulse: custom work appropriate to the building and its surroundings; this includes:
 - Improving the structural quality of the building;
 - Renovating the structure and original architectural features and ensuring that these are visible;

⁸⁹ Hotel Policy Memorandum 2007-2010 (*Nota Hotelbeleid 2007-2010*), p. 48

- Improving the quality impulse of the building in relation to its surroundings (for example, the view from the street, the addition of publicly accessible functions, eliminating undesirable functions, improving public safety);
- No activities that draw excess traffic
- Ensuring that the parcelling and architectonic quality are appropriate to the conservation area, with the conservation and improvement of the historical spatial structure and the historically valuable buildings as the basic principles:
 - Vertical sectioning: the facade divisions must harmonise with the cityscape;
 - Horizontal sectioning: must harmonise with the parcelling of the surroundings;
 - Restore parcelling: must result in the restoration of the original/historic parcelling and structure;
 - Large-scale developments are preferred in large buildings;
- Hotel capacity within '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' can be increased by 150 rooms, amounting to 1/3 of the anticipated increase in hotel capacity in the city centre.

The City of Amsterdam specifies the following criteria for assessing the suitability of locations in the Hotel Policy Memorandum 2007-2010:

- Hotel development is permitted;
- Ground/building is available (in the short term);
- Accessibility/visibility (from Schiphol airport and the highway);
- Public transport within walking distance (heading towards the centre);
- Proximity of businesses (demand generators);
- Effect on immediate surroundings (walking distance);
- Sufficient parking facilities.

The Memorandum also states that providing opportunities for hotels with a rating higher than the existing five-star hotels within '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' is an absolute priority.

Spatial planning procedure

If a hotel initiative complies with the policy outlined above, then a special spatial planning procedure is required, because the initiative does not conform to the zoning plan:

- Central Amsterdam district makes use of its authority to alter the zoning plan, or;
- Central Amsterdam district uses those legal devices that enable it to deviate from the zoning plan, or;
- Central Amsterdam district revises the zoning plan.

In the Memorandum, the City of Amsterdam argues for the inclusion of hotel developments in metropolitan projects, which increasingly frequently involve a 'construction summary' that specifies less stringent requirements than an Urban Development Programme of Requirements (*Stedenbouwkundig Programma van Eisen, SPvE*).⁹⁰

Threat	Measure
Damaging buildings by breaking through the historical structure.	Specifying limitations to the adaptation of historically valuable buildings and the historical spatial structure by means of conservation zoning plans, ensuring that the

⁹⁰ Hotel Policy Memorandum 2007-2010 (*Nota Hotelbeleid 2007-2010*), p. 44

	development is suited to the conservation area and respecting the outstanding universal value and authenticity and integrity of the property.
Too many hotels will encroach the 'human scale' of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.	Promoting external multi-functionality by distributing hotels and promoting internal multi-functionality through a programmatic interpretation.
Damaging the architectonic diversity by modifying buildings.	Specifying the quality standards relating to the structural condition of the building and ensuring the original architectural features and structure of the building are renovated and remain visible.

Opportunity	Value
The distribution of hotel facilities conform to the prevailing cultural-historical, architectonic and spatial requirements as specified for a World Heritage site offers the opportunity for the architectonic diversity and spatial dynamic of the ring of canals to be preserved and thus remain appealing to visitors.	The orderly spatial structure and human scale of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' provides the area with a spatially enclosed and intimate character.

5.2.7 Advertising on facades

Besides being a residential area, people also work in Amsterdam's city centre. Businesses such as shops, offices, banks, hotels and catering facilities attempt to attract clients by means of advertisements that are sometimes affixed to the facades of buildings. The number of such advertisements has increased in recent years, to the frequent dismay of residents in the city centre.

Central Amsterdam district does not want advertisements that are affixed to facades to dominate the historic architecture or the public space, and it is currently drafting policy to limit these. Advertising on facades can contribute to the dynamism and multi-functionality of a modern city centre, but they can also dominate built heritage values.

This subsection describes developments in the policy relating to advertising on facades in the property and the measures being taken to safeguard the outstanding universal value.

Current advertising policy

The current advertising policy is described in the Advertising in the Public Space in Amsterdam's City Centre Memorandum (*Nota Reclame in de openbare ruimte in de binnenstad van Amsterdam*) of 1997, drafted by the civil service of Central Amsterdam district (*dienst Binnenstad*). The Guidelines for Advertising on Facades (*Guidelines Gevelreclame*), which are included in the 2006 Aesthetic Appearance Document, have been in force since 2004. The primary concern of the advertising guidelines is that the urban

structure and architecture remain visible throughout the entire city centre. The 2006 Aesthetic Appearance Document of Central Amsterdam district notes the following with regard to 'advertising and building aesthetics': 'The increase in advertising on facades in recent years has resulted in much concern among residents of the city centre. Many people do not appreciate the increasing numbers of brash and flashy signs attached to facades in the city centre. The Executive Committee has therefore reached a policy decision to reduce to acceptable proportions the size of all advertisements on facades as well as to monitor the quality of such advertisements. The focus is thus on improving quality and regulating the size and quantity of such advertisements, not on removing it altogether'.⁹¹

New advertising policy

In the meantime, Central Amsterdam district has drafted a new Policy Regulations for Advertising on Facades Memorandum (*Nota Beleidsregels gevelreclame*), which was expected to be approved by the district council around the end of November 2008. The new Memorandum proposes fine-tuning the regulations relating to the replacement of advertising on buildings, or if the function of a building changes or if it is acquired by a new owner. The aim of the new policy regulations is to ensure that advertising on facades harmonises with the outstanding universal values of the conservation area. The Memorandum prescribes a transition period for all forms of advertising, such as sign boards, illuminated advertising, billboards and advertising on roofs, which all have to be brought into compliance with the new policy within 3 to 5 years. Advertising that does not comply with the regulations at the end of this period must be removed by the owner, or will be removed by the district council at the owner's expense. Advertising on the facades of canal-side buildings, near public water and spaces with cultural-historical functions is forbidden. Because much of Central Amsterdam district is designated as a conservation area, the district council has to be informed of the intention to affix advertising to buildings before it occurs and in many cases a building permit and /or a monument permit is mandatory.

Historic advertising on facades

The Aesthetic Appearance Document 2006 states that Central Amsterdam district strives in principle to preserve and, if necessary, renovate historic advertisements on facades. In such cases, the facades are not allowed to be cleaned.

The Priority List of Historic Advertisements on Facades (*Aandachtslijst historische gevelreclames*) – an inventory of almost 400 historic advertisements compiled by the Study Group for Historic Advertisements on Facades (*Werkgroep Historische Gevelreclames*) – is used as the basis for these activities. This list can be requested from Central Amsterdam district. The Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology is informed of any activities and is consulted in the event of restoration.

Threat	Measure
Damaging the visual quality of the historic architecture with dominant advertisements, which overshadow the built heritage values	Enforcing the restrictions placed on advertising within the property.
A diminishing of the basis for conservation	The establishment by the responsible

⁹¹ Aesthetic Appearance Document (*Welstandsnota*) 2006 Borough of Central Amsterdam, p. 30

and maintenance by owners of structures within the property, in the event that their expectations of a certain level of conservation are not met.	authorities of a suitable level of conservation of cultural-historical and monumental values as specified for a World Heritage site of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.
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Opportunity	Value
Broad recognition and appreciation of the importance of preserving '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' offers the opportunity for these to be maintained in the long term, ensuring that it remains an appealing place to live.	Care and attention by both the authorities and the owners of structures within the property advances the preservation of the cultural-historical and built heritage values of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.

5.2.8 Parking

Parking in the city centre is discouraged as much as possible by Central Amsterdam district, because it makes great demands on the already limited public space. Aboveground parking can dominate the built heritage values and the conservation area '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'. At the same time, however, accessing the city centre is important for residents, businesses and visitors. Moreover, accessibility to the city centre contributes to the quality of life and thus to the basis for the preservation and maintenance of the city centre. This subsection describes developments in parking policy.

Parking policy in Central Amsterdam district

Central Amsterdam district specified the traffic, transport and parking policy for the city centre in the Accessibility to the City Centre Memorandum 2004-2009 (*Nota Bereikbaarheid Binnenstad 2004-2009*), which is an interpretation of European, national and local laws, and regulations and policy at district council level. The district council adopted it in 2005.

Central Amsterdam district's authority regarding parking is described in the Implementing Order Parking Regulations in Central Amsterdam District (*Uitvoeringsbesluit Parkeerverordening stadsdeel Amsterdam-Centrum*) of 2005 and the Garage Regulation (*Garageverordening*) of 2005 (for more on this subject, see the Heritage Site Document, pp. 69/70).

Mobility policy

The intricate street layout in the city centre limits accessibility to the city centre by car. Central Amsterdam district and the City of Amsterdam have for years been working with a policy aimed at improving mobility for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport, and reducing the number of cars in the city centre. The latter is achieved by limiting the number of parking places, increasing parking fees and establishing Park+Ride facilities on the outskirts of the city.

Results of the parking policy

The number of parking places on public roads in the city centre is steadily declining; the number of parking places was reduced between 2003 and 2006 from 16.400 to 15.900

places. Visitors use roughly half the parking places; permit holders' use the other half.⁹² Recent car-sharing initiatives (several companies rent cars that have permanent parking places to their members) appear to be popular in the city centre and account for 10% of users relinquishing their own cars. Reactions from residents of the city centre to the amount of parking facilities range from average to negative, especially in regard to the lack of parking facilities in the Burgwallen district and the southern section of the ring of canals (*Grachtengordel-Zuid*). Residents are positive about public transport facilities: trams, buses, the metro and trains.⁹³ When completed, the new North-South metro line (*Noord-Zuid lijn*) will expand these public transport facilities.

Developments in parking policy

Central Amsterdam district strives for a parking density of 90%⁹⁴ (daytime reading) (2006 daytime reading 87%⁹⁵) and to allocate parking places to permit holders to improve the quality of life for residents in the city centre. In part, this is possible because fewer visitors travel to the city centre by car. In addition, the district council has started preparing the construction of parking garages, including small parking lift garages beneath canals, streets or squares, for the benefit of permit holders who live or work nearby.

Threat	Measure
By dominating built heritage values, parked cars can have a negative impact on the visual quality of the historic city centre.	Reduce parking facilities in the public space within the property.
The cultural-historical and built heritage values of the buildings within '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' could be threatened by the construction and use of covered parking facilities garages and subterranean parking (lift) garages.	The responsible authorities have to specify building regulations for covered parking facilities and parking (lift) garages to safeguard the cultural-historical and built heritage values of the buildings in the property.
If the quality of life is negatively affected by the decrease in mobility it could result in a reduction in the basis for conservation and maintenance by owners of buildings within '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.	Provide alternative transport facilities, construct subterranean parking facilities, promote car sharing and improve access to parking places for permit holders who reside within the property.

Opportunity	Value
Broad acknowledgement of the importance of '17th-century canal ring	Care and attention by both the authorities and the owners of buildings within the

⁹² Parking Research in the City Centre (*Parkeeronderzoek Binnenstad*), 2007

⁹³ Index-related Report Amsterdam City Centre 06/07 (*Tendrapport Amsterdamse binnenstad 06/07*)

⁹⁴ Programme Budget 2008 Borough of Central Amsterdam (*Programmabegroting 2008 stadsdeel Centrum*), pp. 102/107

⁹⁵ Index-related Report Amsterdam City Centre 06/07 (*Tendrapport Amsterdamse binnenstad 06/07*), p. 81

<p>area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as built heritage, coupled with discouraging the use of cars and above-ground parking facilities, offers the opportunity of preserving '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' for the long term, ensuring that it will remain an appealing place to reside.</p>	<p>property promotes the preservation of the cultural-historical and built heritage values of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.</p>
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5.2.9 Water in the city centre

Amsterdam's historic canals are a world famous monument, which is a reason why 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal' was designated as a conservation area in 1999. The many canals constructed during the 17th-century urban expansion of Amsterdam are a considerable contribution to the charm of the public spaces in these areas of the city. They have great appeal for national and international visitors. The canals and the houses that line them determine the atmosphere of the city centre.

Regarding the system of canals in '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', the most important issues are the main arterial and transverse canals, their prominence in and significance for the spatial structure and their functions: water management, industrial and recreational shipping, and berthing areas for houseboats.

The ground water level and the water level are of paramount importance to the preservation of the thousands of monuments lining and in close proximity to these canals; this also applies to the many monuments within Amsterdam's medieval core. Too high or too low a water level can result in flooding or in the subsidence of buildings. The tops of wooden foundation piles dry out if the water level is too low, which can have a devastating structural effect on historic buildings.

This section provides an overview of the most important agreements regarding the maintenance of the canals, wharfs and artworks, the administration of the various ways in which the water is used, and about how the water level is monitored and controlled.

All aspects relating to the management of the water in '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' are of paramount importance for the conservation and maintenance – not only of the canals themselves and their embankments but also of the built heritage. This subsection describes developments in the area of water policy within the property and the measures that have been – or must be – taken to safeguard the outstanding universal value of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.

Plan for the use of the water within '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'

Water as a visually important element

The water coursing through the canals constructed during the 17th-century urban expansion, the late-medieval ramparts, the Amstel, the Singelgracht canal and the IJ are important visual reminders of Amsterdam's historic past. To a large degree, water determines the spatial planning, the atmosphere and the visual appearance of the city. The water provides

opportunities for multiple (semi-)permanent and dynamic functions. It is used for residences and offices, for pleasure trips and for the transportation of people and goods.

Plan for the water

The Plan for the Water in the City Centre Memorandum (*Visie op het water van de Binnenstad*) (approved by the district council on 26 January 2006) provides a substantive evaluation framework for assessing developments and initiatives relating to the water and the embankments lining the canals in the city centre. The Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district's Plan for the Water in the City Centre Memorandum aims at improving the spatial quality as well as the historical and contemporary identity of the cityscape as a conservation area.

The plan thus indicates:

- Which structures, organisation and functions are appropriate for the water and the embankments lining the canals in the city centre;
- The basic cultural-historical, spatial, functional and nautical principles that must be followed when organising and using the water and the embankments lining the canals for houseboats and barges, cargo ships and pleasure craft;
- The subjects that may require policy development or adaptation.

The future policy of Central Amsterdam district with regard to water will be shaped according to this plan, including the measures detailed below.

Because of its importance to the conservation area, Central Amsterdam district intends to better preserve the cultural-historical value of water in the city centre by.⁹⁶

- Improving the structure of the water: preserving water, quays, shores and structurally important elements, such as berths for houseboats and cargo vessels and other mooring facilities;
- Incorporating the structure and the uses of the water in spatial plans for the city centre.

Multi-faceted Water Zoning Plan (*Facetbestemmingsplan water*)

The most important follow-up to the plan is creating a Multi-faceted Water Zoning Plan with a legal-spatial planning basis; this multi-faceted zoning plan will likely be adopted in 2009.

This Multi-faceted zoning plan will replace all regulations relating to water in the existing zoning plans for Amsterdam within the Singelgracht. The usual procedure for a zoning plan will be followed until it is adopted.

Aesthetics on the water

In addition, Central Amsterdam district is specifying a policy document for aesthetics on the water, quay- and shore use by houseboats (was expected October 2008); policy documents relating to jetties, the Jetty Plan (*Steigerplan*), were adopted on 22 January 2008; cargo vessels, the Implementation Memorandum for Cargo Vessel Policy (*Uitvoeringsnota bedrijfsvaartuigenbeleid*) on 11 December 2007; and pleasure craft, the Implementation Memorandum for Pleasure Craft Policy (*Uitvoeringsnota pleziervaartuigenbeleid*) on 10 April 2007.

Key point 25:

Central Amsterdam district will ensure that the ratified Multi-faceted Water Zoning Plan and the Aesthetics policy document will be appended to the nomination dossier

⁹⁶ Plan for the Water in the City Centre (*Visie op het water in de binnenstad*), pp. 17-20

as quickly as possible through the intermediation of the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built before it is submitted to the World Heritage Committee.

Authority and responsibilities: management, maintenance and enforcement

The authority and responsibility for the various functions of and on the water are divided between several organisations. The function of water is divided into three categories: 1) a physical system, 2) a transport system, and 3) part of the public space:

- The management of water as a physical system (water management) is the responsibility of the administrators of the quantity and quality of the water system, i.e., the State and the Province of North Holland, who authorise or transfer tasks to the Ministry of Waterways and Public Works (*Rijkswaterstaat*) and the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board (*Hoogheemraadschap Amstel, Gooi en Vecht*, AGV) respectively. The Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board manages most of the water in Amsterdam. The implementation of the tasks performed by the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board has been delegated to Waternet⁹⁷.
- Two nautical managers are responsible for the management of water as a transportation system (nautical waterway management). The nautical management of the harbour area was assigned by the City of Amsterdam to the Central Nautical Administration of the North Sea Canal Area (*Centraal Nautisch Beheer Noordzeekanaalgebied*). The City of Amsterdam assigned responsibility for nautical waterway management of the inland waterways in Amsterdam and Central Amsterdam district to the Inland Waterway Management Department Amsterdam (*Dienst Binnenwaterbeheer Amsterdam*; BBA).
- Central Amsterdam district is authorised to manage water as part of the public space.

An overview of the ways in which the water in the city centre is managed follows below.

Ad 1. Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board

The Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board is responsible for clean water, maintaining the correct water level for protection against floods and dehydration in the area, i.e., Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board is responsible for managing the water as a physical system:

- Protecting the area from flooding;
- Maintaining the correct water levels in rivers, lakes, canals and locks;
- Ensuring consistent water quality;
- Safeguarding water quality;
- Adequate processing of waste water;
- Ensuring waterways remain navigable (secondary task).

Waternet

Waternet is the implementing organisation in the area managed by the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board. The City of Amsterdam and the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board manage Waternet. Waternet is responsible for:

- The production and delivery of drinking water;
- Sewerage and cleaning the canals in the City of Amsterdam;

⁹⁷ Waternet: The Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board (*Hoogheemraadschap Amstel, Gooi en Vecht*, AGV) and the City of Amsterdam created the Water Management and Sewerage Department (*Dienst Waterbeheer en Riolerings*, DWR) to implement their tasks. DWR merged with the previous Municipal Water Authority Amsterdam (*Waterleidingbedrijf Amsterdam*) to create Waternet in January 2006. The City of Amsterdam retains full authority for the provision of drinking water; AGV is responsible for all other water-related task in the area.

- Processing waste water;
- Improving the quality of surface water;
- Protecting the area against floods;
- Maintaining the correct water levels in rivers, lakes, canals and locks;
- Ensuring waterways remain navigable.

Executes the following tasks that fall under the authority of the City of Amsterdam:

- 'Shallow' ground water (freatic ground water: uppermost water-bearing layer), dredging waterways and removing surface pollution;
- Construction, management and maintenance of drains and associated installations.

By order of the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board:

- Quality management of polders and runoff areas;
- Quality management of surface water;
- Processing waste water;
- Functional management of locks and floodgates (opening and closing).

Ad 2. City of Amsterdam's Department of Inland Waterway Management Amsterdam (BBA) and the Regional Police

The Regulation on the Harbour and Inland Water (*Verordening op de haven en het binnenwater*) includes the City of Amsterdam's regulations regarding the management of the inland waterways as a transportation system.

As the nautical waterway manager, BBA is responsible for the prompt, safe and environmentally responsible coordination of shipping traffic, with the exception of part of the harbour, which is the responsibility of the Municipal Port Authority (*Gemeentelijk Havenbedrijf*). In addition, if requested BBA specifies the nautical policy and advises the district councils. The tasks of the BBA are:

- Granting permits and exemptions for cruise boats, special transportation and events, and prohibitions on entry by water and mooring (priority tasks in the Regulation for District Councils);
- Enforcing public order and safety on the water and regulating water traffic (BBA and the Regional Police);
- Initiating and enforcing traffic regulations for the inland waterways (BBA and the Regional Police);
- Operating the bridges, locks and floodgates;
- Imposing and collecting inland harbour duties for recreational and industrial shipping;
- Removing wrecks and dilapidated boats;
- Issuing operating permits for passenger transport;
- BBA is authorised by Central Amsterdam district to issue exemptions and permits for houseboats, cargo vessels and objects.

Ad 3. Central Amsterdam District

Central Amsterdam district is responsible for the water as part of the public space (the names of institutions responsible for implementing the tasks are included in brackets):

- Organisation and use of the public space:
 - Specifying a plan (district council) and implementing policy plans (Executive Committee);
- Specifying zoning plans based on the Spatial Planning Act (district council):
 - Indicating areas where houseboats and cargo vessels are and are not permitted, and if they are, the type and size of vessel;
 - Indicating the locations of jetties and public boarding facilities;

- Permits and policy regulations based on the Regulation on the Harbour and Inland Water (*Verordening op de Haven en het Binnenwater*, VHB):
 - Granting permits and exemptions for houseboats, cargo vessels, large pleasure craft, etc. (Executive Committee);
 - Specifying policy regulations relating to aesthetics on the water (district council);
 - Specifying policy regulations relating to facilities for houseboats and cargo vessels (jetties, rafts, balconies, etc.) (Executive Committee);
- Berths and the mooring policy for pleasure craft (the district council is responsible for areas within the zoning plan; the Executive Committee is responsible for the mooring policy);
- Granting permission for events on the water based on the Local Bylaws (chairperson Executive Committee, mandated by the mayor);
- Maintenance of quays and shores (Executive Committee);
- Maintenance schedule for dredging and designating receiving depots (Executive Committee in cooperation with AGV/Waternet);
- Filling-in waterways (district council);
- Bridge maintenance (Executive Committee Central Amsterdam district or the Infrastructure, Traffic and Transport Department, because some bridges are the responsibility of the City of Amsterdam).

Coordinating municipal departments and public companies

Plans and draft resolutions for many tasks and responsibilities connected to public water can only be implemented in consultation with other authorised agencies (see below). Sometimes a comprehensive consultation period is legally required, because policy resolutions cannot be implemented without the cooperation of other authorised agencies. Central Amsterdam district always requests advice from all the departments, sectors and/or (municipal) public companies that are involved when considering permit and exemption procedures. This ensures that a permit issued on the basis of one law or regulation does not conflict with other legislation.

The following municipal departments contribute directly or indirectly to regulating the use of water:

- Amsterdam Port Authority (*Gemeentelijk Havenbedrijf Amsterdam*; GHA): the GHA manages, operates and develops the harbours on behalf of the district council.⁹⁸ The Municipal Executive has assigned responsibilities derived from the Regulation on the Harbour and Inland Water (*Verordening op de Haven en het Binnenwater*, VHB) to the harbour master, including, for example, regulations that result from the Dangerous Goods Transportation Act (*Wet Vervoer Gevaarlijke Stoffen*). The GHA and the BBA cooperate in ensuring the unrestricted passage of ships transporting dangerous cargoes on transit waterways within the City of Amsterdam;
- Physical Planning Department (*Dienst Ruimtelijke Ordening*, DRO): the DRO advises district councils regarding plans for the (re-)organisation of the public space, including the water and the embankments lining the water in the area. The DRO provides the design for the public space, including waterways and floodgates, for most metropolitan projects;
- Infrastructure, Traffic and Transport Department (*Dienst Infrastructuur, Verkeer en Vervoer*; DIVV): the DIVV maintains locks and bridges, embankments on dikes that are municipal property, and the banks of the eastern (Amstel) and western waterways;

⁹⁸ Organising Water (*Water op orde*), p. 12

- The Construction and Development Department of the City of Amsterdam (*Ontwikkelingsbedrijf Gemeente Amsterdam; OGA*): the OGA supervises temporary embankments in metropolitan projects;
- The Environmental and Building Department (*Dienst Milieu en Bouwtoezicht; DMB*): the DMB is responsible for implementing the Environmental Management Act, which includes regulations regarding the discharge of water into the sewerage system.

Crisis management

The City of Amsterdam, the Public Prosecutor and the Amsterdam-Amstelland Police have compiled the Manual of Physical Safety (*Handboek Fysieke Veiligheid*) (see <http://fysiekeveiligheid.eenveiligamsterdam.nl>). This manual describes the policy, organisation and the agencies responsible for ensuring public safety in Amsterdam and the operating procedures should a crisis occur.

The mayor is designated by Articles 170 and 172 of the Local Government Act (*Gemeentewet*) as ultimately responsible for physical safety in the district. The board of the Public Order and Safety Department (*Openbare orde en Veiligheid; OOV*) of the civil service (*Bestuursdienst*) support the mayor in fulfilling this function.

The Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board is responsible for maintaining the correct water level and protecting Amsterdam from floods. The Crisis Management Plan of the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board applies in the event of a crisis resulting from fluctuations to the water level.⁹⁹

Responsibility for Amsterdam's waterways¹⁰⁰

Depending on their functions, Amsterdam's waterways also fall under the authority of several agencies. The international transport waterways are the responsibility of the Ministry of Waterways and Public Works. The waterways (see nos. 1 to 7 below) are part of the urban infrastructure and are managed by the district council. The secondary waterways (nos. 8 to 14 below) are managed by the districts and are protected by their inclusion in the structural plan. The waterways are:

- International transport waterways, managed by the Ministry of Waterways and Public Works:
 1. The IJ, part of the main international transport waterways, class 6A;
- Main waterways, managed by the district council:
 1. The North Sea Canal, the Closed-off IJ and Buiten-IJ (*Afgesloten IJ and Buiten-IJ*);
 2. The North Holland Canal;
 3. The Amsterdam-Rhine Canal (*Amsterdam-Rijnkanaal*);
 4. de Gaasp and Weespertrekvaart;
 5. Oosterdok- Schippersgracht canal – Nieuwe Herengracht canal and Amstel;
 6. Oude Houthaven – Westerkanaal – Singelgracht canal – Kattensloot – Kostverlorenvaart – Schinkel and Nieuwe Meer;
 7. The Ringvaart around the Haarlemmermeerpolder;
- Secondary waterways, managed by the district councils, intended for smaller cargo vessels and recreational boats:
 8. Oosterdok – Oude Schans – Zwanenburgwal
 9. Westerdok – de korte Prinsengracht canal – Prinsengracht canal – Singelgracht canal

⁹⁹ Link Crisis management plan (*Crisisbeheersingsplan*) AGV: www.agv.nl /

¹⁰⁰ Organising Water (*Water op orde*), p. 34

10. Westerdok – Zoutkeetsgracht canal – Westerkanaal
11. Akersluis – Slotterplas – Slottermeerschutsluis – Admiralengracht canal (tot aan Kostverlorenvaart)
12. Nieuwe Vaart – Lozingskanaal – Singelgracht canal – Amstel
13. Amstelkanaal – Zuider Amstelkanaal – Stadiongracht canal and Olympia canal
14. (Nieuwe Meer) Ringsloot – Hoornsloot – Landscheidingsvaart (De Poel).

5.2.10 Water as a physical system

Water management

Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Statute (*Keur AGV*)

The Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board (AGV) is primarily responsible for water management of the primary waterways in Amsterdam's city centre; these responsibilities are specified in the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Statute. They relate to processing waste water, water quality and floods. The implementation of these tasks is the responsibility of Waternet.

The articles in the statute also relate to Amsterdam's canals which, according to the statute map (the *Keurkaart*), are primary waterways:

'Primary waterways are bodies of waters to which water boards have ascribed an important function in the supply and drainage of water from and to drainage areas, and which are also important for the supply and drainage of water for a number of rights holders. This concerns most of the run-off water (*boezemwateren*) and many mains-water courses. In urban areas the concept 'primary waterways' is interpreted more broadly because urban water boards have to manage considerably more water due to the many residents dependent on good drainage, as well as the fact that the embankments are frequently part of the public space.'¹⁰¹

Dikes

The Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board is responsible for managing and maintaining the main dikes in and around Amsterdam's city centre. The main dikes protect the management area from flooding by water from the IJ, the North Sea Canal and the Amsterdam-Rhine Canal (indirectly from the North Sea and the Rhine) and from the IJmeer and the Gooimeer, both of which are parts of Markermeer. The following regulation is specified in the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Statute:

'In Amsterdam a compartmentalisation of the runoff water is possible to close off the city catchments area from the surrounding catchments areas of the North Sea Canal and Amsterdam-Rhine Canal and the Amstelland catchments area. The necessary barricades in the water include sluices and lockable floodgates or doors. The Compartmentalisation of the Runoff Water in Amsterdam (*Compartmentering boezemwater Amsterdam*) (immediately alongside the quay) is defined as being within the (wider) more elevated areas between these barricades in the water. If a catchments area barricade outside Amsterdam collapses, much of the runoff water can drain into the surrounding land. The compartmentalising of runoff water, including the quays (embankments) that are part of this system, ensures that the runoff water in the City of Amsterdam remains at the correct level. If the level of the runoff water in the City of Amsterdam is too low it can result in quays collapsing and a great deal of damage to structures (subsidence) because of the ground water level being too low. For this

¹⁰¹ Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Statute, p. 45

reason the choice was made to apply the status of 'indirect secondary water barricade' (*indirecte secundaire waterkering*) to the Compartmentalisation along the northern edge of the City of Amsterdam behind the main dikes around the IJ, as well as around the southern edge, roughly following the Amstel canals and the Singelgracht canal. The compartmentalising of runoff water is indicated on the Keurkaart van Amsterdam.¹⁰²

The Keurkaart of Amsterdam, which indicates the compartmentalising of the runoff water, is included in Chapter 1. The Keurkaart and the list of Waternet's dikes, locks, drainage sluices and floodgates are included as an appendix to the nomination dossier.

Because of its low elevation, Amsterdam is surrounded by locks that protect the city from flooding. A distinction is made between the primary and secondary dikes:¹⁰³

- Primary locks provide protection from 'outside water', i.e., water from the sea, large lakes, rivers and canals;
- Secondary locks protect the surrounding polder areas from runoff water.

Amsterdam's primary locks secure the city from the IJsselmeer, the IJmeer, and the Markermeer lakes, the IJ, the North Sea Canal and the Amsterdam-Rhine Canal. The Province of North Holland is responsible for the operational management of the primary locks; the technical management and maintenance have been assigned to district water boards. Representatives from Waternet, the Infrastructure, Traffic and Transport Department, Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board and the Province of North Holland conduct an annual survey of the high-water barricades.

The water level and ground water level

Water level, ground water and cultural-historical values

Tackling ground water problems in Amsterdam is fraught with problems. In many places the ground water level is too high or too low in relation to the ground level or the houses.

'High' ground water results in problems like water in the crawl space, mould on walls, musty air or a soggy garden. Specific problems affect areas that are at a lower elevation than their surroundings, such as the old parks and the so-called polder drainage area.

Another problem arises if the ground water subsides to levels below the height of the wooden pile foundations: the wooden piles rot if exposed to air, which can cause structural subsidence and/or cracks in buildings.

The ground water level is not only influenced by the water level but also by the 'deep' and the 'shallow' ground water level. The Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board is responsible for maintaining the correct ground water level; the Province of North Holland is responsible for maintaining the 'deep' ground water level; and the City of Amsterdam monitors the 'shallow' ground water level.

Water level

Maintaining the correct water level in the urban area is specified in the Policy Document Guidelines for Water Level Management (*Beleidsnota Richtlijnen Peilbeheer*, 2003) of the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board. Guideline 14 states that maintaining a fluctuating water level in the urban area must always take into consideration the existing buildings and structures, (dehydrated) wooden pile foundations, artworks, sheet piling, the heights of

¹⁰² Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Statute, p. 40

¹⁰³ Organising Water (*Water op orde*), p. 14

barricades or collapsed drains and houseboats.¹⁰⁴ This Guideline emphasises cultural-historical values and the impact of fluctuating water levels on archaeological values.

The Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board adjusts water levels to meet the demands of the various users or the surrounding land.

This occurs by means of water-level decisions that form part of (integral) Water District Plans (*Watergebiedsplannen*).

Provinces will specify a compulsory methodology appropriate to the various interests: the Desired Ground and Surface Water Regime (*Gewenste Grond- en Oppervlaktewater Regime*; GGOR)¹⁰⁵.

The Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board will incorporate this methodology in new Water District Plans, and they ensure that water-level decisions that have already been specified are 'GGOR-proof'. The AGV is also going to focus on processing the backlog of permit applications relating to poor drainage and high water level facilities.

Standard ground water level

The advisable distance between ground level and the ground water level in urban areas is determined by the buildings and the way the ground is used. A drainage depth of between 0.5 and 0.9 metres is maintained in urban areas. A depth greater than 0.9 metres is only advisable if no wooden piles dry out as a result. Amsterdam uses the standard ground water level during urban developments or renovations to prevent new problems arising.

Managing ground water

The province is responsible for maintaining ground water based on the Groundwater Act (*Grondwaterwet*)¹⁰⁶ (Provincial Ground Water Regulation).

The water boards indirectly influence the ground water level by managing the water level of surface water and are responsible for drainage.

The responsibility for 'shallow' ground water is not regulated (until the adoption of the new Water Act, expected in 2009), but is assigned to Waternet by the district council.

The Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board has access to the knowledge and necessary experience in the area of ground water because Waternet is responsible for implementing ground water policy for the City of Amsterdam, but it does not bear responsibility. The city council is responsible for the urban ground water; the province is responsible for the 'deep' ground water. The Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board advises city councils on ground water, and collaborates in the drafting of urban water plans related to urban ground water. The Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board always explicitly includes the ground water in water-level decisions and when evaluating spatial plans by means of a Water evaluation (*Watertoets*).

A correct correlation of the aboveground zoning and the (future) ground water level is a precondition to preventing problems caused by ground water in the existing area as well as in areas awaiting new development. In rural and urban areas this is achieved by correlating the surface water level and land use. The ways in which the terrain in urban areas awaiting

¹⁰⁴ Policy Memorandum Guidelines Water Level Management (*Beleidsnota Richtlijnen Peilbeheer*), p. 21

¹⁰⁵ In the 4th Water Management Memorandum (*Nota waterhuishouding*; V&W, 1998) the provinces were asked to specify the Desired Ground and Surface Water Regulation (*Gewenste Grond- en Oppervlaktewater Regime*; GGOR) by the end of 2002 to ensure that the targets for water in an area are specified. The district water boards will draft their GGORs between 2005 and 2010.

¹⁰⁶ Organising Water (*Water op orde*), p. 16

new development is prepared for construction and how it will be developed are also important.

Tackling high and low ground water levels

To keep abreast of the various ground water problems, Amsterdam has an extensive system of around 3500 water gauges, which are frequently monitored to regulate the ground water level. If ground water problems are reported, Waternet identifies the source of the problem and takes the appropriate measures.

During the period 2007-2011 Waternet will utilise two measures aimed at dealing with a low ground water level:¹⁰⁷

- One-off analysis of the relationship between the foundations and the ground water levels; the archival information about the height of the foundations are inventoried prior to this stage commencing;
- Research into possible infiltration in areas where a low ground water level is a real problem and compiling infiltration plans.

The Subsidy Regulation for Areas in Amsterdam with Ground Water Problems (*Subsidieverordening grondwater probleemgebieden Amsterdam*) was enacted on 1 April 2004 to stimulate a collective approach by owners and residents when dealing with ground water problems. After the causes have been identified and the necessary measures have been specified, owners and residents can apply for subsidies based on this regulation for measures they have to take in or to their homes to remedy ground water problems.

Key point 26:

When formulating ground water policy, the parties responsible for maintaining ground water must take into careful consideration the cultural-historical values and the consequences resulting from the ground water level being too 'high' or too 'low' within the World Heritage site.

The preliminary memorandum Living with Ground Water (Leven met grondwater) of the Amsterdam Water Plan (Waterplan Amsterdam) offers the City of Amsterdam and Central Amsterdam district the opportunity of formulating general rules for the preservation of cultural-historical values within '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' and within the conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal'. In this regard the international obligations resulting from the designation of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as a World Heritage site – which also apply to the conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal' – must be integrated during revisions to the Amsterdam Water Plan.

Remaining responsibilities and tasks relating to water

Dredging

The Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board is responsible for maintaining the correct depth of primary waterways by dredging, including the canals in Amsterdam that are part of the runoff water drainage system (Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Statute, Article 11, Clause 5).

In Amsterdam, Waternet is tasked by the City of Amsterdam with dredging as part of waterway management. Waternet is also responsible for (or contributes financially to)

¹⁰⁷ Amsterdam Ground Water Memorandum 2007-2011 (*Nota Grondwater Amsterdam 2007-2011*), p. 15

dredging, draining and processing sediment retrieved from most of the water in Amsterdam.¹⁰⁸

Safety on the water

The BBA has been appointed by the City of Amsterdam (Mayor and Aldermen) as the nautical waterway management agency responsible for monitoring and enforcing safety on the water. This occurs according to the provisions of the Shipping Act (*Scheepvaartverkeerswet*), the National Inland Navigation Police Regulations (*Binnenvaartpolitie-reglement*, BPR) and the Local Act on Harbour and Inland Waterways (*Verordening op het haven en binnenwater*). BBA patrols the waterways using six vessels; from 07h00 to 01h00 during the high season, and from 07h00 to 23h00 during the low season.

Combating problems associated with water

The Inland Waterway Management Department Amsterdam (BBA) cooperates with the Regional Police in combating problems associated with water. Each year they agree on how these tasks will be implemented.¹⁰⁹ In 2002 the BBA created a Registration Centre for problems associated with water. The Registration Centre receives approximately 200 complaints during winter and 400 complaints during summer relating to infringements and problems resulting from noise pollution, high speeds and illegal mooring.¹¹⁰

Crisis situations

The agreements in the Crisis Management Plan (*Crisisbeheersingsplan*) of the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board and Waternet, and the Manual of Physical Safety of the City of Amsterdam apply in the event of crisis. See the overview Allocation of Authority with Respect to Water (*Bevoegdheidsverdeling op het water*) and Section 4.9 Disasters (*Calamiteiten*) for more on this subject.

5.2.11 Water as a transport system

The various district councils are largely responsible for the implementation of the Local Act on Harbour and Inland Waterways (2006). The Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district has mandated the director of the Inland Waterway Management Department Amsterdam (BBA) to implement the regulations on behalf of the Executive Committee and an implementation contract has been agreed to this effect. To enforce the regulations, the Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district adopted the programme Enforcement on the Inland Waterways of Central Amsterdam District; Policy and Programme 2007 (*Handhaving op het binnenwater in Amsterdam-Centrum; Beleid en programma 2007*) on 3 July 2007. This enforcement programme specifies the tasks of monitors and staff for the nautical, legal and administrative departments as well as the enforcement of policy. A new priority ranking of enforcement tasks is compiled each year.

Cargo vessels

The Plan for the Water in the City Centre (*Visie op het water van de Binnenstad*; 2006), the Regulation on the Harbour and Inland Water (*Verordening op de haven en het binnenwater*, 2006; VHB), the Amsterdam Water Memorandum (*Nota Amsterdam te Water*, 1995), the Evaluation Report on the Amsterdam Water Memorandum (*Evaluatierapport van de Nota*

¹⁰⁸ Dredging Policy Memorandum (*Nota Baggerbeleid*), The Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board (AGV), p. 7

¹⁰⁹ Programme Budget 2008 Borough of Central Amsterdam (*Programmabegroting 2008 stadsdeel Centrum*), p. 77

¹¹⁰ Water Levels; The Condition of Amsterdam's Inland Water (*Waterstanden; De stand van het Amsterdamse Binnenwater*), p.

Amsterdam te Water, 1999), and the Implementation Memorandum for Cargo Vessel Policy in the City Centre (*Uitvoeringsnotitie voor het bedrijfsvaartuigenbeleid in de binnenstad*; 2007) are the most important documents relating to basic policy decisions and regulations pertaining to cargo vessels. The relevant basic principles applying to cargo vessels in the framework of this management plan are:

- A mooring permit is required for a cargo vessel berth. These regulations have been included in the municipal regulations since 1974 (initially Local Bylaws, part of the VHB since 1995);
- Since 1996 no mooring permits have been granted in the district for cargo vessels (Council paper [*Gemeentebblad*] section 3, 1996, no. 103). Cruise boats are exempted, as they have been granted operating permits since 1996;
- On 11 December 2007 the Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district adopted the Memorandum for Cargo Vessel Policy in the City Centre; Permit Procedures and Enforcement (*Uitvoeringsnota van het bedrijfsvaartuigenbeleid in de binnenstad; Vergunningverlening en handhaving*), which specifies that cargo vessels must have a permit for a permanent mooring place, a condition being that they are engaged in water-related business activities. Approximately 270 cargo vessels (including about 140 cruise boats and luxury boats used for canal tours and 60 water bikes) have permanent mooring places where water-based activities occur.¹¹¹

Cruise boats

For years cruises through Amsterdam's waterways by boat have been the most popular attraction in Amsterdam's city centre (and in fact throughout The Netherlands). In 2005 and 2006 Amsterdam ArenA attracted almost two-thirds of the total number of cruise boat passengers and Amsterdam Zoo (Artis) and the Aquarium the remaining one-third. These estimates are based on annual statistics of the number of visitors to attractions and events by the Amsterdam Tourism and Congress Bureau.¹¹²

Pleasure craft

The Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district adopted the Mooring Policy for Pleasure Craft in the City Centre Memorandum (*Afmeerbeleid voor pleziervaartuigen in de binnenstad*) on 10 April 2007. This memorandum provides insights into existing mooring facilities and those that could be developed for pleasure craft, and lays the foundations for the Multi-faceted Water Zoning Plan (currently under development), conform to the preconditions for water transit profiles of the nautical waterway management agency BBA. Pleasure craft exceeding 12 metres in length are not allowed to moor in the city centre without permission, which is only granted if the vessel in question is a historic pleasure craft.¹¹³

The Programme Budget 2008 included an incidental priority of more than €200.000 covering the period until the end of 2010 for the realisation of mooring facilities for pleasure craft.¹¹⁴

On 6 May 2008 part of this amount was redirected to help pay for the rapid construction of jetties in the city centre.

¹¹¹ Memorandum for Cargo Vessel Policy in the City Centre (*Uitvoeringsnota van het bedrijfsvaartuigenbeleid*), pp. 7/8

¹¹² Amsterdam in Figures 2007 (*Amsterdam in cijfers 2007*), ATCB / institutes 2002-2006 (table 11.2.1)

¹¹³ Committee for Historic Ships Regulation (*Reglement commissie historische schepen*, 1996)

¹¹⁴ Programme Budget 2008 Borough of Central Amsterdam (*Programmabegroting 2008 stadsdeel Centrum*), p. 77, and the amendment of 6 May 2008

5.2.12 Water as part of the public space

Maintaining embankments, bridges and quays

The City of Amsterdam prioritises the safeguarding of the historical values of the embankments and bridges. Central Amsterdam district is responsible for maintaining and restoring embankments and many of the bridges in the district. To this end, the district council schedules annual maintenance and project-based restoration of the embankments and the bridges and drafts a budget. The bridges owned by the City of Amsterdam are maintained by the Traffic and Transport Infrastructure Service (*Dienst Infrastructuur Verkeer en Vervoer*).

The hydraulic installations in Central Amsterdam district comprise 65 kilometres of quay walls, embankments and banks, 30 jetties and 173 bridges. Seventy bridges are inscribed on the National Monument Register or on the Municipal Monuments List; they are also included in the Classification Map (*Ordekaart*). The Amstel Locks are also a protected National Monument.

A management system is used to ascertain if bridges and shoreline facilities require maintenance. Each year, extensive maintenance and project-based work is undertaken on embankments, bridges and jetties.

In 2008 an amount of €2,4 million was budgeted for the management and maintenance of bridges and facilities on the embankments.¹¹⁵ Approximately €2,3 million was spent on these tasks in 2007.¹¹⁶ This enables Central Amsterdam district to ensure that the historic and built heritage values of the embankments and bridges is retained during any restoration.

The use of wharfs and embankments

The Use of Wharfs and Embankments Memorandum (*Nota Kade- en oeveragebruik*) of 1995 contains the prevailing policy framework for the use of water and the quaysides. A new implementation memorandum describing this is in preparation.¹¹⁷ It will include new policy regulations regarding the organisation of public spaces in the vicinity of water, i.e., wharfs and embankments and the water itself. This policy will not only apply to houseboats, but also to boarding facilities for passengers and loading facilities for cargo, as well as mooring facilities for cargo vessels and pleasure craft.¹¹⁸

Jetties and boarding facilities

The Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district adopted the Jetty Plan for Amsterdam's City Centre (*Steigerplan in de Amsterdamse binnenstad*) on 22 January 2008. The district council intends to use this plan to create a network of public boarding facilities and jetties. Implementation is anticipated in 2010. The jetties will be concentrated close to canal cruise operators, stopping places for the 'canal bus' and other scheduled services operating on the waterways, near hotels, catering facilities and museums. These measures will improve accessibility to the city centre by water transport as well as facilitate the movement of people and goods. The Plan for Jetties in Amsterdam's City Centre defines the division of responsibilities accorded to the district council (The Sector for Public Space [*Sector Openbare Ruimte*], Construction and Housing Department, Spatial Policy Department) and those assigned to others (BBA and the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water

¹¹⁵ Programme Budget 2008 Borough of Central Amsterdam (*Programmabegroting 2008 stadsdeel Centrum*), p. 164

¹¹⁶ Programme Budget 2008 Borough of Central Amsterdam (*Programmabegroting 2008 stadsdeel Centrum*), p. 160

¹¹⁷ Programme Budget 2008 Borough of Central Amsterdam (*Programmabegroting 2008 stadsdeel Centrum*), p. 77

¹¹⁸ Implementation Instruments of the Plan for the Water in the City Centre Memorandum (*Notitie uitvoeringsinstrumenten van de Visie op het water van de binnenstad*), p. 6

Board/Waternet).¹¹⁹ The Use of Wharfs and Embankments Memorandum (1995) is still used as the policy framework when evaluating the uses of the water.

As a result of the adopted Plan for the Water in the City Centre Memorandum (*Visie op het water van de Binnenstad*), an amount of €25.000 was allocated in the Programme Budget 2008 for incidental priorities relating to the construction of boarding facilities.¹²⁰ During the mid-term review of the Policy Programme 2006-2010 of Central Amsterdam district an additional €75.000 was allocated for the construction of boarding facilities (jetties).

Houseboats and barges

People have lived on the water in Holland – and in Amsterdam – for centuries. This contributes to the housing supply, the quality of life in the city centre, invigorates the cityscape and contributes to the touristic value of the city centre. There are about 2500 houseboats in the City of Amsterdam; approximately 900 of these are moored in the city centre.

The Plan for the Water in the City Centre stipulates that more focus will be paid to the following aspects relating to living on the water in the near future:

- policy relating to the rebuilding or replacement of houseboats
- facilities for houseboats
- charging for mooring facilities
- instruments for the removal or relocation of mooring facilities

Aesthetics on the water

The Aesthetic Appearance Document 2006 of Central Amsterdam district does not include any aesthetics criteria for houseboats and mooring facilities. In the interests of enforcement and a well-balanced cityscape, Central Amsterdam district thinks it advisable to not only specify the reasonable demands of building aesthetics for structures on the embankments, but also for structures on the water.

The Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district adopted the Aesthetics on the Water Memorandum (*Nota Welstand op het water*) on 30 October 2007; the district council was expected to ratify it in October 2008. The main provisions in this memorandum formulate concrete evaluation criteria for the replacement and/or renovation of houseboats and cargo vessels with a permanent berth, and for jetties and boarding facilities. The memorandum focuses on ensuring that an appealing environment and the cultural-historical values of the city centre are preserved, and includes criteria relating to the design, the architectural features, the materials used and the colours of boats and jetties. Renovating and/ or replacing objects on the water in the conservation area is subject to architectural policy and thus require a permit. Special criteria that enable aspiring developers to evaluate if their renovation plans conform to the reasonable demands of building aesthetics criteria (*loketcriteria*) apply to minor alterations. At the request of the Committee of Councillors for the Public Space and Traffic (*Raadscmissie Openbare Ruimte en Verkeer*), Central Amsterdam district has asked an ad hoc commission to advise on policy and criteria specifically relating to the conservation and maintenance of historic ships.

¹¹⁹ Jetty Plan for Amsterdam's City Centre (*Steigerplan in de Amsterdamse binnenstad*), pp. 19/20

¹²⁰ Programme Budget 2008 Borough of Central Amsterdam (*Programmabegroting 2008 stadsdeel Centrum*), p. 77

On 30 October 2007, the Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district also adopted the Guidelines for Replacing or Renovating Houseboats and Cargo Vessels; Boat Guidelines 2007 (*Richtlijnen bij vervanging en vernieuwing van woonboten en bedrijfsvaartuigen; Bootrichtlijnen 2007*). The Boat Guidelines (2007) include instructions relating to the size of barges and other houseboats and cargo vessels with a permanent berth as well as environmental guidelines. The district council is expected to finalise the regulations relating to building aesthetics at the end of September/October 2008.

Solving bottlenecks

In 2008, the Central Amsterdam District decided to resolve several bottlenecks on the water in to improve the use of the public waterways, relocating thirteen houseboats to improve transit; moving two houseboats moored close to dockyards for safety reasons; and relocating twelve houseboats to improve the use of the public waterways.

The Plan for the Water in the City Centre includes the provision that relocating houseboats is a voluntary procedure.¹²¹

Threat	Measure
<p>Fluctuations in water level and the ground water level, and especially problems resulting from too low a ground water level, create the risk of dehydration of wooden foundation piles, resulting in subsidence, cracks and other associated damage to structures in the property and the buffer zone, which can drastically undermine the structural condition of buildings. This risk increases if construction affects the ground water level (building excavation-drainage) and in the vicinity of old parks that do not have a high enough elevation.</p>	<p>The parties responsible for managing the water level and the ground water level in the property and the buffer zone have to constantly be aware when legislating regulations, drafting, implementing and enforcing policy, of the need to preserve and maintain the cultural-historical and built heritage values of the ring of canals as a World Heritage site, as well as those of the designated buffer zone within the boundaries of 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal'.</p>
<p>Transporting dangerous goods on the waterways (especially the Nieuwe Herengracht canal and the Amstel) can, in the event of a leak, accident or disaster, besides endangering the health of residents, also negatively affect the cultural-historical and built heritage values of the World Heritage site, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.</p>	<p>The parties responsible for overseeing the transportation of dangerous goods on the waterways have to constantly be aware during the drafting, implementation and enforcement of policy of the need to preserve and maintain the cultural-historical and built heritage values of the World Heritage site, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.</p>
<p>Too many canal cruise boats can dominate the canals and views within the internationally recognised conservation area '17th-century canal ring area of</p>	<p>The parties responsible for granting permits to canal cruise operators and the 'round trips' sector have to constantly be aware of the need for an enduring type of cultural tourism</p>

¹²¹ Programme Budget 2008 Borough of Central Amsterdam (*Programmabegroting 2008 stadsdeel Centrum*), pp. 75/78

Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.	on the water to prevent the 'environmental pressures', as indicated in the preconditions to the designation of a World Heritage site (4.b.ii).
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Opportunity	Value
A broad acknowledgement, appreciation and preservation of the cultural-touristic, cultural-historical built heritage values of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' and the various contemporary uses of the canals offer the opportunity for their preservation in the long term, ensuring that it remains an appealing location to reside.	Care and attention by the many water management authorities and public companies (especially the transport and tourism sectors) as well as the owners of buildings within the property must safeguard the cultural-historical built heritage values of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as a World Heritage site.

Policy overview

- Plan for the Water in the City Centre (*Visie op het water van de Binnenstad*; approved by the district council on 26 January 2006).
The Plan for the Water in the City Centre focuses on improving the historic character of the city centre, regulating the nautical and management of the canals and includes guidelines for new developments.
- Aesthetics on the Water Memorandum (*Nota Welstand op het water*) (approved by the Executive Committee on 30 October 2007 and presented to the district council for approval in 2007, with the expectation that they would be ratified in October 2008 at the latest).
The Aesthetics on the Water Memorandum includes an evaluation framework for houseboats, cargo vessels, jetties and boarding facilities.
- Guidelines for Replacing or Renovating Houseboats and Cargo Vessels (*Richtlijnen bij het vervangen en verbouwen van woonboten en bedrijfsvaartuigen*; approved by the Executive Committee on 30 October 2007; and presented to the district council for approval in 2007, with the expectation that they will ratify the memorandum by the end of October 2008 at the latest).
The Boat Guidelines (*Bootrichtlijnen*) 2008 includes guidelines relating to the size, replacement or renovation of houseboats and cargo vessels as well as environmental guidelines.
- Jetty Plan for Amsterdam's City Centre (*Steigerplan in de Amsterdamse binnenstad*) (Executive Committee decision process, 22 January 2008).
Implementation of the Jetty Plan will occur in consultation with the private sector to ensure the construction of a large number of jetties.
- Implementation Memorandum for Cargo Vessel Policy (*Uitvoeringsnota bedrijfsvaartuigenbeleid*; decision process 11 December 2007).
Moored cargo vessels will be assessed in 2008, and will be granted a mooring permit if they comply with all the relevant criteria. Owners of cargo vessels that are not in compliance will be refused a mooring permit and will be advised of the period they have to either remove the vessel or change its function).

- Implementation Memorandum Mooring Policy for Pleasure Craft (*Uitvoeringsnota afmeerbeleid voor pleziervaartuigen*; Executive Committee decision process on 10 April 2007).

The mooring policy will be implemented in the near future and will entail improving mooring facilities and enforcing the regulations that apply to illegal mooring.

- Implementation Memorandum for the Use of Wharfs and Embankments (*Uitvoeringsnota kade- en oevergebruik*) based on the Use of Wharfs and Embankments Memorandum (*Nota Kade- en oevergebruik*; 1997).
Work on preparing this memorandum commenced in December 2008.
- Central Amsterdam district and the BBA have a contractual agreement relating to the implementation of permits and enforcement on the water, including combating problems (new contract agreed at the end of 2006, valid until the end of 2008).
- Multi-facet Water Zoning Plan (*Facetbestemmingsplan Water*; a ratified plan that covers all the water in the existing zoning is expected at the end of October 2009).
- Enforcement on the Inland Waterways of Central Amsterdam District; Policy and Programme 2007 (*Handhaving op het binnenwater in Amsterdam-Centrum; Beleid en programma 2007*; approved by the Executive Committee on 3 July 2007).
- Special Mooring Permits for Houseboats Regulation (*Regeling speciale ligplaatsvergunningen voor woonboten*), 2007; Extract from the Book of Decrees (*Boek der besluiten*) of the DB Central Amsterdam District, 19 June 2007.

All the houseboats in the city centre have been granted a mooring permit. Those with a special mooring permit will relocate from the city centre over the course of a few years.

- Regulation on the Harbour and Inland Water (*Verordening op de haven en het binnenwater*) 2006.

The 2006 Regulation on the Harbour and Inland Water includes the City of Amsterdam's policy regulations relating to inland waterway management. Central Amsterdam district refers to this regulation when granting or refusing permits for houseboats, cargo vessels, pleasure craft, and other objects in the water.

- 'A Splendid Canal' Memorandum (*Nota Een pracht van een gracht*) (1997).

This memorandum describes the most important criteria relating to the design guidelines for a clean, aesthetic and spacious environment in the vicinity of the canals. This memorandum also describes the New Standard Profile of Canals (*Nieuw Standaard Grachten Profiel*; NSGP). Also see the brochure New Standard Profile of Canals; Improving the Quality of the Public Space on the Canals (*Nieuw Standaard Grachten Profiel; Kwaliteitsverbetering van de openbare ruimte op de grachten*), March 1997.

- Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Statute (*Keur AGV*); Integrated Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board Statute (*Integrale Keur van hoogheemraadschap Amstel, Gooi en Vecht*; approved by the Executive Board of AGV on 9 March 2006).

The Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Statute includes the provincial regulations relating to water policy in the areas of waste water, water quality and problems resulting from water.

- Water Management Plan (*Waterbeheerplan*) 2006-2009 Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board (approved by the Executive Board of AGV).
- Crisis Management Plan of Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board & Waternet (*Crisisbeheersingsplan Hoogheemraadschap Amstel, Gooi en Vecht & Waternet*; approved by the Executive Board of Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board and the board of Waternet on 15 January 2008).

The Crisis Management Plan includes the tasks, responsibilities, structure, methodology and lines of communication that ensure the timely and effective use of people and techniques that should be followed in the event of calamities relating to water.

- Manual of Physical Safety; A Safe Amsterdam (*Handboek Fysieke Veiligheid; Een veilig Amsterdam*) (compiled by the Public Prosecutor, the Amsterdam-Amstelland Police, and the City of Amsterdam). (<http://fysiekeveiligheid.eenveiligamsterdam.nl>)

The digital Manual of Physical Safety regulates the policy, administration of, and specifies the parties responsible for, physical safety in the City of Amsterdam, i.e., ensuring that people are protected (within the municipal boundaries) from the risks that can result from human activities and describes the emergency measures that should be taken to aid people who have been involved in serious accidents or disasters (that are caused by anything ranging from human activities to natural disasters).

- Guidelines for Water Level Management (*Richtlijnen Peilbeheer*); Policy document Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board, 2003.
- Safety chart (*Veiligheidskaart*) AGV
- Water-level area chart (*Peilgebiedskaart*) AGV
- Amsterdam Water Plan (*Waterplan*; adopted the city council at the beginning of 2002).

This plan is an integral policy document relating to water and shorelines in Amsterdam. Urban districts and those responsible for water management have committed themselves to the provisions of the plan.

- Policy document Groundwater Care in Amsterdam (*Nota Grondwaterzorg Amsterdam*) 2007-2011 (approved by the City of Amsterdam).

The content of the policy document Groundwater Care in Amsterdam 2007-2011 is divided into 'areas awaiting new development' and 'existing areas'. The central issue with respect to areas awaiting new development is that evaluation criteria and guidelines that conform to the framework of water evaluation will be enforced to prevent ground water problems. In existing areas the focus is on short term goals, guidelines and actions to deal with and eliminate ground water problems in these areas.

5.2.13 Trees and gardens

The 17th-century urban expansion was a methodical concept, which took the interrelationships between water, structures and green areas into consideration.

Green areas lining the canals had a public function: trees lining streets, squares and canals, and the green area in the east of Amsterdam (the Plantage) had an important public function and appealed to people residing or intending to reside in these areas.

While assessing the construction of the canals in '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' during the seventeenth-century the city decided that structures could not be erected in most of the gardens inside block of buildings when granting the parcels of ground to ensure that there was enough space for a monumental estate or garden. At the time, these private, open spaces were used for a variety of purposes: from bleaching fields and vegetable gardens to the construction of play houses, lattice-work pavilions and, in keeping with the trends of the time, arbours and ornate evergreen topiaries.

Gardens enclosed by blocks of buildings and trees lining canals and growing elsewhere in the public space were a major contribution to the visual appearance of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.

Green areas in cities have to be maintained and protected. Historic private gardens within the 'keur' blocks of buildings (for the definition of 'Keur' blocks of buildings [*keurblokken*], see the section 'Keur' gardens below) of the property require additional attention because of their reduced accessibility. This section describes the ways in which the property manager can safeguard the protection and maintenance of protected trees, trees lining the canals and the historic gardens within the property.

Protected trees

'Like Venice, the city is transected by many canals. In new areas these are wide and straight and flanked by extremely wide wharfs, and closely resemble the Canareggio district in Venice, but are much more beautiful because of the tall trees that line them, which are an important contribution to the beauty of this city.'

Tommaso Contarini, Venetian diplomat, 1610.¹²²

There are approximately 8500 trees in the public space in Central Amsterdam district (2006 statistics), of which 208 are protected trees (2008 statistics). Of these, roughly 180 are on private land. The List of Protected Trees (*Lijst met monumentale bomen*) in Central Amsterdam district has been appended to the nomination dossier.

If a tree conforms to two of the following criteria used to define protected trees, it is included in the List of Protected Trees (*Lijst van monumentale bomen*):

- age;
- aesthetic and experience values;
- cultural-historical value;
- for example, the tree is an integral part of the history of the surroundings;
- scientific and ecological values;
- dendrological value.

Because of their monumental status, Central Amsterdam district has to pay special attention to these trees by:

- optimising management and maintenance;
- optimising growing conditions to promote good growth;
- granting no felling permits in principal.

The agreements relating to the management and maintenance of trees in Central Amsterdam district are included in the Management and Maintenance Manual (*Handboek Beheer en Onderhoud*) of Central Amsterdam district. The provisions in the Manual relating to tree maintenance include:

- annual inspections of large and old trees;
- specialised pruning and nurturing of young and protected trees;
- new plantings if a tree has to be felled;
- improving soil quality and weeding areas around trees;
- Central Amsterdam district takes measures to protect trees from damage during building or other construction activities.

¹²² Boudewijn Bakker. *Amsterdam en de grachtengordel (Amsterdam and the Ring of Canals)*, p. 14

'Keur' gardens (*Keurtuinen*)

A 1615 by-law pertaining to 27 lots located between the Herengracht and the Keizersgracht laid down very strict rules regarding the sizes of buildings and gardens and the upkeep of plants and trees with the intention of creating 'model' plots. The regulations in the 1615 'keur' (by-law) related to these so-called 'keur' blocks of buildings (*keurblokken*), i.e., lots to which the legislation applied. 'Keur' gardens are those gardens enclosed by the 27 'keur' blocks of buildings that are part of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' and are thus part of the property. All but one of these 'keur' blocks of buildings are located along the Herengracht and Keizersgracht canals.

The city council specified strict building regulations in the by-law to ensure that no structures would be erected in the gardens within the blocks of houses. These regulations related to the depth of the main building, and the house, as well as the depth of the proposed garden- or coach house. According to the by-law one garden house of limited size could be erected in a garden.

During the 16th century, small, simple garden houses were sometimes constructed in the gardens of town houses. Very few of these original garden houses have survived. There was an increase in the structural ornamentation of garden houses during the 17th century. In the first half of the 18th century a garden house, sometimes in combination with a coach house, was erected in many gardens within '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' so that new garden houses were rarely erected after this. Many of these newer structures were built on the site of an existing or dilapidated garden house.¹²³

Amsterdam's building regulations from 1924 confirm the essence of the 17th-century by-law, namely that no structures could be erected in the backyards of canal-side houses. In 1964 this regulation was amended to include the 21 'keur' blocks of buildings to ensure that undeveloped parts of the adjoining land could only be used for and maintained as gardens.¹²⁴

These 'keur' blocks of buildings are included in the current prevailing zoning plans. In most zoning plans, the description of the intentions for 'Gardens and gardens' (*Tuinen en erven*) reads as follows: 'The plots of land indicated on the planning map are designated for use as gardens as are the 'keur' gardens that are indicated on the planning map as such.

The Heritage Site Document provides detailed descriptions of the purposes and regulations pertaining to gardens, estates and 'keur' gardens in the zoning plans.¹²⁵

The Aesthetic Appearance Document 2006 of Central Amsterdam district regulates the guidelines that applicants must be able to evaluate for themselves (*loketcriteria*) for structures within the conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal'. These structures require a minor building permit and are subject to criteria relating to their location, form, size, use of materials and colours. The criteria for garden houses are:¹²⁶

- location – on the edge of the rear boundary in 'keur' gardens;
- form – the facade has to face the 'keur' garden/the main building;
- size – maximum height: 3,40 metres; maximum depth 4,25 metres; maximum surface area 20 m²;
- materials – wood, glass, bricks;

¹²³ Amsterdam's Canal-side Gardens (*Amsterdamse Grachtentuinen*); Herengracht, p. 33

¹²⁴ Amsterdam's Canal-side Gardens (*Amsterdamse Grachtentuinen*); Keizersgracht, p. 43

¹²⁵ Heritage Site Document 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals within the Singelgracht canal' (*Gebiedsdocument 'de zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht'*), pp. 39/40

¹²⁶ Aesthetic Appearance Document (*Welstandsnota*) 2006 Borough of Central Amsterdam, pp. 72-74

- colour – harmonises with the 'keur' garden.

Around 150, mostly 18th-century garden houses have been preserved, 33 of which are located along the Heren, Keizers, and Prinsengracht canals and are inscribed on the Municipal Monuments List. The inclusion of another 10 garden houses in the National Monuments Register in het National is currently underway.¹²⁷

The public has free access to the 'keur' gardens on certain days of the year, for example, the annual Open Gardens Days in June and the annual Open Monuments Days in September.

Green Action Plan (*Groenactieplan*)

The Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district adopted the Green Action Plan (*Groenactieplan*; GAP) at the beginning of 2006. Green areas in the city centre were inspected and evaluated for their quality in 2003. The Long-Range Green Programme (*Meerjaren-programma Groen*), which applies to 32 green projects until 2011 was drafted based on the Green Action Plan. These projects include suggestions for improvement that must give a quality impulse to these green areas. The City Centre Green Fund (*Groenfonds Binnenstad*) was created to this end; this fund is financed by annual subsidies from the Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district.

The Green Action Plan states that the Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district researches or the district council can offer owners of 'keur' gardens a 'label' ('keuring') for trees with the possibility of concluding a maintenance contract, but this must be preceded by an inventurisation of the legal and financial possibilities and the technical possibilities of such a label with respect to the tree itself. Funding for this still has to be found.

The Tree Policy Plan (*Bomenbeleidsplan*) and the Tree Regulation (*Bomenverordening*)

Basic principles

A Tree Policy Plan (*Bomenbeleidsplan*) and a Tree Regulation (*Bomenverordening*) were expected to be approved by Central Amsterdam district at the end of 2008. The draft Tree Regulation is ready; it will replace the 1964 Felling Regulation (*Kapverordening*).

The basic principle of the Tree Regulation is preserving existing trees. It forms the legal framework for the granting or refusal of a felling permit.

The draft Tree Regulation has incorporated the following amendments to the old felling regulator:

- More reasons for refusing a felling permit have been included;
- A felling permit is valid for a maximum of two years;
- The felling permit includes the provision that in principal, a new tree has to be planted when a tree is felled;
- Protected trees are accorded additional protection;
- Damaging trees lining public thoroughfares is a legal offence.

Reasons for refusal

Article 4 of the draft Soil Regulation (*Bodemverordening*) enables the Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district to place restrictions on, or even refuse, a felling permit, based on the following reasons:

- urban aesthetics values (including the 'keur' gardens and protected trees);

¹²⁷ Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology Report, City of Amsterdam, dated 4-6-2008

- the status of the conservation area in (parts of) the city centre;
- cultural-historical values.

Protected trees

The Tree Regulation provides additional protection to protected trees. Article 10 of the draft Tree Regulation will include the following compulsory regulations:

- The district councils have a list of protected trees, which includes for each of these trees a clear, recognisable description, its location, the cadastral parcel number, the owner and/or legal authority and the reason for its registration as a protected tree.
- The list of trees that conforms or will conform to these criteria is periodically updated. The criteria relating to allocating monumental status to a tree are specified in the felling regulation, and will be included in the Tree Policy Plan and the Tree Regulation.
- External advice must always be included in an application for a felling permit for a protected tree.
- A decision by the Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district to grant a permit to fell a protected tree in the public space must first be reported in writing to the district council. This rigorous procedure ensures that protected trees are not felled without due consideration.
- The district council has special responsibilities with regards to the maintenance of protected trees in the public space.

Tree Policy

The Tree Policy Plan will include the following:

- Maintenance and management;
- Structure of trees;
- Protected trees;
- Ensuring that plants growing in front of or on facades are visually appealing;
- Protecting trees during construction work and reorganisation (of the public space).

The procedure for the Tree Policy Plan is as follows: after the Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district adopts the Tree Regulation, the Tree Policy will be drafted and distributed by the Executive Committee for assessment and advice, whereafter the Executive Committee will ratify the policy.

Key point 27:

The ratified Tree Regulation and Tree Policy Plan will be appended with all due speed by Central Amsterdam district and through the intermediation of the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage to the nomination dossier before it is submitted to the World Heritage Committee.

Policy Programme 2006-2010

The district council defines its ambitions for this administration period in Central Amsterdam district's Policy Programme 2006-2010. The district council intends to introduce more greenery in the district and has included the City Centre Green Fund in the annual budgets since 2007. These funds are used to finance the Green Action Plan.

Threat	Measure
The maintenance of (monumental) trees, gardens and 'keur' gardens can be undermined by the lack of supervision in private (enclosed) areas, e.g., inside blocks of buildings.	The soon-to-be ratified Tree Regulation and the Tree Policy, as well as the designation of protected trees and garden houses (as built heritage) provides additional protection to historic greenery in 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal', and ensures they will receive focused attention in the property.
The maintenance of (monumental) trees and 'keur' gardens or can be undermined by the lack of knowledge among private individuals in the area of horticultural care.	Offering a label and a maintenance contract for trees to private individuals enables Central Amsterdam district to provide additional protection for the (partly monumental) greenery in gardens and 'keur' gardens.

Opportunity	Value
A broad recognition and protection of the value of the public greenery lining the canals in the property and within the conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal', and of (monumental) trees, gardens and 'keur' gardens offer the opportunity for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' to be preserved for the long term, ensuring that it remains an appealing place to reside.	Care and attention by the authorities as well as by residents and businesses in the property for trees, gardens and 'keur' gardens enhances the protection of the cultural-historical and built heritage values of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as a World Heritage site.

5.3 Factors that can influence the property

5.3.1 Introduction

Factors or developments can arise within the property and the designated buffer zone, as well as beyond it, that can exert a positive or a negative effect or threat on the property (Operational Guidelines, Section 4.b.: 'Format for the nomination of properties').

Negative factors include endangering spatial developments, environmental factors, natural disasters and calamities, or damage resulting from high concentrations of visitors to the property.

This section describes eight ongoing projects or developments that (can) directly or indirectly affect the outstanding universal value of the property. It is important to note here that because of the time it will take to implement these projects and developments, they will be discussed during the evaluation *in situ* by ICOMOS of the nomination dossier and associated management plan that The Netherlands has submitted to the World Heritage Committee. Regarding 'risk preparedness' (Operational Guidelines, Section 4.b. iii: 'Format'), additional measures must be specified for the all-important water level and ground water level in Amsterdam.

5.3.2 *Projects and developments*

1. Binnengasthuisterrein (the old hospital site)
2. North-South Metro Line (*Noord-Zuid lijn*)
3. Haringpakkerstoren (tower)
4. Overhoeks project
5. Westerdokseiland
6. Coalition project 1012
7. Chinatown
8. Water level and ground water level

Influence on the property

Memoranda

For the purposes of the management plan, the City of Amsterdam has drafted an abridged memorandum for each of these projects and developments, which contains a brief description of each project, the location and its status. The history and the decision-making processes relating to the project are also included, as is an indication of the influence the project has (or will have) on the visual appearance, the authenticity and the integrity of the property as a World Heritage site. The memorandum conclude with an evaluation of the current situation and a list of the most important sources.

Dossiers

For the purposes of the nomination dossier, the City of Amsterdam has compiled a dossier for each of these projects with extensive information and supporting documentation and images, in line with the State of Conservation Reports (Operational Guidelines, Paragraph 172), so that both ICOMOS – in preparing its advice for the World Heritage Committee – and the Committee itself can gain insights into the current state of affairs and developments in Amsterdam that will affect the decision to inscribe the property on the World Heritage List.

5.3.3 *Binnengasthuisterrein*

Project description: A new library for the Humanities Faculty of the University of Amsterdam (UvA) on the Binnengasthuisterrein.

Location : The area is bordered by the Grimburgwal, the Oudemanhuispoort, Kloveniersburgwal, Nieuwe Doelenstraat and by the Oude Turfmarkt (in the buffer zone) at the back of the area. There are twelve national monuments in the area.

Status: The project is currently in the building permit application phase.

History and decision-making

The plans to establish the library of the Humanities Faculty of the University of Amsterdam (UvA) has a long history; a summary of the most important stages in the decision-making process follows:

- The UvA presented the university's entire plan for the library to the B&W in November 1998.
- The then Council Committee for Urban Renewal, Spatial Planning, Ground Affairs (*Commissie voor Volkshuisvesting, Stadsvernieuwing, Ruimtelijke Ordening en*

Grondzaken) agreed in principle with this location plan and the cluster principle which forms its basic principles in February 1999. Regarding the Binnengasthuisterrein they stipulated that the results of further research into the suitability of the development had to be presented before they would make a final decision. This involved asking the B&W to conduct more extensive research into the suitability of the development.

- On 19 September 2001 the city council decided:
 - To cooperate in principle in the establishment of the Faculty Library and the Humanities Faculty on the Binnengasthuisterrein;
 - To ask the mayor and aldermen to appoint a quality control team to supervise further planning developments;
 - To endorse the drafting of a zoning plan for the Binnengasthuisterrein and surroundings based on the principles included in the recommendations.

The council's recommendation concluded that even though the UvA had limited the programme requirements in a revised plan, the development would still not harmonise with the existing structures, while there were no useable alternatives that did justice to the university's proposed plan, including the so-called Alfacluster (with, among others, language and cultural studies, [art]history, media, culture and philosophy) in and around the Binnengasthuisterrein. The decision-making explicitly mentions the possibility of erecting new buildings for the Faculty Library in the location of the convent, the Zusterhuis, and the former Theatre School (the former Second Surgical Clinic [*Tweede Chirurgische Kliniek*]).

- On 13 July 2001 the State Secretary of the OCW designated the Binnengasthuis complex as built heritage. The objections by the UvA to this – even in an appeal – were rejected (Council of State [*Raad van State*] 19 July 2006). An important consideration for this was: 'The designation of the buildings as built heritage does not necessarily imply that radical changes such as those proposed by the appellant (the UvA) for the realisation of the new building plans on the location of the buildings, does not necessarily imply that those changes will not be able to take place. This must be decided in the framework of the specified permit procedure described in Article 11 *et seq.* of the Monuments Act'.
- The zoning plan for the Binnengasthuisterrein and its surroundings was adopted on 28 February 2002. It specifies that the urban planning principles that were ratified by the city council on 19 September 2001 must be adopted in their entirety. It appears from the explanatory notes that the zoning plan includes the possibility of renovating or erecting new structures in the locations of the Second Surgical Clinic and the Zusterhuis convent.
- On 4 February 2004 the Council of State reached a decision regarding the appeals that were lodged against decision of the Provincial Executive of North Holland and (partially) approved the zoning plan. The Council of State's decision meant that a new zoning plan had to be drafted for the Binnengasthuis Street/Vendel Street corner. The resulting gap in this extremely small section of the Binnengasthuisterrein development zone was addressed by the Zoning Plan for the Binnengasthuis Street/Vendel Street Corner (*Bestemmingsplan Hoek Binnengasthuisstraat/Vendelstraat*) that was approved by the district council on 31 March 2005.
- At the end of October 2006 the UvA presented a preliminary application for the realisation of the library on the location of a building complex (part of the Zusterhuis convent and the Second Surgical Clinic) that is inscribed as a national monument. The UvA used this preliminary application to request the Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district to take a position regarding the proposed plans, prior to submitting the formal (building permit) applications.
- After an extensive advisory period and consultation with the Council Committee for Building, Living and Urban Development (*raadscommissie Bouwen, Wonen en Stedelijke Ontwikkeling*), the Executive Committee decided on 25 March 2008 that

they approved in principal with the UvA's proposition of a newly-constructed university library on the Binnengasthuisterrein, despite the regrettable demolition of a national monument that this would entail. Important considerations included:

- The quality of the plans for the new development (by the Spanish architects bureau Cruz y Ortiz), the realisation of which was guided by a district council-appointed Quality Team (that included representatives from The Netherlands Department for Conservation [*Rijksdienst voor de Monumentenzorg*; RDMZ] and the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency [*Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten Amsterdam*]);
- The role the university and the library play in the city centre as well as the significance a quality impulse could have for the university and the city centre.

The Binnengasthuisterrein Memorandum. A New Library for the University of Amsterdam (*Binnengasthuisterrein. Een nieuwe bibliotheek voor de Universiteit van Amsterdam*; see source no. 1) extensively and carefully details the various considerations that served as the basis of the decision.

Opinions in the framework of the zoning plan procedure

The following ten parties have submitted opinions in the framework of adopting a zoning plan for the Binnengasthuisterrein and its surroundings:

1. The Binnengasthuisterrein Society for the Quality of Life and Public Space (*Vereniging Openbaar en Leefbaar BinnenGasthuisterrein*; VOLBG);
2. Amsterdam Discussion Platform (*Amsterdam Overleg*) on behalf of the Royal Antiquities Society (*Koninklijk Oudheidkundige Genootschap*), the Amstelodamum Society (*Genootschap Amstelodamum*), the Heemschut Society (*Bond Heemschut*), the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre (*Vereniging van Vrienden van de Amsterdamse Binnenstad*), the Cuypers Society (*Cuypers Genootschap*), the restoration company *NV Stadsherstel Amsterdam* and the Diogenes Foundation (*Stichting Diogenes*);
3. see no. 2;
4. University of Amsterdam;
5. Various individual opinions;
6. P. Veer;
7. Heemschut Society, Amsterdam Commission;
8. the Cuypers Society;
9. d'Oude Stadt District Centre (*Wijkcentrum d'Oude Stadt*);
10. Enterprise Group South Burgwallen (*Initiatiefgroep Burgwallen Zuid*).

These opinions and the reactions to them are detailed in the Binnengasthuisterrein and Environs Zoning Plan (*Bestemmingsplan Binnengasthuisterrein e.o.*; Council paper [*Gemeentebblad*], no. 198, 28 February 2002).

See source no. 3.

The opinions are discussed below, insofar as they relate to the cultural-historical aspects:

The Binnengasthuisterrein Society for the Quality of Life and Public Space (VOLBG) advocates 'safeguarding the quality of the historic cityscape'.

Reaction: the zoning plan discusses the 'preservation of cultural-historical values' (like other zoning plans for the city centre), but with 'consideration for the cultural-historical values'.

'This distinction is made because the zoning plan considers the possibility of realising a new

development or alterations to the existing structures on the location of the Second Surgical Clinic and the Zusterhuis convent'.

The Amsterdam Discussion Platform (*Amsterdam Overleg*) objects to the possible construction of a tower/high-rise structure in the new development.

Reaction: modern high-rise buildings do not harmonise with the city centre; hence, limiting the height to 40 metres.

In addition, the Amsterdam Discussion Platform states that the zoning plan does not comply with the requirements of a conservation zoning plan.

Reaction: 'The regulations in this zoning plan....more than meet the requirement to carefully consider of the valuable historic structures on the one hand, and suitable spatial preconditions relating to a new development in the historical context of the area on the other'. For the background to this reaction, see the complete text in the council recommendation.

The Heemschut Society is opposed to enabling a high-rise development by means of the B&W's executive authority and is concerned that this might set a precedent. The construction boundary on the planning map has insufficient measures to protect the Zusterhuis and the Theatre School (both with built heritage values).

Reaction: it is proposed to link the B&W's executive authority to a High-Rise Impact Report (*HoogbouwEffectRapportage*; HER). See the reaction by the VOLBG regarding the concerns for the conservation of built heritage.

The Cuypers Society is of the opinion that the zoning plan must use the existing valuable structures and buildings as a starting point. It must have an 'open' character and not incorporate any options involving (partial) demolition. The basic principle should be enforcing the courtyard structure. Moreover, a Cultural-Historical Effect Report (*Cultuurhistorische Effect Rapportage*) is lacking.

Reaction: The zoning plan is neither explicit nor implicit about the conservation or about a new development on the location of the former Zusterhuis/Theatre School. Both options (enforcement and – partial – demolition/new development) are possible. The more detailed information will have to explicitly take the cultural-historical context into consideration. The impact on the cultural-historical surroundings will be detailed in the urban planning/architectonic plans for the area. One of the basic principles in the zoning plan is enforcement and improving the courtyard structure.

The d'Oude Stadt District Centre requested a zoning plan that focuses more on preserving the quality of the historic cityscape. (Reaction: see above).

To do justice to the cultural-historical values, the construction area for renovation or erecting a new building will have to be reduced and the current building line (an unusual street plan) has to serve as the basis.

Reaction: Incorporating the construction area in the zoning plan will ensure that the characteristic open structure of the Binnengasthuisterrein remains recognisable. The building line retains its whimsical character.

The Enterprise Group South Burgwallen wants a zoning plan to be drafted with an emphasis on national monuments, courtyard structure and the existing public/urban planning character.

Reaction: Because of all the safeguards, this conservation zoning plan conforms to the framework of Article 36 of the Monuments Act .

The Enterprise Group also states that a building 22 metres tall (instead of the existing building height of 16.70 metres) will have serious and irreversible consequences on the surroundings and the conservation area.

Reaction: The zoning plan states that the maximum heights of the gutter and the building (of category 1 and category 2 buildings) may not exceed the current heights of the gutter and the building.

Advice from the CWM, BMA and RdmZ (now the RACM) in the framework of the preliminary application

Based on the decision by the city council on 19 September 2001, a quality team comprising professionals and experts was established to safeguard the quality of the proposed new development. This included representatives from the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency (CWM), The Netherlands Department for Conservation (*Rijksdienst voor de Monumentenzorg*; RDMZ) (now: The National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage, RACM) and an architect (with proven experience with construction in a historical context). This team was charged with three tasks:

- Supervising the urban development-architectonic development and periodic evaluation of the results;
- Supervising the development of the architectonic design;
- Advising on the choice of architect/s.

Eventually, the proposal from the Spanish architects bureau Cruz Y Ortiz was selected by the quality team and the selection committee as the best design. The development was so positively received by the Building Aesthetics Agency at the end 2004 that from this perspective there was no objection to a formal application for a building permit. They did this in isolation from the quality team that was involved in developing the plan between 2000 and 2004.

In the framework of the preliminary application, advice was (again) requested from the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency (in its dual role as the Building Aesthetics Agency and the Monuments Commission [*Monumentencommissie*]), from the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology (BMA) as preliminary advisor of the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency (CWM) and from the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM).

In its role as the building aesthetics commission, the CWM reacted positively to the preliminary application, but in its role as the Monuments Commission (*Monumentencommissie*) the commission objected to the proposed demolition of the Second Surgical Clinic and the partial demolition of and extensive modifications to the Zusterhuis. The commission based its objection on the similar advice from the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology (BMA). 'Adoption of the Zoning Plan for the Binnengasthuisterrein and its Surroundings' (*Vaststelling bestemmingsplan Binnengasthuisterrein e.o.*; Council paper [*Gemeenteblad*] 2002, no. 198, 28 February 2002).

The advice from the RACM was also negative, concluding with: 'The proposed plans for the new faculty library by Cruz & Ortiz have paid a great deal of attention to ensuring that the proposed development will harmonise with the area as well as refining the architectural design of a massive building. From its inception, the programme of realising a new building that does justice to the existing built heritage at this location appears to have been too

ambitious in attempting to improve the characteristic courtyard structure. Despite the efforts taken with the design, in my opinion they do not justify the removal of a building of social, cultural-historical and architectonic national importance; I thus advise you *not* to demolish the Second Surgical Clinic.'

The current state of affairs

On 30 June 2008 the formal building permit, monument permit and demolition permit applications relating to the new faculty library building and the related demolition of the Zusterhuis (the facade on the Nieuw Doelen Street and part of the gable will be retained) and the former Theatre School (the Second Surgical Clinic) were submitted. More than 40 opinions have already been presented. These will be evaluated and incorporated in the preparations for the decision-making process relating to the monument permit application and the necessary procedure as outlined in Article 19, Clause 2, WRO (applicable before 1 July 2008)

Regarding the building and monument permit applications, advice was requested from the CWM and the RACM, but has not yet been received. The spatial basis must still be worked out for the spatial planning procedure.

The publication of the concept decisions relating to the monument permit application and Article 19, Clause 2 of the WRO was in October, after which opinions were presented. The final decision-making will probably occur before the end of this year, depending on the results of the (revised) agreement with the council committee.

Consequences for the 17th-century ring of canals resulting from the UNESCO nomination

Considering three of the *Operational Guidelines* criteria used by the *World Heritage Committee* in evaluating the nomination, the possible consequences of developments on the old hospital site, the Binnengasthuisterrein, could be defined as follows:

Visual impact

Cruz y Ortiz's design for a new library adds some volume, height and architectural style to the character of the area. The Binnengasthuisterrein, an enclosed and, for the most part, inward-looking group of buildings and gardens, determines the character of the terrain, which stands alone surrounded by urban structures. It was originally a monastery complex, which, at the end of the 19th century and beginning of the 20th century, was transformed into a city hospital and, in the 1980s, was altered once again to become part of the university. This has resulted in the Binnengasthuisterrein and the buildings it contains having little connection with the surrounding urban area. The library conforms to the site's existing building contours and volume (see source no. 4). The present facade of the convent (*Zusterhuis*) in Nieuwe Doelen Street has remained intact. The highest new building (22 metres above ground level) can only be seen locally from Staal Street (buffer zone). The tallest structure to remain on the old hospital site is 17.5 metres above ground level. The tallest surrounding buildings, such as the Doelen Hotel and the Hotel de L'Europe, are over 30 metres high.

Conclusion: There is no visual impact on the property. The building is not visible from the 17th-century ring of canals (see source no. 5).

Authenticity and integrity

The authenticity of the area will be affected if the decision is taken to demolish two national monuments. Whether the integrity of the area is affected will depend on how the eventual new development complements the existing urban fabric.

The demolition/new development plans will have no direct consequences on the authenticity and integrity of the property.

5.3.4 North-South Metro Line (Noord/Zuidlijn)

Project overview

The North-South metro line (*Noord/Zuidlijn*) project concerns the construction of a metro line almost 10 kilometres long, 6 kilometres of which will be underground. The tunnel is being constructed deep underground and does not pass underneath any buildings with the exception of Central Station. When construction is finished in 2013, 200,000 people per day will use the metro link.

Construction is being supervised by the North-South Metro Line Project Agency (*Projectbureau Noord/Zuidlijn*).

Route

The North-South metro line will run from Buikslotermeerplein in Amsterdam North, under the city centre (Stationsplein, Damrak, Dam, Rokin, Vijzel Street, Vijzelgracht canal, Weteringplantsoen) to the World Trade Centre in Amsterdam South.

Status

Under construction.

History and decision-making process

On 9 October 2002, Amsterdam City Council voted to begin the North-South Metro Line (Council order, 9 October 2002; Council paper, Section 3A, no. 295/514).¹²⁸

The vote was preceded by the necessary public debate. Amsterdam's Urban Development Board (*Amsterdamse Raad voor de Stadsontwikkeling*; ARS) pointed out – as early as 1995 – that town-planning considerations had to a large extent been forgotten because the debate had largely focused on the cost.¹²⁹

In 1995, the d'Oude Stadt District Centre (*Wijkcentrum d'Oude Stadt*) published a report entitled *Metropijn (Metro Pain)*. This proposed alternatives to the construction of the North-South metro line, such as optimising the existing public aboveground transport links combined with measures dealing with parking and goods transportation.¹³⁰

Official complaints about the council decision coupled with a demand for a referendum were registered by the Above-Grounders Association (*de Vereniging De Bovengrondse*), Nelly Frijda and Maarten Lubbers, on behalf of 75 well-known Amsterdam residents and many others. This was rejected because a plebiscite had already been held on 25 June 1997. The complaint by the Above-Grounders Association was dismissed by the Council of State (*Raad van State*) in November 2005. The Council of State did, however, rule that, in 2000/2001, the Amsterdam City Council failed to pay enough attention to the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency's comments about the aesthetic problems regarding the design for the lift exit near Weteringscircuit (see below).

¹²⁸ An overview of the major events during the preparation and decision-making process can be gained by visiting www.noordzuidlijn.amsterdam.nl

¹²⁹ Urban Development Board Recommendations on the North-South Metro Line (*Adviezen Amsterdamse Raad voor de Stadsontwikkeling over de Noord Zuidlijn*) (February 1995), and no. 214 (August 1998).

¹³⁰ The d'Oude Stad District Centre's May 1995 Traffic Working Group Report, 'Metropijn', a critical report into Amsterdam's planned North-South Metro Line (*Werkgroep Verkeer van het Wijkcentrum d'Oude Stadt, Metropijn. Kritisch onderzoek naar de geplande noord-zuid-metro in Amsterdam*), May 1995.

Foundations investigation and measuring programme

To prevent damage to the foundations of buildings along the metro line route, the foundations of 1700 buildings were examined before construction started. If there was a reasonable possibility of subsidence resulting from the construction of the tunnel, owners were able to claim subsidies covering the restoration of the foundations, for which an amount of 27 million guilders was made available. Many buildings have had new foundations laid using internally sunk steel piles.¹³¹

A system has also been installed along the entire route that continually monitors local buildings for any subsidence.

Compensation for loss and damage

Since 2002, affected parties (residents and businesses in premises along the North-South metro line) have been able to register damages and make a claim under the Regulation for the Compensation for Loss and Damage Due to Planning of the North-South Metro Line (*Verordening Nadeelcompensatie en Planschade Noord Zuid/lijn*). In the event of damage to buildings, an independent expert can be brought in. Compensation claims are dealt with by the North-South Metro Line Damage Agency (*Schadebureau Noord/Zuidlijn*). Up to the end of 2006, 175 owners had made damages claims, and 3.2 million euros (a quarter of the available budget of 12.6 million euros) had been paid out (figures from the audit office report).

Building aesthetics

As far as this issue is concerned, this memorandum only deals with the position and architecture of Vijzelgracht metro station, which is within the property.

The Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency (CWM) has lodged the following objections to the building plans which have already received a building permit (advice issued on 31 May 2000, 20 September 2000 and 4 October 2000):

- Locating a lift at the junction of Nieuwe Vijzel Street and Weteringschans. The CWM believes the locating the lift just a few metres from the facades of existing buildings is very unfortunate; the entrances to the station are too large – ‘the size of the exits does not harmonise with the cityscape’ – and the CWM objects to this. The agency takes the view that additions to the public space should conform to the scale of the immediate area. It believes a guiding principle should be that such changes harmonise discreetly with the urban fabric, and this is not the case with the present proposal.

The City of Amsterdam's Executive Committee decided to reject the agencies objections, citing opinions by external experts.

Part of the opinion given on 23 May 2005 by Prof H.C. Bekkering B.Sc. (professor of town planning at Delft University of Technology) is quoted below:

‘The view expressed by Amsterdam's Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency at its 4 October 2000 meeting, that the design for the Vijzelgracht station would “monumentalise the metro within the cityscape”, is, as I pointed out earlier (in my opinion of 21 July 2004), in no way compatible with the scale, the materials used and the decoration of the visible parts of the station: the sunken entrance, the lift housing and ventilation shaft. In my opinion, the additions to the public space are totally in keeping with the scale of the immediate area and fit in discreetly. The transparency of a lift housing made entirely of glass and the extremely

¹³¹ Wind, H., Major repairs of foundations along the new North-South Metro Line (*Grootschalig funderingsherstel langs nieuwe Noordzuid-lijn*), in: *Bouwwereld*, no. 5 (3 March 2003).

reserved decoration used in the Benthem Crouwel Architects design, in their very abstraction, draw little attention.

The advantage of this relatively neutral architectural approach is that, through the neutrality, not only is a certain timelessness achieved, but also the impact of new elements on the existing surroundings can remain limited. Partly for this reason, the entire North-South metro line design has been favourably received in specialist publications (see Aart Oxenaar in De Architect 29/5, 1998, among others).

The lift housing is relatively close to the pavement, in front of the buildings with the addresses, Vijzel Street nos. 3 and 5, near the corner of Weteringschans. These houses have retained some of their historic value. The lift housing, at 4.2 metres high, reaches roughly the first-floor windowsills of these and nearby buildings, a height that is marked by cornices on the facades and additions such as billboards and sun blinds. The lift housing fits in completely with the scale of what is to be found at ground level in the vicinity, viz. shops, restaurants and bars and other service outlets. Architecturally, it is totally different, but its overall transparency and neutrality ensure it does not really stand out. The proximity to the facades of the existing buildings does not counteract this.'

In November 2005, the Objections Committee (*Bezwaarschriftencommissie*) ruled that Prof Bekkering, in his opinion dated 23 May 2005, had sufficiently refuted the objections made by the CWM, and that the City of Amsterdam's Executive Committee, in adopting this and earlier arguments, was justified in laying aside the CWM's negative report.

Archaeology

In accordance with the guidelines laid down in the Malta Convention, archaeological investigations have been and are being carried out during the construction of the tunnel 30 metres underground. The City of Amsterdam has set aside 6 million euros for this work. Archaeological research was carried out in the initial phase, long before the start of construction work: this centred on Station Island (*Stationseiland*), Damrak and Rokin. These are the sites of medieval Amsterdam and the River Amstel's IJ estuary. Pro-active archaeological supervision will take place or has taken place at the Vijzelgracht and Ceintuurbaan stations, and in Amsterdam North as far as the Willemsluizen (locks). A practical approach was adopted. This entails the archaeology being fitted in alongside the civil engineering work. No separate inventorial field research is done: instead, it takes place when the foundations for the stations are being excavated. The archaeological research/excavations are mostly done in the evening. The situation underground is documented as much as possible. During the day, the civil engineering work is also supervised by archaeologists to secure material and prepare for the evening's research work. In addition, all the material that comes to the surface is sifted and documented. So far, the most important finds have been made in the Damrak-Rokin area.¹³²

Consequences for the UNESCO nomination

Visual impact

The North-South metro line follows an underground route between Central Station and Weteringcircuit. On street level, only the station entrances are visible along Rokin (buffer zone) and the Vijzelgracht (property). Only the part of Vijzelgracht Station which is aboveground will be dealt with from now on. There will be three entrances, only one of which, the entrance near Maison Descartes, will be within the property. This entrance is only visible

¹³² *Vitruvius*, vol. 1, no. 4, July 2008.

from Vijzel Street and partially visible from Prinsengracht canal. The lift and lift housing designed by Benthem Crouwel Architects is as far as possible transparent (for the most part glass). The use of transparent materials and its height, 4.20 metres, makes the modern design restrained.

Authenticity and Integrity

The design of the lift housing and the entrance to the North-South metro line is modern and at the same time restrained

Progress so far

Recently, work began on excavating the Vijzelgracht and building the station. On 19 June 2008, a leak occurred in a joint between two restraining wall panels of the excavated site for the station, and led to a number of nearby buildings subsiding and having to be evacuated and shored up (Vijzelgracht 20-24). An inquiry is underway into the Vijzelgracht Station leak and the subsidence of the building.

5.3.5 Construction Plan Kop Singel (Haringpakkerstoren)

Project description:

The project concerns the planned construction of a tower with surrounding buildings. The design of the tower is based on the Haringpakkerstoren, which was pulled down in the 19th century. The new development will be located at the end of Singel canal near the abutment of Haringpakkersbrug (bridge no. 58) on the extension of Prins Hendrikkade. The project is the initiative of a number of private individuals and was taken over in 2005 by Amsterdam Urban Restoration PLC (*Stadsherstel Amsterdam NV*). Amsterdam Urban Restoration buys historically valuable buildings, restores them and maintains them in perpetuity.

Location:

The uneven side of Singel canal near Prins Hendrikkade, in the buffer zone, bordering on the property.

Status:

The project is in the provisional design phase.

History and decision-making process

- In August 2005, during a press conference to mark its 50th anniversary, Amsterdam Urban Restoration announced it hoped to build a tower on the site of the Haringpakkerstoren, which was demolished in 1829. Amsterdam Urban Restoration's intention, in constructing the tower, was to restore a city view and, in the process, stimulate improvements to the quality of the surrounding area. The tower is to be used as office space, if possible by the creative industry sector. The street and cellar levels of the surrounding buildings will be given over to a catering facility.
- Amsterdam Urban Restoration will be responsible for the total cost of the project, including the cost of preparing the land for construction and of any necessary inspections.
- The wooden spire will be a reconstruction of the one added to the original medieval tower in the 17th century and is based on an early 19th-century surveyor's drawing. The brick tower base will be an interpretation of the medieval city-defences tower. The surrounding buildings will be of contemporary architectural design.

- Central Amsterdam district has been in consultation with Amsterdam Urban Restoration about this project since before August 2005. On 26 April 2005, the Executive Committee wrote to Amsterdam Urban Restoration saying that the district would in principle cooperate in the necessary procedures, once a request for building permission had been received.
- The City of Amsterdam has assisted in the adoption of a boundary correction (decision City Council and decision District Council 21 December 2005). Before this decision, part of the project location was within the metropolitan area Station Island (*Stationseiland*).
- On 11 July 2006, the Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district approved the project commission, after various investigations had been conducted.

Investigations and recommendations

From December 2005, Central Amsterdam district's official project team started the preparatory investigation into the zoning plan and into the reorganisation of the public area (see source no. H 1). Furthermore, the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM) has provided a response (not requested) to the plan (source no. H 5), and the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology (BMA) has, in consultation with the district, carried out an archaeological investigation of the site. The results are summarised below.

1. The air quality investigation (*luchtkwaliteitonderzoek*) has been completed (IBA, July 2006, actualisation to follow); Result: The tower will not have a significant effect on air quality (see source no. H 2).
2. The High-Rise Impact Report Haringpikkerstoren Amsterdam (*De HoogbouwEffect Rapportage* [HER] *Haringpikkerstoren Amsterdam*; Physical Planning Department, May 2007) was sent for examination by the Advisory Commission of the City of Amsterdam on 5 September 2007. The Report concluded that a tower on the site would add to the cityscape and improve the skyline. A tower would combine well with a number of existing towers (South Church [*Zuiderkerk*], Old Church [*Oudekerk*], New Church [*Nieuwe Kerk*], the church, Posthoornkerk and the domes on the Royal Palace [*Paleis op de Dam*] and the Sonesta). It will be a new point of reference and will form a striking highlight at the beginning of Prins Hendrikkade. As far as visibility from a distance is concerned, there is certainly no negative effect (see source no. H 3).
3. From 30 November 2005, the Building Aesthetics Agency has been regularly informed about the project through preliminary consultation, and discussions on drawing up aesthetics criteria for an evaluation framework (for reports, see source no. H 4).
4. On 21 July 2006, the Netherlands Department for Conservation (RDMZ) (now the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage ; RACM) delivered unsolicited recommendations concerning the project to Central Amsterdam district's Executive Committee. These include the following:
 - a. A thorough and expert town planning and historic investigation should be instigated;
 - b. The choice should be made for a top-quality contemporary allusion to the original tower and not for a reconstruction which could only partially be realised;
 - c. Bear in mind the imminent application to UNESCO that the ring of canals be included on the World Heritage List.See source no. H 5.
5. The Archaeology Department of the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology has conducted a historical location investigation. Based on historical sources, an overview

of the anticipated archaeological value has been compiled (31 March 2006). The site's archaeological value has been rated as high. Prior to construction work beginning, archaeological research, in the form of inventorial field research (*inventariserend veldonderzoek, IVO*) or archaeological digs (*archeologische opgraving AO*), is compulsory.

6. The district's public space department (*sector Openbare Ruimte*) has drafted a proposal for the redevelopment of the site together with an estimate of the cost. The development will follow the guidelines laid down in the Manual for the Redevelopment of the Public Space (*Handboek Inrichting Openbare Ruimte*). The district will invest in the public space with the aim of improving its quality and appeal as a residential area. The public space in this area is badly in need of improvement and is moreover, according to the police responsible for the neighbourhood, viewed locally as unpleasant and unsafe.

Consequences for the UNESCO nomination

The plans are still in the preliminary design phase. The design concerns a new development inspired by the complex made up of the Haringpakkerstoren and adjoining buildings, which were demolished in 1829. The location of the historical complex (which made way for the road that became Prins Hendrikkade) was about 20 metres to the northeast of the proposed construction site. The design of the top part of the tower is based on an 1813 drawing by the architect Abraham van der Hart and will be built by master craftsmen using the best materials. The body of the tower, as far as material and details are concerned, will be a new construction, which will include references to the old tower so as to form a whole (architecturally and visually) with the upper part. The buildings surrounding the tower will be built in a contemporary architectural style which will harmonise with the characteristics of the city centre, and which will be visually distinct from the tower construction although joined by glass roofs.

Bearing in mind the principles and guidelines laid down in the Vienna Charter (2005) and the Operational Guidelines (2005), Chapter II E on integrity and/or authenticity, the following remarks can be made regarding the design.

Authenticity

Article 7 of the Vienna Charter defines the historic urban landscape as follows: 'ensembles of any group of buildings, structures and open spaces, in their natural and ecological context, including archaeological and palaeontology sites, constituting human settlements in an urban environment over a relevant period of time, the cohesion and value of which are recognized from the archaeological, architectural, prehistoric, historic, scientific, aesthetic, social-cultural or ecological point of view'.

Article 21 of the Charter's guidelines for conservation management states: 'Taking into account the basic definition (according to Article 7 of this Charter), urban planning, contemporary architecture and preservation of the historic urban landscape should avoid all forms of pseudo-historical design....'

Paragraph 86 of the Operational Guidelines states, in relation to authenticity, that: 'the reconstruction of archaeological remains or historic buildings or districts is justifiable only in exceptional circumstances. Reconstruction is acceptable only on the basis of complete and detailed documentation and to no extent on conjecture'.

A strict interpretation of the texts would draw the conclusion that the design fails to comply with the principles of the guidelines concerning authenticity. The design concerns an architectural ensemble which will partly be constructed in contemporary style (surrounding buildings), and partly, in (reproduction) historical style (the body of the tower). To the untutored eye the latter will appear to be an old historical tower, the more so because the upper part will be a reconstruction based on detailed historical information. The exceptional circumstances, whereby reconstruction is allowed under Paragraph 86 of the Operational guidelines, are not present.

The following remarks, however, can be made. In the UNESCO documents, the idea of authenticity is firstly connected to cultural heritage in a material sense and is primarily object related. This refers to the conservation of historical buildings and structures, to the authenticity of the material elements of the area and the relation between these elements in their physical, cultural, urban and rural context.

Traditional ideas about authenticity, which led built heritage conservation theory and practice in the last century, have recently become really dynamic.¹³³ This issue is also under discussion within UNESCO. The alternative interpretations of the meaning of 'authenticity' arise out of intangible considerations relating to notions of a political, cultural-historical (religion, folk culture), spiritual and commemorative nature. From the standpoint of a wider interpretation of the meaning of authenticity, a development plan such as this is justified. Amsterdam Urban Renovation PLC, in the light of its aims (see source no. H6), intends that the tower should function as a landmark, as a reminder of and a delineation to the border of the medieval city and the 17th-century ring of canals. The design of and material used in the tower should, in the spirit of the protected historical cityscape, contribute to the visualisation of these ideas.

Integrity

There are no buildings on the site of the tower development; it has mainly been used by vehicles from the 20th century. Because the proposed development does not satisfy the quality demands of the Manual for the Redevelopment of the Public Space and because the area is in need of improvement, the quality of the public space is important in regard to the project.

In 2007, a radar survey of the construction site was carried out. This showed the existence in various places of solid remains. These are probably from stone scaffolding, rubble from the demolition of the Haringpakkerstoren, an embankment or part of the city walls. These remains are below the construction level of the proposed development.

Conclusion: considering that the quality of the location in terms of urban development has changed through the years, it can hardly be said that the urban fabric or the integrity of the location will be damaged.

¹³³ For background information on the development of the idea of 'authenticity', see: Koos Bosma, *Het post-Belvederetijdperk: cultuurhistorisch beleid verankerd in de ruimtelijke ordening en in de ontwerpopgave*, The Hague: Atelier Rijksbouwmeester, 2008.

Visual impact

The construction site is in the buffer zone, just beyond the boundary of the property. The tower will be 45.60 metres high and has a 300-square-metre 'footprint', which includes the adjoining buildings. These buildings will be able to be seen from the direct vicinity of the tower and from a small section of the property. As a vertical feature, the tower will itself be visible from a greater distance.

From the property, the tower is mainly to be seen from Singel canal; from the even-side of Singel canal roughly as far as Berg Street. The tower's visibility from Singel canal can be compared to that of the 55-metre-high Wagon Lits office building (Bentham Crouwel, 1991-1992) on Western Station Island (*Westelijk Stationseiland*). The view of these office buildings will actually be partially blocked by the new tower. The border of the property lies on the north side of Droogbak. The tower will be more or less visible from here as far as the intersection of Droogbak and Buiten Wieringer Street. It will not be visible from other public streets in the property.

The conclusion is that there is major visual impact on the cityscape in the property and in the buffer zone.

Progress so far

- There is a detailed provisional design for the tower (including installations). The Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency has, through the framework of preliminary talks, provided recommendations on this since 30 November 2005. The last recommendations were dated 21 May 2008; the comments/objections at present are mainly to do with (technical) details. With regards to architectural and urban planning issues, it has been noted that the quality of the plan has improved.
- As yet no building permit has been applied for.
- There have been discussions between Central Amsterdam district and Amsterdam Urban Restoration concerning the design and the requirements laid down in UNESCO's Vienna Charter about the relationship to historical urban landscapes. There have also been talks with the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology (August-October 2008).
- This has led to Amsterdam Urban Restoration drawing up a 'defence' of the development plan (24 October 2008).
- The zoning plan has to be revised for the building plan. The hope is that a zoning plan (including appendices) and draft building aesthetics criteria will be decided upon by the district council at the same time.

5.3.6. Overhoeks project

Project description

The plan for the site (formerly the Shell premises) comprises the construction of 2,200 homes, offices, restaurants, hotels, cultural and other social facilities. The provision of green space, such as a bank-side park and recreational facilities along Buiksloter Canal (*Buiksloterkanaal*) are also envisaged. Overhoeks will be realised by public/private co-operation between seven partners (ING Real Estate, Amsterdam City Council, Amsterdam North District, Ymere, Vesteda, Shell and the Film Museum).

Location

The area is in Amsterdam North and is bordered by the IJ, Buiksloter Road, the Buiksloter Canal and Johan van Hasselt Canal, outside the buffer zone, about 250 metres from the conservation area, 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal'.

Status

Major city plan

History and decision-making process

Urban development plan

The Urban Development Plan was adopted in September 2004 (preceded by a Project order).

The Urban Development Plan comprises two parts. The northern part, the 'Campus', will be made up of buildings 8 to 9 storeys high (to a maximum of 35 metres) grouped round enclosed gardens. This part accounts for roughly half the development, and the accent will be on residential, working and non-commercial facilities.

The southern part of the planned site will be given over to a 'Strip' of high-rise blocks. Besides the Overhoeks Tower (*Toren Overhoeks*, the Shell Tower) and the Great Laboratory (*Groot Laboratorium*), the strip will comprise five new high-rise towers grouped round a number of gardens. The 'footprint' of the towers is 1,000 square metres per storey. To guarantee a relatively 'slim-line' look to the individual towers, each will be divided into two parts, staggered between 5 and 10 metres apart. The parts will be of differing heights, varying from between 75 and 110 metres. The strip will be a mixed development containing homes, hotels, offices, and cultural and catering facilities. At ground level, squares will be built round the towers, containing shops, restaurants, cafés and other facilities.

The angular twist between the Strip and the Campus will be accentuated by the 'Green Wedge', alongside the IJ where the new Film Museum will be built. The most important open spaces in the development site will be the Oever Park, the 'Green Wedge', and the enclosed gardens in the campus.

A zoning plan drawn up on the basis of the Urban Development Plan was adopted on 2 July 2008 (see below). A cooperative agreement with ING and Shell was signed in December 2005, which, in short, states that Shell will take over part of the development (New Technology Centre) and will sell the remaining 20 hectares to the City of Amsterdam. The council will transfer the land on a long-lease basis to ING, which will be responsible for the construction (a maximum of 437,000 square metres of development, i.e., about 2,200 homes and 130,000 square metres given over to other facilities).

Zoning plan

On 20 March 2007, the Provincial Executive of North Holland voted to approve the zoning plan, Overhoeks, which was approved by the City of Amsterdam on 18 October 2006. The North Amsterdam Built Heritage Foundation (*Stichting Monumenten Amsterdam-Noord*; SMN) and the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre (*Vereniging Vrienden van de Amsterdamse Binnenstad*) registered an objection to this decision with the Council of State (*Raad van State*). Both organisations objected to the high-rise development because of its effect on the inner city. They argued that the high-rise development would damage the conservation area and the open quality of the views of the IJ from the inner city, and it would lead to a loss of 'typical, architectural features of the inner city'. Furthermore, according to the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre, 'the development would mean

Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals would not be able to obtain the status of World Heritage Site'. The Council of State's administrative-judicial department then instructed the Administrative Justice for the Environment and Town Planning Foundation (*Stichting Advisering Bestuursrechtspraak voor Milieu en Ruimtelijke Ordening*; StAB) to launch an inquiry under Article 8:47 of the General Administrative Law Act (*Algemene Wet Bestuursrecht*; Awb). The StAB's guiding principle for its recommendations of 26 February 2007, concerning the visibility of the high-rise development from the inner city, was the map of sightlines and the montage photos from the supplementary High-Rise Effect Report produced by the Physical Planning Department in 2004 (see below). Using the evidence in the sightlines map, the foundation ruled that, from all points in the inner city from where the high-rise development would be visible, there would not be 'unacceptable damage' to the open quality of the views of the IJ and that the visibility of the development would not result in the 'fixing of a dominant image'. With regard to the World Heritage Site status, used as an argument by the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre, the foundation cited, in its ruling, UNESCO's Declaration on the Conservation of Historic Urban Landscapes (Adoption of a Declaration on the Conservation of Historic Urban Landscapes, p. 1) as well as the notes to the decision to designate 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal' as a conservation area. The conclusion was that 'bearing in mind the findings concerning the visibility of the high-rise development from the inner city (...) the plan in question does not endanger obtaining the status of World Heritage Site'. See appendix: The Recommendations of the Administrative Justice for the Environment and Town Planning Foundation (*Advies Stichting Advisering Bestuursrechtspraak voor Milieu en Ruimtelijke Ordening*) of 26 February 2008.

On 2 July 2008, the Council of State declared the objections to the Overhoeks zoning plan unfounded, thereby ratifying the zoning plan, and making it possible to start further developments to the construction plans.

Consequences of the nomination of the 17th-century ring of canals as a UNESCO site

What impact will the high-rise buildings in the Overhoeks development have on the property and the buffer zone?

Visual impact

Behind the Overhoeks Tower (75 metres high), there will be five towers – staggered and separated from each other – which, seen from Overhoeks, will be 75, 110, 100, 75 and 90 metres tall. In 2003, a High-Rise Effects Report was compiled, and augmented in June 2004. This charts the visual effects of the towers on areas including the inner city, where they can be seen from Prins Hendrikkade/Oude Waal (buffer zone), Brugsteeg (buffer zone), Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal (buffer zone), Singelgracht canal from Haarlemmersluis (buffer zone/property border) Palm street (buffer zone) and Willemsstraat (buffer zone).

Prins Hendrikkade/Oude Waal: the towers are clearly visible from this point.

Brugsteeg: the highest tower will be visible behind the station from this point. This will affect the silhouette of the station building. The extent of the damage to the view will depend on the design and materials used for the tower.

Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal: the highest towers will be visible from the bend in Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal near Korte Kolksteeg.

Singel canal/Haarlemmersluis (bridge no. 14): here, the image of the city is dominated by the silver tower next to the Ibis Hotel. The new towers directly behind the Overhoeks Tower will be obscured by the Ibis tower.

Palmstraat (Jordaan): the new towers will be visible from Palm Street in the distance, on the horizon.

Willemsstraat (Jordaan district): Overhoeks Tower is in the centre of the view from Willemsstraat. The new development behind Overhoeks, partially visible from this street, will to an extent fill in the horizon.

In general: the new towers (still unknown) will influence the visual impact.

Authenticity and integrity

The answer to the question of how the Overhoeks high-rise development will affect the authenticity and integrity of the designated property depends on how much importance is given to the visual relationship between the ring of canals and the IJ. In the present structural concept, it is generally supposed that Amsterdam's inner city 'faces' the IJ. The western and eastern islands originated as water defences; in the 19th century, they grew into 'islands' with economic and industrial purposes; nowadays, they are being transformed into residential and business areas, which is bestowing them a new identity, thus changing their relationship with the historic inner city.

The high-rise development policy is constrained in view of this context: the height of new buildings is restricted, as are their locations and each project has to be drawn up with care in relation to the historic inner city. These principles will be realised within the framework of the structural plan.

In an historical context, it can be said that, in the 17th and 18th centuries, clear sightlines (interrupted by bridges and locks) to the IJ were only available from Singel canal and Prinsengracht canal in the western ring of canals. These sightlines were blocked firstly by the railway dyke constructed in the 19th century and, later, in the 20th century, by the Ibis Hotel, the silver tower and, in the distance, the Shell Tower, as well as recent developments on the island, Westerdokseiland. The high-rise Overhoeks development is not visible from the property, except from the end of Singel canal on the border of the buffer zone near Haarlemmersluis. The high-rise development is clearly visible from many areas of the buffer zone.

Progress so far

Phase 1 of the 'Campus' part of the plan is under construction: the first homes will be ready for occupation at the end of 2009. Construction of the 'Strip', the band of high-rise buildings directly behind the Overhoeks Tower, has begun. The Overhoeks Tower, the Great Laboratory and part of the Strip will be handed over to ING; further construction and other work will follow. The whole development site will be ready between 2018 and 2020.

5.3.7 Westerdokseiland

Brief project description

The Westerdokseiland project concerns the redevelopment of areas including a train shunting yard to the northwest of the property. Homes for about 2,000 people and employment opportunities for about 5,000 people will be provided in the development. The project will be characterised by a high density of buildings, and a wide diversity of uses and living styles.

Location

Former train shunting yard in Westerdokseiland, the 'Kop' (the head, or end point) of the Westerdok and Stenen Hoofd, bordered by the IJ, Westerdoksdijk and Westerdok about 200 metres from the northern border of the property.

Status

Under construction.

History and decision-making process

Westerdokseiland

On 17 March 1999, Amsterdam City Council adopted the Westerdokseiland Urban Development Programme of Requirements (*Stedenbouwkundig Programma van Eisen, SPvE*). This signalled the start of the redevelopment of the area (including the Kop of the Wester-IJdok (the Western IJ dock). The council decided that a minimum of 900 homes, about 80,000 square metres of non-residential accommodation and at least 60 berths for houseboats should be provided at Westerdokseiland. Westerdokseiland is divided in the Northern Block 1st and 2nd phase (or Westerkaap I and II), the Middle Block (or VOC Cour), and the South Block (La Grand Cour). The construction of this area harmonises with the compact, brick inner city and western islands.

The Wester-IJdok will be located in the southeast corner of Westerdokseiland, partially in the IJ. This block is the counterpart to the end of the Oostelijk-Handelskade. These two developments to the west of Central Station form a symmetrical reflection along the city's historic front: Oudezijds Wallen and Nieuwezijds Wallen, Oudezijds Kolk and Nieuwezijds Kolk, the Church of St Nicholas (*Nicolaaskerk*) and the Posthoorn Church (*Posthoornkerk*). The scale of this complex of buildings is related to the grain silos, the Harbour Building (*Havengebouw*) and the Kop Oostelijke Handelskade.

The Westerdokseiland Urban Development Plan (*Stedenbouwkundig Plan voor Westerdokseiland*) was adopted in 2001 and ratified by the Council of State on the 6 April 2005. Eleven parties and individuals objected to the Westerdokseiland zoning plan, including the Heemschut Union (*Bond Heemschut*), the Working Group Westerdoks Houseboats (*Werkgroep woon-schepen Westerdoks*), Amsterdam Water Front (*Waterig Amsterdam Front*), Golden Reael Neighbourhood Bond (*Wijkopbouworgaan Gouden Reael*) and the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre (*Vereniging Vrienden van de Amsterdamse Binnenstad*). Most of the objections concerned the reorganisation of houseboats and the scale of the development in relation to the view from the old city. The section, Western IJ Dock, was twice dealt with by the Council of State and, following modification (survey of the sightlines Western IJ Dock on the planning map), was also adopted in 2005.

The material to be used, according to the Urban Development Plan, is the composite brick-built block. The maximum height will be 36.75 metres above the quay and 35 metres above Westerdoksdijk. The street layout will harmonise with that of the ring of canals and is based on the guidelines laid out in the Manual for the Redevelopment of the Public Space. The guiding principle is to use the same materials as in the surface relief of the ring of canals, i.e., red brick and natural stone kerbing (main roads are an exception and will be of black asphalt). The vast majority of homes are situated in three blocks: north, central and south. The first buildings in the north block were started on 11 November 2004. Most of the non-residential structures have been built in Western IJ Dock.

Western IJ Dock (Kop of Westerdokseiland)

A separate Urban Development Plan has been drawn up for the Kop (adopted on 3 July 2001). The maximum construction height will be 46 metres above Normal Amsterdam Water Level (*Normaal Amsterdams Peil*; NAP). Gaps have been designed in the new blocks to afford views of the IJ from various parts of the historic inner city (including from Keizergracht canal).

The Kop is behind Westerdokseiland and is barely visible from the ring of canals.

The Kop development will include a hotel (300 rooms, on 11 floors), 59 luxury owner-occupier houses, Amsterdam's Court Building (relocated from the Prinsengracht canal and other locations and comprising about 30,000 square metres), National Police Force Services (*Korps Landelijke Politie Diensten*, KLPD) and Inland Waterways Board (*Binnenwaterbeheer*) offices and a yachting marina (temporary berths for sea-going yachts to be run by the hotel). Parking facilities will largely be located in garages inside the buildings.

A public parking garage will be situated underneath the Western IJ Dock complex. A new square will be built alongside the marina, with services such as cafés, restaurants and other small businesses.

The development plan for the Kop has been halted for four years due to judicial procedures (zoning plan) and the slow demand for business premises. In 2005, the Government Building Agency (*Rijksgebouwendienst*) decided to locate the Amsterdam Court building here and the plan was again taken up.

Stenen Hoofd

Stenen Hoofd (Stone Head) is a former pier on the northeastern side of Westerdokdijk and will be given over to public use.

Consequences for the UNESCO nomination

Visual Impact

There are sightlines from the property, from Prinsengracht canal and Binnen Brouwers Street (leading on from Keizersgracht canal), towards Westerdokseiland. The new Westerdokseiland development will block the sightline from Prinsengracht canal to the IJ. Since the 19th century, this sightline has been partially blocked by the railway embankment. Gaps have been left in the new blocks in front of the Kop, the Western IJ Dock, to secure views of the IJ from Keizersgracht canal/Binnen Brouwers Street. 'In situ' inspections revealed that this view was blocked by a tree. As far as can be ascertained from the sightlines studies, the new development at the end of Westerdokseiland will have no visual impact on the property. The gaps in the buildings will preserve the views to the IJ and on to the horizon.

Conclusion: there will be considerable visual impact on the property as an important sightline will be interrupted. However, it must be pointed out that the original sightlines did not afford direct views of the IJ or the harbour front. They did, of course, afford views of the open horizon, giving a sense of space.

Authenticity and integrity

The new Westerdokseiland development is outside the buffer zone. The civic design combines references from different epochs in Amsterdam's development, with the aim of making Westerdokseiland a logical link between the 17th-century inner city and the 19th-century harbour area around the IJ. The development thus harmonises with recent

Amsterdam tradition in civic design illustrated in the developments in the southern shore of the IJ and the islands.

The relationship to the authenticity and integrity of the property cannot be indicated.

Progress so far

Westerdokseiland

The completion process of the development started in 2007 and will be finished halfway through 2009. The 'La Grande Cour' block and 'Westerkaap I' have been completed and handed over to the residents. It is expected that 'Westerkaap II' and 'VOC Cour' will have been handed over by the middle of 2009. Work has begun on the final street-level layout around 'La Grande Cour'. The progress of the street-level work is dependant on the speed of the completion and handing over of the remaining blocks on the island. Where necessary, temporary surfaces will be laid. The restaurant, 'Open', began catering to the public at the beginning of this year. It is housed in a structure on the Western Dock's (*Westerdok*) former railway swing bridge.

Western IJ Dock (Kop of the Westerdokseiland)

The construction of boat collision defences (*aanvaarbescherming*) started in June 2008 and will be completed in 2012/2013. The necessary contracts were signed in February 2008 with Fortis Real Estate (*Fortis Vastgoed*), the Government Building Agency and the City of Amsterdam.

Stenen Hoofd

A Strategy Resolution (first plan, formulation phase) is being prepared for the re-zoning of Stenen Hoofd. It is hoped that Stenen Hoofd will remain open to the public.

5.3.8 Coalition Project 1012 (Coalitieproject 1012)

Project description

Coalition Project 1012 aims to take a far-reaching approach to one of the oldest parts of Amsterdam's city centre. The goal is to inhibit the crime-conducive infrastructure of the city's red light district (the area centred on the Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canals known as the Wallen), and combat the degeneration of the Damrak, the street that serves as an entrance to the city from Central Station, by means of a large-scale, radical alteration of the area's function. The unique cultural and historic value of this part of the city is the starting-point for creating a high-quality, attractive and accessible environment.

Location

The 1012 postcode area is bordered by the Prins Hendrikkade, the Singel canal, the Kloveniersburgwal/Geldersekade canals and the Munt square; the area to the west of the Spuistraat lies within the property, the rest of the project area is in the buffer zone.

Status

Coalition Project. A collaboration between the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District.

History and decision-making process

In 1997, one of the findings of a parliamentary inquiry on crime detection was that the Wallen (the red light district) was in the hands of organised crime. This prompted the City of Amsterdam to make a concerted effort to tackle the problems in the area, leading to the foundation of the Van Traa Team. Working with partners including the organisations NV Zeedijk and NV Stadsgoed, the team has acquired around 100 properties. The buildings have thus successfully been kept out of criminal hands and subsequent to redevelopment given a new function. In 2005, the Central Amsterdam District initiated a targeted approach to the northern Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canal area, with a view to achieving a general enhancement of the neighbourhood by actively tackling the physical infrastructure, nuisance in the street, and law enforcement in the widest sense. Leading on from this policy, in 2006 the Wallen Coordination Team was set up to take responsibility for surveillance and law enforcement in this part of the central Amsterdam district.

Because of the complexity of the task and the wide-ranging ambitions for a substantial enhancement of the Wallen area and the nearby Damrak and Rokin, in summer 2007 the City of Amsterdam (represented by the Mayor and the Alderman for Economic Affairs), and the Central Amsterdam District (represented by the Chairman and Alderman for Public Space and Economic Affairs) initiated a process of consultation between the two local government bodies, and the collaboration was formalised as a so-called coalition project in a resolution adopted on 4 December 2007. The administrative coalition is responsible for inhibiting both the crime-conducive infrastructure in the Wallen area in particular, and the degeneration of the Damrak.

Moreover, there was an urgent desire to achieve a substantial enhancement to the area that forms an entrance to the city. Historically and spatially, the Damrak and Rokin have a key function in the city, but suffer from a lack of quality both in terms of architecture and function – the usage of the real estate. The proposed remodelling of the street layout, referred to as the 'Red Carpet' (see below), is an essential element. Another instrument both to reduce crime-conducive property functions and realise a qualitative improvement is to intervene in the use of real estate. A new premium-quality entrance area fits within the concept of the *Amsterdam Topstad* programme.

Furthermore, there are a range of projects already running in the area which can reinforce the Project 1012 quality impulse: the construction of the North-South Metro Line and car park beneath the Rokin; the development of a business plan for the *Beurs van Berlage* building; the restoration of the *Blauwlaken* block of buildings; the extension of Hotel Krasnapolsky; the renovation of the Royal Palace on Dam Square; the renovation and construction of the university in the grounds of the *Binnengasthuis*; the extension of the Hotel de l'Europe; the renewal of the Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canals; the acquisition and change in function of properties formerly owned by prostitution and sex shop entrepreneur Charles Geerts; and the acquisition and change in function of the Mata Hari building, a former gambling club.

The Coalition Project 1012 aims to link and extend these developments, as well as to coordinate projects undertaken in cooperation with private parties.

The resolution approving the establishment of Coalition Project 1012 (*Instellingsbesluit Coalitieproject 1012*) and the Shared Principles memorandum, commissioned by the board by the City of Amsterdam Project Management Bureau (PMB), refer to a range of action and strategic projects. There are four aspects to the approach:

1. The continuation of matters that are already running successfully: the renewal of the northern Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canal area with associated traffic measures, the remodelling of the street layout for the Damrak and Rokin, integral action to enforce the terms of existing permits, the application of the Public Administration Probity Screening Act (*Bevordering van de integriteitbeoordelingen door het openbaar bestuur – Bibob*), mediation and where necessary financial contribution to the acquisition of real estate.
2. Future perspective: clarity on the desired and commercially feasible functions in the project site, focusing on the northern Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canal area, the Damrak and Rokin (analysis and scenario study).
3. Acquisition strategy: the establishment of an acquisition strategy, including a model acquisition protocol, a survey of all possible legally legitimate means and possible special financing constructions.
4. Strategic projects: the promotion and monitoring of the quality of projects that could have a flywheel effect on the desired enhancement of the area:
 - a) Extension of the Hotel Victoria
 - b) Redevelopment of C&A Damrak department store
 - c) 2-4 Dam Square
 - d) Remodelling of the Damrak canal
 - e) Business plan for the *Beurs van Berlage* + Beursplein + Euronext
 - f) Redevelopment of the Bijenkorf department store underground car park
 - g) Redevelopment of the Hotel Krasnapolsky underground car park
 - h) Fortis Building, Rokin
 - i) Underground parking facilities, North-South Metro Line, Rokin
 - j) 'Red Carpet' remodelled street layout
 - k) Redevelopment of Mata Hari building
 - l) *Ons' Lieve Heer op Solder* ('Our Lord in the Attic') museum and church
 - m) Planning of underground parking facilities on the Geldersekaade canal
 - n) Development possibilities for Chinatown
 - o) Remodelling of the street layout in the northern Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canal area
 - p) Extension of the Hotel de l'Europe
 - q) Extension of the library in the grounds of the *Binnengasthuis*

The Red Carpet

One of the key projects within Coalition 1012 as a whole is known as the Red Carpet. Its goal is to give the 'entrance' to the city – along the route of the North-South Metro Line in the historic city centre from Station Square to the Weteringschans – a new, enhanced atmosphere. This not only involves remodelling the public space, but also redeveloping buildings and their functions. A range of other projects, such as the remodelling of the Leidseplein and Rembrandtplein squares, will be coordinated with the Red Carpet, so they are mutually complementary.

A draft document has been drawn up, setting out the basic principles for remodelling the public space. It is scheduled for approval by the Central Amsterdam District Executive Committee and the City of Amsterdam Municipal Executive in mid-November 2008, after which it will be released for public consultation. The public consultation procedure was scheduled to begin in January 2009.

Consequences for the UNESCO nomination of the 17th-century ring of canals

At present, none of the projects referred to are at a stage that is sufficiently concrete for an assessment to be made of the possible effects on the property and buffer zone. The first plans are not expected to be handled before November 2008.

According to the vision on cultural history drawn up by the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) and the Central Amsterdam District, the qualities of the property and buffer zone would be explicitly stated (report completed end of October 2008) and a proposal made for the 'operationalisation' of these qualities, and how this can be linked to the various projects in the Strategy Resolution.

Current situation

The Project Organisation established by the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District (7 December 2007) has been working on the draft Strategy Resolution (completed in Autumn 2008), detailing the strategic projects referred to above. At the same time, the dialogue with residents and businesses in the area is being continued, and consultation with market players on development and investment possibilities in the area is being intensified. This partly forms the basis for the content of the resolution.

In mid-February 2008, the Chair of the Central Amsterdam District Executive Committee presented BMA's Classification Map for Historic Architectural Value (*Bouwhistorische Waardenkaart*) in the medieval city centre to the project manager of Coalition Project 1012. BMA and the Central Amsterdam District have been working to establish a vision on cultural history for the project area (completed October 2008). This will be included in the Strategy Resolution.

In autumn 2008, wide public consultation was organised with residents and businesses in the area, to exchange ideas on the vision for the future of the 1012 area. The results will be taken into account in the draft Strategy Resolution 1012 for approval by the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District in spring 2009.

5.3.9 Chinatown Amsterdam

Project description:

Strengthening the economic fabric of 'Chinatown'. Since the beginning of the 20th century, many Chinese people have settled in the area and set up businesses. The area is distinctive in Amsterdam because of the predominance of Chinese and Asian businesses, restaurants and amenities, and the presence of The Netherlands' only Buddhist temple.

Location: _____

The area surrounds the Zeedijk and its side streets and alleyways, the Geldersekaade canal, the Nieuwmarkt square and the Binnen Bantammerstraat. The area lies within the buffer zone.

Status:

Coalition Project. A collaboration between the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District.

History and decision-making process

On 6 May 2008, the Central Amsterdam District Executive Committee approved a memorandum entitled Chinatown Amsterdam (source no. F 1). This was preceded by a variety of initiatives by a wide range of parties (residents, businesses, councillors), and the presentation of two analytical studies. The Central Amsterdam District Executive Committee then responded with a memorandum.

The Coalition Project 1012 is to formulate a concept for the entire 1012 postcode area, to be completed by mid-2009. Chinatown is located within this area. The memorandum is to be presented to the coalition project to serve as building material for the concept. There is a particular focus on Chinatown, because the Executive Committee has established that in its present form the area functions weakly in social and economic terms. The committee sets great store by the continued presence of Chinatown in the neighbourhood and wishes to strengthen it in its present form. It has opted to do so in two ways:

1. Strengthen the economic fabric;
2. Broaden the supply of products and services that reinforce the neighbourhood's Chinese or Asian character.

To strengthen the economic fabric, the Executive Committee will cooperate with initiatives by Chinese entrepreneurs which contribute to a broader supply of products and services in the area. This also applies to initiatives that aim at increasing Chinatown's possibilities as a tourist destination and which encourage and prolong overnight stays by tourists and businesspeople, whether of Chinese or other origin. Efforts will also be made to promote a more attractive and safer environment for visitors by investing in remodelling the public space both of the Zeedijk and its side alleys, and of the Geldersekade. The area's accessibility is to be improved by the provision of underground parking facilities.

To achieve a broader supply of goods and services appropriate to the Chinese and Asian character of the neighbourhood, the Executive Committee will support initiatives for the construction of housing for elderly people of Chinese ethnic origin. It will also support Chinese social, cultural, educational and sports associations in Amsterdam, either in organising temporary activities such as special events in the neighbourhood, or in moving into permanent premises in the area. The Executive Committee also proposes to work actively to interest Chinese cultural organisations in moving into the area, and to support private cultural initiatives such as a cinema or Chinese museum. Moreover, it will also support events that are Asian in character.

Critical factors

An absolute precondition for the Chinatown project is that the historic cityscape must be preserved. The policy document stresses that the conservation, broadening and strengthening of Chinatown must take place within the scope of policy applying to the city centre as a whole. In concrete terms this means that for the Executive Committee there is no question of dispensing with the conservation of the area for the sake of increasing its Asian atmosphere. It is virtually impossible to introduce gates, lions, Chinese streetlamps and other such alterations or additions to the public space, because they are not in keeping with the neighbourhood's historic character as build heritage.

The area's Asian atmosphere derives from the nature of the use of the buildings, and primarily this will have to remain so in future. Characteristically Chinese additions are only possible when they are appropriate and are not detrimental to the historic cityscape.

Moreover, there must also be room for non-Chinese businesses to remain in the area, which must be prevented from becoming mono-functional.

The design of the area will take place in accordance with the guidelines in the Handbook for the Design of Public Space.

Current situation

The Central Amsterdam District is working on a concept Policy Document on Basic Principles for underground parking facilities in the Chinatown area. A variety of possibilities are being considered, such as under the Geldersekafe canal or Oosterdok dock. The starting-point for the study is to provide a car park with 350 parking spaces, 70 percent of which are reserved for residents and local businesses and 30 percent for visitors to the area. The city council is due to reach a decision on the matter at the end of 2008.

The consequences for the UNESCO nomination

Visual impact

The neighbourhood has had an Asian character since the beginning of the 20th century. The coming of Chinese people, which has resulted in a neighbourhood with an Asian atmosphere, fits within the concept of Amsterdam as a free port.

Strengthening the neighbourhood's Asian atmosphere must not cause any harm to the conservation area and will primarily have to derive from the use of the buildings in the area. In the first place it should contribute to enhancing the atmosphere of the neighbourhood.

Authenticity and integrity

The neighbourhood lies within the buffer zone and will not essentially change in character (see above). The anticipated developments will not affect the property's authenticity and integrity.

5.3.10 Surface and groundwater levels

Introduction

In an old city like Amsterdam with a specific soil composition and hydrological regime, groundwater problems are a given, and there is limited room for manoeuvre in influencing the groundwater level. Nevertheless, the habitation of Amsterdam is an irreversible fact. The land use both above and below ground is increasingly intensive. To keep Amsterdam habitable, groundwater management is focused on dealing with existing problems and preventing new ones from occurring.

Problems with groundwater can arise if the level in relation to the buildings and land use is either too high or too low.

In Amsterdam, water management is contracted out to Waternet by the city council.

Problems caused by high groundwater levels

High groundwater levels can result in problems such as water in crawl spaces, wet cellars and damp ground floor rooms. Most of these problems occur in Amsterdam's 19th century neighbourhoods, often in buildings that are not in the best structural condition. Specific problems occur in what are known as polder sewerage areas (low-lying areas within polders), all of which lie outside the city centre. In public spaces, the principal groundwater

problems occur in the older public parks, where the land is not raised. Areas of poorly raised land are also affected, with trees dying prematurely due to the high groundwater level. This occurs chiefly in the suburbs of Amsterdam North, Slotervaart and Watergraafsmeer.

Problems caused by low groundwater levels

If the groundwater level is low for a prolonged period, wooden foundation piles can become dry and begin to rot, potentially resulting in building subsidence. The centre of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal is largely built on wooden piles, which in many older buildings extend only as far as a shallow silty sand layer to a depth of approximately 8 metres below Amsterdam Ordnance Datum (or Normal Amsterdam Water Level). Today, concrete piles are driven into deeper sand layers (the first or second sand layer). To measure building subsidence, a network of 10,000 survey bolts have been mounted in the facades of buildings in the city centre and other areas.

Problems with high and low groundwater levels in the 17th-century canal belt

- *problems with high groundwater levels*

The drainage depth (the distance between the ground level and the highest water level) in the city centre, which is entirely raised above storage-basin level, is generally quite large (approximately 1.5 metres). With the exception of the Jordaan and Plantagebuurt neighbourhoods (both of which lie within the buffer zone), where the drainage depth is quite small, up to now little or no problems with groundwater have been reported. The impression is that in the city centre, water problems chiefly concern rainwater seeping into non-watertight basements and cellars.

- *problems with low groundwater levels*

A fall in the groundwater level can result in damage to wooden foundations. According to information from Waternet (source no. 2) there is no conceivable process that could lead to a general lowering of the groundwater level in the canal belt. Due to the presence of the canals, which are a relatively small distance apart and are kept at a stable level, even in periods of prolonged drought, for example, the supply of water to the groundwater system in the canal belt is assured.

The greatest threat to the foundations of the buildings in the 17th-century canal belt is a lowering of the groundwater level as a result of drainage for construction work. Damage may also occur due to the construction of underground structures. This is more likely to produce a high groundwater level, however, where due to the construction of retaining walls, for example, water is unable to drain away. In the past, piezometers were placed along the main sewers to indicate any fall in groundwater level as a result of drainage, and enable the prevention of any damage to wooden foundations.

For the drainage of groundwater for construction work, exemption from the water board statute (*Keur AGV*) is required. For the drainage of deep groundwater, a permit is required from provincial government; under the new Water Act this authority will be transferred to the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board (with Waternet as implementing organisation). The new Water Act was passed by the Lower House of Parliament in 2006, and is expected to come into force in 2009.

Water assessment procedure and basis in law and urban planning

For urban planning (the construction of new buildings and necessary underground structures) the City of Amsterdam operates a water assessment procedure, whereby the same steps are followed as for the Planning and Decision-making Process for Spatial

Measures (*Plan- en Besluitvormingsproces Ruimtelijke Maatregelen - Plaberum*). The inclusion of a section on groundwater in plans is compulsory. In addition, the City of Amsterdam is investigating the possibility to give a firmer legal basis to groundwater-related aspects and criteria currently applied to recommendations on construction plans, alterations and renovations, either by including them in the building regulations and zoning plans or by means of groundwater regulations for Amsterdam. Because of the nomination of the 17th-century canal belt for the UNESCO World Heritage List, the Central Amsterdam District will handle this as a matter of priority.

5.4 Assessment of construction plans

5.4.1 Introduction

Each plan for the construction of a new building within the conservation area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht must be submitted to the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency (*Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten Amsterdam*) in Amsterdam. This section describes the procedure the agency follows for the assessment of construction plans. This is preceded by a survey of international memorandums and charters applying to World Heritage which the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency must take into consideration when making recommendations.

5.4.2 International memorandums and charters

*Vienna Memorandum*¹³⁴

Vienna Memorandum on World Heritage and Contemporary Architecture – Managing the Historic Urban Landscape (Vienna, 2005)
UNESCO Memorandum – approved by the UNESCO international conference and the World Heritage Committee

The Vienna Memorandum deals with the influence of present-day urban developments and contemporary architecture on the value of cultural built heritage. The memorandum sets out principles for the long-term conservation of heritage and monuments. Constant change in dynamic towns and cities requires policymakers and stakeholders to have a vision both on the city as a whole and on future urban development, in keeping with the historical pattern of development. The challenge for contemporary architecture and urban planning is to meet the needs of dynamic and socio-economic developments, while at the same time respecting cultural heritage and the historic urban landscape.

*Washington Charter*¹³⁵

Charter on the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas (Washington, 1987)
ICOMOS Charter – Charters approved by the ICOMOS General Assembly.

The Washington Charter provides guidelines for the conservation of historic towns and urban areas. It stresses the importance of urban planning policy as an integral component of the further social and economic development of historic urban areas. The Charter aims at conserving the historic character of urban monuments, both tangible and intangible, both in

¹³⁴ Link: Vienna Memorandum, whc.unesco.org/uploads/activities/documents/activity-47-2.pdf

¹³⁵ Link: Charter on the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas, www.international.icomos.org/charters/towns_e.htm

design and structure, in terms of architecture, scale, size colour, and use of materials. New functions and developments must accord with the character of historic towns and cities.

5.4.3 Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency

The Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency assesses whether construction plans contravene the Building Code (*Bouwbesluit*), building regulations or zoning plan. The agency then assesses whether the plan complies with policy according to the conservation area, the Central Amsterdam District Policy Document on Building Aesthetics 2006 (*Welstandsnota 2006, Stadsdeel Centrum*) and the Framework Document for Building Aesthetics Evaluation in Amsterdam (*Kadernota voor de welstandsbeoordeling in Amsterdam*), and whether the plan contributes to the basic principles of the additional requirements for the aesthetics of new buildings described below. If the plan falls within a metropolitan project, the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency also makes an assessment based on the additional building aesthetics criteria. The agency makes a recommendation to the Central Amsterdam District Executive Committee or to the Municipal Executive on whether or not a building permit should be issued.

5.4.4 Central Amsterdam District Policy Document on Building Aesthetics

The Central Amsterdam District Policy Document on Building Aesthetics acknowledges that the construction of new buildings in the city centre is often the subject of heated debate, and that the assessment of building aesthetics is sometimes controversial. The aim of building aesthetics policy is not to dispel controversy, but to fit construction plans within their context.¹³⁶

According to the Central Amsterdam District Policy Document on Building Aesthetics, a general basic principle for every construction plan is that it may not disproportionately affect the characteristics of the district, and the building must have a clearly defined base, middle and top (plinth, façade and gable).¹³⁷

5.4.5 Policy Document on the Conservation Area Classification Map

According to the Policy Document on the Conservation Area Classification Map,¹³⁸ the basic principle underlying the 'additional requirements for building aesthetics' is that the architectural quality of new buildings must be at least as high as that of the surrounding buildings, or the buildings to be demolished. In addition, the plan must not disproportionately affect the 'characteristics of the cityscape' and the building must have a clearly defined plinth, façade and gable.

Characteristics of the cityscape and façade design

The Policy Document on the Conservation Area Classification Map specifies as an additional requirement that a construction plan must be appropriate to the characteristics of the cityscape and must fulfil the requirements for façade design. The additional requirements are as follows:

¹³⁶ District of Central Amsterdam Policy Document on Building Aesthetics 2006 (*Welstandsnota Stadsdeel Centrum 2006*), p11

¹³⁷ District of Central Amsterdam Policy Document on Building Aesthetics 2006 (*Welstandsnota Stadsdeel Centrum 2006*), p26

¹³⁸ Policy Document on the Conservation Area Evaluation Map (*Beleidsnota Waarderingskaart Beschermd Stadsgezicht*) p29

- *Characteristics of the cityscape:* The proportions and rhythm of the buildings, as well as the gables, detailing, choice of materials and colour, must be attuned to the surroundings such that they do not disproportionately affect the characteristics of the cityscape, and are not disproportionately detrimental to the spatial quality of the surroundings.
- *Façade design:* with the exception of streets in which the façade design predominantly differs, the building must display a clear division into three elements, consisting of a plinth, façade and gable. In addition, emphasis is placed on the predominantly vertical positioning of windows and other apertures in the façade.

5.4.6 Framework Document for Building Aesthetics Evaluation in Amsterdam

In addition to the Central Amsterdam District Policy Document on Building Aesthetics, the starting-point for the assessment of construction plans remains the Framework Document for Building Aesthetics Evaluation in Amsterdam of February 2004. The document states that for the assessment of new buildings, the urban planning context is of primary importance (Subsection a). This context is then described in the 'characteristics of the spatial system' (Subsection b). These characteristics are illustrated on the basis of the 'history of urban planning' (Section c). This history is described separately for the four areas within the conservation area; the 17th-century canal belt is referred to as 'the 17th-century urban expansion'. As it is highly informative, and in order to preserve its context, practically the entire text below is taken directly from the Framework Document for Building Aesthetics.

a. Considerations and recommendations for the area within the Singelgracht canal¹³⁹

The centre of Amsterdam was designated as a conservation area in 1999. Within the framework of the Renewal Operation for Zoning Plans, a new system of zoning plans has been developed, which takes the conservation area explicitly into account by taking a conservation-oriented approach to buildings and a more flexible approach to the functions that are permitted. Ensuing from the designation as a conservation area, a Classification Map for the buildings in the centre has been drawn up and approved. This is of major importance to building aesthetics policy. For construction and alterations, the interpretation of the urban planning context takes priority. Buildings must conform to their surroundings; scale, parcelling and façade composition should be suited to the other façades. A desire for contrast in architecture must be the well-reasoned consequence of a building's particular function.

b. Characteristics of the spatial system

The centre of Amsterdam is one of the most attractive, largest and best preserved historic city centres in Europe. Major post-war urban developments in the centre were limited to a few openings created for road construction, and areas of urban renewal, chiefly in the *Jordaan*, *Harlemmerbuurt*, *Nieuwmarkt* and Eastern Island neighbourhoods. The city centre is a coherent system of planned structures, which has arisen in an interplay between urban planning and the land itself. The buildings are generally arranged in closed blocks, in which the historical parcelling is still evident. In the 16th and 17th centuries, beyond the dikes an archipelago of harbour islands was constructed, of which the specific structure is still partly recognisable. In its structure, scale and buildings, the IJ tunnel route differs greatly from the rest of the city centre.

There is a close relationship between the structures and the architecture within them. Due to

¹³⁹ Framework Document for Building Aesthetics Evaluation in Amsterdam (*Kadernota voor de welstandsbeoordeling in Amsterdam*) (1.01-1.12), pp15-18

the small-scale structures of the parcelling and buildings, the city centre is characterised by slow transformation, whereby new functions are gradually fitted within the existing body of the city, parcel by parcel. The buildings in the city reflect a wide diversity of architectural opinions. But the combination of common characteristics within the individuality of the architecture, which almost everywhere fits within the historical parcelling, makes the city centre into a single entity. It is a context that calls for caution and restraint.

Key point 28:

The Central Amsterdam District recognises that the construction of new buildings in the city centre is often a matter of debate, and that building aesthetics assessments can sometimes be seen as controversial. In the view of the Central Amsterdam District, the aim of building aesthetics policy is to integrate construction plans within their context. With the nomination of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' for inscription on the World Heritage List, the outstanding universal value, authenticity and integrity of the property and the surrounding buffer zone will be part of the context within which new construction plans must be integrated. The Central Amsterdam District and the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology will ensure that the integration of new construction plans is carried out in accordance with the principles of the Vienna Memorandum and with respect for the property's outstanding and universal value as defined by the World Heritage Committee.

5.5 Application of Classification Maps for the conservation area, architectural history and archaeological value

5.5.1 Introduction

Since 2000, the Central Amsterdam District has made use of a Conservation Area Classification Map. Since February 2008, there has also been a Classification Map for Historic Architectural Value for Amsterdam City Centre. Furthermore, within the framework of archaeological policy, archaeological classification maps are to be drawn up. As recently indicated by the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM), the municipal map indicating expected sites of archaeological value, in combination with the policy recommendations map, forms the basis for the protection of archaeological heritage in regulations and on zoning plan maps.

5.5.2 Protection of the Conservation Area

The cultural and historical value of 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal' is protected in a variety of ways: through its designation as a conservation area, and within it the designation of national monuments under the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act (*Monumentenwet*), and through the designation of municipal monuments under Build Heritage Regulations (*Monumentenverordening*). As a consequence of the designation as a conservation area, protective zoning plans have been established and the Conservation Area Classification Map has been drawn up. The Classification Map affords a lesser degree of protection, both substantively and legally, than do the monument register, the monument list or the zoning plans.

5.5.3 Conservation Area Classification Map

On 29 February 2000, the Amsterdam Inner City Department (*Dienst Binnenstad Amsterdam*) issued the Conservation Area Classification Map. Divided into 133 sections at a scale of 1:1000, it shows the entire extent of the conservation area, indicating the status of individual buildings. The Conservation Area Classification Map accompanies the Conservation Area Classification Map Policy Document (*Beleidsnota Waarderingskaart Beschermd Stadsgezicht*) of 21 January 2000.

This document is established as municipal policy for the visual quality of the built environment in the city centre, under Article 9 Subsection 2 of the Amsterdam Building Regulations 2003 (*Bouwverordening Amsterdam 2003*).

The map sections contain the following information:

- Category 1 – National or municipal monuments
- Category 2 – Buildings constructed before 1940, which due to their high degree of architectural quality, location in the urban planning landscape, and/or as an element that sets the tone among neighbouring buildings, make a key contribution to the appearance of the city;
- V – Buildings to be replaced and spaces to be filled;
- N – Buildings constructed after 1940;
- Arrow – Ensembles and mass construction;
- Dotted line – boundary of conservation area;
- Square – Building nominated as national monument;
- Rosette – Building nominated as municipal monument.

The Classification Map offers added value by:

- promoting the conservation of the façades of groups of valuable buildings, thus protecting the appearance of the city.
- ensuring that protected monuments are not viewed separately from their surroundings;
- enabling the protection of Category 2 buildings that are important to the appearance of the city or historic urban planning structure, even if they do not feature on the Monument List for reasons of architectural history.

The key role of the Classification Map is to illustrate a building's value to the cityscape, through its urban planning context and the appearance of the street. For category 2 buildings, particular attention is paid to the façade and roof.

At present the Conservation Area Classification Map (29 February 2000) is printed in A3 format in a thick ring binder, and the text and map is now partly out of date. However, the Central Amsterdam District is currently updating the map and will make it available in digital form.

Key point 29: the Central Amsterdam District will ensure that an updated Classification Map is included with each updated zoning plan. The World Heritage Committee will be informed of this via the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage.

5.5.4 Classification Map for Historic Architectural Value

For Amsterdam's medieval centre, the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology has produced a Classification Map for Historic Architectural Value for Amsterdam City Centre (March

2007), due to the unusual number of houses that contain remains of original medieval dwellings. Architectural historians of the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology have combined existing data from housing studies with the results of new research, and merged them in the Classification Map for Historic Architectural Value. Historic architectural value refers to hidden architectural and historical elements in buildings, which often prove to be older than might appear from the façade.

The map distinguishes three levels:

- buildings which definitely contain traces of older buildings
- buildings for which this is to be expected
- buildings for which it is unknown what might be found within them.

The Classification Map for Historic Architectural Value can be accessed digitally via www.bma.amsterdam.nl – *monumenten – onderzoek – bouwhistorischwaardenkaart* (in Dutch only). The map is constantly under development. It is to be updated on the basis of new data by the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology.

The Classification Map is presently limited to the city's earliest buildings in the medieval centre, the area bordered by the Singel, Kloveniersburgwal and Geldersekade canals and the IJ waterfront. The map also facilitates the study of the value of buildings that are not protected as monuments. It provides information on architectural history for use in handling construction permit applications.

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology is consulting with the Central Amsterdam District on the implementation of the Classification Map for Historic Architectural Value as an instrument in permit and zoning plan procedures. As a result of the experience with the map in the Central Amsterdam District, the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology is investigating the possible application of such a map in other parts of the city.¹⁴⁰

Key point 30:

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology will ensure that agreements with the Central Amsterdam District on the implementation of the Classification Map for Historic Architectural Value as an instrument in permit and zoning plan procedures will be included in the management plan. The World Heritage Committee will be informed of this via the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage.

Key point 31:

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology will ensure that the UNESCO World Heritage Committee is informed of the results of experience with the Classification Map for Historic Architectural Value for the medieval centre of Amsterdam via the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage. If the results are positive, and there are plans to make a Classification Map for Historic Architectural Value for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology will similarly inform the UNESCO World Heritage Committee via the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage.

¹⁴⁰ Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology Annual Programme 2008 (*Jaarprogramma 2008 Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie*), p11

5.5.5 Archaeological classification map

In 1992, The Netherlands signed the Malta Convention. The aim of the convention is to provide increased protection for archaeological heritage, and to embed this more firmly within the spatial planning process. The act implementing this convention in The Netherlands, the Archaeological Built Heritage Conservation Act (*Wet op de archeologische monumentenzorg* – 21 December 2006), came into force in September 2007. It amends four previous acts: the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act (*Monumentenwet* – 1988), the Excavation Act (*Ontgrondingenwet* – 1965), the Environmental Management Act (*Wet milieubeheer* – 1979) and the Housing Act (*Woningwet* – 1991). As a consequence, in making zoning plans, the City of Amsterdam and the district councils are obliged to take account of archaeological heritage and the expected presence of archaeological remains (Article 38a.1 of the amended Monuments and Historic Buildings Act).

To facilitate this, the Archaeology Department of the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology has drawn up an Archaeological Classification Map. The map comprises two sections, a substantive archaeological classification map and a policy map.

- The substantive classification map contains a survey of various historical and archaeological sources. By combining this data with the present usage of locations, and with data on the recent history of raising or disturbing land, an assessment can be made of the expected presence of archaeological remains.
- On an archaeological policy map, colouring or shading shows the archaeological regime that applies to a particular location. The regime indicates the policy to be implemented in that location. The content of the policy map may be specified on the basis of desk research (quick scans), field research, or archaeological excavation.

The use of the Archaeological Classification Map prevents delays to construction and urban planning processes, and associated damage.

5.6 Permit procedure for built heritage

5.6.1 Introduction

Under the Housing Act (1991), a permit is required for construction work to be carried out. Under certain circumstances, however, a permit may not be required, or the requirement may be limited. For monuments and buildings within conservation areas, stricter requirements apply.

5.6.2 Construction permit

A construction permit grants permission from the municipal or district council for the construction or alteration of a building. Under the Housing Act, a permit is necessary for plans to construct, alter, renovate or change the function of a building. The act applies to all structures, and includes construction, extension and alteration. It distinguishes three types of structures:

- structures with no permit requirement
- structures with a limited permit requirement
- structures with a standard permit requirement

The Decree on structures with no permit requirement or a limited permit requirement (*Besluit bouwvergunningsvrije en licht bouwvergunningplichtige bouwwerken* – General Administrative Measure, 13 July 2002) stipulates work that may be carried out without a permit, and work for which a permit is required. If a type of structure is not referred to in the Decree, a standard construction permit is required.

- Structures with no permit requirement

Structures with no permit requirement are generally small and of minor significance, such as partitions between balconies or roof gardens, awnings or roll-down shutters, dormer windows and extensions at the rear of residential buildings. The district council may subsequently assess whether the structure meets the requirements of the Building Code 2003 (the national Building Code comprises technical regulations with which all structures, including residential buildings, offices and shops, must comply).

In the Central Amsterdam District, virtually no construction work is possible without a permit, because the greater part of the district is a designated conservation area, within which a construction permit is always required.

If a construction plan qualifies as a structure with no permit requirement, the work may be carried out without a permit. In this case, the provisions of the zoning plan, the building regulations, and in principle also the building aesthetics requirements, are not applicable.

However, structures for which a permit is not required are not entirely exempt from inspection regarding building aesthetics. Article 19 of the Housing Act includes a so-called 'regulation concerning excess' (*excessenregeling*), which enables a municipal or district council to intervene where structures 'seriously conflict with the reasonable requirements of building aesthetics'. Where this occurs, the owner is requested to alter the appearance of the structure, despite the fact that no permit was required for its construction. If necessary, subsequent to an order the changes must be reversed.

- Structures with a limited permit requirement

Smaller structures, such as dormer windows or annexes at the front of a residential building, usually have a limited permit requirement. The district council assesses such structures on the basis of the zoning plan, its building aesthetics requirements (optional building aesthetics recommendations), monument permit requirements, municipal building regulations relating to urban planning, and the structural requirements of the Building Code (2003). The district council may subsequently assess whether the structure meets the remaining requirements of the Building Code (2003).

- Structures with a standard permit requirement

For all other structures, a standard construction permit is required. The district council assesses the structures on the basis of the zoning plan, its building aesthetics requirements (mandatory building aesthetics recommendations), the requirements of the monument permit and the municipal building regulations. It also judges whether the plan meets all the technical requirements of the Building Code (2003). For the standard permit procedure, all building regulations are applicable, not only urban planning regulations.

5.6.3 Permit for protected monuments

For work on buildings classified as monuments, a permit is always required. This means that for all proposed construction work in or on a national, provincial or municipal monument, both

a monument permit and a construction permit are needed. A construction permit cannot be used without a finalised monument permit. As of April 2004, for regular maintenance work on a monument or historic building, or alteration to such a building by order of the local council, a permit is not required. The council must assess whether a permit is required for a proposed alteration to a monument, and also inspect whether the work is carried out in accordance with the permit.

5.6.4 Construction permit within an urban conservation area

If building work is carried out in or on a monument or historic building protected at central, provincial or district government level, or located in a nationally designated urban conservation area, a permit is always required. A construction permit is required for any building plan within a nationally protected conservation area, hence also for structures which would not otherwise require a permit. Practically the whole of the Central Amsterdam District lies with the 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal' conservation area. This means that a permit is required for construction work on any building. The district's policy document on building aesthetics (*Welstandsnota*) allows for additional criteria to be specified for construction permits. No structures in a conservation area may be demolished without permit.

The procedure for the assessment of an application for a construction permit in the conservation area is shown in the diagram (figure 1c) at the end of this section.

5.6.5 Phased permit application procedure

An application for a standard construction permit can be made in two phases. In the first phase, the application is assessed only on the basis of the zoning plan, municipal building regulations relating to urban planning, building aesthetics requirements, and the provisions of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act.

When it has been confirmed that there is no objection to the structure on this basis, the applicant can then invest in further technical development of the construction plan. In the second phase, an assessment is then made as to whether the application complies with the permit in the first phase, and meets the requirements of the Building Code (2003) and the City of Amsterdam building regulations (2003).

However, the Central Amsterdam District advises against making a two-phase application in the case of a standard construction permit for a monument. The first-phase permit can only be granted when the monument permit has been finalised. If in handling the second-phase permit it becomes apparent that alterations to the building are needed on the basis of the Building Code, a new monument permit is required. Ultimately this leads to an extended application period.

5.6.6 Building Regulations Amsterdam 2003

The Amsterdam Building Regulations (*Bouwverordening Amsterdam – 2003*), approved by the city council on 7 May 2003, contain additional regulations to the national Building Code. They include regulations concerning the use of structures, such as rules on:

- drinking water and power supplies;

- cleanliness;
- vermin or pest control;
- fire safety;
- the number of occupants permitted in a residence;
- the use of open premises and grounds and the state in which they should be maintained;
- the prevention of construction on polluted soil; demolition; the form and positioning of a notice declaring a building to be unfit for human habitation;
- the architectural construction permit as referred to in Article 60 of the Housing Act;
- the transferability of a construction permit;
- the execution of construction or demolition work, including regulations concerning:
 - safety on the construction or demolition site;
 - documents that must be present on the construction or demolition site;
 - measurement, excavation, removal of road surface or paving, and investigation necessary for the construction or demolition;
 - the time and means of submission of quality certificates

Key point 32:

The City of Amsterdam will ensure that if the 17th-century ring of canals is inscribed on the World Heritage list, an addition will be made to city's Building Regulations to the effect that within this area the preservation of outstanding universal value, authenticity and integrity are to be regarded as primary.

5.6.7 Environmental Law (General Provisions) Act (Wet algemene bepalingen omgevingsrecht – Wabo)

The Environmental Law (General Provisions) Act has been passed by the Lower House of Parliament and is expected to come into force on 1 January 2010. The act integrates around 25 permits, exemptions and approval reports in the field of spatial planning, construction, environment, nature, and built heritage, to create a single environmental permit. It comprises all acts that fall within the scope of the Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment, as well as the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act, the Nature Protection Act (*Natuurbeschermingswet*) and the Flora and Fauna Act (*Flora- en faunawet*). Provincial, municipal and water board regulations are also to be incorporated into the environmental permit. The introduction of the Environmental Law (General Provisions) Act calls for a revised approval, inspection and enforcement procedure for construction permits. The Amsterdam Environmental & Building Department (*Dienst Milieu en Bouwtoezicht*) is responsible for the introduction of the act at municipal level, with the participation of the Central Amsterdam District.

Key point 33:

The Central Amsterdam District will ensure that the implications of the introduction of the Environmental Law (General Provisions) Act will in due course be included in an updated management plan, and this will be reported to the World Heritage Committee via the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage.

5.6.8 Assessment of construction permit applications under the Public Administration Probity Screening Act (Wet Bevordering Integriteit Beoordelingen – Bibob 2002)

Permits, subsidies and invitations for tenders can be exploited for criminal ends. The Public Administration Probity Screening Act was designed to prevent such improper use. The act provides government bodies with an additional instrument to verify the integrity of partners with whom they do business.

On 10 January 2008, the City of Amsterdam Public Order and Safety Committee discussed the Policy guideline on construction permits within the framework of the Public Administration Probity Screening Act. The basic principles of the policy guideline are:

- only standard construction permits fall within the scope of the Public Administration Probity Screening Act (Bibob);
- all applications relating to construction projects at a contract price of €100,000 or more should be accompanied by a completed 'Bibob application form' and necessary documentation. The assessment concentrates on the financial background to the application and the way in which the project is to be financed;
- irrespective of the contract price, all applications that fall within a number of specified risk categories (coffee shops selling soft drugs, call shops etc.) must be accompanied by the 'Bibob application' and necessary documentation.

Key point 34:

The Central Amsterdam District will ensure that the Policy guideline on construction permits within the framework of the Public Administration Probity Screening Act, including a memorandum concerning the date of introduction, will be included in the nomination dossier for the 17th-century ring of canals, via the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage.

5.6.9 Enforcement

Enforcement takes place by means of a variety of legal instruments under the Housing Act (1991), the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act (1988) and the General Administrative Law Act (*Algemene wet bestuursrecht* – 1992). Measures are taken where any infringement of the regulations is identified; generally such infringements relate to construction work for which no permit has been granted, or which does not comply with the requirements of a permit. The Central Amsterdam District Executive Committee then usually decides to halt construction work. If no permit has been granted, investigations are made as to whether the infringement can be legalised by granting a permit retrospectively. The aspect of building aesthetics then becomes a consideration. If it is not possible to legalise the construction work, administrative coercion is then brought to bear: the structure is removed at the expense of the person responsible for the infringement. However, this takes place only in urgent cases requiring immediate action. A daily penalty payment may also be imposed. The end result in principle is the demolition of the structure and, if possible, the restoration of the site to its original state. The Central Amsterdam District evaluates its enforcement policy annually.¹⁴¹

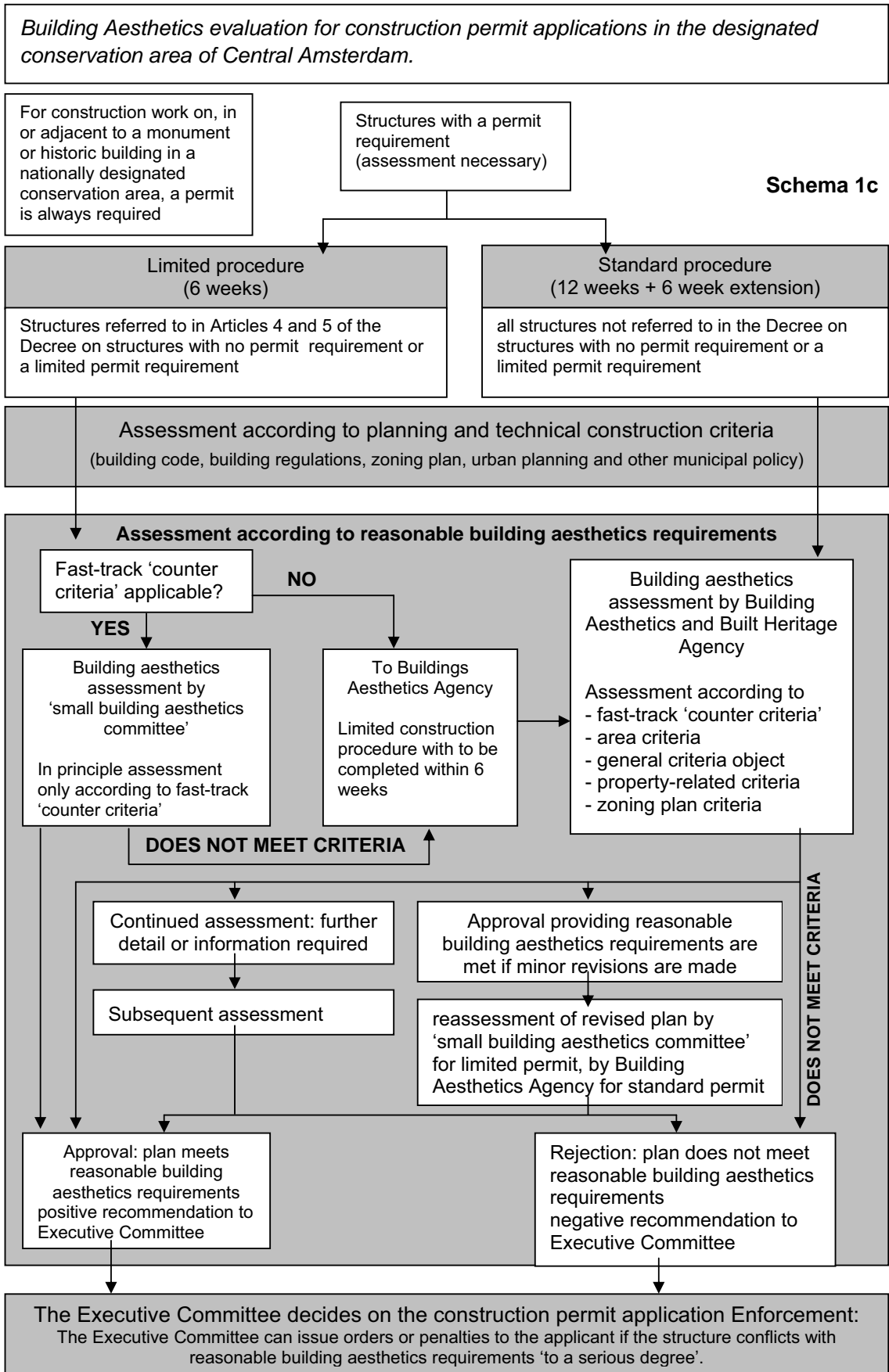
The Framework Document on Enforcement Policy for Building Regulations (*Kadernota Handhavingsbeleid Bouwregelgeving – 2006*), approved by the City of Amsterdam and the district councils, also points out that the proposed amendments to the Housing Act currently being handled in parliament include an obligation on the part of the Municipal Executive or the district council Executive Committees periodically to set out their intentions regarding the enforcement of building regulations.¹⁴² Moreover, an annual report must be made to the municipal or district council on the implementation of enforcement policy in the field of building and housing inspection.

Key point 35:

The Central Amsterdam District will ensure that the report on the annual evaluation of the implementation of enforcement policy in the field of building and housing inspection will be submitted to the World Heritage Committee via the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage.

¹⁴¹ Policy document on building aesthetics (*Welstandsnota* – 2006), District of Central Amsterdam, pp23-24

¹⁴² Framework Document on Enforcement Policy for Building Regulations (*Kadernota Handhavingsbeleid Bouwregelgeving – 2005*)



5.7 Operation of the visual impact system on lines of sight, urban silhouettes and roofscape

5.7.1 Introduction

A dynamic city like Amsterdam is constantly in development. Present-day urban planning developments may affect the historic urban landscape, for example in terms of lines of sight, silhouette or roofscape. This section sets out the Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam's vision on visual impact.

The section begins with a summary of international memorandums and charters that apply to World Heritage sites internationally, and are to be included in the vision on the operation of the systematic use of visual impact studies by the Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam.

5.7.2 International obligations

*Washington Charter*¹⁴³

Charter on the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas (Washington, 1987)

ICOMOS Charter – Charters approved by the ICOMOS General Assembly

The Washington Charter provides guidelines for the conservation of historic towns and urban areas. It stresses the importance of urban planning policy as an integral component of the further social and economic development of historic urban areas. The Charter aims at conserving the historic character of urban monuments, both tangible and intangible, both in design and structure, in terms of architecture, scale, size, colour, and use of materials. New functions and developments must accord with the character of historic towns and cities.

*Vienna Memorandum*¹⁴⁴

Vienna Memorandum on World Heritage and Contemporary Architecture – Managing the Historic Urban Landscape (Vienna, 2005)

UNESCO Memorandum – approved by the UNESCO international conference and the World Heritage Committee

The Vienna Memorandum deals with the influence of present-day urban developments and contemporary architecture on the value of cultural built heritage. The memorandum sets out principles for the long-term conservation of heritage and monuments. Constant change in dynamic towns and cities requires policymakers and stakeholders to have a vision both for the city as a whole and for future urban development, in keeping with the historical pattern of development. The challenge for contemporary architecture and urban planning is to meet the needs of dynamic and socio-economic developments, at the same time respecting cultural heritage and the historic urban landscape.

5.7.3 Visual impact

The Central Amsterdam District Policy Document on Building Aesthetics (*Welstandsnota Stadsdeel Centrum – 2006*) states as a basic principle that a building must fit within the

¹⁴³ Link: Charter on the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas, www.international.icomos.org/charters/towns_e.htm

¹⁴⁴ Link: Vienna Memorandum, whc.unesco.org/uploads/activities/documents/activity-47-2.pdf

context of the urban planning structure. Construction projects must be suited to their context, and may not disturb the continuity or legibility of the cityscape in any way.¹⁴⁵ The policy document sets out the following principles for urban silhouettes, roofscapes and lines of sight:

“Composition, silhouette, use of materials, colour and detailing”¹⁴⁶

Buildings are more than just collections of programmes. In their relation to one another, through symmetry or balance, the elements of the street wall form a coherent composition. This should be supported by the mode of construction and the use of material. In principle the use of colour should be restrained. The detailing is important in determining a building's architectural quality. The execution and detailing should stem logically from the concept of the building. The use of cheap-looking materials, such as Volkern sheeting or other sheet materials, and PVC window frames, is not permitted in the city centre. Detailing and ornamentation should be in keeping with the rich, refined architecture in the historic city centre. For detached buildings, the silhouette and execution should be carefully considered in the light of the surroundings.”

Roofscape – description of roofs¹⁴⁷

The historic roofscape is of great importance to the city centre. The majority of parcels are narrow and deep; the roof ridge generally runs at right angles to the street. In a number of places the parcels run at an angle to the street or canal, so large areas of the roof are visible from the street. Particular attention for roof shape and design is then required.

In principle the roof of a building should remain intact; roof structures and chimneys can seriously disrupt the silhouette of a building and the roofscape. In the city centre there is a wide variety of roof shapes, often in combination with a cornice.

Traditionally, roofs had two tiled faces. The 18th and 19th centuries then saw the introduction of new shapes of roofs with two slopes, such as the mansard. This allows for more steeply sloping walls on the attic floor, making it better suited as living accommodation. Because the roof is at a sharper angle, tiles make a less suitable roofing material, and slates, zinc or asphalt are often used. Since the 19th century, buildings have also been constructed with flat roofs.

The total amount of alteration is the determining factor

- For work on roofs, the total amount of existing and planned alteration is the determining factor. Dormer windows, skylights, solar panels and other added elements and/or alterations to the roof may not occupy more than 30 percent of the length of the roof.
- Roofs of main buildings and annexes must remain separately distinguishable. The roof of a main building may not be extended to an annex, thus adding additional height to the annex.
- Loggias in the roof. “Cutting out” sections of the roof to create balconies or loggias affects the appearance to an unacceptable degree and is not permitted.

The Policy Document on Building Aesthetics sets out additional criteria for the following specific alterations to the roofscape: use of materials, roof terraces and gardens, chimneys, lift housing and other equipment, satellite dishes and aerials, GSM antennas on buildings

¹⁴⁵ District of Central Amsterdam Policy Document on Building Aesthetics (*Welstandsnota stadsdeel Centrum – 2006*), p57

¹⁴⁶ District of Central Amsterdam Policy Document on Building Aesthetics (*Welstandsnota stadsdeel Centrum – 2006*), p58

¹⁴⁷ District of Central Amsterdam Policy Document on Building Aesthetics (*Welstandsnota stadsdeel Centrum – 2006*), pp69-72

and façades, GSM antennas on monuments or historic buildings and Category 2 buildings, solar collectors and solar panels.

Lines of sight and views

The Central Amsterdam District Policy Document on Building Aesthetics (2006) does not contain any specific criteria on how lines of sight and views should be dealt with.

The Framework Document for Building Aesthetics Evaluation in Amsterdam (2004) equally contains no such specific criteria, but it does specify criteria for dealing with so-called superimposed systems (as does the City of Amsterdam's policy document *The beauty of Amsterdam; a framework for building aesthetics policy 1999 [De Schoonheid van Amsterdam; een kader voor het welstandsbeleid 1999]*).

"11. Superimposed systems (11.01 – 11.09)"¹⁴⁸

History in urban planning

Superimposed systems are a particular feature of urban planning systems. A superimposed system is one that lies on top of another urban planning system. It arises from the need to create a wide-meshed structure in a city. The best known example is of course Haussmann's Paris, where a pattern of wide boulevards is laid over the finer-meshed structure to increase the city's accessibility, and to give it greater coherence in urban planning terms.

Three forms of superimposition can be distinguished:

1. The radical breach (when a road is widened), such as the Weesperstraat and Wibautstraat in Amsterdam
2. The alteration of certain elements in the underlying urban planning system, such that the existing profile is drastically altered.
3. The addition of isolated spatial elements on top of or beneath an existing spatial system. This might include high-speed tram routes, metro lines, ring roads and access roads, as in the Central Station Island.

Characteristics of urban planning systems

Often the most important aim of superimposition is to clear the way for either local traffic or through-traffic. This entails a literal increase in the height of the buildings, with an accompanying increase in the grandeur of the street. A difference between older and more recent superimpositions is that the older ones created space for all types of traffic (including local traffic), and hence the public space still called for considerable attention, while more recent superimpositions can only aim at channelling through-traffic through the city.

Considerations and recommendations

For superimpositions it is necessary to develop an urban planning design concept for the desired transition between the alteration and the surrounding urban area. As far as possible, this concept should be translated into a zoning plan. Moreover, particular attention is required for the link between this concept plus the architectural designs it comprises, and the underlying spatial system.

¹⁴⁸ Framework Document for Building Aesthetics Evaluation in Amsterdam (*Kadernota voor de welstandsbeoordeling in Amsterdam*) p43

The design of new buildings and alterations to existing ones alongside superimpositions demands additional care, because with the superimposition the importance of adjacent buildings increases. This particular importance must also find expression in the designs. The more public space is used for recreational purposes, and becomes the location for a wider range of public functions, the greater are the requirements that can be set for the plinth design of the buildings. It is important that careful attention is paid to detailing.”

The Structural Plan for Amsterdam; opting for an urban environment 2003 (*Structuurplan Amsterdam; Kiezen voor stedelijkheid 2003*) does include a number of conditions for spatial development in Amsterdam, one relating to the height of buildings:¹⁴⁹

“Opting for urbanisation can lead to higher buildings. It is important to explore the effects of high-rise construction at an early stage in planning. In formulating the assignment for the development of this structural plan, the opportunities and limitations of high-rise buildings have been included as a matter for investigation. In general, restrictions apply to the location of buildings that differ in height from those in the surrounding area. Technical considerations (restrictive measures relating to air traffic, ray paths, shade, and wind problems) and landscape, urban planning and architectural considerations play a role.

The responsible location of high-rise buildings is assessed on the basis of the High-rise Impact Report (*Hoogbouweffectrapportage* – HER). This applies to buildings which are higher than 30 metres or which differ in height by more than 50 percent from the average height of buildings in the surrounding area. As an assessment framework, in addition to the Amsterdam Open City (*Amsterdam Open Stad – 1996*) structural plan, the policy document The High-rise Impact Report (*De Hoogbouw Effect Rapportage* – January 1999) was drafted. The document contains criteria for the cases in which High-Rise Impact Report procedure is applicable. The available policy instruments are to be updated in association with the structural plan, with the aim of investigating the possibilities for more proactive high-rise policy, with a more executive approach. This will be developed in the additional assessment framework for high-rise construction.”

On 22 June 2005, the city council approved the Policy Document on High-rise Construction, Policy and Instruments; Supplementary Framework to the Structural Plan ‘Opting for urbanisation’ (*Hoogbouw, beleid en instrument; Aanvullend toetsingskader Structuurplan ‘Kiezen voor stedelijkheid’*). Under the new policy, a High-rise Impact Report is no longer compulsory. Only when a neighbouring district of the city may be affected is there a question of joint responsibility, and the municipal council must be given the opportunity to make recommendations on the plan.

Due to the special nature of the area within the Singelgracht canal, the City of Amsterdam council committee must be informed of the effects on the urban landscape of plans for the construction of buildings higher than 30 metres; beyond the Singelgracht, the limit is 60 metres, while a limit of 90 metres applies to the metropolitan core areas of the Southern Axis, the Amsterdam ArenA area, Overamstel and Teleport.

¹⁴⁹ Structural Plan for Amsterdam; opting for an urban environment 2003 (*Structuurplan Amsterdam; Kiezen voor stedelijkheid*), Part 1, p29

The City of Amsterdam Urban Planning Department (*Dienst Ruimtelijke Ontwikkeling*) has recently compiled an explanatory document entitled High-rise Construction in Amsterdam (*Hoogbouw in Amsterdam*). The explanation serves as an impulse for the revision of Amsterdam's current high-rise policy. This policy is to be included in the Structural Concept for Amsterdam 2010 (*Structuurvisie Amsterdam 2010* – see also paragraph 5.11), a document which originated in response to the following situation.¹⁵⁰

The policy's point of departure was and is that in relation to high-rise buildings greater than 30 metres in height, a number of aspects must be investigated and considered. Key points are the effects on the urban planning structure and careful integration into the 'urban landscape'.

In the recent development of construction plans along the northern bank of the IJ waterway and the north of the Amstelscheg green belt along the River Amstel, a debate arose on the visibility of high-rise buildings from the historic city centre within the Singelgracht canal and on the effects on existing cityscapes that are considered to be valuable or are protected for reasons of public interest. Obviously the outstanding visual qualities of the historic city centre, developed over the centuries, must be treated with great care as cultural heritage and a conservation area. There is a need for clearly formulated policy on high-rise construction, which is proactive and where necessary stringently applied, in particular within and around the conservation area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal. It is for this reason, primarily in the light of the application for the inscription of the ring of canals on the UNESCO World Heritage List, that as a first step the Urban Planning Department has framed a concept for high-rise construction in Amsterdam. High-rise construction policy will be further developed and established as a part of the Structural Concept for Amsterdam 2010.

Key point 36:

The Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam recognise that present-day urban developments and contemporary architecture can have visual impact on urban silhouettes, roofscape, and lines of sight or views, and thus may affect or impinge on the authenticity and integrity of the historic landscape as cultural, spatial and built heritage. In dialogue with the parties concerned, the Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam are developing and updating their vision on the operation of a visual impact system on lines of sight or views, urban silhouettes and roofscapes, with the aim of realising contemporary architecture and urban planning while at the same time respecting and integrating cultural heritage and the historic urban landscape.

Where the property is concerned, high-rise construction must not conflict with the obligation to protect and conserve its outstanding universal value, authenticity and integrity.

Key point 37:

The Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam will ensure that the policy on high-rise construction that is to be further developed and established will be founded on the international charters and treaties applicable to World Heritage, including the Washington Charter and the Vienna Memorandum, and the content of more recent papers produced by the World Heritage Committee and its advisory body ICOMOS on the social and cultural significance of historic urban landscape in relation

¹⁵⁰ High-rise construction in Amsterdam (*Hoogbouw in Amsterdam*); draft 1 June 2008

to present-day developments in urban planning and architectural design. Via the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage, they will inform the UNESCO World Heritage Committee of planning, progress and decision-making relating to high-rise construction policy.

5.8 Archaeology

5.8.1 Introduction

In 1992, The Netherlands signed the Malta Convention. The aim of the convention is to provide increased protection for archaeological heritage, and to embed this more firmly within the town and country planning process. The new act implementing this convention, the Archaeological Built Heritage Conservation Act (*Wet op de archeologische monumentenzorg* – Dutch Civil Code 2007, 42) came into force in September 2007. Under this act, four other acts are amended: the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act (*Monumentenwet* 1988), the Excavation Act (*Ontgrondingenwet* – 1965), the Environmental Management Act (*Wet milieubeheer* – 1979) and the Housing Act (*Woningwet* – 1991). As a consequence, in drawing up zoning plans, the City of Amsterdam and the district councils are obliged to adopt a policy on archaeology. The Amsterdam Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology is therefore preparing Heritage Regulations to replace the Built Heritage Regulations that currently apply.

5.8.2 International commitments

*Malta Convention*¹⁵¹

European Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (Valletta, 1992)
Council of Europe treaty – Council of Europe Treaties, ratified by The Netherlands

The Malta Convention governs the approach to archaeological heritage, given that it is increasingly under threat, not merely due to natural processes or unscientific excavation, but also due to urban development.

The principles of the convention are firstly, that where possible archaeological heritage should be conserved *in situ*, as this offers the best guarantee of effective conservation; secondly, that urban development should take account of the possible presence of archaeological heritage, leaving room for archeologically-friendly alternatives; and thirdly, that the party responsible for disturbing the site should pay for the excavation and documentation of archaeological heritage where conservation *in situ* is not possible.

5.8.3 Consequences of the introduction of the Archaeological Built Heritage Conservation Act

New competences and obligations

As a result of the change in legislation, local councils (and therefore also Amsterdam's local and district councils) acquire a variety of competences and obligations.¹⁵²

¹⁵¹ Link: European Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (Revised), <http://www.racm.nl/content/rubriek-n6-6.asp>

¹⁵² Building Bulletin (*Bouwbrief*), issue 2007-73, Archaeological Built Heritage Conservation Act (*Wet op de archeologische monumentenzorg*)

- In the regulations and planning maps relating to zoning plans, district councils are obliged to include provisions for the preservation of archaeological heritage that is either present or expected to be present in the area (Article 38a.1 of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act 1988), based on the municipal map indicating expected sites of archaeological value, and the policy recommendations map;
- District councils have the authority to establish their policy in regulations on archaeology (Article 38 of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act);
- District councils have the authority to take archaeology into consideration in granting exemptions, and permits for construction, excavation, commercial use and demolition. (Article 37.3, 38a.2, 39, 40 and 41 of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act; Article 3.3 of the Excavation Act);
- District councils have the authority to establish regulations on commercial use (Article 38a.2 of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act);
- District councils have the authority to demand access to sites (including excavations) in the interest of archaeological investigation, in relation to the preparation or implementation of a zoning plan or the granting of an exemption under the Spatial Planning Act (*Wet op de Ruimtelijke Ordening*) (Article 57 of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act);
- District councils are obliged to provide compensation for damages that may be claimed by the applicant for a permit or owner of an archaeological site which is to be accessed, if archaeological investigation (because its execution is either untimely or inefficient) results in unreasonable expense (Article 42 and 58.2 of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act ; excessive expense).

5.8.4 Explanation of archaeological built heritage conservation in Amsterdam

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) is the knowledge centre and point of contact in relation to archaeological finds in Amsterdam. The Archaeology Department has three central tasks:

- policy and value assessment;
- excavation and investigation;
- management and provision of access to the municipal archaeological collection.

Below is a detailed description of the BMA Archaeology Department's activities:

General

Archaeological heritage consist of objects and structures conserved in the ground. Elements of landscape or infrastructure may also be of archaeological value. These material remains represent a part of our living environment requiring tailor-made measures for conservation or access. The archaeological record *in situ* contributes to the cultural history of our city and offers a tangible experience of the past.

Due to the spatial nature of archaeological remains, archaeological policy overlaps with urban planning policy. As a consequence of the revision of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act (1988), since 1 September 2007 archaeological conservation has been formally integrated within town and country planning. An essential principle of the new act is that heritage is best preserved *in situ*. This means that in development projects, archaeological heritage must be taken into account at an early stage. If *in situ* conservation is not an option, before the ground is disturbed, investigation is necessary to document archaeological remains and to preserve information on finds. In a densely built-up urban environment, it is the latter option that most commonly occurs.

Legislation and regulations

In the late 1980s, there was a growing realisation that archaeological sites in Europe were being seriously damaged by large-scale infrastructural works, the increasing number of construction sites, and the intensification of agriculture. To offer archaeological heritage better protection, in 1992 the European ministers of culture drew up the Malta Convention (also known as the Valetta Convention).

An essential principle of this convention is that in the early stages of planning development, the conservation of archaeological heritage *in situ* should be taken into consideration. If *in situ* conservation is not an option (for example by means of technical measures and/or revised planning) the plan should include measures to document archaeological remains, record the information and store the finds (according to the statutorily binding Quality System for Archaeology in The Netherlands).

The convention places the responsibility for the inclusion of archaeological investigation in terms of planning and finance on the party responsible for initiating the development. The new act implementing this convention, the Archaeological Built Heritage Conservation Act (*Wet op de archeologische monumentenzorg – Wamz*: Dutch Civil Code 2007, 42), came in to force on 1 September 2007. Under this act, four acts are amended: the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act (*Monumentenwet* 1988), the Excavation Act (*Ontgrondingenwet* – 1965), the Environmental Management Act (*Wet milieubeheer* – 1979) and the Housing Act (*Woningwet* – 1991). The new Spatial Planning Act, in force since 1 July 2008, also contains provisions relating to archaeology.

The amended Monuments and Historic Buildings Act stipulates that in approving a zoning plan as referred to in article 3.1 of both the new and old Spatial Planning Acts, and in assigning the use of the land to which the plan relates, a local council must take into account heritage that is present or may be expected to be present in the ground (Article 38a.1 of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act 1988). The article makes the zoning plan the most important instrument for the protection of archaeological value. This means that in approving a zoning plan, account must be taken not only of known archaeological heritage, but also of archaeological remains that may yet be found in a particular site. To anticipate this at as early a stage as possible, it is necessary to survey the specific expectations in an area by means of desk research to assess archaeological value.

A second important principle underlying the new legislation is that archaeology and the information obtained from it should be made accessible to a wide public. Archaeology should make a greater contribution to increasing awareness of the historical background to everyday surroundings.

The archaeological policy of the Province of North Holland

The province of North Holland has approved a Policy Document on Culture (*Cultuurnota* – 2005-2008), which gives areas that may be expected to be of archaeological value the status of provincial areas of archaeological attention on the Province of North Holland Cultural History Classification Map. Cultural planning and conservation are among the four key tasks set down by the Province of North Holland in the Policy Document on Culture 2005-2008. The document concurs with the 1999 Belvedere Policy Document, which aims at the conservation of cultural history through development. The province expressly takes account of cultural value, including archaeology, in the realisation of rural and urban renewal. Areas which are expected to be of archaeological value are thus designated as provincial areas of archaeological attention on the Province of North Holland Cultural History Classification Map.

Among them is the entire centre of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal. The value assessments recorded on the classification map are intended as general indications, to be completed with greater detail and precision in each planning area.

Quality Standards for Archaeology in The Netherlands

To incorporate archaeological investigation into the town and country planning process, there is a standard package of measures for which quality standards have been set by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science: the Quality Standards for Archaeology in The Netherlands (*Kwaliteitsnorm Nederlandse Archeologie* – KNA). The measures are based on a phased approach, so that a tailor-made programme can be devised for each planning area, depending on the location, the nature of the excavations and the archaeological expectations. The phases concerned are Desk Research, which may or may not be followed by Investigative Field Research, and Archaeological Excavation, or Archaeological Supervision. Each phase of investigation concludes with a selective decision, which determines the sections of the planning area that are eligible for further archaeological investigation or protection, and those which are to be lost without archaeological excavation (see figure 2).

Despite measures to include plans for archaeological investigation in advance, chance discoveries may be made during construction projects. There is then a legal obligation to report such finds.¹⁵³ If despite measures to include archaeological investigation in advance, discoveries are made by chance, the contractor or developer is obliged to inform the minister. In Amsterdam such reports are made via the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology.

¹⁵³ Article 53 of the amended Monuments and Historic Buildings Act 1988.

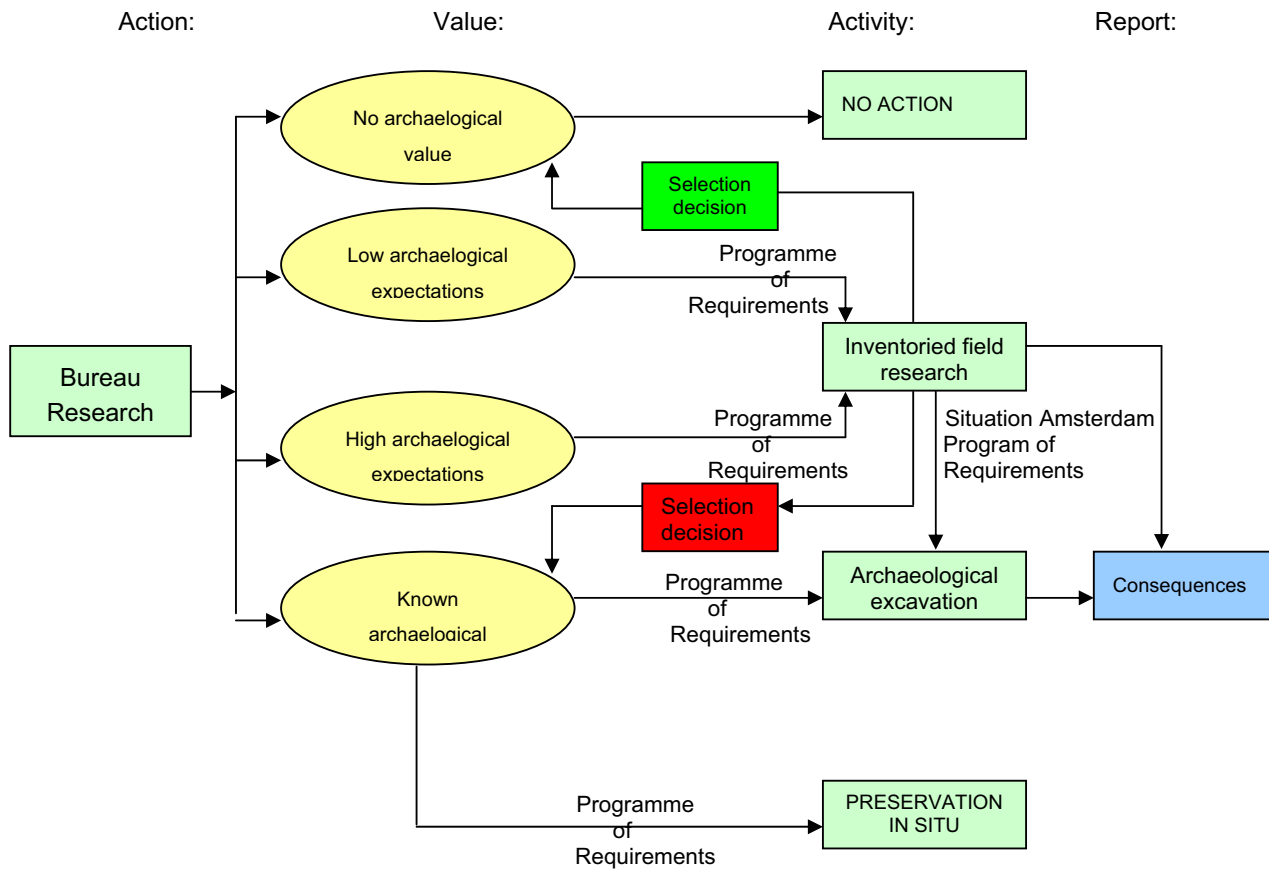


Figure 2. Staged investigation approach

Opportunities for archaeology in Amsterdam

Owing to the introduction of the Archaeological Built Heritage Conservation Act, archaeological value in Amsterdam is less likely to disappear unseen under the pressure of development in the city. The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) has three central tasks aimed at achieving the greatest possible archaeological yield within a constantly developing metropolis. Efficient integration in the construction process is a key principle in the implementation of archaeological measures. The core tasks in the field of archaeology are: a. policy and value assessment, b. excavation and investigation, and c. management and provision of access to the municipal archaeological collection (knowledge centre).

Policy and value assessment

In accordance with national and provincial policy, the City of Amsterdam devotes specific attention to the integration of archaeology in the urban planning process at an early stage. Here the point of departure is the effective management of cultural heritage with attention for the efficient progress of construction processes and cost management. The aim of the planned uniform policy on archaeology is to maintain the quality of value assessment in Amsterdam, simplify regulation and permit procedures, and reduce the cost to the Amsterdam public. A uniform system also prevents the fragmentation of archaeological information, and channels knowledge back to the city. The system comprises a range of legal and policy instruments, the most important of which are briefly explained below.

Archaeological classification map

This map should be seen as providing a first general indication for the integration of archaeological sites within urban planning. It forms the basis for the incorporation of sites of archaeological value in zoning plans. It gives officials, such as those responsible for granting permits or inspecting construction plans, an initial indication of the process that must be undertaken regarding the factor of archaeology. It also serves as a basis for the city's archaeological investigation agenda in the policy document.

The classification map is divided into two elements: a substantive archaeological classification map and a policy map. The map comprises a survey of various historical and archaeological sources. By combining this data with information both on the current use of locations and on the recent history either of excavation or of work to raise the ground level, an assessment can be made as to archaeological remains that may be expected to be found on a particular site.

The exemption thresholds for supplementary archaeological investigation are based on a combination of the nature of the archaeological remains that are expected to be present, the area of the site to be developed and the depth of the planned excavation. The greater the expectations are that archaeological remains will be found on a site, the smaller the area is to which the permit applies. At present thirteen policy variants are operated in Amsterdam:

Of these, within the area of the ring of canals to be nominated to UNESCO, six categories are applicable:

- areas containing known archaeological value. Here archaeological investigation is necessary when any excavation is carried out, irrespective of surface area or depth.
- built areas within the historic centre of Amsterdam as far as the Singelgracht canal (the boundary of the "fourth urban expansion" of 1663) in which there is a high degree of expectation concerning the presence of archaeological remains. Here field research is necessary for any excavation to a depth greater than 0.50 metres below ground, covering a surface area greater than 50 square metres.
- sites for which there is a low degree of expectation concerning the presence of archaeological remains, and which are in use as waterways within the historic centre as far as the Singelgracht canal. Here field research is necessary for any excavation to a depth greater than 3 metres below Amsterdam Ordnance Datum (or Normal Amsterdam Water Level), covering a surface area greater than 500 square metres. The water level is based on the average channel profile.
- areas for which there is a low degree of expectation concerning the presence of archaeological remains, and which were originally an artificial island in the IJ waterway (such as the Station Island dating from the 19th century, or recently constructed islands such as IJburg). Here archaeological field research is necessary for any excavation to a depth greater than 4 metres below ground level, covering a surface area greater than 10,000 metres.
- areas for which there is a low degree of expectation concerning the presence of archaeological remains, and which are situated in the IJ waterway, and/or sites in use as docks. Here field research is necessary for any excavation to a depth greater than 5 metres below the surface of the water, covering a surface area greater than 10,000 metres.
- areas in which there are no archaeological remains because they have already been the site of archaeological investigation or large-scale excavation, for example for the construction of heavy foundations, cellars or tunnels. There is therefore a low degree of expectation concerning the presence of archaeological remains and hence an exemption

from archaeological investigation is applicable. However, sites within this planning category have an indirect significance for archaeological planning because they provide indications as to the possible presence of archaeological remains in surrounding areas.

Model regulations and explanatory notes on archaeology in zoning plans

In principle, it is the zoning plan that provides for the protection of archaeological value. This instrument provides grounds for archaeological investigation to be carried out on a compulsory basis. The initiator of a development plan for which excavation is required – in other words, the applicant for a permit – is responsible for the disturbance to the archaeological record *in situ*. They are therefore responsible for incorporating archaeological investigation into the plan.

In the model developed by the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA), archaeological value is protected by means of a dual zoning designation in combination with a priority system. The model comprises two permit systems: the existing construction permit system, for activities that fall under the term 'construction' as referred to in the Housing Act;¹⁵⁴ and the planning permit system directly pursuant to a zoning plan scheme, for activities that involve excavation but which cannot be regarded as construction.¹⁵⁵

On the basis of preliminary research, various levels of protection are indicated on a planning map, each with its own line of demarcation. These protection levels are incorporated in the permit scheme in relation to exemptions. The less expectation there is of the presence of archaeological remains, the more generous the exemption threshold becomes in relation to the requirement that an archaeological report must be submitted with the application for a construction or planning permit. Where archaeological remains are expected to be present, depending on the results of an archaeological report, a decision is made on whether a permit can be granted, and if so, on the extent of the conditions that should be attached to it.

Finally, additional requirements for the protection of archaeological remains are included in the permit system. If the investigation of a site reveals the presence of archaeological remains that are worthy of protection, additional requirements may be set for land use, building location, and design.

The inclusion of such regulations avoids the necessity of refusing to grant a permit, enables additional requirements to be set, allows development to continue, and also ensures the conservation of archaeological heritage.

Heritage Regulations and covenants

The explanatory notes accompanying the Heritage Regulations (currently in preparation) refer to the BMA as the excavation permit holder. The regulations themselves will contain requirements for archaeological investigation in Amsterdam set either by the Municipal Executive or by a district executive committee. This will assure continuity, quality and growth of knowledge in archaeological investigation in Amsterdam. The regulations will also contain reference to the designation of municipal monuments, including those of an archaeological nature. Finally, via a covenant or mandate, the parties concerned will endorse the necessary measures and responsibilities within the process of effective heritage conservation.

Amsterdam policy document on archaeological built heritage

¹⁵⁴ Article 44, paragraph 1, Housing Act

¹⁵⁵ A construction permit as referred to in Article 3.3. paragraph a of the Spatial Planning Act

The policy document on archaeology now in preparation will explain the substance of the intended policy on archaeology. It will also set out the Archaeology Department's scientific research and selection agenda, and provide further information on its collaboration with the University of Amsterdam.

Excavation and investigation

Given that where archaeological remains are expected to be present on a site, the party responsible for initiating the development is obliged to provide for the investigation and documentation of the archaeological value, the new legislation offers the possibility that the initiator need no longer be dependent on the local council to conduct the excavation, but may also approach external parties who hold an excavation permit issued by the minister. Within the free market system, the initiator may nevertheless still commission the municipal archaeological agency (in Amsterdam the BMA) to carry out the excavation, as was previously the norm. From the City of Amsterdam perspective, there are important benefits in its conducting such excavations:

- contact with the construction world is maintained;
- more knowledge of the city's heritage is made available first hand;
- by participating in the field itself, the archaeology department gives a clear signal to the public regarding the management of archaeological heritage;
- the experience and knowledge acquired during the excavation directly assists the council in the task of keeping its function as knowledge centre up to date; all knowledge acquired contributes to the city of Amsterdam's 'collective memory';
- existing knowledge and experience result in a more efficient and flexible system of investigation, which may in turn lead to savings in expenditure.

Furthermore, as authorised agency, the BMA Archaeology Department has an important supervisory role, with the aim of assuring the quality of excavations and documentation methods. The standards which excavations and documentation must meet are set down in a Schedule of Requirements drawn up by the local council. Market players are obliged to incorporate these requirements in their bid. The Schedule of Requirements also takes account of the construction timetable by gearing the investigation method accordingly.

Knowledge centre

An important city council task is the maintenance of a knowledge centre in which the results of archaeological investigation are managed and made accessible to the public. Public access to the archaeological collection is guaranteed by law.

Forms of digital access are being developed (a website and databases), but there is a particular desire for repositories to operate as easily accessible public information centres, making the results of research and the presentation of information available to everyone. This means that all archaeological finds need to be clearly catalogued and documented.

The Quality Standards for Archaeology in The Netherlands state that within two years of the completion of fieldwork, every excavation must be presented in published form and transferred to the RACM archive. The findings of an excavation must be transferred to the knowledge centre database, so newly acquired knowledge can be made appropriately accessible.

Moreover, the BMA is currently developing a programme of synthesis research, to correlate individual excavations in Amsterdam and thus produce an overall picture of the history of the city and its inhabitants.”

Amsterdam Heritage Regulations in preparation

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology is working on the development of Heritage Regulations (*Erfgoedverordening*), governing policy on built heritage both above and below ground, in view of the fact that the built heritage regulations (*Monumentenverordening*) require revision following the introduction of the Archaeological Built Heritage Conservation Act on 1 September 2007, and in anticipation of the introduction of the Environmental Law (General Provisions) Act in 2010. The Heritage Regulations combine policy on archaeology and built heritage conservation in a single set of regulations. They are expected to come into force on January 2009.

Key point 38:

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology will ensure that progress on the topic of Heritage Regulations will be reported to the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage, so that the service may add both a memorandum on the report and the regulations themselves as an annex to the nomination dossier. The explanatory notes accompanying the Heritage Regulations will record that if the ‘17th-century canal belt within the Singelgracht canal’ is inscribed on the World Heritage List, the protection and conservation of the area’s outstanding universal value, authenticity and integrity will be regarded as primary.

Aspect zoning plan for archaeology

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology and the Urban Planning Department have proposed to the Municipal Executive and the executive committees of the districts within the City of Amsterdam that they should draw up a temporary aspect zoning plan for archaeology, for the City of Amsterdam and all its districts. This will govern the prohibition of excavation within areas of archaeological value, or areas in which archaeological remains may be expected to be present. Here too the principle will apply that it is the initiator of a project who will bear the cost. The aspect zoning plan is a temporary measure. When new zoning plans are made, the aspect of archaeology will be included. Over a period of years the aspect zoning plan will thus become superfluous.

For the introduction of policy on archaeology, the following matters have yet to be concluded:

- the covenant with the districts of Amsterdam;
- the archaeological policy map for each district and the area of the city centre;
- handbooks supplied to the districts, accompanying all instruments of policy, including the aspect zoning plan, and zoning plan regulations for heritage;
- the establishment in legislation of the principle that the local council will recover the cost of damage to the archaeological record *in situ* from the party responsible for causing it;
- the policy document on archaeology.

In 2009, the Central Amsterdam District will begin to update the zoning plans within the property, taking into account the provisions for archaeology and the area’s outstanding universal value. The first neighbourhoods for which plans will be updated will be the Weesperbuurt/Plantage Kadijken in 2009, followed by the southern part of the city centre in 2010, and the western part in 2011. The incorporation of the archaeological provisions and outstanding universal in the zoning plans for the property is thus assured within the near or

foreseeable future. The zoning plans for the buffer zone will then be revised. (NB By 2014, archaeological provisions will have been incorporated in all the district's zoning plans, as for the Groot Waterloo plan this has already been accomplished, the Eastern Islands plan is currently being updated, and the plan for the eastern part of the city centre is to be updated in 2009.)

Key point 39:

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology will ensure that developments relating to the temporary 'aspect zoning plan for archaeology' is reported to the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage, so that the service may add both a memorandum on the report and the approved Heritage Regulations as an annex to the nomination dossier.

Key point 40

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology will ensure that the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage is also systematically informed of further developments in the field of archaeological policy as an element of the periodic reporting for World Heritage.

5.9 Updating and supplementing the municipal monument list

The year 2000 saw the launch of the Municipal Monuments Project, aimed at surveying, selecting and protecting buildings with value as built heritage dating from the period 1850-1940.

Municipal Monuments Project

In June 2007 the final designation of buildings as protected municipal monuments in the Central Amsterdam District took place within the scope of the Municipal Monuments Project,¹⁵⁶ thus concluding the project in the district. Ultimately 914 buildings were designated as municipal monuments. The target figure was 950. Nine buildings lie within the IJ Banks metropolitan area. Fifteen buildings were not listed, as they were not considered sufficiently valuable as built heritage. The buildings are shown as municipal monuments on the Conservation Area Classification Map.

5.10 Establishing and revising zoning plans

5.10.1 Introduction

The *Site Document for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'* contains a detailed explanation of the system and content of zoning plans within the property and buffer zone. This section first refers to the information in the Site Document. It goes on to describe new developments that affect the procedure in relation to zoning plans, such as the new Spatial Planning Act, and zoning plan digitisation.

¹⁵⁶ District of Central Amsterdam Programme Budget 2008 (*Programmabegroting 2008 stadsdeel Centrum*), p123

5.10.2 Zoning plans in the conservation area

Chapter 4 of the *Site Document for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'* (June 2007) provides a highly detailed explanation of the framework and present situation in relation to zoning plans in the conservation area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal.

- Legal framework

The legal framework for central government, the Province of North Holland and the City of Amsterdam is explained on pp27-29, and the system of protective zoning plans in the conservation area on p30-35.

- Overview and content of zoning plans

An overview of zoning plans in the property and buffer zone and an explanation of their content are given on pp35-53.

- Overview of operation to revise zoning plans

Finally, an overview of the operation to revise the zoning plans in the conservation area is given in Annex 6 on pp101-104.

5.10.3 Operation to revise zoning plans in the conservation area

In 1999, 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal' was designated as a conservation area,¹⁵⁷ which obliged the council to draw up and approve additional protective zoning plans for the area. To this end, an operation to revise the existing zoning plans was set up, on the basis of the Policy Document on the Revision of Zoning Plans in the City Centre 1995 (*Nota Vernieuwing Bestemmingsplannen Binnenstad 1995*), approved by the Amsterdam Council Committee for Housing, Urban Renewal, Spatial Planning and Land Issues.

The following additions have been or will be made to zoning plans which are to be revised as a consequence of the designation as conservation area:

- Rules for the protection and enhancement of cultural and historic value (for an overview of rules see Annex 3 of the Site Document), including stricter rules for obtaining demolition permits;
- Division of properties in to Categories 1, 2 and 3 (see also Section 5.1.1);
- Classification map, indicating Category 1, 2 and 3 properties

Around 1995, the City of Amsterdam began the revision of zoning plans applying to the centre of Amsterdam as a conservation area. Now (as of 2008) this operation is almost complete. All revised zoning plans within the property have been finalised and are now in force.

There are a further four zoning plans in the eastern part of the Central Amsterdam District which are still to be revised; the revision of three of these plans (Groot Waterloo, Eastern Islands, North of Czaar Peterstraat) is already in progress, and the last of them (Plantagebuurt and Kadijken) is to be revised in 2009 (see the annexed map entitled Revision of Zoning Plans in the Central Amsterdam District [*Vernieuwing bestemmingsplannen stadsdeel Centrum*], version May 2008).

¹⁵⁷ NB: At the time of the designation, the majority of zoning plans in force were considered to be adequate, with three exceptions: Nieuwendijk-Kalverstraat, Rembrandtplein and after a period of three years, the Binnengasthuis grounds. These three plans have now been revised, and were finalised in May 2004, August 2000 and April 2004 respectively.

Classification map and zoning plans

In 2000, Amsterdam city council approved the Conservation Area Classification Map. Since the map was officially adopted, zoning plan revision has taken the city centre's status as a conservation area as its starting point. Each zoning plan in the Central Amsterdam District is accompanied by a classification map, which gives it legal force.

The city council policy for the conservation area is set out in the Policy Document on the Conservation Area Classification Map (April 2000):

- The demolition of buildings is prohibited without a permit from the Municipal Executive;
- Protective zoning plans are compulsory;
- Rules: conservation of the cityscape when buildings are replaced: only if suited to the characteristic features of the cityscape
- Additional building aesthetics requirements for new construction plans, also by order of the Amsterdam Commission for Urban Aesthetics and Monuments (*Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten*);
- This policy is to be incorporated in zoning plans and included in the operation to revise zoning plans in the city centre.

5.10.4 Zoning plans on the internet

In May 2007, the Central Amsterdam District began publishing on the internet the revised zoning plans that have thus far been approved and have replaced the previous ones. In future all current zoning plans will be available via the internet.

Of the 19 current zoning plans in the Central Amsterdam District, 15 are now available (in Dutch) at www.centrum.amsterdam.nl – *publicaties – bestemmingsplannen*.

For these 15 zoning plans, the following information can be downloaded:

- Zoning plan map
- Classification map (showing Category 1, 2 and 3 buildings);
- Regulations;
- Explanatory notes;
- Status record¹⁵⁸ overview for the zoning plan concerned

General information on the zoning plan is also available in the Zoning Plan Notes (*Leeswijzer bestemmingsplannen*) and Explanatory notes on the zoning plans on internet (*Toelichting op de bestemmingsplannen op internet*). This includes the fact that the zoning plans presently available on the internet have no legal status, unlike the printed version, which can be consulted at the district council offices.

The Central Amsterdam District is working on extending the digital possibilities, such that by clicking on the zoning plan map it will be possible to see the status of each individual building. This is to become operational on 1 July of 2009. The digital version will then become the official one.

¹⁵⁸ The status record indicates when a zoning plan draft was made available for consultation, and when the plan was approved by the district or city council, when by the Provincial Executive and when by the Council of State administrative law department.

5.10.5 Updating of zoning plans in the city centre

From 2010, within the scope of the revision operation, revised zoning plans will again be updated. The Central Amsterdam District will then combine the present 19 plans to create a total of 7. The timetable for plans to be updated is as follows:

Updating of zoning plans

Zoning plan	Year
South of city centre	2010
West of city centre	2011
Postcode area 1012	2012
Western islands	2013
Nieuwmarkt/Groot Waterloo	2014
East of city centre	2015
Eastern islands	2016

In 2009, the Central Amsterdam District will begin to update the zoning plans within the property, taking into account the provisions for archaeology and the area's outstanding universal value. The first neighbourhoods for which plans will be updated will be the Weesperbuurt/Plantage Kadijken in 2009, followed by the southern part of the city centre in 2010, and the western part in 2011. The incorporation of the archaeological provisions and outstanding universal in the zoning plans for the property is thus assured within the near or foreseeable future. The zoning plans for the buffer zone will then be revised. (NB By 2014, archaeological provisions will have been incorporated in all the district's zoning plans, as for the Groot Waterloo plan this has already been accomplished, the Eastern Islands plan is currently being updated, and the plan for the eastern part of the city centre is to be updated in 2009.)

The Classification Map will be updated at the same time as the zoning plans (see the annexed map entitled Updating of zoning plans in the Central Amsterdam District, proposed May 2008 [*Actualiseren bestemmingsplannen stadsdeel Centrum, voorstel mei 2008*])

Key point 41:

In updating the zoning plans within the property and buffer zone, the Central Amsterdam District will take note of the fact that provisions must be included in zoning plans to ensure the protection and conservation of the property's outstanding universal value, authenticity and integrity as World Heritage.

Key point 42:

In approving zoning plans in relation to metropolitan projects within the property and buffer zone, the City of Amsterdam will take note of the fact that subsequent to the property's inscription on the World Heritage List, provisions must be included in zoning plans to ensure the protection and conservation of the property's outstanding universal value, authenticity and integrity.

BMA advice on zoning plans within the conservation area

At the request of district councils, the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) will provide advice on the revision or updating of existing zoning plans, or the drafting of new ones.

The Protection Plan which accompanies the Covenant in the field of built heritage conservation and archaeology between the Central Amsterdam District and the Amsterdam Municipal Executive (*Convenant op het gebied van monumentenzorg en archeologie tussen stadsdeel Centrum en het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam* – approved 14 October 2008) states the following:

“6. Establishment of a zoning plan for an urban or village conservation area

If a district council or the Environmental & Building Department (*Dienst Milieu en Bouwtoezicht*) draws up a zoning plan for an area located within an urban or village conservation area, advice should be obtained from the BMA, preferably at an early stage, within the scope of consultation under Article 10 of the Spatial Planning Decree (*Besluit op de Ruimtelijke Ordening*). If the conservation area is protected at national level, the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM) is also to be consulted. The BMA will coordinate its response with the RACM.”

Key point 43:

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology will advise the Central Amsterdam District and the Environmental & Building Department on the way the property's status as urban landscape is translated into zoning plans, in accordance with the Washington Charter, Nara Document, and Vienna Memorandum and the ICOMOS Outstanding Universal Value compendium of May 2008.

5.10.6 Consequences of the new Spatial Planning Act (Wet Ruimtelijke Ordening – Wro)

The introduction of the new Spatial Planning Act on 1 July 2008 has considerably altered and strengthened the position of the zoning plan, due to the following provisions:

- Zoning plans are compulsory for the entire area within a municipal boundary;
- The environmental regulations and urban renewal plan are incorporated within the act, and lose their independent status;
- Exemptions from zoning plan provisions (Article 19 of the old Spatial Planning Act) are drastically reduced to a limited list laid down in a General Administrative Measure;
- By replacing subsequent approval at provincial level by an evaluation during the development of the zoning plan, the procedure is considerably shortened (from 58 to 34 weeks);
- Each zoning plan must be revised, or its term of validity must be extended, every ten years, counting from the date of its approval. If this does not take place, the council may not charge fees for services rendered in relation to the plan concerned. This does not mean that councils are unable to issue construction permits, but merely that they can no longer charge for the service.
- Anyone may submit a request for the amendment of a zoning plan to the municipal or district council;
- As of 1 July 2009, all zoning plans must be available in digital form. Local councils must retain analogue versions of their zoning plans in their archives, but where any discrepancies occur, the digital version will have legal force.

- Municipalities and districts must submit an annual report on their urban planning policy (including the current situation regarding zoning plans and enforcement policy) to the municipal or district council.
- If a municipal zoning plan is not consistent with provincial or national interests, the provincial government or Minister of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment may order its amendment, thus sidelining the local council within its own municipal boundary.

The new Spatial Planning Act offers the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District the possibility to set general rules for cultural and historical value and built heritage within the 17th-century canal belt and the conservation area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal.

Enforcement

To improve the enforcement of zoning plans, the new Spatial Planning Act makes it compulsory for local councils to draw up annual enforcement policy and submit a report on urban planning policy (including its enforcement) to the council assembly.

Key point 44:

The Central Amsterdam District will incorporate the annual report on the enforcement policy both of the district itself and of the City of Amsterdam in the Monitoring Matrix, which regulates both monitoring and the submission of reports to the UNESCO World Heritage Committee.

Interim provisions in relation to the new Spatial Planning Act¹⁵⁹

Following the introduction of the new Spatial Planning Act on 1 July 2008, zoning plans drawn up under the old act remain in force until they have been revised. This is governed by interim provisions relating to the introduction of the new Spatial Planning Act, contained in Chapter IX of the Spatial Planning Implementation Act (*Invoeringswet Wet ruimtelijke ordening*, Dutch Civil Code 2008, 180).

System of interim provisions

The interim provisions rest on two basic principles:

- As far as possible, plans or decisions made under the old Spatial Planning Act are equal to comparable legal concepts under the new act. This meant, for example, that when the new act came into force, existing zoning plans could continue to operate as grounds for the refusal of construction permits.
- The law that was in force before 1 July 2008 continues to apply to urban planning decisions (and construction applications) for which proceedings were initiated prior to 1 July 2008. This means, for example, that if a draft zoning plan was made available for public consultation before 1 July 2008, it must be handled in accordance with the old Spatial Planning Act, and requires the approval of the Provincial Executive.

5.10.7 Aspect zoning plan for archaeology

Under Article 38a section 1 of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act 1988, in establishing a zoning plan a local council must take into account archaeological value that is present or may be expected to be present in the ground.

¹⁵⁹ City of Amsterdam Building Bulletin (*Bouwbrief*), issue 2008-86

The establishment of zoning plans falls within the authority of the districts of Amsterdam, with the exception of centrally administered areas. The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) has drawn up model regulations, with accompanying explanatory notes, which districts can adopt in new zoning plans. Alternatively, for zoning plans established before the revised Monuments and Historic Buildings Act came into force on 1 September 2007, an aspect amendment may be made with regard to archaeology.

The Central Amsterdam District intends to revise the zoning plans relating to the property in the near future, and within them also the provisions relating to archaeology and the outstanding universal value of the ring of canals. For this reason, the Central Amsterdam District does not plan to establish an aspect zoning plan for archaeology.

Key point 45:

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology and the Central Amsterdam District will ensure that any developments relating either to a temporary 'aspect zoning plan for archaeology', or another choice of solution to secure the archaeological record, such as the revision of the zoning plans for the property, will be reported to the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage so the service can add a memorandum on the matter as an annex to the nomination dossier.

5.11 Structural plans and the incorporation of the site

5.11.1 Introduction

Current urban planning policy in Amsterdam is set out in the Structural Plan for Amsterdam, Opting for urbanisation (2003), approved by the city council on 16 April 2003. The plan relates to the period up to 2010, and remains in force until 2013. It defines the development strategy for urban planning policy.

At present, the City of Amsterdam is working on the development of a new Structural Concept (*Structuurvisie*) to replace the 2003 Structural Plan. It is expected to be drafted in 2009 and approved in 2010.

5.11.2 Process for a Structural Concept for Amsterdam

The Physical Planning Department, which is responsible for drawing up the Structural Concept, has prepared the Initial Memorandum on the process for a Structural Concept for Amsterdam, nucleus of the Metropolitan Region (*Startnotitie proces structuurvisie Amsterdam, kernstad van de Metropoolregio*), which was approved by the Municipal Executive on 1 April 2008.

The central question in the structural concept is: What spatial strategy and associated impulses are necessary for the continued development of Amsterdam as the nucleus of the Amsterdam Metropolitan Region?

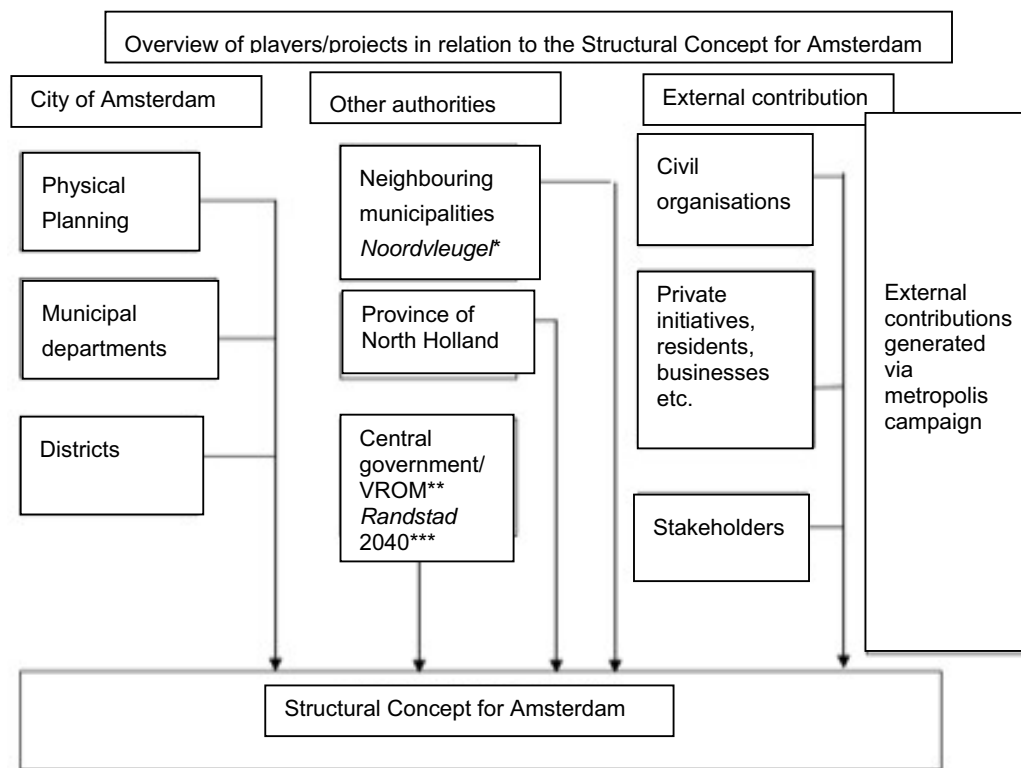
The desired result is a structural concept with:¹⁶⁰

- “1. A convincing **vision on future urban planning** (manifesto) for the city in the long term (2040) in the context of the Amsterdam Metropolitan Region.

¹⁶⁰ Initial Memorandum on the process for a Structural Concept for Amsterdam, the nucleus of the Metropolitan Region (*Startnotitie proces structuurvisie Amsterdam, kernstad van de Metropoolregio*), p6

2. A **policy document** setting out the main points of urban planning policy, including a **municipal assessment framework** for city and district plans for the period 2010-2020. This will include only binding decisions.
3. An **implementation strategy**, indicating how the City of Amsterdam plans to realise the intended developments.”

The new Spatial Planning Act stipulates that the city council should establish a structural concept. According to the City of Amsterdam's regulations on public consultation (version 2006), no such consultation is required for the preparation of a structural plan; however, views may be submitted. The structural concept forms the framework for zoning plans or project orders. It is to be drawn up by project groups and a steering committee, in which nine municipal departments have been asked to participate.



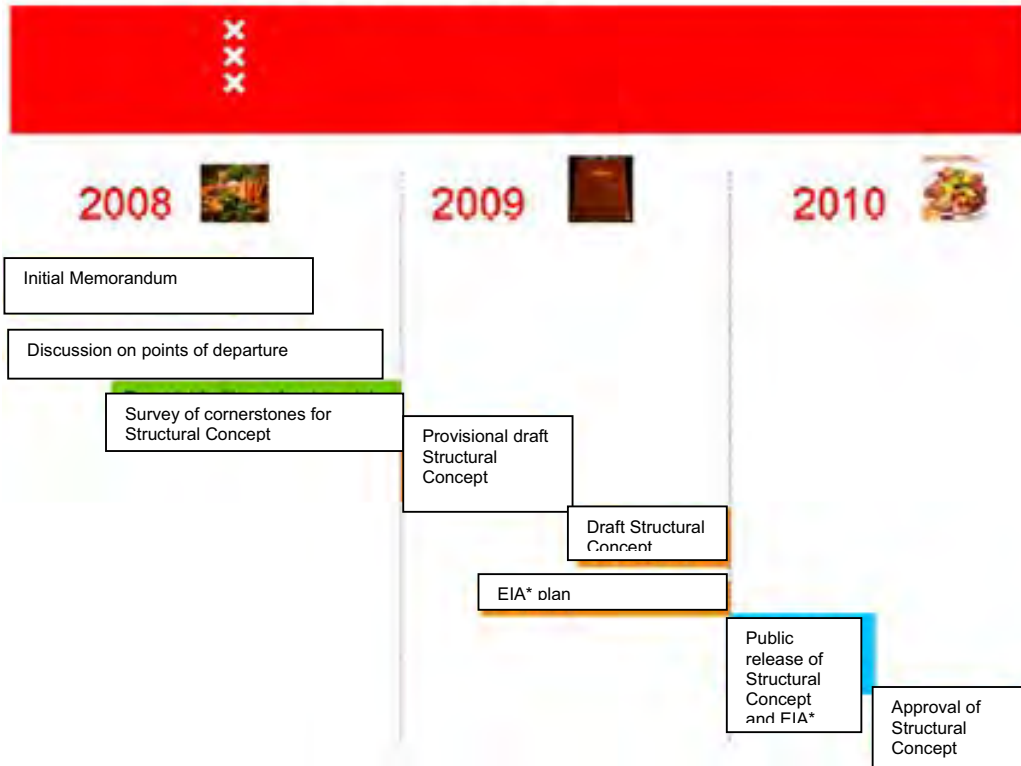
* North Wing of the The Netherlands' western conurbation, the *Randstad*

** Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment

*** Structural concept for The Netherlands' western conurbation, the *Randstad*

The process of realising a structural concept will run from 2008 to 2010. It can be roughly divided into three phases.

2008	-> exploration and public awareness-raising/activation
2009-2010	-> production and integration
2010	-> response and initiation of procedure



*Environmental Impact Assessment

Key point 46:

The Structural Concept deals with the City of Amsterdam's interests, responsibilities and basic qualities in relation to the site within its municipal boundaries that is expected to be designated as World Heritage, and its spatial translation and integration, based on the nomination dossier for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', the Site Document (2007) and management plan for the 17th-century ring of canals' as World Heritage, which form a part of The Netherlands' nomination for inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List and the associated Statement of Outstanding Value to be drawn up by the World Heritage Committee.

Key point 47:

In drawing up the Structural Concept, the City of Amsterdam will consider creating a supplementary assessment framework for cultural history, linked to the system of monitoring required for a World Heritage site according to the Operational Guidelines 2008 (6.a, 'Key indicators for measuring state of conservation; 6.b, Administrative arrangements for monitoring property). For functions within the World Heritage site of the '17th-century ring of canals' and surrounding buffer zone that call for particular attention or protection, a supplementary assessment framework may be approved to accompany the Structural Concept. This may be consulted for the assessment of urban planning projects. The City of Amsterdam will submit a memorandum substantiating this proposal to the World Heritage Committee via the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage.

Key point 36 (reiteration):

The Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam recognise that present-day urban developments and contemporary architecture can have visual impact on urban silhouettes, roofscape, and lines of sight or views, and thus may affect or impinge on the authenticity and integrity of the historic landscape as cultural, spatial and built heritage. In dialogue with the parties concerned, the Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam are developing and updating their vision on the operation of a visual impact system on lines of sight or views, urban silhouettes and roofscapes, with the aim of realising contemporary architecture and urban planning while at the same time respecting and integrating cultural heritage and the historic urban landscape. Where the property is concerned, high-rise construction must not conflict with the obligation to protect and conserve its outstanding universal value, authenticity and integrity.

Key point 37 (reiteration):

The Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam will ensure that the policy on high-rise construction that is to be further developed and established will be founded on the international charters and treaties applicable to World Heritage, including the Washington Charter and the Vienna Memorandum, and the content of more recent papers produced by the World Heritage Committee and its advisory body ICOMOS on the social and cultural significance of historic urban landscape in relation to present-day developments in urban planning and architectural design. Via the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage, they will inform the UNESCO World Heritage Committee of planning, progress and decision-making relating to high-rise construction policy.

Chapter 6: Information and communication

Chapter 6 describes how communications and the flow of information have been coordinated for the purpose of the preservation and conservation of the site and its outstanding universal value, in accordance with the *Operational Guidelines*.

Sections 6.2 to 6.12 of this chapter explore in greater detail specific aspects of the strategy described in 6.1.

6.1 Information and communications strategy

6.1.1 Introduction

Section 6.1 describes the information and communications strategy: the steps taken by the Central Amsterdam District (*Stadsdeel Centrum*), the property manager, in cooperation with the City of Amsterdam (*Gemeente Amsterdam*) to mobilise the stakeholders and jointly responsible authorities, to inform residents, users of and visitors to '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' about the cultural value of this area of World Heritage. As well as providing information, it is of great importance to communicate with them about the contribution they can make to the conservation of the World Heritage area, for their own benefit and for the benefit of future generations. A separate communication plan has been created for the 2008-2010 period, leading up to the announcement of the granting of the nomination (see Appendix).

6.1.2 UNESCO guidelines

The World Heritage Convention on information

The World Heritage Convention requires that States Parties promote the World Heritage site and maximise support for its protection and conservation.

The Convention states that the state parties are responsible for the presentation of the World Heritage site and its transmission to future generations (Articles 4 and 6.2). To these ends, the state parties introduce educative and informative programmes to strengthen the population's appreciation and respect for this built heritage and to make them aware of dangers threatening it (Article 27).

The Operational Guidelines on information

The *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* described in chapter VI (Sections 211-222) that the States Party should broaden support for the World Heritage site and should advance the aims of the World Heritage Convention.

The *Operational Guidelines* describe the following methods for increasing support for capacity-building and research and for public awareness and education:

Section 211 describes the objectives of advancing support.

- a. to increase capacity-building and research; to raise the general public's awareness, understanding and appreciation of the need to preserve cultural and natural heritage;
- b. to strengthen the function of World Heritage in the life of the community;
- c. to increase the participation of local and national populations in the protection and presentation of heritage.

Sections 212-216 detail, among other things, the following methods for capacity-building and research:

- A Global Training Strategy for cultural and natural heritage, which focuses on the expertise required for protection, conservation presentation of heritage;
- States Parties ensure adequate training for professionals and specialists for the protection, conservation and presentation of heritage;
- Research is fundamental to the development of knowledge and understanding with respect to heritage.

Sections 217-222 detail, among other things, the following methods for maximising public awareness and education:

- States Parties provide on-site signposting and promotion of the World Heritage;
- The UNESCO Secretariat makes informative material available to States Parties about the World Heritage Convention and about threats to World Heritage, and assists States Parties in the development of promotional and educational projects.
- The Secretariat (World Heritage Centre) publishes a World Heritage Educational Resource Kit for use in secondary schools;
- States Parties develop educational materials, activities and programmes;
- States Parties develop educational activities together with schools, universities, museums and other local educational institutions.

International Cultural Tourism Charter, ICOMOS (1999)

In their communications to visitors to '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', the Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam shall ensure that these are in accordance with the principles for a sustainable and dynamic interaction between tourism on the one hand, and the conservation of the cultural heritage, on the other. This is articulated in six principles in the International Cultural Tourism Charter (1999) drawn up by ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites, one of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee's two advisory bodies)

It also points out that excessive or badly conducted tourism can damage cultural heritage or its characteristics.

The six principles are paraphrased here:

1. domestic and international tourism are important vehicles for cultural exchange; sustainable heritage conservation provides responsible and properly managed opportunities for visitors to experience the heritage at first hand and gain an understanding of it.
2. the relationship between heritage sites and tourism is dynamic and may produce conflicting interests. It should be managed in a sustainable way for present and future generations;
3. planning for heritage conservation and tourism should ensure that the visitor experience will be worthwhile, satisfying and enjoyable;
4. the host community (residents, companies and organisations) should be involved in planning for conservation and tourism;
5. tourism and conservation activities should benefit the host community;
6. Tourism promotion programmes should protect and enhance the characteristics of the heritage.

6.1.3 The objectives of information and communication

The objective of informing and communicating residents, users and visitors is to maximise awareness of the outstanding universal value of Amsterdam 17th-century ring of canals and the opportunities and threats associated with it, because broad involvement and support is essential for protecting and preserving the site in the longer term. This also applies to those areas of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht that comprise the designated buffer zone.

The matter of information, communication and education is also underlined in national government policy relating to world heritage, as witnessed by the World Heritage Policy Paper (*Beleidsbrief Werelderfgoed*, 17 December 2001), which states:¹⁶¹

'Policy priorities

The experience of the past few years, confirmed in the assessment report and through consultations, have led me to conclude that a great deal has been achieved in a relatively short time, but that it is now necessary to broaden and make more explicit the the role of central government.

Based on the World Heritage Treaty requirements, World Heritage Commission resolutions, extensive assessment, and my own policy priorities with respect to culture and/or cultural heritage, I hereby submit my policy priorities for the World Heritage site.

- Defining of the explicit responsibilities of authorities involved with each individual World Heritage site. In particular, the responsibility for sustainable preservation subsequent to inscription on the World Heritage List must be properly established.
- Strengthening of international cooperation. In particular, by setting up a Dutch fund to be run from the World Heritage Centre in Paris.
- Reassessment of the nomination policy for implementation of the global strategy for World Heritage and, in this context, the revision of The Netherlands Provisional List (*Nederlandse Voorlopige Lijst*) for future proposals for world heritage.
- Expansion of target groups and broadening of support for knowledge transfer, advice and education.'

6.1.4 Objective, basic principle and core message

Objective

The objective of the management plan's information and communications strategy is to ensure an adequate and orderly supply of information and the deployment of effective communication channels for the benefit of various target groups (such as residents, stakeholders and responsible authorities).

Approach

The starting point of the strategy is that timely, accessible and comprehensive information through convenient sources of information (local papers, websites, etc), will provide the various target groups with a useful vehicle for their questions, wishes and opinions. Additionally, there will be effective opportunities to communicate on these issues with the governmental authorities and stakeholders responsible, along with the associated official bodies delegated with the task of implementation, leading thereby to understanding and support for protection and conservation of the World Heritage site, as described in the World

¹⁶¹ World Heritage Policy Paper, Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, 17 December 2001

Heritage Convention, ensuring a common effort directed at the protection and conservation of the outstanding universal value of the World Heritage site, with its core concepts of authenticity and integrity.

Core Message

The inscribing of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' on the World Heritage List gives international recognition to this historical urban area. The nomination provides Amsterdam with the opportunity to communicate its underlying intangible values as a tolerant trading city and the need to preserve this unique site to a broad domestic and international audience.

The outstanding universal values of this World Heritage site means that it is heritage for humanity as a whole and is therefore, as defined in the World Heritage Convention, irreplaceable.

6.1.5 Target groups

An effective information and communication strategy requires that the information and communication focuses on specific questions, wishes, expectations and interests of the various target groups involved in the World Heritage site. For this purpose we make a distinction between responsible authorities (at government and civil service level), primary and secondary stakeholders (see also Section 4.2) and of visitors from home and abroad.

Jointly responsible authorities

Responsible authorities have political responsibility for the protection and conservation of the site. They have direct governmental and policy-making responsibility for the policies impacting on the cultural values of the site. They act to improve policy and intervene if the outstanding universal value of the site is threatened. Responsibility lies with the governmental authorities; the policy is implemented by the organisations responsible for implementation (the administrating authorities).

- The governmental authorities are the Central Amsterdam District council, the executive board of the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board, the provincial council of North Holland Province and, with ultimate responsibility as states party, the Kingdom of The Netherlands, represented in this matter by the Ministry of Education and Culture and Science.
- In their function as implementers of policy the administrative services of these governmental bodies are deemed to be administrating authorities.

Stakeholders

Stakeholders are both directly and indirectly involved in the World Heritage site. The degree of involvement varies with the importance of the site for the stakeholders. For this reason in communications we distinguish between primary stakeholders and secondary stakeholders. The primary stakeholders are directly involved in this site, the ring of canals and the surrounding buffer zone. They are involved or have interests in the site and can exert influence in the site because of their involvement. Secondary stakeholders have no direct involvement or interests in the site but do have interests with respect to the site's values.

- Primary stakeholders are affected parties with respect to the property. They include residents, residents' organisations, businesses, tourism organisations, interest groups and heritage institutions.

- Secondary stakeholders are parties who are indirectly affected. They include residents, companies and institutions in Amsterdam outside Central Amsterdam, schools and other educational institutions and the media.

Visitors

Among visitors to the World Heritage site, a distinction is made between tourists and those visiting on business, and between longstay visitors and those on day trips within The Netherlands and from abroad.

6.1.6 Information and communication according to target group

Jointly responsible authorities

The governmental authorities are responsible for the policy for the protection and conservation of the outstanding universal value of the World Heritage site and the function of the surrounding buffer zone. They are aware of the responsibilities pursuant to the ratification of international resolutions and charters for the conservation of cultural and natural World Heritage. In the World Heritage Ring of Canals Steering Committee (*Stuurgroep Werelderfgoed 'Grachtengordel'*) they communicate with each other about the effects of these responsibilities with respect to the World Heritage site, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', and about adaptations to their own policy for the purposes of optimising the protection and conservation of this World Heritage site. Their shared responsibility is the implementation of the management plan and the annual action plans that emanate from it.

The administrating authorities are responsible for the best possible implementation of the policy for protection and conservation of the outstanding universal value of the World Heritage site.

Responsibility for the supply of information to the administrating implementation organisations lies with the Amsterdam World Heritage Office, which informs the administrating implementation organisations about the content of the management plan and communicates with administrating authorities about the implementation of action plans. The administrating authorities inform the Amsterdam World Heritage Office on a regular basis about developments within the property and about policy-related matters that could impact directly or indirectly on the site or its buffer zone.

The Amsterdam World Heritage Office supplies governmental authorities with all information (requested and unrequested) relating to UNESCO's World Heritage and relevant for an optimal site conservation policy.

Stakeholders

Primary stakeholders have a direct interest in sufficient reliable information about the consequences and application of the policy for protection and conservation in a World Heritage site. They are provided with information about the defining of the site's boundaries, about its outstanding universal values and about the effect and significance of conservation of World Heritage in general and with respect to the World Heritage site, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', in particular. They are provided with information about what inscription on the World Heritage List means for their home, workplace, company or parking space. They know on which websites they can find information about the World Heritage site and where questions can be asked and proposals made with respect to the contribution they can make to its protection and conservation. By

doing this they gain the knowledge required to satisfy obligations arising from local government regulations applying to conservation of built heritage, spatial planning and construction and dwellings and know where they can find information about related policy and rules. They communicate with the responsible authorities at World Heritage Platform Meetings about requirements for optimal cooperation with regard to the care of the World Heritage site, so they can communicate the value of the World Heritage with enthusiasm and pride.

Secondary stakeholders have an interest in information about the World Heritage site and its outstanding universal values, concisely formulated in unique selling points for the ring of canals. It is important that they can pass on this information to others in order to achieve the broadest possible support.

Visitors

Visitors have a vested interest in factual information to enable them to find their way within the ring of canals. Additionally, they have an interest in background information about the outstanding universal values of this World Heritage site.

Using multilingual websites, they can familiarise themselves prior to arrival. They can find visitor-oriented information at the World Heritage Visitor Centre (Section 6.10) to expand their knowledge of the heritage site.

6.1.7 Opportunities and threats

Amsterdam (the Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam) must reckon with both opportunities and external threats. Using the core objectives of the information and communications strategy as the basis for operations, the opportunities will be exploited and the threats averted.

Opportunities

The ring of canals' core message slots into Amsterdam's city marketing strategy (see also Section 6.8), and its chief values of creativity, commercial dynamism and innovation. The presence of Amsterdam's ring of canals as part of its historical city centre is an important factor for suitable organisations considering establishing themselves in the city, helping it to continue to raise its profile as a creative trading zone.

The World Heritage site, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', will attract tourists interested in culture and history.

The property manager will expand cultural tourism facilities (see also section 6.5) by means of, among other things, a World Heritage Visitor Centre where more information will be provided about the origins and history of the urban planning of Amsterdam, the 17th-century ring of canals and its cultural heritage.

Backed up by adequate information and communication, stakeholders (residents, employers and interest groups) are the ambassadors for the city with respect to the protection and conservation of the World Heritage site.

Threats

Stakeholders such as residents and employers within the ring of canals might fear that inscription on the World Heritage List could lead to a more restrictive policy that would limit their activities. This could lead to a drop in support.

Concerns about World Heritage status or dissatisfaction with the protection and conservation policy could lead to stakeholders and interest groups being of the opinion that considerations of local interests will count for less after the ring of canals has been inscribed on the World Heritage List.

6.1.8 Information and communications resource matrix

Target group	Resource	Action taken by	Costs
Visitors	World Heritage Visitor Centre	Central Amsterdam District in cooperation with ATCB and BMA	pm
	Encourageboat cruises through the ring of canals	ATCB in cooperation with boat cruise companies	pm
	Promote guided tours in the ring of canals	ATCB in cooperation with city tour guides	pm
	Ring of canals World Heritage site website, multilingual	World Heritage Office in cooperation with Central Amsterdam District, ATCB and BMA (and links on stakeholders' websites)	Pm
	Signposting, information boards, maps and brochures	Nederland ATCB in cooperation with Department for Economic Affairs and World Heritage Platform	Reserve

Target group	Resource	Action taken by	Costs
Stakeholders, primary	Ring of canals World Heritage site website, Central Amsterdam District BMA	Central Amsterdam and BMA	pm
	<i>Stadsdeelnieuws</i> local newspaper	Central Amsterdam	n/a
	'Questions about the ring of canals' information centre	Central Amsterdam District, combine with Building and Housing Information Centre	Pm
	World Heritage Stakeholders Platform	World Heritage Office and external chair	n/a
Stakeholders, secondary	Ring of canals World Heritage site, Central Amsterdam and BMA websites	World Heritage Office, in cooperation with BMA and ATCB	pm

	World Heritage Visitor Centre	Central Amsterdam, in cooperation with BMA and ATCB	pm
	Cultural education	Department for Social Development in cooperation with BMA, educational institutions and UNESCO secretariat	pm
Media	generation of (free) publicity	Central Amsterdam and BMA communications consultants in cooperation with the district information office and World Heritage Office	pm

Target group	Resource	Action taken by	Costs
Responsible authorities	World Heritage Steering Committee	Property manager and World Heritage Office	n/a
	Netherlands World Heritage Platform	Property manager	n/a
	Adminstrating services, test teams, agencies and boards	World Heritage Office in cooperation with responsible authorities' implementing organisations	fte
All target groups	Investigate 400th Anniversary of the Ring of Canals and World Heritage event (in 2013)	World Heritage Office, BMA, a ATCB and other parties	reserve
	Existing events such as Open Built Heritage Day, Open Gardens Day, Canal Festival	Existing organisers in cooperation with ATCB and World Heritage Office	pm

Key Point 48:

As property manager, the Central Amsterdam District has primary responsibility for the further development and implementation of the information and communications strategy, producing an Action Plan and a schedule for its implementation detailing funding and/or staffing provided by all departments and organisations named in the information and communications resource matrix (to be added to the nomination dossier for submission)

6.1.9 Communication up to this point

Contact with responsible authorities and stakeholders

Over the past year, there has been contact with responsible authorities (those responsible in government) and stakeholders (those living and/or working in the area, heritage organisations) about the application and about the consequences of nomination as a World Heritage site. Various information evenings were convened.

The chair of the built Heritage executive committee and the chair of the Central Amsterdam District council organised two sessions, in 2007 and 2008, to provide and discuss information about the pros and cons of inscription on the World Heritage List. Those present included representatives of residents organisations, companies based in the area and the tourist sector.

On 11 March 2008, the Central Amsterdam District council held a well-attended council conference for stakeholders and affected parties on the matter of inner city built heritage and the nomination of the ring of canals as a World Heritage site. Discussions (Q&A sessions and debates) were held on the consequences for owners and occupants of buildings in Central Amsterdam of inscription of the ring of canals on the World Heritage List. Separate consultations were held with a number of interest groups.

Attention has been given to the subject several times in *Stadsdeelnieuws* (District News, local newspaper, circulation 65,500), which is delivered house-to-house and distributed through shops, shopping centres and libraries; and through an email subscription. In 2008 saw the publication of a special edition of *Stadsdeelnieuws* devoted to UNESCO's World Heritage.

Information about the canal ring area, the application and links to UNESCO can be found on the websites of the City of Amsterdam (amsterdam.nl and iamsterdam.com), Central Amsterdam and the Office for Built Heritage and Archaeology (Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie). Furthermore, the Central Amsterdam website and Amsterdam's Office for Built Heritage and Archaeology website contains standard information about the nomination of the ring of canals for inscription on the World Heritage List.

The purpose of communication with affected parties in Central Amsterdam is, on the one hand, to provide information about the opportunities and consequences arising from the nomination of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' for inscription on the World Heritage List, and, on the other hand, to boost support; affected parties are the site's eyes and ears, and, as daily users of the site, its representatives. Among residents and businesses, support for the forthcoming nomination appears to be substantial at present, as is interest in the conservation of the outstanding universal value of the ring of canals and the protected built heritage within it. This support will also have to be maintained in the future

For general queries or questions relating to construction, permits and finance – or for any complaints – residents and companies can get in touch with the Central Amsterdam Building and Housing Information Centre (*Loket Bouwen & Wonen*).

In the media

Several press releases have been issued, leading to announcements in local and national media. Around the time that the nomination was being discussed by the Cabinet at the end of November 2008, a separate meeting was convened for the press in which extensive

background information was provided by experts and the representatives of the governmental agencies responsible about the values of this site.

Scheduling communication after the management plan has been approved by the City of Amsterdam

The procedure for the nomination of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' produces various suitable dates for informing residents and businesses in Amsterdam – particularly those within the Singelgracht – about its progress. The most important of these to take place recently or in the coming period are:

- Autumn 2008: cabinet decision to apply to UNESCO for nomination;
- 1 February 2009: the annual date before which a nomination must be submitted to the UNESCO World Heritage Committee;
- June/July 2009: matters relating to the World Heritage site that come up for discussion at the annual meeting of the World Heritage Committee;
- Between March 2009 and May 2010 the World Heritage Committee's advisory bodies assess the nomination dossier. At the 2010 World Heritage committee meeting, they will present their findings and advice in the form of recommendations to UNESCO's World Heritage Committee;
- In June/July 2010, the World Heritage Committee will, in all probability, come to a decision about the nomination.

6.2 Municipal information centre

6.2.1 Introduction

The area covered by '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' is sizeable, and when the buffer zone is included, it incorporates almost the entire Central Amsterdam District. Approximately 80,000 people live in Central Amsterdam, and 85,000 people work there. Annually, many hundreds of thousands of people visit what in the near future may be a World Heritage site. Groups of many different kinds will have questions about the site and the UNESCO World Heritage List – and will be looking for answers to them.

This section describes the organisation of the municipal information centre.

6.2.2 Municipal information centre, focused on individual target groups

Residents and employers

The property manager, Central Amsterdam, is developing a municipal information centre for residents of the ring of canals. Many of the questions posed by residents, employers and organisations relate to obligations and limitations associated with the heritage status of their home or premises and the consequences of the protection and conservation of the outstanding universal value of the World Heritage site.

To keep communication lines short and direct, and the municipal information centre will be combined with the Building and Housing Information Centre.

At the Building and Housing Information Centre, information will be available on zoning plans, building-related permits and building guidelines. To advance the continued conservation of the site, Building and Housing Information Centre staff will have relevant knowledge about built heritage and World Heritage, in general, and '17th-century canal ring

area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' and its surrounding buffer zone, in particular. The information centre will be publicised among residents and companies located in Central Amsterdam. It is possible to phone the Building and Housing Information Centre and to visit it three days a week. Simple questions related to buildings and housing will be answered, in order of preference, via Internet, by telephone and, lastly, at the information centre. For more complex queries, an appointment will be made with a permit manager, who can, in turn, and if necessary, refer to Office for Built Heritage and Archaeology, the knowledge centre for cultural heritage.

Key Point 49:

The property manager shall set up an information centre for residents, employers, organisations and companies where these parties can obtain information about the consequences of inscription on the World Heritage List.

The municipal information centre will be combined with the Building and Housing Information Centre. To encourage the continued conservation of the site, Building and Housing Information Centre staff will have relevant knowledge about built heritage and World Heritage, in particular '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' and its surrounding buffer zone.

The information centre will be publicised among residents and companies located in Central Amsterdam.

The property manager will draw up a document describing the operation of this information centre, to be approved by the executive committee of the Central Amsterdam District.

Visitors

Preparatory studies are presently being undertaken with the objective of establishing a heritage centre for visitors to '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' and other parts of the historical city centre (see section 6.10).

Stakeholders

The primary contact point for those stakeholders directly and consistently involved in the conservation of the site is the Amsterdam World Heritage Office (see section 4.5)

6.3 Use of the UNESCO and World Heritage emblem

6.3.1 Introduction

The World Heritage Committee has adopted an emblem for World Heritage comprising a square interwoven with a circle.

The circle symbolises the world and represents natural heritage; the square symbolises those forms created by humans and symbolises cultural heritage. The surrounding form additionally symbolises the protection of the heritage, and therefore the significance of UNESCO's World Heritage Convention for the conservation for the world of cultural and natural heritage of outstanding universal value. The term 'World Heritage' – in English, French and the language of the country in which it is being used – encircles the emblem. States Parties are entitled to use the emblem for World Heritage inscribed on the World Heritage List. Heritage on the World Heritage List is exceptional and is important to the history of humankind. It has outstanding universal value. In this way, the emblem draws attention to the conservation of heritage worldwide.

The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science has, in the past, had plaques designed to mark World Heritage elsewhere in The Netherlands. Future World Heritage sites in The Netherlands will therefore not only receive certification from the World Heritage Committee, but also this plaque, to mark the significance of the World Heritage in our country.

This section describes in what way the property manager is to use the World Heritage emblem.

6.3.2 Guidelines for the use of the World Heritage emblem

The *Operational Guidelines* details extensively the way in which States Parties are permitted to use the World Heritage emblem in Chapter VIII Sections 258-279.

Supervision of proper use

The property manager shall adhere to these guidelines in the use of the emblem and will ensure that the emblem is not used in any improper way by stakeholders, especially for commercial purposes. To this end, the property manager shall inform the stakeholders on matters pertaining to the deployment of the emblem.

Signposting

The property manager shall ensure that the public can recognise the property, 17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht, as World Heritage.

Key Point 50:

The Central Amsterdam District will consult with the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board (ATCB) and relevant municipal departments about options for signposting of the property and ensure adequate implementation

Information media

The property manager shall ensure the recognisable use of the World Heritage emblem in information media (letters, brochures, websites, etc) relating to the World Heritage site, 17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht. The importance of conservation of World Heritage will be emphasised through the use of the World Heritage emblem throughout information media.

Criterion for use of the emblem

The property manager shall base its decision on whether or not to use the World Heritage emblem on a given product on that product's educational, scientific, cultural and/or artistic value of the product on which it is used, in accordance with *Operational Guidelines* instructions on this matter

The property manager shall not cooperate with the use of the emblem for commercial purposes. If there is doubt, the holder shall consult the national authority, the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (*Ministerie van Onderwijs, Cultuur en Wetenschap*). If necessary, the States Party should consult the Secretariat of the World Heritage Committee on the acceptability of specific applications of the emblem.

6.4 Public participation

6.4.1 Introduction

The parties primarily responsible for management and conservation of the property, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' and its designated buffer zone, are the property manager, Central Amsterdam, and the City of Amsterdam. Other partners involved are the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board (*Hoogheemraadschap Amstel, Gooi en Vecht*) and the The National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (*Rijksdienst voor Archeologie, Cultuurlandschap en Monumenten*), acting on behalf of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science. The common task of truly protecting and conserving the Amsterdam ring of canals as World Heritage, now in the future, requires contributions from many organisations and people from the local community. This section examines the importance of public participation.

6.4.2 Stakeholders

Organisations

First of all, there are the larger organisations who, through their activities, are involved in cultural heritage in The Netherlands in general and thereby the outstanding universal value of the city centre of Amsterdam in particular. These organisations include the the Heemschut Society (*Bond Heemschut*), the Association of Friends of Amsterdam's city (*Vereniging Vrienden van de Amsterdamse Binnenstad*), the Fellowship (*Genootschap Amstelodamum*), the Cuypers Fellowship (*Cuypers Genootschap*) and the Royal Antiquarian Fellowship (*Koninklijk Oudheidkundig Genootschap*). They possess expertise in matters of the value of built heritage and can quickly detect undesirable situations and bring these to the attention of the relevant authority.

Organisations involved in the restoration are also of direct importance. They include the restoration company Stadsherstel N.V. Amsterdam, the Hendrick de Keyser Association (*Vereniging Hendrick de Keyser*), the Government Building Agency (*Rijksgebouwendienst*), the Amsterdam housing corporations owning built heritage within the property and the buffer zone, and the institutional investors. Together, these organisations own a significant portion of the national and municipal built heritage within 17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht.

In practice, conservation of the outstanding universal values of the property will rely on the involvement and commitment of these organisations.

Tenants' organisations and residents' organisations are additional important participants. There are approximately fifteen residents' organisations active within Central Amsterdam. They are committed to the maintenance and improvement of living conditions in the mediaeval city centre and those parts of the 17th-century urban expansion in and around the ring of canals. They are committed to protecting and advancing the (legal) position of residents in matters of housing quality, rent, and overdue maintenance of housing. These organisations can also have a real impact on future developments within and near this World Heritage site.

Other organisations that can be involved in the context of public participation include those concerned with and/or run by employers in the city centre. These include the Amsterdam City

Association (*Vereniging Amsterdam City*), the Chamber of Commerce (*Kamer van Koophandel*) and employers in the tourism sector.

As a direct consequence of the international cultural significance of the World Heritage site, museums, archives and the academic world will also be important actors. They will play an important role in studies and the conservation of Amsterdam's cultural heritage, for the presentation of this heritage to visitors and for the education about heritage and culture of the Amsterdam population, school and higher education students, holidaymakers and tourists.

Local population

Commitment and support among the local community within the ring of canals and in the centre of Amsterdam is, experience has demonstrated, crucial to the success of the vision, ambitions and objectives of the management plan

They are the owners and/or residents and/or users of the buildings (many of them designated built heritage) within the ring of canals. They exert direct influence on the conservation of the outstanding universal values of the property.

Communication and public participation

The Central Amsterdam District acknowledges that contributions from owners, residents and users of the ring of canals is essential to successfully satisfying the obligations for the conservation of the property, in accordance with the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value as approved by UNESCO's World Heritage Committee. Central Amsterdam has established that there is broad support among the local community for nomination for World Heritage status. The provision of information about the conservation of the outstanding universal value of the property will nonetheless be intensified, maintained and optimised with respect to the local community in order to ensure broad and robust support and a responsible commitment from all involved in the World Heritage site.

6.4.3 Methods of communicating with citizens

According to the Statistics Netherlands' (*Dienst Onderzoek en Statistiek*) publication *The Amsterdam Citizen Monitor 2007 (De Amsterdamse Burgermonitor 2007*, page 10), residents of the city centre draw information about the municipality and their living environment primarily from *Stadsdeelnieuws* (free council district newspaper, delivered to all homes in the district, 70%) and circulars to residents (33%). A significant proportion of residents also use the Central Amsterdam District website – particularly young people and the better educated. To provide information about the canal belt and its possible inscription on the World Heritage list to residents, companies and organisations in the centre of Amsterdam, Central Amsterdam and the City of Amsterdam will primarily make use of their own websites, a dedicated website that for the Amsterdam World Heritage site, which has still to be completed (see 6.12), with references to other relevant Web sites, and the *Stadsdeelnieuws* newspaper.

6.5 Cultural tourism

6.5.1 Introduction

For most tourists, culture and history are the most important reasons for visiting Amsterdam city centre. The historical city with its canal system and richly diverse built heritage is

held in high esteem by these visitors. This section explains how the City of Amsterdam and Central Amsterdam intend to promote cultural tourism in Amsterdam.

6.5.2 *International obligations*

Cultural tourism offers opportunities to create a broad awareness and understanding of the World Heritage site. Only what there is awareness of, can be appreciated. ICOMOS, the World Heritage Committee advisory body, has drawn up an internationally recognised charter on cultural tourism

Tourism charter

International Charter on Cultural Tourism; Managing Tourism at Places of Heritage Significance (1999)

ICOMOS Charter – Charters approved by the general assembly of ICOMOS

The charter states that at a time of increasing globalisation, conservation and presentation of cultural heritage is an important challenge for people everywhere. However, management of that heritage is the responsibility of the regional community.

A primary objective for managing heritage is to communicate its significance and need for its conservation to its host community and to visitors. It brings with it a duty of respect for the heritage values of past and present-day owners and for the landscapes and cultures from which that heritage evolved.

Domestic and international tourism is among the foremost vehicles for cultural exchange about historical and contemporary societies. Tourism can highlight the economic importance of built heritage conservation. Built heritage conservation is, therefore, an essential component of the regional and national economy.

6.5.3 *Cultural tourism policy*

Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board

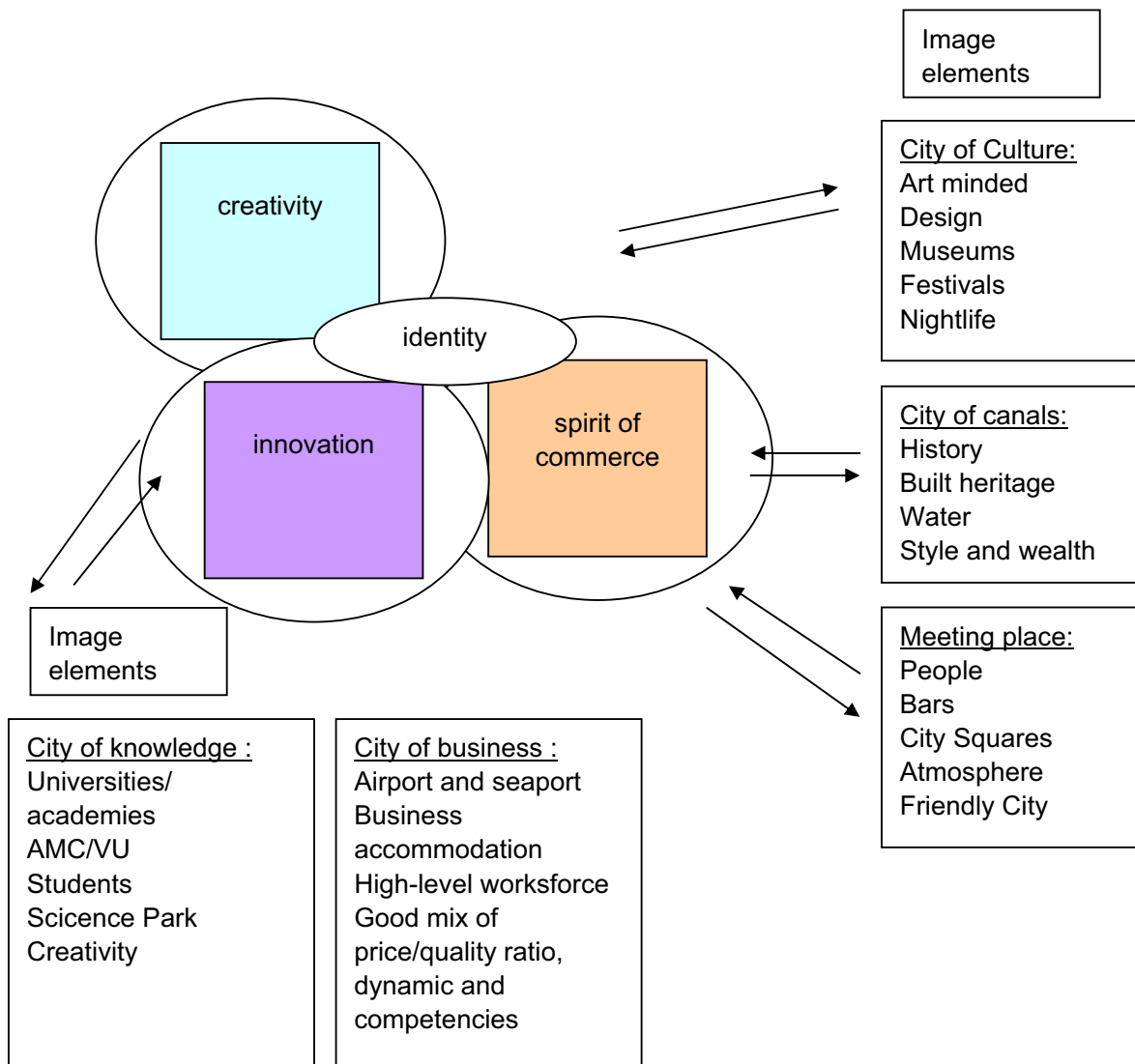
Acting on behalf at the City of Amsterdam, the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board (*Amsterdam Toerisme en Congres Bureau* , ATCB) is responsible for the marketing of tourism in, and communication about, the City of Amsterdam. To this end, every four years the ATCB creates a strategic marketing and communication plan and reports annually on visitor numbers in Amsterdam and the level of appreciation among visitors. Visitors rate the city highly primarily for its arts, culture, historical past and the ambience of the canals and the built heritage that lines them. The ATCB has combined visitor's impressions and evaluations of the city in the diagram below.¹⁶²

The ATCB positions Amsterdam (within the Amsterdam Partners framework; see 6.8, City Marketing)

- beautiful city with rich cultural history, canals and 17th-century culture;
- cultural city, art-minded city with a broad range of culture, music and performing arts available;
- warm, friendly city, a meeting place

¹⁶² Amsterdam Top! Strategic marketing and communication plan 2005-2008 (Amsterdam Top! Strategisch marketing- en communicatieplan 2005-2008), p. 12

Figure 2. Identity and Image of Amsterdam



Tourism programme - Central Amsterdam District coalition

In the 2006-2010 Policy Programme,¹⁶³ the Central Amsterdam District coalition partners present their views on tourism in the district and what they intend to achieve during the coalition period.

The coalition parties see the district as an attractive, high-grade international location for tourism. The qualities of the historical city centre and Amsterdam as a cultural centre should be emphasised more. The parties are making efforts to bring about a reduction of pressure on the most densely populated, busiest areas. The parties aim to achieve the following:

¹⁶³ Central Amsterdam Policy Programme 2006-2010 (*Programmakkoord 2006-2010 stadsdeel Amsterdam-Centrum*), p. 19

- tourist facilities at all levels will have to be improved to remain attractive for tourists for whom quality is paramount. Culture attracts tourism and can also have the effect of triggering innovation through the coming together of culture and business;
- more flexible opening times for cultural institutions and museums, to provide an impulse to nightlife;
- art in public spaces should be stimulated.

Proposals:

- improve distribution of tourism throughout the city centre;
- increase quality of facilities;
- improve tourist information, including provision of information about culture and creativity in Amsterdam.

Tourism programme – Central Amsterdam District budget 2008

The 2008 Programme Budget contains the measures the Central Amsterdam District will implement to broaden the provision of tourist facilities, distribute tourism throughout the city centre and attract quality tourism, especially by increasing the profile of the museums in the eastcity centre. The Central Amsterdam District intends to increase the rate of return visits and the average visit duration – from an average of 1.85 nights to an average of two nights.¹⁶⁴ Determining factors in this context include the tolerant and richly cultural climate for tourists and the quality of tourist facilities.

To the aforementioned ends, the Central Amsterdam District will take the following measures in 2008:¹⁶⁵

- advocate agreement on a local government level on more flexible opening time for museums and cultural institutions
- adopt and implement a marketing plan and contribute to information for tourists about cultural and creative aspects of Amsterdam, in connection with the Cultural Policy Document.
- Implementation of concept and plan of approach for modifications to Chinatown (see Section 5.2, SWOT analysis)

The Central Amsterdam District has specified the following results indicators for these measures for the period 2006-2010:¹⁶⁶

- more flexible opening times than at present for museums and cultural institutions;
- implementation of marketing plan;
- implementation of plans for Chinatown, in consultation with parties involved.

Furthermore, Central Amsterdam wishes to increase its contribution to the promotion of the city through 'I Amsterdam' and, in collaboration with the tourism sector, work on revitalising the tourism sector.

Central Amsterdam tourism policy

Central Amsterdam attaches importance to welcoming tourists to the city centre because of the positive contribution they make to the economy. Central Amsterdam wants to distribute tourism more evenly over the entire city centre. The average tourist appreciation rating of 8.1 for the mediaeval city centre and the ring of canals area is high. If tourism becomes

¹⁶⁴ Programme Budget 2008 Central Amsterdam (*Programmabegroting 2008 stadsdeel Centrum*), p. 94

¹⁶⁵ Programme Budget 2008 Central Amsterdam (*Programmabegroting 2008 stadsdeel Centrum*), pp. 96-97

¹⁶⁶ Meetbaar programakkoord Central Amsterdam (Meetbaar programakkoord stadsdeel Amsterdam-Centrum), p. 44

concentrated in particular areas of the city centre, this could have negative consequences. It could impact on the quality of life in the city centre for residents and users, and also on the experience of the cultural-historical values of the ring of canals and the appreciation rating of visitors to Amsterdam.

Measures

In 2008, Central Amsterdam took a number of measures to advance the improved distribution of tourism in Amsterdam within the Singelgracht: expanding facilities and attracting quality tourism by raising the profile among tourists of the eastern section of the city centre and the many lesser-known museums located there. To this end, Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board's marketing plan has been remodeled. Furthermore, Central Amsterdam is urging the City of Amsterdam to reduce restrictions on the opening times for museums and cultural institutions. And finally, Central Amsterdam is contributing to the plans for realisation of the Chinatown on the city's Eastern Dock Island (*Oosterdokseiland*); 2008 will see the drawing up of the concept and plan of approach for Chinatown. Central Amsterdam and the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board monitor the results of these measures (see chapter 8). Central Amsterdam is working on the expansion of hotel capacity throughout the district (see section 5.2).

City Centre Cultural Policy Document (2006)

In 2006, the Central Amsterdam executive committee adopted the City Centre Cultural Policy Document (*Cultuurnota Binnenstad*). Two of the five core cultural policy issues that impact on cultural tourism are the conservation and presentation of built heritage and the advancement of the international position of Amsterdam in terms of culture.¹⁶⁷

- Conservation and presentation of built heritage

Central Amsterdam wishes to better exploit the rich cultural history of Amsterdam.

Policy resolutions aimed at achieving this include the following:

- foster knowledge exchange with countries of origin, in the field of built heritage conservation, for example;
- history for visitors: raise the profile of urban heritage through increased city marketing;
- link historical and contemporary creative developments in the city.

- International position

Central Amsterdam wants to improve the promotion of cultural properties with a high international status and increase the appeal of the city on an international level for foreign cultural producers, cultural institutions and tourists. The policy resolutions aimed at achieving this are:

- in collaboration with the Department of economic affairs, examine specific applications for city marketing and develop documentation and information material for foreign countries.
- establish and maintain contacts with the main countries of origin of migrants and culturally and internationally significant cities.
- international platform: provide a platform for international cultural institutions based in The Netherlands

Culture – the long-term vision

In 2003, the municipal executive (the *College van Burgemeester en Wethouders*, or 'College of Mayor and Aldermen') adopted the Long-Term Vision on Culture 2015 (*Langetermijnvisie*

¹⁶⁷ Vision for Culture in the City Centre 2006 (*Cultuurvisie Binnenstad 2006*), pp. 12-13

Cultuur 2015). Two of its five core issues relating to cultural tourism are 'the conservation and presentation of built heritage' and 'the international position'.¹⁶⁸

- Conservation and presentation of built heritage

The municipal executive wants to better exploit the rich cultural history and the planned urban architecture of Amsterdam

The historical city centre, the archaeological heritage and the museum collections are a reflection of the history of Amsterdam, the activities of the the inhabitants and the city's international exchange throughout the centuries. This is not only of interest to holidaymakers and tourists.

- International position

The municipal executive intends to promote cultural attractions with international appeal and increase the international appeal of the city for foreign cultural producers, cultural institutions and tourists.

Amsterdam has an exceptional place in Europe. Its population is small, but after Paris and London it is one of the four or five cities that combine extensive cultural heritage with a multiplicity of contemporary cultural expressions being produced and presented.

It is, then, not a city with a 'unique selling point' like some other cultural-historical cities or cities that host festivals – Amsterdam has a broad cultural spectrum. Key factors in this regard are the ambience of the city and its reputation as a haven for culture: it is a place where new products and lifestyles can emerge, where people can feel at ease, living, working and enjoying their free time. This atmosphere makes the city attractive for tourists, those attending conventions, international companies and expatriates. Amsterdam's international appeal contributes greatly to its economic position.

6.5.4 Museums in Amsterdam

Of the 51 museums in Amsterdam, 35 are located in the city centre, within the Singelgracht.

The seven Canal Museums

There exists an ongoing collaboration between seven of the museums located in the ring of canals, called the seven Canal Museums (*de zeven Grachtenmusea*):

- Our Lord in the Attic Museum (*Museum Ons' Lieve Heer Op Solder*)
- The Rembrandt House Museum (*Museum Het Rembrandthuis*)
- Willet-Holthuysen Museum (*Museum Willet-Holthuysen*)
- Van Loon Museum (*Museum Van Loon*)
- Marseille House, Museum for Photography (*Huis Marseille, Museum voor Fotografie*)
- Biblical Museum/the Cromhout Houses (*Bijbels Museum/de Cromhouthuizen*)
- Theatre Museum (till end 2008) (*Theatermuseum*)

Each of these museums has its own collection and unique style. Together these seven Canal Museums provide an overview of: 17th-century Dutch classicism to 19th-century Neo styles; characteristic kitchens and stuccoed stairwells to hand-painted ceilings and a superb selection of hand-painted wallpapers. These museums display the historical interiors behind their facades and offer the visitor the opportunity to view them in their original state.

¹⁶⁸ Long-Term Vision on Culture 2015 (*Langetermijnvisie Cultuur 2015*), pp. 6-7

The seven Canal Museums also organise the annual Open Gardens Days (*Open Tuinen Dagen*), when approximately thirty canal gardens are open to the public.

Historical Museums Department

- Until the end of 2008, the City of Amsterdam had a Historical Museums Department, which included the Amsterdam Historical Museum and the Willet-Holthuysen Museum. The Amsterdam Historical Museum was privatised on 1 January 2009. The Amsterdam Historical Museum presents the history of Amsterdam to as broad an audience as possible, using the City of Amsterdam's historical collections.

6.5.5 Policy summary

- Strategy Concept for Amsterdam City Centre (*Strategische Visie Amsterdamse binnenstad*, approved by Amsterdam City council on 28 February 2002)

The Strategy Concept for Amsterdam City Centre outlines the planned developments within the city centre until 2010.

- The policy document Centre with a Heart for Business (*Centrum met Hart voor de Zaak*, approved by the Central Amsterdam District council on 28 April 2005)

Centre with a Heart for Business details the importance of the city centre for the economy of Amsterdam, points out the opportunities and challenges presented to the city centre and examines in what ways the municipal executive, in cooperation with other parties, can most effectively capitalise on the situation.

- Concept Plan for the Development of Tourism in the East of the City Centre (*Visie Toeristische Ontwikkeling in de Oostelijke Binnenstad*, approved by the Central Amsterdam District Council on 26 and January 2006)

The Concept Plan for the Development of Tourism in the are of the City Centre outlines the opportunities and scope for tourism in the eastcity centre.

- Hotel Policy 2007-2010 (*Hotelbeleid 2007-2010*, approved by the municipal executive on 20 November 2007).

The policy document Hotel Policy 2007-2010 states that the city council intends to realise 4500 additional rooms, and that this number can be increased to 7200 by 2050, 1000 of which will be in Central Amsterdam

- City Centre Hotel Policy 2008-2011 (*Hotelbeleid Binnenstad 2008-2011*, approved by the Central Amsterdam District council on 18 November 2007)

City Centre Hotel Policy 2008-2011 states that Central Amsterdam intends to realise 1000 additional rooms before 2011, especially in the eastern city centre, in areas receiving a quality impulse, and in one or more of the major hotels in the historical city centre.

6.6 Visitor numbers statistics

6.6.1 introduction

Visitors to Amsterdam can be divided into two groups: tourists and those visiting on business. Tourists can be sub-divided into daytrippers and longstay tourists.

The tourism sector is a mainstay of the urban economy and of great importance to Amsterdam. Sustainable development of tourist-oriented activities is also important to the preservation of the cultural-historical values of the city centre, and contributes to the quality of life in the area.

Various organisations monitor developments with respect to visitors to Amsterdam, whether as tourists or for business.

6.6.2 ATCB survey of visitor numbers

Survey of Visitors to Amsterdam

The Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board (ATCB) carries out regular surveys to determine the characteristics of visitors to Amsterdam. It maintains various databases containing tourism indicators.

The ATCB carries out an annual Survey of Visitors to Amsterdam (*Bezoekersonderzoek Amsterdam*), which serves as the basis for the published report Amsterdam Visitors Profile, which is the source of the following data and conclusion.¹⁶⁹

- Overnight stays in Amsterdam

Amsterdam hotels and other companies offering accommodation hosted a total of more than 4.9 million guests in 2007. This is a rise of 5%. There were a total of 8.6 million overnight stays.

- Amsterdam, city for international congresses

In 2007, Amsterdam rose from 12th to 9th position in the rankings of cities for international conventions. The number of conventions in the capital rose by 22%.

- Spending and jobs

On a global scale, the market for conventions and meetings is one of the fastest growing business sectors. This sector provides gross tourist spending of €4.5 billion. This includes both tourist and business spending by visitors. Approximately €3.3 billion, or 72%, consists of tourist spending.

Jobs are primarily created in the following sectors in and around Amsterdam: culture, transport, retail, attraction and entertainment. When business spending is included, the tourism and congress sector produces an employment figure of 48,000.

- Reasons for visiting Amsterdam

The most important reasons for a visit to Amsterdam are its cultural history and the canals in the city centre, the atmosphere and the people, the museums and reputation of Amsterdam as capital of The Netherlands. Visitors to Amsterdam value the city primarily as a cultural destination.

- Visitor's activities

More than 40% of visitors to Amsterdam undertake at least six activities. The most frequently mentioned activities are walking around and looking at the city, going out to eat, visiting museums, shopping, visiting cafés and taking a canal cruise.

- Rating

Visitors to Amsterdam are very content and give their visit an average rating of 8.1. The most highly rated aspects are architecture (39%) and atmosphere (33%). The people, the culture and the leisure facilities are mentioned by 22% of respondents.

¹⁶⁹ Amsterdam Visitor Profile; Amsterdam Visitor Survey Amsterdam 2008 (*Amsterdams Bezoekersprofiel; Bezoekersonderzoek Amsterdam 2008*). Link: www.atcb.nl

6.6.3 Statistics Netherlands data

Yearbook Amsterdam in figures

The City of Amsterdam Department for Research and Statistics (*Dienst Onderzoek en Statistiek, O+S*) monitors a large amount of data and annually publishes the statistical yearbook *Amsterdam in Numbers (Amsterdam in Cijfers)*.¹⁷⁰ In the chapter entitled 'Economy and harbour' (*'Economie en haven'*) the O+S updates information about the development of tourism in Amsterdam. Use is also made of data from Statistics Netherlands (*Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, CBS*). The following data and conclusions were gleaned from the 2007 Yearbook.¹⁷¹

- Hotels

There are 348 hotels located in Amsterdam, 66% of which are to be found in the Central Amsterdam District. The number of hotels has increased from 318 in 1997 to 348 in 2007; the number of beds, from 32.210 to 39.302. On average, guests stay two nights in hotels. The largest numbers of hotel guests come from Great Britain (21,5%), The Netherlands (16,3%) and the United States (16,3%).

- Forecasted growth in tourism

Amsterdam is sustaining its position as a draw for tourists. In 2006, Amsterdam attracted 4.7 million guests who stayed an average of two nights. Compared to 2005, this is a rise of 6% in guest numbers and 7.5% in overnight stays. It is expected that tourism will rise by 3.5% on an annual basis in the coming years.¹⁷²

6.6.4 Amsterdam Topstad Amsterdam, Top City

Programme for Amsterdam Top City

In 2007, there were six key elements to the City of Amsterdam administration programme. One of these was the Amsterdam Top City project.

Amsterdam Top City is first and foremost an economic programme that also focuses on the fostering of tourist and business visits to Amsterdam. The objective of the Amsterdam Top City project is to re-establish Amsterdam among the top five cities in Europe for locating businesses.

In 2006, the municipal executive published the Amsterdam Top City policy document which focused on five core issues.

- talent
- from start to growth
- atmosphere
- space
- reputation

The Amsterdam Top City Programme Office (*Programmabureau Amsterdam Topstad*) monitors results of the Amsterdam top city programme.

The 2007 Annual Report (*Jaarverslag 2007*) states that a large proportion of the objectives aimed at establishing a basis for Amsterdam taking a higher position among the top European locations for the establishing of international businesses and organisations had been achieved.

¹⁷⁰ Amsterdam in Numbers, City of Amsterdam Department for Research and Statistics (*Amsterdam in cijfers 2007, Dienst Onderzoek en Statistiek, Gemeente Amsterdam*), Link: www.os.amsterdam.nl

¹⁷¹ Amsterdam in Numbers 2007 (*Amsterdam in cijfers 2007*), tables 12.3.1-12.3.9

¹⁷² Amsterdam in Numbers 2007 (*Amsterdam in cijfers 2007*), p. 12

The following data and conclusions are derived from the 2007 Annual Report.

- Amsterdam's position among the top international cities¹⁷³

The objective of the Amsterdam Top City project is to regain a place among the top five European cities for locating international businesses and organisations. Indicators include employment figures related to the number of foreign companies located in Amsterdam, the climate for companies locating in Amsterdam and the quality of life and its consequences for economic growth.

The number of new foreign companies in the region, including head offices, was 94 in 2007, 16 more than the target of 78.

The brand awareness of I Amsterdam, Amsterdam's city marketing slogan, produced a score among relevant international target groups (tourists, expatriates and students) of 63% – more than double the target figure.

Key Point 51:

On the basis of currently available statistics, the Central Amsterdam District can accurately estimate how many business visitors, tourists and daytrippers visit Amsterdam on an annual basis. The majority of these visitors visit the historical city centre. Precise numbers are not known. It is also not known how many of these visitors visit the ring of canals. It is, however, known that canal cruises are exceptionally popular, and that Amsterdam's historical architecture is the most highly rated aspect of Amsterdam among visitors.

Together with the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board and the Amsterdam Department of Research and Statistics and the canal cruise companies, Central Amsterdam has established measurable indicators and entered into an agreement about their measurement and monitoring with the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board and the Amsterdam Department for Research and Statistics, to obtain a better understanding of visitor numbers to the ring of canals and the appreciation level among visitors.

Presently, there are no signals that the outstanding universal values of the ring of canals is threatened by the scale and concentration of tourism. Central Amsterdam is on the alert for any such signals and will take any measures required to counteract any detrimental effects caused by large numbers or concentrations of visitors.

6.7 Public Events

6.7.1 Introduction

With all the changes over the centuries, Amsterdam within the Singelgracht has acquired its own unique atmosphere and charm, characterised by its many historical buildings, the canals and historical urban planning structures. In 1999, the historical city centre became a designated conservation area.

The varied cultural landscape contributes to the quality of the city centre and the quality of life within it. Public events add to the quality and the charm, but also bring in visitors to the

¹⁷³ City of Amsterdam, Annual Report 2007 (*Jaarverslag 2007 Gemeente Amsterdam*), p. 24

area. It is, then, also important to safeguard a proper balance between home life, work life and recreation. Existing cultural-historical qualities, the quality of life and the function of the city centre as a residential area should not suffer through public events.

6.7.2 Public events policy

City of Amsterdam policy

In 19 June 2008, the Mayor of Amsterdam adopted the Open Air Events in the City Centre policy document (*Buitenevenementen in de Binnenstad*, or the *Evenementennota*). The objective of this new policy document is the fostering of a high-quality and well-distributed programme of outdoor events that suits the needs of the city centre.

events are important for the city centre in two ways:

Building on existing qualities

Amsterdam's strengths are its creativity, innovation and spirit of commerce.

Amsterdam is also a city of culture, canals and encounter (Choosing Amsterdam (Kiezen voor Amsterdam), brand, concept and organisation of city marketing, 2003). These strengths are communicated not just by stories, icons and images, but also by public events; events that correspond with this view of Amsterdam reinforce the city's unique qualities.

The majority of the city centre was designated a conservation area in 1999. In fact, the vitality and enormous diversity of functions the city has is an event in itself.

- Economic development

The holding of public events in the city centre has various economic benefits. The most important effect is the impact on the city marketing of Amsterdam. A high-quality range of events contributes to the atmosphere in the city, its identity, cultural life, social cohesion and a prosperous economic climate. It supports the economy and tourism in the region and promotes a positive image of the city. Visitors to public events also make use of the facilities already available in the city centre, such as restaurants, (outdoor) cafes, museums, theatres and shops.

Central Amsterdam policy: quality and spread

The Central Amsterdam District seeks to maintain the balance between home life, work life and recreational activities, to increase the dynamism of the city centre and at the same time safeguard the quality of urban development through a proper distribution of public events throughout the city centre. This is achieved by, for example, stimulating new initiatives in other parts of the district where there is little happening at present, such as the east of the city centre.

Central Amsterdam's policy on quality and distribution is based on the location profiles contained in the policy document.¹⁷⁴ The policy document describes 43 suitable locations for public events on the basis of criteria such as character, accessibility, safety and the size and duration of the events that could take place there. The document also contains existing regulations.

It is the responsibility of Central Amsterdam to establish frameworks and to develop a concept strategy for an events programme. The district council then assesses proposals for public events using these frameworks.

¹⁷⁴ Open Air Events in the City Centre policy document (*Nota Buitenevenementen in de binnenstad*), Chapter 2

All requests for events permits are assessed using the relevant local bylaws (*Algemene Plaatselijke Verordening*) along with the quality criteria and the location profile

- Local bylaws (*Algemene Plaatselijke Verordening*, APV, Article 2.11):
 - the type of event and its suitability for the location, considering its character and function;
 - burdens on quality of life and social climate;
 - possible pollution, adverse effects on the external appearance and prestige of the city centre, damage to green space and public facilities;
 - whether the organiser can offer sufficient guarantees that the event will proceed in an orderly manner, with regard to the preceding point;
 - whether the organiser can offer sufficient guarantees that there will be no damage to the environment;
- Location profile
 - one of the criteria used to determine the 'character' of the location its heritage status, or lack of it.

The organiser has primary responsibility for the event proceeding in an orderly fashion. Regulations are enforced by various authorities. The Central Amsterdam sanitation police (Reinigingspolitie) enforces the event permit and its conditions. The police enforce public order and safety regulations. The Environmental & Building Department (Dienst Milieu en Bouwtoezicht, DMB) regulates sound levels, and the Inland Waterways Board (Binnenwaterbeheer) enforces regulations on the waterways. In the case of public events of a metropolitan scale in the city centre, accordance is reached with the City of Amsterdam civil service.

Key Point 52:

When assessing requests for public events permits, Central Amsterdam is diligent in its assessment of possible risks to the internationally recognised cultural-historical values of the ring of canals and draws the attention of events organisers to their shared responsibility for appropriate conduct with regard to the character and significance of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' and its surrounding designated buffer zone.

6.7.3 Public events in the ring of canals area

Annually, several recurring public events take place within the ring of canals. Some of these have a direct relationship with the cultural-historical values of the ring of canals.

Built Heritage Open Day

Built Heritage Open Day (*Open Monumentendag*) has taken place in the Netherlands in the second weekend of September annually since 1987. Built heritage is opened to the public for one or two days, free of charge, to foster public interest in and support for built heritage conservation.

Open Gardens Days

In June of each year Amsterdam's canal museums organise the Open Gardens Days (*Open Tuinen Dagen*), when approximately 30 canal gardens are open to the public.

Canal Festival

The Canal Festival (*Grachtenfestival*) is an annual classical music event that takes place during at special locations in Amsterdam. The locations selected are distinguished by their architecture (built heritage and/or of particular interest) and their cultural-historical value.

Public event celebrating 400 Years of Canals

The draft budget for 2007 contained an incidental priority of € 62.500 for preparations for a public event in 2013 celebrating 400 Years of Canals.¹⁷⁵

Key Point 53:

Central Amsterdam is examining whether the celebration of 400 years of Canals can take place in the context of the possible decision of the World Heritage Committee to inscribe '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' on the World Heritage List.

6.8 City Marketing

6.8.1 Introduction

Amsterdam wants to maintain its place at the top of the league in the heavily competitive arena of European urban tourism. The Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board and Amsterdam Partners are the implementing organisations of the citywide Amsterdam city marketing campaign and are accountable in this respect to the Amsterdam Top City municipal programme office.

This section explores the subject in further detail.

6.8.2 International obligations

Amsterdam is renowned and valued as a city of culture and a city of canals. Government and the private sector must ensure proper and responsible management of tourism, ensuring that it does not overburden or damage culture or cultural history. ICOMOS, advisory body to the World Heritage Committee, has drawn up an internationally recognised charter on this issue.

Tourism Charter

International Charter on Cultural Tourism;¹⁷⁶ *Managing Tourism at Places of Heritage Significance* (1999)

ICOMOS Charter – Charters accepted by the ICOMOS General assembly

At a time of increasing globalisation, conservation and presentation of our cultural heritage is an important challenge. However, management of that heritage is the responsibility of the regional community. A primary objective for managing heritage is to communicate its significance and need for its conservation to its host community and to visitors. Heritage calls for respect for the values and identities of past and present communities. Landscape, urban and cultural heritage are the tangible expressions of past events; without memory, there is neither past nor future.

¹⁷⁵ Meetbaar Programakkoord 2006-2010 Central Amsterdam (*Meetbaar Programakkoord 2006-2010 Stadsdeel Centrum*), p.

45

¹⁷⁶ Link: International Charter on Cultural Tourism, http://www.international.icomos.org/charters/tourism_e.htm

National and international cultural tourism is the most important source of cultural exchange with respect to previous and present-day societies. If it is properly organised, tourism can emphasise the economic importance of Heritage conservation. Heritage conservation therefore forms an intrinsic part of the regional and national economy began to contribute to development and innovation.

6.8.3 The importance of World Heritage with respect to city marketing

The application for inscription on UNESCO's World Heritage List of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht,' to be submitted by the Kingdom of The Netherlands in cooperation with the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District, emphasises the international and historical and cultural significance of this unique site for the development of the city.

The ring of canals is the pinnacle of urban planning in the Golden Age, a period in which Amsterdam blossomed in a very short period, and gained global stature. The city of this period formed the foundation for its further development in subsequent centuries. Almost all visitors cite the historical city centre and its canals as one of the highlights of the city. The inscription of the ring of canals on the World Heritage List would provide the opportunity to communicate to a broad domestic and international audience the underlying intangible values of Amsterdam's origins: as an intellectual safe haven and sanctuary in the 17th century for those unwelcome elsewhere in Europe because of their beliefs; for its spirit of commerce; and as a city of painters, cartographers and publishers.

At the same time, international recognition of the outstanding universal values, the authenticity and the integrity of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as a World Heritage site imposes the obligation on Amsterdam of ensuring the protection and conservation of this World Heritage site in accordance with the guidelines contained in the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention as laid down by UNESCO's World Heritage Committee. Furthermore, well-considered measures must be taken to prevent damage to the World Heritage site through a tourism. The ICOMOS International Cultural Tourism Charter lays down seven fundamental principles for this purpose, and they are described as follows in the site document for 17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht.¹⁷⁷

'The document, containing seven fundamental principles, assumes that cultural and natural heritage sites are the property of all, and that their significance and the need to preserve them should be communicated to everyone, residents and visitors alike. And it is everyone's right and privilege to have access to this heritage, in a tangible, emotional and intellectual sense.

Natural and cultural heritage is both a material and a spiritual resource that plays an important role in contemporary, modern life, and must therefore be made broadly accessible.

The relationship between heritage and tourism is dynamic. It brings with it both opportunities and risks. It can lead to conflicts of interest. Tourism projects, activities and developments should have positive results and cause as little damage as possible to the heritage or the local community.

The retention of the authenticity of heritage places and collections is important. It is an essential element of their cultural significance, as expressed in the physical material,

¹⁷⁷ 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals within the Singelgracht canal' site document (*Gebiedsdocument 'de zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht'*), p. 80

collective memory and intangible traditions that remain from the past. The effects of tourism on the heritage place must be continually reassessed. Tourism should have a positive influence on the local community.'

6.8.4 Relevant policy

City of Amsterdam cultural policy

In 2003, the Amsterdam municipal executive adopted the Long-Term Vision on Culture 2015 (*Langetermijnvisie Cultuur 2015*) document. It lays down the strategy for cultural policy in Amsterdam. Two of the five core issues with respect to cultural policy in which city marketing and tourism are explicitly raised are 'the conservation and preservation of heritage' and 'the international position'.

- *Core issue: the conservation and preservation of heritage*
To better exploit the rich cultural history and outstanding urban planning structures of the city (both inside and outside the Singelgracht), as well as its range of architecture.
Policy resolutions:
 - promote knowledge exchange with countries of origin in the field of built heritage conservation and on other matters;
 - enlighten visitors on the history of Amsterdam: increase awareness of urban heritage by broadening city marketing;
 - establish links between past and present creative developments in the city.

- *Core issue: the international position*
Improve promotion of internationally prominent cultural assets and increase the international allure of the city for foreign cultural producers, cultural institutions and tourists.
Policy resolutions:
 - in cooperation with the Economic Development department (*dienst Economische Zaken*), examine specific city marketing applications and develop information material and documentation for foreign countries.
 - establish and maintain more contacts with the major countries of origin of migrants and most important international cultural cities;
 - provide an international platform for international cultural institutions based in The Netherlands

City marketing policy and positioning

In 2003, the Amsterdam municipal executive adopted a policy framework entitled City Marketing: the Amsterdam approach (Citymarketing: De Amsterdamse aanpak). In this policy framework, the municipal executive positioned Amsterdam as a top city which, using city marketing,¹⁷⁸ wishes to take advantage of its strong position as a city of culture and canals and as a meeting place, and advanced its position as a city of knowledge, business and residence.

Internationally, Amsterdam distinguishes itself with its core values of creativity, spirit of commerce and innovation. These values are also inherent to the unique history of the city, in which the 17th century plays a defining role. Amsterdam has been a centre for trade for more than 400 years, a haven for intellectuals and it is in an international leader in art and culture.

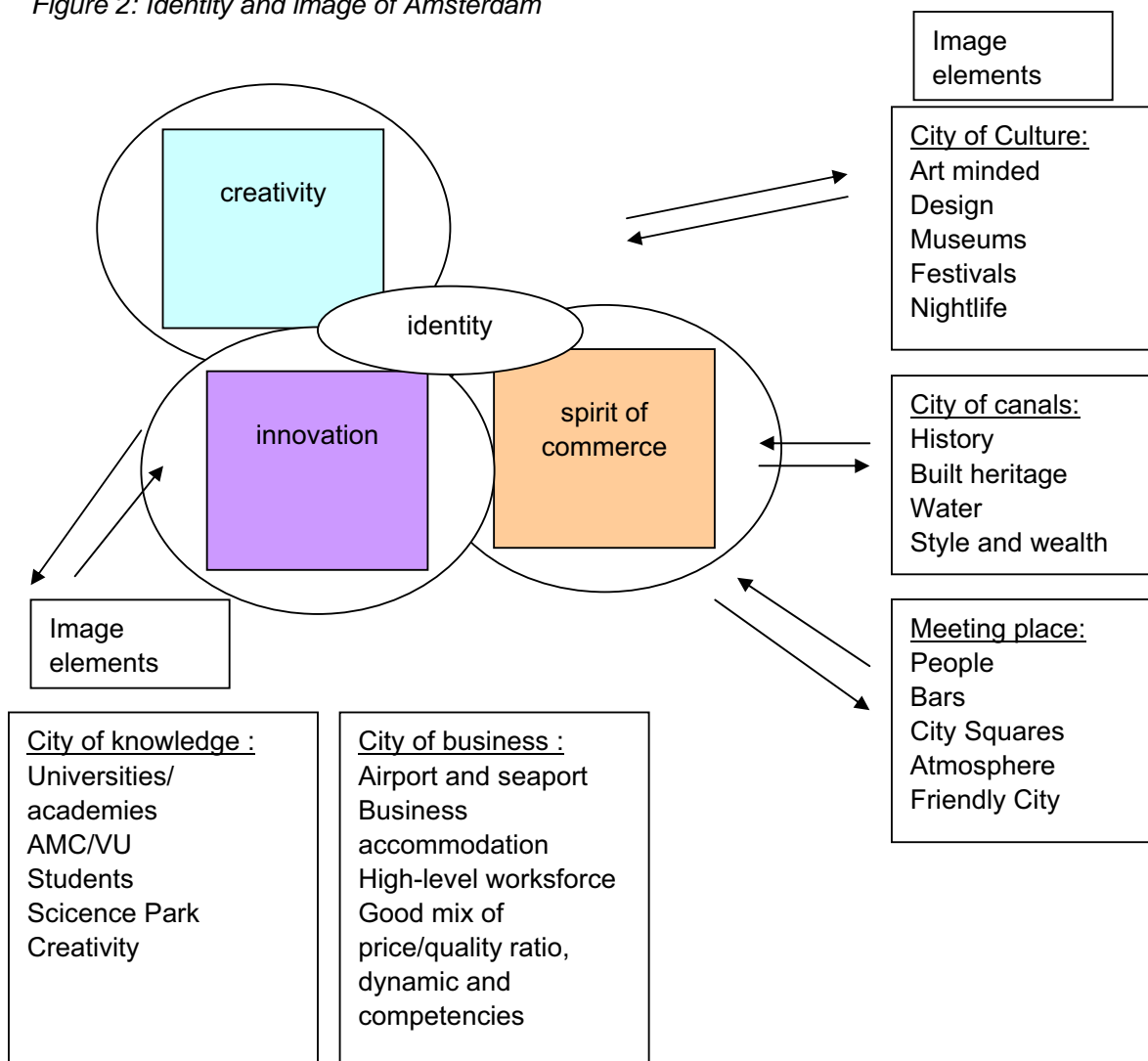
¹⁷⁸ City Marketing Policy Framework; The Amsterdam Approach (*De Amsterdamse aanpak Beleidskader Citymarketing; De Amsterdamse aanpak*), p. 12

Surveys of visitor satisfaction carried out by the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board revealed that Amsterdam is primarily valued as a city of culture and of canals and as a meeting place.¹⁷⁹ Bringing such core values to the fore as creativity, innovation and spirit of commerce. In the city marketing for Amsterdam, Amsterdam Partners and the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board position the city as follows:

- a beautiful city with a great deal of cultural history, canals, expressions of 17th century and 19th-century culture, and architecture from various periods;
- a cultural and art-minded city with a broad range of arts, culture, music, performing arts, public events, festivals, modern architecture and design;
- a city with a warm and welcoming atmosphere: a meeting point for business, information exchange and residence.

Figure 2 connects Amsterdam's positions and values¹⁸⁰

Figure 2: Identity and image of Amsterdam



¹⁷⁹ Amsterdam Top! Strategic marketing and communication plan 2005-2008 (Amsterdam Top! Strategisch marketing- en communicatieplan 2005-2008), p. 11

¹⁸⁰ Amsterdam Top! Strategic marketing and communication plan 2005-2008 (Amsterdam Top! Strategisch marketing- en communicatieplan 2005-2008), p. 12

6.8.5 City marketing implementation

Amsterdam partners and ATCB

In 2004, Amsterdam Partners, a public-private platform, was set up for the implementation of the City of Amsterdam's city marketing policy. The platform was assigned the task of developing the city marketing of Amsterdam in cooperation with local government, regional government, the business world, institutions for arts and culture and promotional organisations. The Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board (ATCB) is one of the organisations participating in Amsterdam Partners.

The following is a selection of key components of the city marketing

- I Amsterdam
- Amsterdam Partners coordinates all activities involving the slogan 'I Amsterdam' (www.iamsterdam.com), supporting the effective marketing of Amsterdam domestically and internationally.

- International media¹⁸¹

International media channels are deployed to ensure the effective marketing of the City of Amsterdam. Co-operation with international partners will also be activated if for each core issue to maximise international focus.

- Improve relationship between content and marketing¹⁸²

The primary objective for 2008 for Amsterdam Partners is to improve the relationship between content (Top City programme) and marketing (Amsterdam Partners). Now that I Amsterdam is established as a concept and that the image of Amsterdam as a creative city of business is gaining a higher profile, there is an opportunity for further development. The city marketing has three main objectives in this regard:

- 1) enriching content;
- 2) improvement of cooperation with respect to city marketing;
- 3) increase participation of partners.

6.8.6 Monitoring of tourism by the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board

The Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board promotes visits to Amsterdam by tourists and business people to Amsterdam through, among other things, deployment of the city marketing strategy and monitoring of tourist numbers and their appreciation of the city. Once every four years, the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board draws up a strategic marketing and communication plan based on research, a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis on the strengths and weaknesses of Amsterdam as a 'product'. In the 2005-2008 Strategic Marketing and Communication Plan (*Strategische Marketing- en Communicatieplan 2005-2008*) the strengths described by the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board include: city of culture and the ring of canals. Its weaknesses include the lack of image-defining attractions and a lack of style.

¹⁸¹ Amsterdam Top City Working Programme 2008 (Werkprogramma Amsterdam Topstad 2008), p. 4

¹⁸² Amsterdam Top City Working Programme 2008 (Werkprogramma Amsterdam Topstad 2008), p. 12

Key point 54:

As siteholder, Central Amsterdam enters into agreements with Amsterdam Partners and the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board to ensure that city marketing involving the ring of canals World Heritage site promotes tourism, produces positive results for the Heritage Site and prevents damage.

Key point 55:

As siteholder, Central Amsterdam enters into agreements with the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board to systematically monitor the effects of tourism on the World Heritage site, for the purposes of, among other things, the required periodic reporting to the World Heritage committee

Key point 56:

The Amsterdam World Heritage Office analyses and registers the effects of tourism on the World Heritage site. On the basis of this information, the World Heritage Steering Committee assesses the management plan and, where necessary, makes proposals for measures.

6.9 Education

6.9.1 introduction

Cultural heritage is formed by the tangible and intangible remnants of the past. Tangible remnants include objects in museums, buildings, archaeological finds, documents and archives, historical urban and rural landscape structures. But there are also those traditions passed down in the form of stories or customs. Our cultural heritage is dependent on the extent to which it is valued and respected by those directly and indirectly involved; to what extent they feel that the heritage belongs to them and is therefore important, significant and valuable.

Cultural education is an important way of offering information to those directly and indirectly involved; to young people and to new citizens – so that these people also see the heritage as having importance, significance and value.

This section describes the efforts being undertaken by the City of Amsterdam and Central Amsterdam with respect to cultural education in general, and heritage education in particular.

6.9.2 Relevant policy

The City of Amsterdam's cultural education policy

In 2003, the municipal executive adopted the Long-Term Vision on Culture 2015 (*Langetermijnvisie Cultuur 2015*). Two of its five core issues relating specifically to cultural education are 'responsible authority status' and 'conserving and presenting heritage'.

The municipal executive seeks to ensure that all Amsterdammers feel themselves to be co-owners, to have a sense of pride in the city now and in the future, by encouraging a sense of shared responsibility for the city's cultural facilities and by devoting more attention to the cultural expressions of new Amsterdammers.

The policy resolutions intended for the strategic implementation of this concept are focused firstly on cultural education within the educational system, and secondly on giving more attention to cultural heritage as part of cultural education.

Central Amsterdam cultural education policy

In 2006, the Central Amsterdam District executive committee adopted the City Centre Culture policy document.

The executive committee distinguishes three forms of stakeholder status when dealing with the core issue of stakeholdership.

- 4) emotional stakeholdership
- 5) stakeholdership based on co-ownership
- 6) stakeholdership based on a sense of shared responsibility.

The executive committee has formulated a series of policy resolutions to advance the concept of stakeholdership through cultural education.

- Promote the inclusion of cultural education in the syllabus of all primary schools and schools for preparatory middle-level vocational education (VMBO). The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science has reserved additional resources for this purpose.
- Incorporate heritage education in the syllabus of primary education, in cooperation with museums and educational institutions, as part of the Heritage à la Carte project (Erfgoed à la Carte), which will provide coupons to schools to allow them to take students to visit museums.

6.9.3 Cultural education within educational institutions

The City of Amsterdam wants all young Amsterdammers at schools and in higher education to become familiar with the arts and culture. The Arts Plan 2005-2008; Creative Amsterdam (*Kunstenplan 2005-2008; Amsterdam Creatieve Stad*), adopted in December 2004 by the city council, indicates the City of Amsterdam's objectives with respect to improving cultural education in schools and higher education, and what measures the municipality will take to achieve these objectives.¹⁸³

Ultimate objective	Method	Result	Activities
All young Amsterdammers become acquainted with art and culture	Establish cultural education in primary schools and preparatory middle-level vocational schools	40 percent of primary schools and preparatory middle-level vocational schools had continuous year-on-year courses of cultural education in 2008	Establish expertise centre for cultural education in Amsterdam (realised in 2005). Restructure infrastructure of cultural education (realised in 2007)

City of Amsterdam policy provides direct funding to primary schools and preparatory middle level vocational schools through:

- the Cultural Education Coupon Bank: the Cultural Education Coupon Bank (*Voucherbank Cultuureducatie*), managed by Kunstenaars & Co (Artists & Co, a non-profit organisation), makes coupon credits available to schools;

¹⁸³ The Arts Plan 2005-2008; Creative Amsterdam (*Kunstenplan 2005-2008; Amsterdam Creatieve Stad*), pp. 12-21

- The Amsterdam Arts Fund (*Amsterdams Fonds voor de Kunst*, AFK): The Amsterdam Arts Fund manages two grants schemes aimed at stimulating new initiatives in cultural education.

The City of Amsterdam promotes the integration of cultural education in the curriculum by giving schools more space and freedom in the matter and encourages providers of education to create suitable study materials.

In order to support schools and cultural institutions, when adopting the Arts Plan 2005-2008 (*Kunstenplan 2005-2008*), the city council decided to establish the cultural education expertise network Mocca (*Match Onderwijs en Cultuur Amsterdam*), Match Education and Culture Amsterdam). Mocca also furnishes the annual Trends in Cultural Education report (*Tendrapport Cultuureducatie*). The 2007 Trends in Cultural Education report states:¹⁸⁴

- the municipal 2006-2010 policy programme made a substantial increase (€250,000) in the budget for the Cultural Education Coupon Bank from the start of the 2007-2008 academic year
- much use has been made of the AFK grant scheme for cultural education;
- 63% of primary schools have a coherent cultural education policy.

6.9.4 In the making: education about the ring of canals heritage

The City of Amsterdam is developing various levels of study material to involve young people in the city's outstanding built heritage. Courses include information on the inscription on the World Heritage List of the ring of canals.

6.9.5 Policy overview

Long-Term Vision on Culture 2015 (*Langetermijnvisie Cultuur 2015*) approved by the municipal executive in 2003; includes cultural policy strategy with five core issues and policy proposals.

- Main Features of Arts and Culture 2009-2012 (*Hoofdlijnen Kunst en Cultuur 2009-2012*) approved by the executive committee on 23 May 2007.

This concept policy plan should lead to a common frame of reference and to actions carried out by multiple parties with respect to two issues: 'city culture' and 'city of art and culture'

- City Centre Cultural Policy Document (*Cultuurnota Binnenstad*): approved by the Central Amsterdam executive committee on 17 November 2005

This policy document suggests modifications to the implementation of the Long-Term Vision on Culture 2015 with respect to a Central Amsterdam and proposes concrete measures and activities.

- Arts Plan 2005-2008; Creative Amsterdam (*Kunstenplan 2005-2008; Amsterdam Creatieve Stad*). Approved by the city council in December 2004.

This plan defines activities implemented in the period 2005-2008 in arts and culture, including cultural education.

¹⁸⁴ 2007 Trends in Cultural Education report (*Tendrapport Cultuureducatie in Amsterdam 2007*), Mocca Cultural education expertise network

6.10 World Heritage Visitor Centre

6.10.1 Introduction

One of the resources employed by the property manager and the City of Amsterdam with respect to the provision of information about the site is the World Heritage Visitor Centre. This private enterprise proposal for the World Heritage site that would bear the name Heritage Centre should have the function of providing information to foreign and domestic visitors, residents and professional interested parties about the history, architecture and historical urban planning of the World Heritage site, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.

This section is the specifications of the World Heritage Visitor Centre.

6.10.2 Guidelines

Instructions from Operational Guidelines (2008)

- States Parties should ensure that World Heritage status is adequately marked and promoted on-site.
- States Parties are encouraged to develop educational activities with the participation of museums, schools, universities and other local educational authorities.
- the UNESCO Secretariat can provide information to States Parties about the 1972 World Heritage Convention, the World Heritage List and also about threats to World Heritage. The Secretariat can advise States Parties on the preparation and implementation of promotional and educational projects.

6.10.3 Plan for World Heritage Visitor Centre/Heritage Centre

The Office for Built Heritage and Archaeology and the City of Amsterdam, in cooperation with Central Amsterdam, are developing an Action Plan for the setting up and organising of a World Heritage Visitor Centre/Heritage Centre. This centre will focus on the World Heritage site 17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht, in general, and the significance of the expansion of urban planning from the 17th century to the present day, in particular. 2008 saw the initiation of a feasibility study examining various scenarios and project partners, as well as the budget and financing scheme.

The World Heritage Visitor Centre should be operational upon the inscription of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' on UNESCO's World Heritage List.

The World Heritage Visitor Centre provides information from and/or about:

- the World Heritage site, using a scale model and maps
- cultural-historical background information;
- virtual tours and guided and non-guided walking tours

The decision-making process with respect to effecting the visitor centre is in the hands of the City of Amsterdam.

Location

Possible locations being studied for suitability include the Amsterdam Historical Museum (*Amsterdams Historisch Museum*)¹⁸⁵ and the Zuiderkerk (the city's historic 'South Church').¹⁸⁶

Essay about the ring of canals

Inscription on the World Heritage List of 17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht will bring international recognition for this exceptional area. The outstanding universal values of his World Heritage site make it heritage for all humanity and therefore irreplaceable, of real significance for human history, and of interest to the entire population of the world. The importance of protecting World Heritage will be emphasised through the inclusion of the World Heritage emblem in visual media.

The Office for Built Heritage and Archaeology and the City of Amsterdam have entrusted the Jan Wagenaar Foundation with the task of writing a special publication aimed at the general public in which the history and cultural-historical significance of the 17th-century ring of canals within the Singelgracht is described and illustrated in an accessible way. This publication will be made available in many languages and is intended to be a source of information for all domestic and international target groups.

Means of information

Maps of the ring of canals area will be available at the Visitor Centre, the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board and other organisations for culture and tourism. The Amsterdam World Heritage Office is designing multilingual printed publications and virtual and multimedia applications presenting information about the World Heritage site along with cultural-historical background information.

Canal cruises

The City of Amsterdam is encouraging the provision of special canal cruises through the area, in cooperation with the canal cruise companies.

Tours

With the information provided by the visitor centre, visitors can tour the ring of canals whether with or without a guide. The City of Amsterdam is encouraging the recruitment of city guides to accompany visitors.

As well as visiting neighbouring historical areas of the city (the mediaeval city centre and the Jordaan, Weteringbuurt/ Noortse Bos, Utrechtsebuurt and Plantage districts) those visitors desiring more extensive knowledge of Amsterdam's urban planning and architecture can explore the 20th century history of the city with architect Berlage's South Plan (Plan Zuid), the Amsterdam School (*Amsterdamse School*) architectural style, the Spaarndammerbuurt district, the garden villages (*Tuindorpen*) in North Amsterdam and the new developments that came into being as part of General Expansion Plan (*Algemeen Uitbreidingsplan, AUP*) on the west side of the city.

Guides

¹⁸⁵ The Amsterdam Historical Museum makes as accessible as possible Amsterdam's history and historical collections by presenting them in a broad and inspiring context

¹⁸⁶ The South Church was restored between 1976 and 1979 and is now an information centre for all developments involving the City of Amsterdam's Spatial Planning Department.

Various organisations offer guided tours of central Amsterdam. These organisations will be approached by the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District and be provided with the relevant information about UNESCO's objectives, the value of the World Heritage Convention and the significance of the World Heritage List.

Key point 57:

The results of the feasibility study into the setting up, location and resource planning of the Amsterdam World Heritage Visitor Centre will be communicated to the World Heritage Committee by the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage.

6.11 Signposting

6.11.1 Introduction

The World Heritage site, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht', covers a large area and includes several canals, radial streets and many thousands of buildings, 7000 of which are designated as national built heritage. This section describes signposting to and within the site.

6.11.2 Signposting within the property

Roadsigns

It is impossible to effectively implement on-site signposting of all access roads to the property on-site without damaging the value and integrity of the area. Signposting must be appropriate for the character of the property. The City of Amsterdam and Central Amsterdam are currently working on a new signposting system for visitors to the city. This system will take account of future signposting for the World Heritage site.

The property manager will ensure that the property '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' is identifiable to the general public as a World Heritage site.

The City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District will, in cooperation with the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board, ensure that the World Heritage site is clearly marked on domestic and international maps, guides, websites and brochures.

Information media

The property manager bears the responsibility for the widespread use of information media such as maps, brochures and websites with respect to the World Heritage site '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.

Information boards at buildings and locations

Boards have been installed at some outstanding buildings within the ring of canals area displaying background information about the year and method of construction, and its function, cultural historic value and other points of particular interest. Central Amsterdam, in cooperation with the World Heritage Office and the Office for Built Heritage and Archaeology, promotes the use of these information boards at prominent premises and locations within the ring of canals area. These boards will also feature information the World Heritage site and the World Heritage emblem.

Furthermore, the Hendrick de Keyser Association (*Vereniging Hendrick de Keyser*) and the restoration company Stadsherstel N.V place shields on premises they own.

6.12 Website for the World Heritage site '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'

6.12.1 Introduction

Surveys by the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board reveal that Internet is the most important source of information for more than half of all visitors to Amsterdam.¹⁸⁷ It is therefore of great importance to realise the provision of quality digital information about the World Heritage site, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'. This section explores the subject in more detail

6.12.2 Existing websites about the ring of canals and World Heritage

There are various websites where people can find information about '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'. They include the websites of the City of Amsterdam, Central Amsterdam, the Office for Built Heritage and Archaeology, the Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board and the international website www.iamsterdam.com.

Information about the ring of canals can also be found at the many websites belonging to museums, conservation organisations and interest groups.

Information on World Heritage can be found on many websites including UNESCO itself, The Netherlands World Heritage Platform Foundation and on the websites of World Heritage sites elsewhere in The Netherlands. Several of these websites are described in more detail below.

Visitor information at www.iamsterdam.com

The City of Amsterdam's international website www.iamsterdam.com has a portal function with respect to communication with visitors from abroad and English-speaking inhabitants of Amsterdam. As an addition to the existing information on cultural-historical backgrounds, a tool is presently being developed which will enable visitors to the website to take a virtual tour through historical Amsterdam. The ring of canals will be given a central role in this. The first section will be completed in 2009 and it will be extended in the future. Visitors will already be able to take a virtual tour to the most important built heritage, where information can be called up.

Information about UNESCO and the World Heritage List

The Secretariat of UNESCO in Paris has information and various publications about World Heritage intended for a broad audience. These can be found at <http://whc.unesco.org>. Information available here includes the World Heritage List, the Tentative Lists, the World Heritage List in Danger, the World Heritage Newsletter, the magazine World Heritage Review and the Memory of the World Register (which for The Netherlands includes the archives of the East India Company [*Verenigde Oostindische Compagnie*, or VOC] as well as the Jewish historical library Ets Haim/Livraria Montezinos), along with brochures and information packs. Detailed information can be found at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/publications>. In the future, these materials can also be distributed from the World Heritage Visitor Centre.

¹⁸⁷ Visitor Survey 2008, ATCB

Information about World Heritage in The Netherlands

The Netherlands World Heritage Platform Foundation (*Stichting Platform Werelderfgoed Nederland*), formed by the other World Heritage sites in The Netherlands, maintains a website (www.werelderfgoed.nl) focusing on the Dutch World Heritage sites. These sites are Schokland and Surroundings, the Mill Network at Kinderdijk-Elshout, the D.F. Wouda Pumping Station, the Beemster Polder, the Rietveld-Schröder House, and the Defence Line of Amsterdam.

6.12.3 Website for the World Heritage site '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.

It is important that the various target groups as defined in the information and communications strategy (see section 6.1) can find up-to-date, accessible and complete information on a clearly navigable website about '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as World Heritage. The Office for Built Heritage and Archaeology developed the website www.werelderfgoed.amsterdam.nl for this purpose. In the future, it will be maintained and further extended by the Office for Built Heritage and Archaeology. The website will be linked to relevant council, tourism and cultural-historical websites (national and international) to provide interested parties and visitors to Amsterdam with a variety of options for obtaining information about the World Heritage site. The website will provide information in several languages.

Key Point 58:

The World Heritage Office is developing a multilingual website for the World Heritage site '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' containing links to relevant council, tourism and cultural historical websites.

Chapter 7: Finance-related agreements

7.1 Financing structure

There are various parties within the Netherlands that contribute to the conservation of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal' as a World Heritage site (the property, together with its buffer zone and various other areas within the conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'). The main parties involved are:

- Local government; the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District
- Regional governmental organisations (fire department, police and water board);
- Privatised utilities companies (with respect to the infrastructure for transport of electricity, gas and water);
- State government; (urban renewal investment budget; State Regulation Order for Built Heritage Maintenance Funding (*Rijksregeling Instandhouding Monumenten*, BRIM)), loans for the benefit of built heritage through the National Restoration Fund (*Nationaal Restauratiefonds*);
- Businesses (including housing corporations), institutions and private households.

The governmental organisations and utilities companies all have (autonomous) responsibilities laid down in various acts and regulations, and they are supervised/controlled in the execution of their responsibilities with reference to these acts and regulations.

Individuals, institutions and companies also have obligations with respect to properties in their ownership. The municipality oversees the meeting of these obligations. Where poor maintenance is encountered, the municipality has legal instruments at its disposal to compel owners to meet their obligations.

This chapter describes the expenditures incurred by the first four of the above-mentioned categories of parties – with respect to the entirety of the conservation, and within the context of the basic principles (see below). The final category (Businesses, institutions and private households) will not be exhaustively detailed because precise information is either unknown or unavailable. Statistical data are only known for the conservation of residences, and these are also specified. These data are not included in the summary tables.

Here follows an outline of the ways in which resources required for conservation are made available.

Local government receives the large majority of financial resources from national government. Local government levies charges on businesses and private citizens for the maintenance of sewers, refuse collection, issuing of permits and parking (all charges mentioned are cost-covering, with the exception of those related to parking). Furthermore, local government has the right to levy tax on real estate.

Regional governmental organisations are financed in the following ways:

- Police: financial resources provided by central government
- Fire department: financed by participating municipalities (local government)
- Water board: levies a cost-covering tariff on all occupants (businesses and private individuals) in its area, for the management and (major and minor) maintenance of the water infrastructure.

The utility companies charge their clients for the costs of construction and maintenance of their infrastructure (businesses and private households); Buildings designated as built heritage by central government are maintained by their owners who, to this end, can apply to the National Restoration Fund (*Nationaal Restauratiefonds*) for a restoration mortgage or for funding within the BRIM framework. The National Restoration Fund is funded by subsidies from the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science. This fund is replenished by repayments and interest payments, ensuring its continuation as a *revolving fund*. Furthermore, there are fiscal facilities available to owners of built heritage with a central government preservation order (no data available).

A portion of the resources is subject to economic and political fluctuation – specifically, that portion supplied to local and regional governments by central government. If central government reduces expenditure, those local and regional governments dependent on central government resources must also reduce expenditure. The degree to which local and regional governments choose to impose these reductions on resources available for conservation is a political decision. By the same token, improvements in the economic situation will lead to an increase of financial resources available to the local government. The relative proportions of the resources paid by local and central government are laid down in the Financial Proportions Act (*Financiële Verhoudingswet, Fvw*).

7.2 Basic principles

What distinctions have been made?

Throughout, the guiding principle has been that all (partial) governmental expenditure on conservation of the property and the buffer zone (including developments and improvements) should be included in the finance summary.

Within the summary, the following distinctions have been made;

- all costs incurred with respect to the preservation and maintenance of infrastructure, public space and water (roads, bridges, railways, water courses, water and energy supply, sewage, parking);
- all project-related developments in, and expenses arising from, (residential) construction and spatial planning on local government level;
- all government expenditure on the conservation of buildings, including artworks and buildings managed by local government.
- All expenditure on public order and safety (police, fire brigade and disaster control) at local level;
- The total amount for permit provision and enforcement, relating to the above-mentioned;
- Expenditure on city marketing;
- Operational and organisational costs relating to the above-mentioned.

It should be noted in this context that it is an illusion to think that 100% of all above-mentioned components have been fully defined. The intention was to outline the expenditure of the 'main players' in the above-mentioned areas as completely as possible.

Government departments and institutions involved in financing

The following departments and organisations are involved in this section on financing, together with the associated operating costs.

Operating Costs x € 1 milion		Annual Accounts					Budget and long-range estimate			
		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
A	Central Amsterdam District	133	149	135	153	155	147	147	147	147
B	Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
C	Dep. of Infrastructure, Traffic and Transport	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
D	Inlands Waterways Board	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
E	City Surveillance	13	13	13	13	13	14	14	14	14
F	Civil Service	12	15	16	15	16	16	16	16	16
G	Amsterdam-Amstelland Fire Department	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4
H	Amstelland police	33	34	36	39	41	42	41	41	41
I	Water network Management	15	16	16	17	17	18	18	18	18
J	NUON (gas and electricity)	12	13	14	15	15	17	18	19	21
Total operating costs		229	251	243	265	270	266	267	269	271

The above table shows that Central Amsterdam district is responsible for more than half of the operating costs. The police and those operating public utilities and water supplies (including waste water) also make large contributions. The annual variability of expenditure is explained below.

Nuon and Waternet are privatised utility companies with a legal obligation to maintain the (utility) infrastructures for which they are responsible. The Amstelland police force is organised nationally (under the auspices of the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations (*ministerie van Binnenlandse Zaken en Koninkrijksrelaties*, BZK)); on an operational level, it is managed by the regional executive, consisting of the mayors of the participating municipalities. The of Amsterdam–Amstelland Fire Department is organised regionally and its board is formed by the participating municipalities. Other organisations named in the summary are directly responsible to the councils of the City of Amsterdam and Central Amsterdam district.

Basic Information

Regulations pertaining to central government budgeting and accounting¹⁸⁸ stipulate that municipalities must classify their expenditures according to function (see actual areas for attention) these functions ensure that expenditure on national and European levels remain proportional. This method of classification has also been chosen for the classification of expenditure related to the management plan. The other, non-municipal organisations have been incorporated in the same system, because classification according to function is a sound basis, founded on suitable definitions.

¹⁸⁸ The Budgeting and Accounting Order 2004 (*Besluit Begroten en Verantwoorden 2004*, or BBV 2004)

Outgoings on the part of implementing organisations must – in accordance with the Budgeting and Accounting Order (*Besluit Begroten en Verantwoorden*, BBV), among other requirements – be attributed to the functions and are therefore included here. Municipal costs (City of Amsterdam municipal executive, City of Amsterdam council, Central Amsterdam district executive committee, Central Amsterdam district council and associated organisational costs) are brought together under the umbrella term 'public administration'

In so far as possible, budgeting is based on the 2003 to 2007 annual accounts, the 2008 budget and the 2009 to 2011 long-range estimates. There is no simple way of accessing data for Central Amsterdam district before 2003 because this was the year in which it became an autonomous municipal district. The BBV requires a long-range estimate for the three years following the budgeted year. Hence the 2011 limit to future estimates.

System of assets and liabilities

The BBV requires operation within the framework of a system of assets and liabilities. This means that expenditure relating to a specific accounting year will also be ascribed to that year, even if the expenditure actually takes place in preceding or succeeding years. This means investments appear in the operational costs in the form of debits and accrued interest.

Operation and investment:

The obligations inherent to the system of assets and liabilities mean that almost all investments are indirectly included in it. To also make the investments appear in the accounts of all years involved would then entail a system of dual accounting. Several investments that are financed by third parties (in most cases, central government) do appear, however. A certain amount of dual accounting cannot be entirely ruled out. The BBV permits, and even encourages, the immediate accounting of public investment as an operational expense, in preference to entering it as an asset. Central Amsterdam district operates in this way and to this end diverts income from parking and income from the resources provided by central government from the Urban Renewal Investment Budget (*Investeringsbudget Stedelijke Vernieuwing*, ISV). Because the latter are not part of municipal district operating costs, they are regarded as investment expenses.

Definition of the area for the purpose of financing

The combined area comprising the property and the buffer zone closely coincides with the Central Amsterdam district boundaries. Because most departments and companies (including utilities) do not keep an accounting system relating specifically to the property and buffer zone area, a translation has been made to the area coinciding with Central Amsterdam district boundaries.

Conversion factors

Few departments or companies (including utilities) have an area-based (or comparable) accounting system. For this reason, conversion factors has been established using City of Amsterdam statistics, to determine costs for the area coinciding with Central Amsterdam district boundaries. The most important factors are surface infrastructure and water, number of residences and number of inhabitants of the Central Amsterdam district in relation to the total in the City of Amsterdam area.

Extrapolation

Not all companies and institutions involved in the conservation are required to make their budget and accounting public, and this means that insufficient data can be derived from them for every annual calculation. To this end, extrapolation was made on the basis of national and local statistical data.¹⁸⁹

Reproducible

The preceding makes clear that 100% transparent financing is impossible without huge effort and expense. The choice has been made for a practical approach that will be repeatable in future progress reports. The basic principles are rooted in the source document, ensuring that the comparable value can be guaranteed into the future.

7.3 General summaries

The following summaries, based on the above-mentioned basic principles and organisations, can be found below:

- a. Operational costs based on the 2003 to 2007 annual accounts, the 2008 budget, and the long-range estimate for 2000 to 2011.
- b. Investment expenditure based on the 2003 to 2007 annual accounts, the 2008 budget, and the long-range estimate for 2000 to 2011.

Ad a. Operational costs, based on the 2003 to 2007 annual accounts, the 2008 budget, and the long-range estimate for 2009 to 2011.

In the table below, the number in the first column refers to the functions defined in the BBV. Column two contains the description of the function. Only those costs indicated above are included, with respect to these functions. For example, for function 4, Education, only the cost of accommodation of educational establishments (to the extent that it falls under the responsibility of the City of Amsterdam) are included.

Operating costs x € 1 million		Annual Accounts					Budget and long-range estimate			
		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
0	Public Administration	16	19	21	19	20	20	20	20	20
1	Public order and security	37	40	41	45	46	47	47	47	47
2	Traffic, transport and water	87	90	80	92	98	98	98	98	98
3	Economic affairs	17	17	19	20	22	24	25	27	28
4	Education (accommodation)	0	2	1	2	2	3	3	3	3
5	Culture, recreation	10	10	17	17	14	12	12	12	12
6	Social Services	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	2
7	Public Health and environment	26	27	29	30	30	29	29	29	29
8	Spatial planning and public housing	35	46	34	36	37	31	31	31	31
Total operating costs		229	251	243	265	270	266	267	269	271

¹⁸⁹ Data sourced from Statistics Netherlands (*Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek*, CBS) and the City of Amsterdam Department for Research and Statistics (*Bureau Onderzoek en Statistiek*).

The fluctuation in 2005 relates primarily to occasionally lagging implementation of projects within Central Amsterdam rather than any reduced availability of resources. These resources remain available and will be expended in later years. The levelling off of resources in 2008 and the long-range estimate is caused by the following:

- Not all organisations work with a budget that takes wage and price rises into account; they instead incorporate these changes in the following year's budget;
- Financing of one-off projects is also included in the accounting; it often not possible to budget for these projects.
- Some overspends can be found in the annual accounts due to unexpected expenditure;
- In the Netherlands, it is customary to use 'good business sense' (*goed koopmanschap*), which entails first making resources available before actually including them in a budget.

The following is an outline of the relationship between expenditure according to organisation and expenditure according to function:

- Central Amsterdam: expenditure on all functions.
- Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology: function 5
- Department of Infrastructure, Traffic and Transport: function 2
- Inland Waterways Board: function 2
- City surveillance: function 2
- Amsterdam – Amstelland fire department: function 1
- Amstelland police: function 1
- Waternet: functions 2, 3 and 7
- Nuon: function 3
- Civil Service: function 0

The preceding leads to the following conclusion: the expectation is that the level of expenditure in the 2007 annual accounts (with corrections for wage and price increases) will also be available in 2008 and subsequent years. The most important factors that could impact on expenditure are:

- A declining economy leading to a reduction in resources available to local government due to a reduction in central government expenditure in accordance with the Grants to Municipal Authorities Act (*Financiële verhoudingswet*, Fvw);
- A reallocation of available resources by local or regional governments.

Ad b. Investment expenditure, based on the 2003 to 2007 annual accounts, the 2008 budget, and the long-range estimate for 2000 to 2011.

Investment costs x € 1 million		Annual accounts					Budget and long-rate estimate			
		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
0	Public Administration	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	Public order and security	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	Traffic, transport and water	-	0	0	1	-	2	1	1	1
3	Economic Affairs	-	3	-	-	-	1	2	2	2
4	Education (accomodation)	-	0	3	2	3	1	2	2	2
5	Culture, recreation	12	7	11	9	1	2	5	5	7
6	Social Services (accomodation)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Public health and enviroment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Spatial planning and public housing	-	11	19	20	5	3	15	15	15
Total investment		12	21	33	32	9	10	25	25	27

As previously indicated, in a number of cases, investments have been included either entirely or partially through debits included in operational expenditure. The majority of these cases relate to function 3 and 4. Investments in function 8 relate primarily to expenditure within the context of the Urban Renewal Investment Programme (*Investeringsprogramma Stedelijke Vernieuwing*, ISV) and investments in the redevelopment of Central Amsterdam district. The volume of investment emanating from the ISV is sensitive to changes in the economy, since these resources are derived from central government and can therefore be subject to cutbacks in the event of a declining economy. Again, the reverse is true in the case of a rising economy.

The resources made available by central government through the National Restoration Fund (*Nationaal Restauratiefonds*) are included in the investments in function 5. In recent years, this has related primarily to subsidies for the maintenance of built heritage and the provision of restoration fund mortgages. In the period from 2004 until the present, €24.3 million was spent on 247 restoration fund mortgages in Central Amsterdam. This seems to cause a falling-off of these amounts, because in earlier years, the removal of overdue maintenance is also included, which is now funded directly by central government – information about which is not accessible from a local level.

Other resources:

It is impossible to ascertain precisely the expenditure by private individuals on maintenance of the World Heritage site and the buffer zone. It should be clear, however, that this will also amount to a considerable sum. It can be inferred from the building permits granted in 2007,¹⁹⁰ that this sum is equivalent to approximately €10 million, a sum which does not include expenditure on everyday maintenance. Extrapolation from a national survey by Statistics Netherlands (*Centraal Bureau voor Statistiek*, CBS) produces a total sum of approximately €140 million spent on maintenance in Central Amsterdam. The combined sum

¹⁹⁰ The administration fees charged to the construction permit applicant are related to the total cost of the intended construction, making it possible to derive the total cost.

is, therefore, €150 million for private households. Business-related maintenance and investment is not included in this calculation.

Other sources of financing include 'private' funds and European resources; to the extent that they are included in the accounting of the main parties, they are also included in the summary tables. There is also a flow of resources paid out directly to owners of built heritage by, among others:

Postcode Lottery

VSB Fund

Prince Bernard Cultural Fund

These sums are not included in the preceding summaries.

CHAPTER 8: MONITORING

8.1 Monitoring

8.1.1 Introduction

Once every six years, World Heritage sites are subjected to a periodic reporting ('monitoring') by means of a questionnaire developed for that purpose. Under exceptional circumstances, when questions arise regarding a specific World Heritage site, 'reactive monitoring', initiated by the World Heritage Committee, may also take place. Therefore it is necessary that the *property manager*, on a yearly basis, monitors a set of indicators with which to oversee the 'state of conservation – the condition' of the *property*, Amsterdam's '17th-century ring of canals within the Singelgracht canal' and the adjoining buffer zone. A number of 'key indicators' is included in the Operational Guidelines (2008), 'Format for the nomination of properties for inscription on the World Heritage List, Annex 5, 6.a (Key indicators for monitoring state of conservation)'.

8.1.2 Monitoring and UNESCO

In the *Operational Guidelines* (2008), section 169 – 176 and section 199 – 210, UNESCO has provided instructions regarding systematic monitoring and reporting – the continuous process of monitoring the condition of the World Heritage Site by means of periodic reports concerning the state of conservation.

The objectives of the systematic monitoring, observation and reporting are:

- World Heritage site: Improvement of *site* management, long-term planning, prevention of potential emergency measures and ad-hoc interventions and reduction of cost through preventive conservation.
- States party: Improvement of World Heritage Site management, long-term planning, improvement of *site* management and preventive conservation.
- Region: Regional cooperation, regional World Heritage site policy and activities aimed at specific regional issues.
- World Heritage Site Committee/Secretariat: To provide better insight into the conditions of the World Heritage sites and the issues of the *sites* on a regional and national level. Improvement of management and decision-making.

As an integral part of the daily maintenance and management of the *sites*, the states party are ultimately responsible for arranging monitoring appointments. To this end, the states party work together closely with the *site* manager of the administrative authority, who annually reviews the condition of the *site*.

Every six years, the states party are requested to file a report with the World Heritage Committee regarding the conservation status of the World Heritage sites on their territories based on the questionnaire designed by this committee.

8.1.3 Preservation and management according to the Operational Guidelines (2008)

All sites on the *World Heritage List* must have at their disposal adequate laws, regulations and documented conservation management for the long term as well as a documented and functioning management plan/procedure.

Protection and management must safeguard the site's Outstanding Universal Value and its integrity and authenticity. The territorial boundaries of what will be preserved and maintained as World Heritage Site have been accurately indicated on a map.

Periodic Reporting

Since 1999, once every six years a periodic report about the World Heritage site is prepared for the *World Heritage Committee*. The *Operational Guidelines* provide instructions (section 199 – 210) and a form (Appendix 7) for this. The Committee devises a 'questionnaire' for each cycle.

A specific regional rotational schedule is adhered to. Via cycles determined in 1998, the European and North-American World Heritage sites rotated to the top of the schedule during the period of June 2003 through July 2006. In 2012 the European and North-American World Heritage sites will again rotate to the top of the schedule; debate regarding outcomes takes place in 2014 during the 38th conference of the World Heritage Committee. The ICOMOS and IUCN, as non-governmental organisations (NGO's), make recommendations to the committee based on the outcomes of the conference.

Periodic reporting pertains to legal, managerial as well as other measures taken to satisfy the requirements of the *World Heritage Convention*. Besides questions about such items as the development of the surroundings, public participation, and provision of staff for the World Heritage site in question, reporting is also aimed at determining the status of conservation of the properties on the World Heritage List.

Reactive Monitoring (*Operational Guidelines*, par. 169-176)

Questions about the condition of a specific World Heritage site can trigger a so-called reactive monitoring report to the committee; for example in case of some form of threat, in case of exceptional circumstances, or if there is a question of possible placement of a World Heritage site on the List of World Heritage in Danger (section 169).

The *Operational Guidelines* provide regulations for this purpose (section 169 – 176). The initiative can originate from the Secretariat of the World Heritage Committee or the World Heritage Centre. However, other UNESCO-organisations or advisory bodies such as ICOMOS and IUCN can resort to reactive monitoring as well.

The impetus can involve natural threat, armed conflicts, neglect, deterioration, etc.

The NGOs provide the reports with recommendations. Section 176 specifies how the committee arrives at its conclusions; possibly deciding that further action is unnecessary, summoning the state party to take measures, or deciding to place the World Heritage site on the List of World Heritage in Danger and thus arrest further threats and allow for adequate measures. A final option is that this process can lead to removal from the World Heritage List if the committee is of the opinion that the outstanding universal value is no longer present.

Systematic monitoring

Monitoring is the systematic analysis of the state of affairs through the use of quantifiable indicators.

Key point 59:

As property manager, the Central Amsterdam District will work out a monitoring matrix in which the most important indicators for systematic monitoring are included (based on the specific 'key indicators' and further explanation found in appendix 5 of the Operational Guidelines, section 6.a) and which provides insight into how information should be interpreted, clarified and utilised. Besides the indicators, the matrix will specify where to find information pertaining to each indicator. The monitoring matrix, as determined by the property manager, will be added to the proposed nomination dossier.

Key point 60:

As property manager, the Central Amsterdam District is the primary entity responsible for the further development and implementation of the systematic monitoring strategy and will set up an action plan and its implementation schedule. Included are which internal, staff and/or financial contributions will be regularly provided by the services and organisations described in the monitoring matrix (action plan and implementation scheduling will be added to the proposed nomination dossier).

8.1.4 Existing monitors, indicators and sources of information

Central Amsterdam District Quantifiable Policy Programme 2006-2010

Municipal law (article 213 A) states that the district council, and/or executive committee, must periodically investigate the efficiency and effectiveness of the implemented administrative policies of the district council and/or executive committee.

To allow Central Amsterdam to measure the planned programmes (products, activities and funds) of the *Policy Programme 2006-2010*, effect indicators have been established to gauge the societal effects of a programme, and outcome indicators to gauge agreed-to outcomes. An effect indicator is a piece of information that is used to gauge the societal effect and to monitor its attainment according to indicators and/or measurements. An outcome indicator is a piece of information that is used to establish an agreed-to outcome and to monitor its attainment according to indicators and/or measurements.

These effect and outcome indicators are included (for the first time) in the *Central Amsterdam District Quantifiable Policy Programme 2006-2010*. The indicators were selected prior to drawing up the Quantifiable Policy Programme. During the administrative period 2006-2010 the district monitors the indicators through the use of the 'planning and control cycle' and thus examines not only the implementation but also the efficacy of the selected indicators and of the assessment process itself.

Those indicators in the *Quantifiable Policy Programme 2006-2010* which are important for the conservation and safe-guarding of the outstanding universal value of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' and the surrounding buffer zone are listed in section 4.2 of the management plan, '*Property manager: authority and responsibilities*'.

The *property manager* also uses the monitoring and control of these indicators for the systematic monitoring of the *site* on behalf of the *World Heritage Committee* of UNESCO.

Annual Report/Annual Reconciliation and Programme Budget

In the Programme Budget and/or Annual Plan, the Central Amsterdam District as well as the City of Amsterdam outlines its annual ambitions, objectives and measures in 'programmes' for various policy subjects. The objectives and procedures are determined by effect indicators and outcome indicators.

In the Annual Report and/or the Annual Accounts, the City of Amsterdam and/or the Central Amsterdam District, review the indicators which they have selected during development of their Annual Plan and/or Programme Budget. The overview of indicators and resulting outcomes are also included in this annual financial reconciliation thus allowing the relationship between accomplishments and proposed expenditures (the management) to be monitored. The indicators that have been selected for the various 'programmes' in the Annual Plan/Programme Budget and Annual Report/Annual Reconciliation are also to be used by the *property manager* for the systematic monitoring of the *site* on behalf of the *World Heritage Committee* of UNESCO.

Department of Research and Statistics (O+S)¹⁹¹

- Directional function administrative information source
As a source of relevant policy information the Department of Research and Statistics (O+S) supports the administrative process of the City of Amsterdam. The department's directional function is to be a source of administrative information and to facilitate the planning and control cycle of the City of Amsterdam.
- Baseline set of measurement indicators
The Department of Research and Statistics utilises a baseline set of measurement indicators, which are used to prepare new programme budgets.
- Statstat
Via the website Statstat, the department displays the indicators and the key figures, allowing interested parties to monitor the policy objectives of the district council. Statstat can be consulted online: www.statstat.osamsterdam.nl.
- Key figures Amsterdam / key figures districts
The publications *Key Figures Amsterdam 2008: Districts*, *Key Figures Amsterdam 2008* and *Amsterdam in Figures 2007: City Region Amsterdam* are issued annually by the Department of Research and Statistics. These publications show the statistical information for Amsterdam, its 14 districts and its 97 neighbourhoods for each year. All information can also be viewed or downloaded via website www.os.amsterdam.nl.
- Research database
Via its research database, the department maintains a digital library of all the leading research reports on the subject of Amsterdam and the rest of the Netherlands. In addition, the research database includes links to the most important information resources of a variety of research subjects. The research database can be consulted via www.os.amsterdam.nl/onlineproducten/onderzoeksbank.
- Publication overview
The department provides an overview of the publications it releases, most of which can be consulted online. The publication overview can be found here: www.os.amsterdam.nl.

¹⁹¹ Annual Report City of Amsterdam 2007, page 220

ATCB - statistics

To develop the markets for tourism and conventions, the Amsterdam Tourism & Convention Board (ATCB) makes use of several research tools.

- Factsheets
Part of the market research information is accessible to interested parties via factsheets on this website: www.atcb.nl.
- Research Database Visitors Research
Every four years, ATCB conducts a large-scale visitors research study of 4000 visitors to Amsterdam www.atcb.nl.
- Research MICE Market
ATCB develops research for the MICE market (Meetings, Incentives, Conventions, and Events) via www.atcb.nl.
- Museum- and Attraction Monitor
Every year the ATCB presents figures for visitors flow to Amsterdam's almost 40 museums and to its most important attractions. Twice annually, ATCB also asks the tourism industry, via www.atcb.nl, how tourism is progressing over the course of the year.

Trend Report Amsterdam City Centre

Every two years, the Central Amsterdam District compiles the *Trend Report Amsterdam City Centre*. The report reviews the development of the city centre in combination with the conservation of the basic values specified in the long term *Strategic Vision Amsterdam City Centre* (2002). Furthermore, the Trend Report identifies noticeable trends that may demand extra attention in the coming years and makes appropriate recommendations. The report appears every two years and, among other things, highlights the development on the subject of monuments and the city centre. The Trend report can be downloaded from the website www.centrum.amsterdam.nl – Publications – Annual Reports – Trend Report.

The district views the Trend Report as a barometer and discusses the report during all council assemblies.

Internal Administrative and Management Reports

Reporting on subjects such as administration and management, yearly planning and implementation plans, is done on a regular basis within the civil services and sectors of the City of Amsterdam and its districts.

Inspections/Investigation sector Public Space Central Amsterdam District

All activities pertaining to the maintenance of the public space (roads, green space, water works provisions), as well as the results of the maintenance investigations, are discussed in the *Full Implementation Plan (Uitvoeringsplan Heel)*, issued annually by the Public Space Realisation department (Realisatie Openbare Ruimte) of the Public Space Sector of the Central Amsterdam District. The *Full Implementation Plan* is an internal document, the contents of which are incorporated in the Annual Report and Annual Accounts of the Central Amsterdam District.

Research on Living in Amsterdam

- *Living in Amsterdam*

The biennial research report *Living in Amsterdam*, by the Amsterdam City Housing Department, provides information by city district about the housing supply and residents' characteristics. The research can be found on the website www.wonen.amsterdam.nl – Policy and Research.

- *Yearbook Amsterdam Federation of Housing Corporations.*

This yearbook includes figures pertaining to the composition of the housing supply of the housing corporations, see: www.afwc.nl.

Research Construction and Housing Department Central Amsterdam District

- *Administrative Annual Report Buildings Aesthetics*

This annual report evaluates the recommendations that Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency (Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten) has made to the Central Amsterdam District on such subjects as light construction requests, conservation, façade advertisement, building aesthetics criteria for major projects, monument permits/renovation plans, computerising the Policy Document on Buildings Aesthetics and deviations from the recommendations of the Buildings Aesthetics Agency by the municipal executive. The Annual Report can be downloaded from:

<http://www.bestuur.centrum.amsterdam.nl/smartsite.shtml?id=17599&ch=DEF>

- *Quality Monitor Buildings in the Central Amsterdam District*

Building by building, the *Quality Monitor* lists information about the status of the structure and its foundations. This monitor is constantly updated by the district's outdoor service of the Construction and Housing Department (every intervention is electronically registered via electronic security). The monitor can only be consulted in-house.

- *Research into Conservation Areas*

At the end of 2007 (as part of the framework effect indicators of the *Quantifiable Policy Programme 2006-2010* for ratings of built heritage and conservation areas), a baseline measurement was established by means of questionnaires/opinion surveys among the residents of the city centre, conducted by the Department of Research and Statistics. This assessment will be repeated at the end of 2009. The report for 2007 has been drawn up by the executive committee as of January 8, 2008, and is not available via the internet. Results have been included in the mid-term review of the *Policy Programme 2006-2010*.

Registration by the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA)

- *Registration Preserved Built Heritage*

In the database AMIS (Amsterdam Monuments Information System), the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) maintains records of the municipal, provincial and national built heritage and conservation areas located in the districts within the municipality of Amsterdam. By keying a street name and house number into AMIS, interested parties can see whether a building is on the Municipal Monuments List. Additional information at the building level is not available to private citizens.

The bureau also registers the designations of, and designation procedures for, new conservation objects and adds those to the Municipal Monuments List.

Built Heritage descriptions

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) conducts architectural and historical building research and draws up descriptions and evaluation guidelines for judging building requests. In these cases the exterior as well as the interior is described. In addition, so-called justification descriptions are drawn up for placement of the objects on the Municipal Monuments List. Thus, 914 clear and focused monument descriptions of historical buildings in the centre city have recently been compiled for designation as municipal monument as part of framework Municipal Monument Project (GMP). Monument descriptions are continuously expanded whenever a monument permit is requested

Advice Spatial Projects

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) provides a variety of counsel and guidance to the centre city, the districts and the Buildings Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency, such as advice regarding municipal benchmark and advice team (via procedure Plaberum, see section 5.1.4) zoning plan advice, spatial projects advice, and cultural/historical investigations.

Key point 61:

The Central Amsterdam District, as property manager, and the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA), as Amsterdam's knowledge centre for built heritage, provide, together with Amsterdam's World Heritage Office and via the official website of the World Heritage site, 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals' (annex 5, Operational Guidelines), an effective overview of the relevant websites and sources of information where information (statistical, geographical, legal and administrative) can be obtained about regulations, registrations, research and reports pertaining to monuments in the Central Amsterdam District, about conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal', and, after inscription, concerning the World Heritage site 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals'.

Annual programmes, annual reviews and monitors

Various organisations annually publish programmes, reviews or monitors, where indicators can be found, which will be used in systematic monitoring of the World Heritage site, such as:

- Annual programmes subsidising maintenance of national conservation areas (framework BRIM) (via RACM)
- Annual programmes subsidising restoration of national conservation areas (framework BRIM) (via RACM)
- Annual review of performed repairs/restorations of municipal and national conservation areas (via BMA)
- Annual review of subsidies for the preservation of municipal monuments.
- Annual review of performed repairs/restorations of municipal and national conservation areas.
- Annual programme City Renovation + Financing
- Annual programme 'public space' and financing
- Annual renovation programme Stadsherstel Amsterdam N.V.
- Annual renovation programme Hendrick de Keyser Society
- Annual renovation programmes housing corporations, investment companies, etc.
- Revision zoning plans for 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'
- Annual number of releases (art. 19-procedure)

- Annual analysis of zoning plan recommendations made by the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency
- Monitoring of Hotel rooms centre city (biennial). Central Amsterdam District
- Annual monitoring of efficacy policy document on building aesthetics (see page 17 document on buildings aesthetics 2006, Central Amsterdam District); (legal requirement)

Annually the *property manager* requests or compiles an overview of:

- Annual overview of renovation activities of public space within the '17th-century ring of canals'
- Annual overview of spatial, economic, social-cultural changes within the *property* ('17th-century ring of canals')
- Annual analysis of spatial developments in the buffer zone within 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'; what influence (positive/negative) does this exert on preserving the *outstanding universal value* of the *property*
- Educational programmes/activities
- Nature/extent of 'corrective measures' on behalf of preserving the *outstanding universal value* of the *property*
- Present-day supervision stakeholders

8.1.5 Monitoring matrix

Subject	Indicator	Source
OUV	Criteria for inscription on World Heritage List still valid?	OCW/RACM
	Expanded /new criteria required?	ditto
	Have there been changes to conditions OUV?	ditto
	Cause for drawing up 'state of conservation' report?	ditto
Authenticity & Integrity	Evaluation statements of A&I	ditto
	Number of participants restoration technique class BMA	BMA
Management	Regular evaluation of the management plan	SDC
	Activities of <i>property manager</i>	SDC
	Activities in cooperation with jointly responsible authorities and stakeholders	
	Number of consultations with steering committee, platform	
Urban planning	Evaluation efficacy of <i>property designation</i> : implementation of management and directives	SDC and City of Amsterdam
	Evaluation functioning of buffer zone regarding the benefit of the <i>property</i> : implementation of management and directives	SDC and City of Amsterdam
	Evaluation of <i>property</i> preservation in conservation area: implementation of management and directives	SDC
	Evaluation of <i>property</i> conservation with reference to structural concept: implementation of management and directives	City of Amsterdam
	Evaluation of <i>property</i> conservation with reference to zoning plans	SDC
	Evaluation of <i>property</i> conservation with reference to high-rise policy: implementation of management and directives	City of Amsterdam
	Evaluation of <i>property</i> conservation in object/complex conservation: implementation of management and directives	SDC

	Implementation urban renewal	SDC
	Public space: street-lighting	SDC
	Noise exposure Air quality	SDC
	MER-reports Visual Impact studies Terrace policy	DMB SDC

Subject	Indicator	Source	
Monuments (above and below ground level)	Modifications to built heritage register and Municipal Monument List	BMA SDC	
	Number and type of granted monument permits	SDC	
	Number of demolition permits	SDC	
	Number enforcement cases of construction without permit	SDC	
	Number of summonses	SDC	
	Number of notifications to Public Prosecutor CHER: implemented Cultural Historical Effect reports Publication(policy) BMA	SDC BMA	
Canals/water	Water level	Water net	
	Houseboats Bridges Water transport	SDC	
	Relevant factors/threats	High-rise: number of projects and construction height, application of <i>visual impact study</i>	City of Amsterdam
		Hotel/restaurant/café(HORECA): number of horeca facilities	SDC
		Terraces: Number of terraces	SDC
		Hotels: number of hotels, hotel beds and overnight stays per year	SDC & EZ
		Parking and traffic: traffic volume and number of car parks	SDC
		Façade advertisement: number and duration of permits	SDC
		Water: 'vibration damage' from wall repair	SDC
		Green space: Principal green space composition, number of classic trees, traditional gardens (<i>keurtuinen</i>), planting along the canals, street gardens (<i>geveltuinen</i>)	SDC
		Metropolitan projects: number, type and location; criteria of buildings aesthetics	City of Amsterdam
		Other developments/urban projects: for instance reconstructions	SDC
	Information, education, tourism	Educational material, activities and programmes	EZ and SDC
Number of tourists and appreciation of <i>site</i>		EZ and SDC	
Number of events within the ring of canals		EZ and SDC	
Carry out scientific research		BMA, UvA, VU	
Information and promotional material		ATCB	
	Number of hits website World Heritage Site Ring of Canals	P.M.	

	Number of tours through the ring of canals	ATCB
Fiscal matters	Annual budgeting of maintenance, repair and restoration of <i>property</i> and buffer zone	SDC
	Number of loans granted from the Amsterdam Restoration Fund	BMA

In the monitoring plan the indicators still have to be completed and/or tightened. The *property manager* supplies the sources.

8.1.6 Indicators from sections management plan

6.6 Tourism, visitor figures, (indicator) (outcome):

- Increase repeat visits (measure – baseline measurement by ATCB autumn 2007)
- Increase average stay (measure – average Amsterdam; 1.9 night per visit)
- Open hours museums and cultural institutions (extended from current open hours)
- Marketing plan East Centre (Marketing plan)
- Plan development Chinatown (Concept and approach)

5.1.2 Programme Built Heritage (from Policy Programme 2006-2010 and Annual reconciliation 2007 Central Amsterdam District) quantifiable outcome accords:

- Number of buildings inscribed on Municipal Monuments List (rounded to 914 buildings in 2007)
- Number of enforcement cases construction without permit
- Number of summons, active and implicit
- Number of notifications to Public Prosecutor

NB These four indicators are included in the drawing up of the nomination format, 6a, 'Key indicators for measuring state of conservation'. (This means that their effects will reach beyond the programme's time frame and will then have to be included in future programmes).

Chapter 9: Management Plan Procedure

9.1 Introduction

Chapter 9 contains a description of the procedure to define and, in time, to implement the management plan.

9.2 Management plan procedure and UNESCO

Discussion, approval and endorsement of the management plan

The municipal executive (or 'College of Mayor and Aldermen') and the executive committee of the Central Amsterdam District will define the management plan and the associated operational plan and action plan.

After definition of the conceptual management plan, and before the Minister of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) presents the nomination to the Cabinet, the covenant between the Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam regarding the implementation of the *siteliness* will be signed and subsequently added to the plan.

After definition of the conceptual management plan and before the Minister of Education, Culture and Science presents the nomination to the Cabinet, the covenant regarding the protection and maintenance of the *outstanding universal value* and the authenticity and integrity of the *property* as World Heritage Site, between the *shareholders* (Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam, the Province of Noord-Holland and the Amstel, Gooi and Vechten (AGV) Water Board) will be signed and subsequently added to the management plan.

After the definition of the conceptual management plan and before the Minister of Education, Culture and Science presents the nomination to the Cabinet, the Declaration of Intent will be signed by the important *stakeholders* and subsequently added to the plan.

Before the nomination is presented to the Cabinet by the Minister of Education, Culture and Science, the finalised management plan will be added to the nomination dossier upon receipt by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science through intervention by the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage.

Revision of the management plan

The World Heritage Office (*Bureau Werelderfgoed*) will see to the implementation of the management plan and the annual action plans. The World Heritage Steering Committee (*Stuurgroep Werelderfgoed*) approves the action plans of the World Heritage Office. Whenever necessary, the World Heritage Office implements the management plan and the steering committee approves the implemented version.

Implemented versions are brought to the attention of the *World Heritage Committee* through the mediation of the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage.

Changes in the *property* and notification of the *World Heritage Committee*

In accordance with the regulations of UNESCO (par. 163-167, *Operational Guidelines*) and through the intervention of the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage, and of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, the *site holder* will immediately notify the *World Heritage Committee* of modifications to the *property* such as small or large adaptations to the boundaries, modification of the criteria on which the nomination is based, or modification of the name of the *property*.

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City of Amsterdam

**'17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within
the Singelgracht'**

Appendix (part 2)

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Appendix 1

Covenant between Property Manager and City Executive

Covenant between Property Manager and City Executive

Covenant

Between the City of Amsterdam's City Executive and the Central Amsterdam District concerning the protection and maintenance of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as intended future UNESCO World Heritage Site

The undersigned (the parties)

1. The City of Amsterdam's city executive, represented in this matter by the Mayor of Amsterdam, Mr. M.J. Cohen;
2. The management board of the Central Amsterdam District, represented in this matter by the chair of the executive committee, Ms. E.H.M. Iping;

whereas:

- both parties shall bear joint responsibility for the protection and maintenance of 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals' to be nominated by the Kingdom of the Netherlands as World Heritage Site for the current and future generations of residents of, users of and visitors to Amsterdam;

designate the following as the basis for this covenant:

- The World Heritage Convention (UNESCO 1972);
- The Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention (January 2008);
- The International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (Venice 1964);
- The Charter on the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas (Washington 1987);
- The Nara Document on Authenticity (Nara 1994);
- The Vienna Memorandum on World Heritage and Contemporary Architecture - Managing the Historic Urban Landscape (Vienna 2005);
- The European Convention of the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage, Treaty of Malta (Valletta 1992);
- The nomination file submitted to the World Heritage Committee by the Kingdom of the Netherlands for the inclusion of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' on the UNESCO World Heritage Sites list (2008-2009);
- The Statement of Outstanding Value, compiled by the World Heritage Committee;
- The Districts bylaw, most recently amended by decree on 19 March 2008 no. 43/85;
- The covenant concerning monuments and archaeology between the Central

Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam's city executive, 14 October 2008;

- The area document drawn up in connection with the nomination of 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals' as a UNESCO World Heritage Site (June 2007);
- The management plan drawn up in connection with the nomination of 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals' as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, adopted by decrees of the College of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Amsterdam and the executive committee of the Central Amsterdam District on 9 September 2008;

Thus agree as follows:

1. That their policy and the associated measures for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' are based on the applicable international treaties, charters and resolutions that relate to UNESCO World Heritage Sites, intended to protect and maintain sites of cultural and natural importance for the history of humankind;
2. That they will use the nomination file, which includes the management plan and the area document, as the basis for agreements about the management, protection and maintenance of the outstanding universal value of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' to be nominated as World Heritage Site;
3. That, after the inclusion of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' in the list of World Heritage Sites ('the property'), they will jointly bear responsibility for maintaining the intent and meaning of the *Statement of Outstanding Universal Value* for the property established by the World Heritage Committee, and the applicable criteria for the assessment of outstanding universal value, attributes of authenticity and conditions of integrity;
4. That they will support this goal of sustainable and future-oriented use of the World Heritage Site to be nominated by means of the establishment of an Amsterdam World Heritage Office as the central contact point for all stakeholders, involved parties and interested parties. This office will be responsible for the coordination of communication at a municipal, national and international level, as well as for the performance of a six-year monitoring cycle as determined by the World Heritage Committee.
5. That they will keep records and submit this information to the World Heritage Office for this six-year monitoring cycle.
6. That the Central Amsterdam District, as day-to-day manager of the conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal' will function as property manager of the World Heritage Site to be nominated.

Amsterdam, dated 28 October 2008

The management board of the
Central Amsterdam district

The City of Amsterdam's city
executive

[signature]

[signature]

E.H.M. Iping
Chair of the executive committee

M.J. Cohen
Mayor



Gemeente Amsterdam



Gemeente Amsterdam
Stadsdeel Centrum

Convenant

tussen het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam en stadsdeel Centrum over het beschermen en in stand houden van 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

De ondertekenden (partijen)

1. Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam, te dezen vertegenwoordigd door de burgemeester van Amsterdam, de heer mr. M.J. Cohen;
2. Het bestuur van het stadsdeel Centrum, te dezen vertegenwoordigd door de voorzitter van het dagelijks bestuur, mevrouw E.H.M. Iping;

nemen het volgende in aanmerking:

- dat beide partijen gezamenlijk verantwoordelijk zullen zijn voor het beschermen en het in stand houden van het door het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden te nomineren Werelderfgoed 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' ten behoeve van de huidige en toekomstige generaties bewoners, gebruikers en bezoekers van Amsterdam;

leggen aan dit convenant ten grondslag:

- *The World Heritage Convention* (UNESCO 1972);
- *The Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention (January 2008)*;
- *The International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (Venice 1964)*;
- *The Charter on the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas (Washington 1987)*;
- *The Nara Document on Authenticity (Nara 1994)*;
- *The Vienna Memorandum on World Heritage and Contemporary Architecture – Managing the Historic Urban Landscape (Vienna 2005)*;
- *The European Convention of the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage*, Verdrag van Malta (Valletta 1992);
- Het door het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden bij het *World Heritage Committee* ingediende nominatiedossier voor opname op de Lijst van het Werelderfgoed van UNESCO van 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' (2008-2009);
- *The Statement of Outstanding Value*, vastgesteld door *The World Heritage Committee*;
- De Verordening op de stadsdelen, laatstelijk gewijzigd bij besluit van 19 maart 2008 nr. 43/85;
- Het Convenant op het gebied van monumenten en archeologie tussen stadsdeel Centrum en het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam 14 oktober 2008;
- Het Gebiedsdocument opgesteld in verband met de nominatie van 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als Werelderfgoed van UNESCO (juni 2007);
- Het Managementplan opgesteld in verband met de nominatie van 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als Werelderfgoed van UNESCO, vastgesteld bij besluiten van het College van Burgemeester en Wethouders van Amsterdam en het dagelijks bestuur van stadsdeel Centrum van 9 september 2008;



Gemeente Amsterdam



Gemeente Amsterdam
Stadsdeel Centrum

komen het volgende overeen:

1. dat zij bij hun beleid en daarmee samenhangende maatregelen voor 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' uitgaan van de Internationaal geldende verdragen, charters en resoluties die betrekking hebben op het Werelderfgoed van UNESCO, bedoeld ter bescherming en instandhouding van cultureel en natuurlijk erfgoed van betekenis voor de geschiedenis van de mensheid;
2. dat zij het nominatiedossier, waarvan het Managementplan en het Gebiedsdocument deel uitmaken, als leidraad gebruiken bij afspraken over het beheren, beschermen en in stand houden van de uitzonderlijke universele waarden (*Outstanding Universal Value*) van het te nomineren Werelderfgoed 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam'.
3. dat zij na opname op de Lijst van het Werelderfgoed van "De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam" (*property*) er gezamenlijk zorg voor zullen dragen dat de door het *World Heritage Committee* voor de *property* vastgestelde *Statement of Outstanding Universal Value*, de door deze van toepassing verklaarde *Criteria for the assessment of Outstanding Universal Value*, *attributes of authenticity* en *conditions of integrity*, hun betekenis blijvend zullen behouden
4. dat zij met dit doel een duurzaam en toekomstgericht gebruik van het te nomineren Werelderfgoed zullen bevorderen door middel van het oprichten van een Bureau Werelderfgoed Amsterdam als centraal aanspreekpunt voor alle belanghebbenden, betrokkenen en geïnteresseerden. Dit bureau is naast de zorg voor de coördinatie van de communicatie op stedelijk, nationaal en internationaal niveau verantwoordelijk voor de uitvoering van zesjarige *monitoring* cyclus zoals bepaald door het *World Heritage Committee*.
5. dat zij gegevens bijhouden en verstrekken aan het Bureau Werelderfgoed voor deze zesjarige *monitoring* cyclus.
6. dat stadsdeel Centrum als dagelijks beheerder van het beschermde stadsgezicht "Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht" optreedt als *sitholder* van het te nomineren Werelderfgoed.

Amsterdam, datum 28 oktober 2008

Het bestuur van het stadsdeel Centrum

E.H.M. Iping
Voorzitter dagelijks bestuur stadsdeel Centrum

Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam

mr M.J. Cohen
burgemeester

Appendix 2

Covenant between Shareholders

Covenant between Shareholders

Covenant

Between the City of Amsterdam's City Executive, Central Amsterdam District and the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board concerning the protection and maintenance of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as intended future UNESCO World Heritage Site

The undersigned (the parties)

1. The City of Amsterdam's city executive, represented in this matter by the Mayor of Amsterdam, Mr. M.J. Cohen;
2. The management board of the Central Amsterdam District, represented in this matter by the chair of the executive committee, Ms. E.H.M. Iping;
3. The management of the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board, represented in this matter by the dike warden, Mr. J. de Bondt;

whereas:

as the competent authorities, the parties shall bear joint responsibility for the protection and maintenance of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' to be nominated by the Kingdom of the Netherlands as World Heritage Site for the current and future generations of residents of, users of and visitors to Amsterdam;

designate the following as the basis for this covenant:

- The World Heritage Convention (UNESCO 1972);
- The Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention (January 2008);
- The International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (Venice 1964);
- The Charter on the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas (Washington 1987);
- The Nara Document on Authenticity (Nara 1994);
- The Vienna Memorandum on World Heritage and Contemporary Architecture - Managing the Historic Urban Landscape (Vienna 2005);
- The European Convention of the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage, Treaty of Malta (Valletta 1992);
- The Statement of Outstanding Value, compiled by the World Heritage Committee;
- The Districts bylaw, most recently amended by decree on 19 March 2008 no. 43/85;
- The area document drawn up in connection with the nomination of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as a UNESCO World Heritage Site (June 2007);

- The management plan drawn up in connection with the nomination of ‘17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht’ as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, adopted by decrees of the College of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Amsterdam and the executive committee of the Central Amsterdam District on 9 September 2008;

Thus agree as follows:

1. That their policy and the associated measures for ‘17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht’ are based on the applicable international treaties, charters and resolutions that relate to UNESCO World Heritage Sites, intended to protect and maintain sites of cultural and natural importance for the history of humankind;
2. That they will use the nomination file, which includes the management plan and the area document, as the basis for agreements about the management, protection and maintenance of the outstanding universal value of ‘17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht’ to be nominated as World Heritage Site;
3. That, after the inclusion of ‘17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht’ in the list of World Heritage Sites (‘the property’), they will jointly bear responsibility for maintaining the intent and meaning of the *Statement of Outstanding Universal Value* for the property established by the World Heritage Committee, and the applicable criteria for the assessment of outstanding universal value, attributes of authenticity and conditions of integrity;
4. That they will support this goal of sustainable and future-oriented use of the World Heritage Site to be nominated by means of policy, regulations and knowledge transfer;
5. That they will focus on maintaining the cultural and historic values in the management of the water/groundwater in the World Heritage Site to be nominated;
6. That, if desired, they will keep records and submit this information to the World Heritage Office for the six-year monitoring cycle that is required in the context of the UNESCO nomination;
7. That they, due in part to the recognition of and familiarity with the ring of canals as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, will work to promote what is included in the communication plan for the World Heritage Site to be nominated.

Amsterdam, dated 28 October 2008

The management board of the Central
Amsterdam district

The City of Amsterdam's city executive

[signature]

E.H.M. Iping
Chair of the executive committee

[signature]

M.J. Cohen
Mayor

The management of the Amstel, Gooi
and Vecht Water Board

[signature]

J. de Bondt
Dike Warden



Gemeente Amsterdam



Gemeente Amsterdam
Stadsdeel Centrum



Convenant

tussen het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam, stadsdeel Centrum en het Hoogheemraadschap Amstel, Gooi en Vecht over het beschermen en in stand houden van 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

De ondergetekenden (partijen)

1. Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam, te dezen vertegenwoordigd door de burgemeester van Amsterdam, de heer mr. M.J. Cohan;
2. Het bestuur van het stadsdeel Centrum, te dezen vertegenwoordigd door de voorzitter van het dagelijks bestuur, mevrouw E.H.M. Iping;
3. Het bestuur van het Hoogheemraadschap Amstel, Gooi en Vecht, te dezen vertegenwoordigd door de dijkgraaf de heer J. de Bondt;

nemen het volgende in aanmerking:

- dat partijen als bevoegd gezag gezamenlijk verantwoordelijk zijn voor het beschermen en in stand houden van het door het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden te nomineren Werelderfgoed 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' ten behoeve van de huidige en toekomstige generaties bewoners, gebruikers en bezoekers van Amsterdam;

leggen aan dit convenant ten grondslag:

- *The World Heritage Convention* (UNESCO 1972);
- *The Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* (January 2008);
- *The International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites* (Venice 1964);
- *The Charter on the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas* (Washington 1987);
- *The Nara Document on Authenticity* (Nara 1994);
- *The Vienna Memorandum on World Heritage and Contemporary Architecture – Managing the Historic Urban Landscape* (Vienna 2005);
- *The European Convention of the Protection of the Archeological Heritage*, Verdrag van Malta (Valletta 1992);
- *The Statement of Outstanding Value*, vastgesteld door *The World Heritage Committee*;
- De Verordening op de stadsdelen, laatstelijk gewijzigd bij besluit van 19 maart 2008 nr. 43/85;
- Het Gebiedsdocument opgesteld in verband met de nominatie van "De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam" als Werelderfgoed van UNESCO (juni 2007);
- Het Managementplan voor het beoogde werelderfgoed 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam', vastgesteld bij besluiten van het College van Burgemeester en Wethouders van Amsterdam en het dagelijks bestuur van stadsdeel Centrum van 9 september 2008;

komen het volgende overeen:

1. dat zij bij hun beleid en daarmee samenhangende maatregelen voor 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' uitgaan van de internationaal geldende verdragen, charters en resoluties die betrekking hebben op het Werelderfgoed van UNESCO, bedoeld ter bescherming en instandhouding van cultureel en natuurlijk erfgoed van betekenis voor de geschiedenis van de mensheid;



Gemeente Amsterdam



Gemeente Amsterdam
Stadsdeel Centrum



2. dat zij het nominatiedossier, waarvan het Managementplan en het Gebiedsdocument deel uitmaken, als leidraad gebruiken bij afspraken over het beheren, beschermen en in stand houden van de uitzonderlijke universele waarden (*Outstanding Universal Value*) van het te nomineren Werelderfgoed 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam'.
3. dat zij na opname op de Lijst van het Werelderfgoed van 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' (*property*) er gezamenlijk zorg voor zullen dragen dat de door het *World Heritage Committee* voor de *property* vastgestelde *Statement of Outstanding Universal Value*, de door deze van toepassing verklaarde *Criteria for the assessment of Outstanding Universal Value*, *attributes of authenticity* en *conditions of integrity*, hun betekenis blijvend zullen behouden;
4. dat zij met dit doel een duurzaam en toekomstgericht gebruik van het te nomineren Werelderfgoed zullen bevorderen door middel van beleid, regelgeving en kennisoverdracht;
5. dat zij zich in het beheer van het (grond)water in het te nomineren Werelderfgoed zullen richten op het in stand houden van de cultuurhistorische waarden
6. zij desgewenst gegevens bijhouden en aanleveren aan het Bureau Werelderfgoed voor de zesjaarlijkse *monitoring* die in het kader van de Unesco-aanwijzing vereist is;
7. zij mede de herkenbaarheid van en de bekendheid met de grachtengordel als Unesco Werelderfgoed zullen bevorderen overeenkomstig hetgeen wordt opgenomen in het Communicatieplan voor het te nomineren Werelderfgoed.

Amsterdam, datum 28 oktober 2008

Het bestuur van het stadsdeel Centrum

E.H.M. Iping
voorzitter dagelijks bestuur stadsdeel Centrum

Het bestuur van het Hoogheemraadschap
Amstel, Gooi en Vecht

J. de Bondt
dijkgraaf

Het gemeente bestuur van Amsterdam

mr. M.J. Cohen
burgemeester

Appendix 3

Covenant concerning the conservation of built heritage and archaeology between the Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam's city executive

Covenant concerning the conservation of built heritage and archaeology between the Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam's city executive

The undersigned (the parties)

1. The management board of the Central Amsterdam District, represented in this matter by the sector manager of Building and Living (*Bouwen en Wonen*), Mr. E. Loos, to be referred to hereinafter as "the district";
2. The City of Amsterdam's city executive, represented in this matter by the manager of the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (*Bureau Monumenten en Archeologie*), Ms. E. Agricola;

whereas:

- the powers concerning the conservation of built heritage and archaeology are decentralised, with the exception of three powers, as included in chapter VII of list A of the Districts bylaw (municipal council decree of 10 June 1998, no. 284, last amended by decree on 19 March 2008 no. 43/85;
- that the district exercises the decentralised powers with respect to the conservation of built heritage and archaeology, subject to what is determined in this covenant;
- that there are activities that correspond to the exercising of these powers, for which the knowledge and expertise of the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology is indispensable;
- that advising by and consultation with the Central Amsterdam district are desired for the exercising of the central powers;
- that, for other aspects, the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology functions as a centre of knowledge and expertise on the subject of monument conservation and archaeology for the Central Amsterdam district;
- that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology plays a coordinating role in the city's built heritage and archaeology policy;

designate the following as the basis for this covenant:

- the Districts bylaw, and in particular the municipal council decree dated 10 June 1998, no. 284, amended by decree on 19 March 2008 no.43/85;
- five process descriptions, which set out working method and division of tasks between the Central Amsterdam District and the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology:
 - Process: Protection, dated June 2008;
 - Process: Permits, management and enforcement, dated June 2008;
 - Process: Subsidies and financing, decentralised powers, dated June 2008;
 - Process: Subsidies and financing, central powers, dated June 2008;
 - Process: Archaeology, dated June 2008;
- 'Room for history' (*Ruimte voor geschiedenis*), Policy Document on Monuments and Archaeology in Amsterdam for 2005-2010, adopted by the City Council on 13 April 2005.

Thus agree as follows:

1. To withdraw the covenant on the conservation of built heritage between the Amsterdam City Centre Service (*Dienst Binnenstad Amsterdam*) and the City of Amsterdam's city executive as determined on 17 July 2000;

2. To adopt the following covenant concerning the conservation of built heritage and archaeology between the Central Amsterdam district and the City of Amsterdam's city executive.

Article 1. Protection

- A. The district exercises the decentralised powers, as described in the Process: Protection.
- B. The City of Amsterdam's city executive ensures that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology performs the activities associated with these powers, as set out in the Process: Protection.
- C. The mutual working relationships are taken account of in this situation, as described in the Process: Protection.

Article 2. Permits, management and enforcement

- A. The Central Amsterdam district exercises the decentralised powers, as described in the Process: Permits, management and enforcement.
- B. The City of Amsterdam's city executive ensures that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology performs the activities associated with these powers, as set out in the Process: Permits, management and enforcement.
- C. The mutual working relationships are taken account of in this situation, as described in the Process: Permits, management and enforcement.

Article 3. Subsidies and financing, decentralised powers

- A. The Central Amsterdam district exercises the decentralised powers, as described in the Process: Subsidies and financing, decentralised powers.
- B. The City of Amsterdam's city executive ensures that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology performs the activities associated with these powers, as set out in the Process: Subsidies and financing, decentralised powers.
- C. The mutual working relationships are taken account of in this situation, as described in the Process: Subsidies and financing, decentralised powers.

Article 4. Subsidies and financing, central powers

- A. The City of Amsterdam's city executive ensures that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology performs the tasks arising from the central powers, as described in the Process: Subsidies and financing, central powers.
- B. The mutual working relationships are taken account of in this situation, as described in the Process: Subsidies and financing, central powers.

Article 5. Archaeology

- A. The Central Amsterdam district exercises the decentralised powers, as described in the Process: Archaeology.
- B. The City of Amsterdam's city executive ensures that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology performs the activities associated with these powers, as set out in the Process: Archaeology.
- C. The mutual working relationships are taken account of in this situation, as described in the Process: Archaeology.

- D. The City of Amsterdam's city executive ensures that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology performs the tasks arising from the central powers, as described in the Process: Archaeology.
- E. The mutual working relationships are taken account of in this situation, as described in the Process: Archaeology.

Article 6. Knowledge and expertise centre for monuments and archaeology

- A. The City of Amsterdam's city executive ensures that, for other aspects, the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology serves as a centre of knowledge and expertise with respect to monuments and archaeology for the district. This also means that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology provides official assistance and expert advice about plans and projects in the Central Amsterdam district, in which cultural and historic values play a role.
- B. The City of Amsterdam's city executive ensures that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology functions as a coordination point for the city's built heritage and archaeology policy by means of transferring information and making proposals concerning city-related aspects of the monument and archaeology policy.
- C. The first points of contact for the district are as follows:
- For advice about permits and enforcement, subsidies and financing of restoration or maintenance: the monument advisors assigned to the Central Amsterdam district from the Monuments department;
 - For the other aspects of the monument policy: the area advisor assigned to the district from the Monuments department;
 - For the archaeology policy: the archaeologists from the Archaeology department.

Article 7. Other provisions

- A. The covenant is concluded for an indefinite period.
- B. The covenant will be evaluated two years after the date it was concluded, and the evaluation may result in changes.

Amsterdam, 14 October 2008

On behalf of
the management board of the
Central Amsterdam District,

E. Loos

On behalf of
the City of Amsterdam's city executive,

E. Agricola

Explanation

Introduction

The covenant between the Amsterdam City Centre Service (*Dienst Binnenstad Amsterdam*) and the City of Amsterdam's city executive dated 17 July 2000 was modified as a result of the following developments:

1. Based on the Districts bylaw, the powers concerning conservation of built heritage and archaeology were decentralised, with the exception of three powers. The Central Amsterdam District was established in March 2002. In addition, on 19 March 2008, parts of the District bylaw that were relevant to the policy area were changed. In this covenant, agreements are made concerning the way in which the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology supports the district in the implementation of the tasks associated with the powers.
2. As a result of the consolidation of the Office of Built Heritage Conservation (*Bureau Monumentenzorg*) and the Municipal Archaeological Service (*Gemeentelijke Archeologische dienst*) in 2002, new policy developments at a national and local level, and changes in legislation and regulations, some of the activities that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology performs for the district were changed and expanded.

Several documents serve as the basis for this covenant.

These are as follows:

- a. The Districts bylaw
- b. Five process descriptions
- c. The Policy Document on Monuments and Archaeology in Amsterdam for 2005-2010;

These documents will be further addressed below.

In addition, an explanation will be provided for the articles of this covenant.

Sub a. Districts bylaw

The Districts bylaw indicates in Article 28 that the city council shall transfer all powers of the council and the College of Mayor and Alderman to the district councils and its (executive) committees, respectively. The following powers are not included in this transfer by decree of 10 June 1998, no. 284, amended by decree of 19 March 2008, with respect to the conservation of built heritage and archaeology:

1. The determination of the Subsidy Regulations for monuments and characteristic buildings, as well as the implementation of articles 2, 3 and 17 of these Regulations;
2. The application for and use of the permit stated in article 45 of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act 1988;

Article 45 of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act 1988 concerns the use of the permit that the minister granted on 5 December 2002 to the City of Amsterdam for performing excavations.

The powers referred to in 1 and 2 are reserved for the City of Amsterdam's city executive. The authority to determine the Regulations for the Amsterdam Restoration Fund shall also be included in List A accompanying the Districts bylaw, as soon as the decision is taken to establish this fund.

Sub b. Five process descriptions

Four process descriptions are an update of the four scenarios that were included as appendices to the covenant between the City Centre Service and the Office of Built Heritage Conservation. A process description for archaeology has been added, which sets out the activities that are associated with the decentralised powers and a central authority (the authority to perform excavations). As a result of the implementation of the Valletta Treaty in the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act 1988, new legal requirements entered into force on 1 September 2007 to safeguard and document the 'ground archives' in physical/spatial developments. It should also be noted here that the way in which these powers (in

principle, decentralised) are exercised by the City of Amsterdam is still being determined.

Sub c. Policy Document on Monuments and Archaeology in Amsterdam for 2005-2010

Op 13 April 2005, the city council adopted Room for History, Policy Document on Monuments and Archaeology in Amsterdam for 2005-2010 (*Ruimte voor geschiedenis, beleidsnota Monumenten en Archeologie 2005-2010*). The main themes in this document are as follows:

- A cultural and historic policy for the entire city
- Extra attention for the physical context of monuments and the 'ground archives'
- More intensive cooperation with the city districts
- Attention for systematic maintenance of monuments, which must lead to a limitation of the number of restorations
- Systematic archaeological supervision of physical plans and construction plans
- Additional attention for gathering and transferring knowledge to strengthen the support for culture and history among all Amsterdam residents.

A number of products were made or are being prepared in elaboration of the policy document, such as the creation of a Classification Map for Historic Architectural Value for the medieval city centre of Amsterdam, the identification of new monuments from 1850-1940, the creation of archaeological policy maps, the establishment of an Amsterdam Restoration Fund and the creation and implementation of educational projects.

Explanation of the articles of the covenant

The Articles 1 to 3 and 5 (A to C) relate to the decentralised powers. In accordance with the Districts bylaw, the districts have the authority to exercise these powers.

Articles 1A, 2A, 3A and 5A

The district determines the way in which it exercises the decentralised powers.

Articles 1B, 2B, 3B and 5B

Activities are associated with the exercising of the decentralised powers, for which the knowledge and expertise of the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology are indispensable. In the context of applications for monument permits, for example, an appeal is made to the bureau's expertise to assist in the assessment of the admissibility of the application. In addition, the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology draws up a description of the monument involved and issues its recommendations to the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency about the consequences of the proposed intervention for the monumental values of the building.

Based on the Articles 1B, 2B, 3B and 5B, the City of Amsterdam's city executive ensures, with respect to knowledge, capacity and resources, that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology performs all activities as indicated in the process descriptions under 'Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology'.

Articles 1C, 2C, 3C and 5C

Many working relationships exist between the Central Amsterdam district and the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology; these are described in the process descriptions. These various relationships are taken into account based on the articles 1C, 2C, 3C and 5C.

Articles 4 and 5 (D)

The City of Amsterdam's city executive ensures that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology performs the tasks that arise from the central powers.

For the performance of these tasks as well, working relationships exist between the Central Amsterdam district and the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology. These working relationships are taken into account based on article 4 sub B and article 5 sub E.

Article 6

In addition to the activities that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology performs for the Central Amsterdam district as included in the process descriptions, it is the express intention that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology also functions in other aspects as the knowledge and expertise centre with respect to monuments and archaeology for the district. The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology is the coordinator of the municipal monument and archaeology policy. This means it is responsible for good

coordination between the districts and acts as the (first) contact point in the network of external contacts (national government, province, Association of Netherlands Municipalities, Federation of Major Monument Municipalities (*Federatie Grote Monumentengemeenten*), and private monument organisations).

In this role, the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology also bears responsibility for the development of a comprehensive vision of Amsterdam's built heritage and archaeology policy and for the implementation thereof. This is a policy in which preventative care by means of monitoring and knowledge transfer is a priority.

Based on article 6, the city executive ensures that, with respect to knowledge, capacity and resources, the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology is able to perform these activities.

Article 7

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology shall take the initiative to evaluate the covenant and, if necessary, shall adapt the agreement in consultation with the district. The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology is responsible for the modification of the process descriptions, if a change is made to the laws and rules described therein.

Convenant op het gebied van monumentenzorg en archeologie tussen stadsdeel Centrum en het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam

De ondergetekenden (partijen)

1. Het bestuur van het stadsdeel Centrum, te dezen vertegenwoordigd door het sectorhoofd Bouwen en Wonen, de heer E. Loos, hierna te noemen "het stadsdeel";
2. Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam, te dezen vertegenwoordigd door het hoofd van het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie, mevrouw E. Agricola;

nemen het volgende in aanmerking :

- dat de bevoegdheden op het gebied van monumentenzorg en archeologie zijn gedecentraliseerd, met uitzondering van een drietal bevoegdheden, zoals opgenomen in hoofdstuk VII van lijst A van de Verordening op de stadsdelen (gemeenteraadsbesluit 10 juni 1998, nr. 284, laatstelijk gewijzigd bij besluit van 19 maart 2008 nr. 43/85;
- dat het stadsdeel de gedecentraliseerde bevoegdheden op het gebied van monumentenzorg en archeologie uitoefent, met inachtneming van hetgeen in dit convenant is bepaald;
- dat er met de uitoefening van die bevoegdheden samenhangende werkzaamheden zijn, waarvoor de kennis en de expertise van het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie onmisbaar zijn;
- dat advisering door en overleg met het stadsdeel gewenst is bij de uitoefening van de centrale bevoegdheden;
- dat het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie voor het overige fungeert als kennis- en expertisecentrum op het gebied van monumentenzorg en archeologie voor het stadsdeel;
- dat het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie een coördinerende rol heeft op het gebied van het stedelijke monumenten- en archeologiebeleid;

leggen aan dit convenant ten grondslag:

- de Verordening op de stadsdelen, en in het bijzonder het gemeenteraadsbesluit d.d. 10 juni 1998, nr. 284, gewijzigd bij besluit van 19 maart 2008 nr. 43/85;
- vijf procesbeschrijvingen, waarin de werkwijze en taakverdeling tussen stadsdeel Amsterdam Centrum en het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie zijn vastgelegd:
 - Proces Bescherming d.d. juni 2008;
 - Proces Vergunningen d.d. juni 2008;
 - Proces Subsidiëring en financiering, gedecentraliseerde bevoegdheden d.d. juni 2008;
 - Proces Subsidiëring en financiering, centrale bevoegdheden d.d. juni 2008;
 - Proces Archeologie d.d. juni 2008;
- 'Ruimte voor geschiedenis', Beleidsnota Monumenten en Archeologie Amsterdam 2005-2010, vastgesteld door de gemeenteraad op 13 april 2005.

komen het volgende overeen:

1. In te trekken het convenant op het gebied van monumentenzorg tussen de Dienst Binnenstad Amsterdam en het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam zoals dat is vastgesteld op 17 juli 2000;
2. Vast te stellen het navolgende convenant op het gebied van monumentenzorg en archeologie tussen stadsdeel Centrum en het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam.

Artikel 1. Bescherming

- A. Het stadsdeel oefent de gedecentraliseerde bevoegdheden uit, zoals beschreven in het Proces Bescherming.
- B. Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam draagt er zorg voor, dat het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie de met deze bevoegdheden samenhangende werkzaamheden verricht, zoals neergelegd in het Proces Bescherming.
- C. Hierbij worden de onderlinge werkrelaties in acht genomen, zoals beschreven in het Proces Bescherming.

Artikel 2. Vergunningen, beheer en handhaving

- A. Het stadsdeel oefent de gedecentraliseerde bevoegdheden uit, zoals beschreven in het Proces Vergunningen, beheer en handhaving.
- B. Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam draagt er zorg voor, dat het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie de met deze bevoegdheden samenhangende werkzaamheden verricht, zoals beschreven in het Proces Vergunningen, beheer en handhaving.
- C. Hierbij worden de onderlinge werkrelaties in acht genomen, zoals beschreven in het Proces Vergunningen, beheer en handhaving.

Artikel 3. Subsidiëring en financiering, gedecentraliseerde bevoegdheden

- A. Het stadsdeel oefent de gedecentraliseerde bevoegdheden uit, zoals beschreven in het Proces Subsidiëring en financiering, gedecentraliseerde bevoegdheden.
- B. Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam draagt er zorg voor, dat het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie de met deze bevoegdheden samenhangende werkzaamheden verricht, zoals beschreven in het Proces Subsidiëring en financiering, gedecentraliseerde bevoegdheden.
- C. Hierbij worden de onderlinge werkrelaties in acht genomen, zoals beschreven in het Proces Subsidiëring en financiering, gedecentraliseerde bevoegdheden.

Artikel 4. Subsidiëring en financiering, centrale bevoegdheden

- A. Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam draagt er zorg voor, dat het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie de taken verricht, voortvloeiend uit de centrale bevoegdheden, zoals beschreven in het Proces Subsidiëring en financiering, centrale bevoegdheden.
- B. Hierbij worden de onderlinge werkrelaties in acht genomen, zoals beschreven in het Proces Subsidiëring en financiering, centrale bevoegdheden.

Artikel 5. Archeologie

- A. Het stadsdeel oefent de gedecentraliseerde bevoegdheden uit, zoals beschreven in het Proces Archeologie.
- B. Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam draagt er zorg voor, dat het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie de met deze bevoegdheden samenhangende werkzaamheden verricht, zoals beschreven in het Proces Archeologie.
- C. Hierbij worden de onderlinge werkrelaties in acht genomen, zoals beschreven in het Proces Archeologie.
- D. Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam draagt er zorg voor, dat het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie de taken verricht, voortvloeiend uit de centrale bevoegdheid, zoals beschreven in het Proces Archeologie.
- E. Hierbij worden de onderlinge werkrelaties in acht genomen, zoals beschreven in het Proces Archeologie.

Artikel 6. Kennis en expertisecentrum monumenten en archeologie

- A. Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam draagt er zorg voor, dat het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie voor het overige voor het stadsdeel dient als een kennis- en expertisecentrum op het gebied van monumenten en archeologie. Hieronder wordt mede begrepen, dat het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie ambtelijke bijstand verleent en deskundig advies geeft over plannen en projecten in het stadsdeel, waar cultuurhistorische waarden in het geding zijn.
- B. Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam draagt er zorg voor, dat het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie als coördinatiepunt fungeert van het stedelijke monumenten- en archeologiebeleid door middel van overdracht van informatie en het doen van voorstellen aangaande de stedelijke aspecten van het monumenten- en archeologiebeleid.
- C. Het eerste aanspreekpunt voor het stadsdeel zijn:
- Voor de advisering over vergunningen en handhaving, subsidiëring en financiering van restauratie of onderhoud de aan het stadsdeel toegewezen monumentenadviseurs van de afdeling Monumenten;
 - Voor de overige aspecten van het monumentenbeleid, de aan het stadsdeel toegewezen gebiedsadviseur van de afdeling Monumenten;
 - Voor het archeologiebeleid: de archeologen van de afdeling Archeologie.

Artikel 7. Overige bepalingen

- A. Het convenant wordt aangegaan voor onbepaalde tijd.
- B. Het convenant zal worden geëvalueerd twee jaar na datum van afsluiten, welke evaluatie kan leiden tot wijzigingen.



Amsterdam, 14 oktober 2008

Het bestuur van het stadsdeel
Centrum,
voor deze

E. Loos

Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam,
voor deze,

E. Agricola

Appendix 4
Declaration of approval by the Province of North Holland

Date: 30 October 2008

Our ref: 2008-63065

Subject: Nomination of Amsterdam's ring of canals as UNESCO World Heritage Site

Tel +31 (0)23 514 3143

Fax +31 (0)23 514

Visitors'

address

Dreef 3

Haarlem

College of Mayor and Aldermen
PO Box 202
1000 AE AMSTERDAM

Department
Enclosure(s)

Policy

Handled by GM Jacobs
E-mail jacobsm@noord-holland.nl

Telephone (023) 5144741 Your ref

SENT 10 NOVEMBER 2008

Dear Members of the City Executive,

We were very interested to hear about your intention to nominate 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals' as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

We agree that the placement of the 17th-century ring of canals on the World Heritage Site list adequately reflects the positioning of Amsterdam as a top international city with the unique values of creativity, entrepreneurial spirit and innovation. These core values are also inspired by the history of the city, and have contributed to Amsterdam's status as a trade centre and free port for more than five centuries.

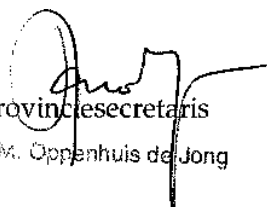
Designating Amsterdam's ring of canals as a World Heritage Site emphasises both the importance of this area as the high point of the Golden Age, a period in which the city quickly became a major world player, and the fact that this period also formed the basis for the city's development in the centuries that followed.

In addition, designating Amsterdam's canal ring as a World Heritage Site offers the city the opportunity to maintain the underlying intangible values that contributed to the development of Amsterdam as a city where people of all nationalities and beliefs can move about, think and trade freely, and the importance of this in the modern world. We therefore fully support this nomination and hope that the 17th-century ring of canals will indeed be included in the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Yours sincerely,
Provincial Executive of North Holland,

Provincial secretary

chair



provinciesecretaris
N.W.M. Oppenhuis de Jong



voorzitter
H.C.J.L. Borghouts

■ Gedeputeerde Staten



Datum 30 OKT 2008 Ons kenmerk 2008-63065

Onderwerp Nominatie grachtengordel Amsterdam Unesco Erfgoed

Burgemeester en Wethouders
van Amsterdam
Postbus 202
1000 AE AMSTERDAM

Bezoekadres
Dreef 3
Haarlem

Postadres
Postbus 123
2000 MD Haarlem

Tel (023) 514 3143
Fax (023) 514

Directie Beleid

Bijlage(n)

Behandeld door GM Jacobs
E-mail jacobsm@noord-holland.nl

Telefoon (023) 5144741 Uw kenmerk

Geacht college,

VERZONDEN 10 NOV. 2008

Wij hebben met buitengewone belangstelling kennis genomen van uw voornemen om 'De 17e eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' te nomineren als Werelderfgoed van UNESCO.

Wij onderschrijven dat de plaatsing van de 17e eeuwse grachtengordel op de Werelderfgoedlijst recht doet aan de positionering van Amsterdam als internationale topstad met de unieke waarden creativiteit, handelsgeest en innovatie. Deze kernwaarden zijn mede ingegeven door de geschiedenis van de stad en maken van Amsterdam al ruim vijf eeuwen een handelscentrum en vrijhaven.

De aanwijzing van de grachtengordel als Werelderfgoed benadrukt niet alleen het belang van dit gebied als het hoogtepunt van de Gouden Eeuw, een periode waarin de stad in korte tijd tot grote bloei werd gebracht, maar ook dat deze periode de grondslag vormt voor de ontwikkeling van de stad in de eeuwen daarna.

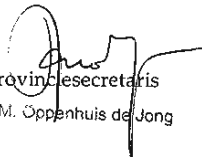
Het aanwijzen van de grachtengordel als Werelderfgoed biedt de stad dan ook de gelegenheid om de achterliggende immateriële waarden van het ontstaan van Amsterdam blijvend in stand te kunnen houden. Amsterdam is een stad waar mensen van alle nationaliteiten en gezinden zich vrij kunnen bewegen, denken en handelen.

PRH 000

Internet: www.noord-holland.nl
Email: post@noord-holland.nl

Wij steunen dan ook van harte de nominatie en hopen dat de 17e eeuwse grachtengordel inderdaad opgenomen wordt in de lijst van Unesco werelderfgoed.

Hoogachtend,
Gedeputeerde Staten
van Noord-Holland,


provinciesecretaris
W.M. Oppenhuis de Jong


voorzitter
H.C.J.L. Borghouts

Appendix 5

Statements and letters of Intent most significant Stakeholder Organizations

Appendix 5		
Statements and Letters of Intent most significant stake holder organizations / alphabetical order		
Amsterdam Academy of Architecture	Aart Oxenaar, Director	www.academievandebouwkunst.nl
Access Amsterdam	Mrs. Anna Lysenko, Director	www.access-nl.org
American Business Club *	Charles Ruffolo, President	www.aabc.nl
American Chamber of Commerce in the Netherlands	Raoul Oberman, President / Director McKinsy & Company	www.amcham.nl
Amsterdam City Association	Guus Bakker, Chairman	www.amsterdamcity.nl
Amsterdam Federation of Housing Corporations *	Mrs. Ankie Verlaan, Chairman General Board	http://afwc.nl
Amsterdam Historical Museum	Mrs. Pauline W. Kruseman, Director	www.ahm.nl
Amsterdam Partners *	Charles van Renesse, Director	www.amsterdampartners.nl
Amsterdam RAI Congress Centre	A.J. (Hans) Bakker, Chairman	www.rai.nl
Amsterdam Tourism and Congress Board	Stefan G.M. Diender, Director	www.atcb.nl
ARCAM Amsterdam Centre for Architecture	Maarten Kloos, Director	www.arcam.nl
Asia House *	Reind Mulder, Director	www.asiahouse.nl
Association of Friends of the Amsterdam City Centre	Walter Schoonenberg, Secretary of the Board	www.amsterdamsebinnenstad.nl
Association Hendrik de Keyser *	C.S.T. Huijts, Director	www.hendrickdekeyser.nl
Bond Heemschut	Karel Loeff, General Manager	www.heemschut.nl
Bureau Pindakaas	Mrs. Peggy Stein, Director	www.pindakaas.info
Canon of Amsterdam *	Piet de Rooij, Chairman	www.canonvanamsterdam.nl
Chamber of Commerce Amsterdam *	Oswald Schwirtz, Director	www.kvk.nl/amsterdam
Confederation of Netherlands Industry and Employers	Rene Klawer, Chairman	www.vno-ncw.nl
Cuypers Association, Amsterdam Department*	V.V. Stissi, Chairman	www.cuypersgenootschap.nl
Dutch Bureau for Tourism and Congresses	J. Vranken, CEO	www.nbtc.nl
Foundation 'Wijkcentrum Jordaan & Gouden Reel' *	Tryntsje Bakkum, Chairman	www.jordaanngoudenreel.nl
Housing Corporation Ymere *	Roel Steenbeek, Director	www.ymere.nl
International School of Amsterdam *	Edward Green, Director	www.isa.nl
Middle and Small Business Organization Amsterdam *	Mark van der Horst, Chairman	www.mkb-amsterdam.nl
National Foundation De Nieuwe Kerk / Hermitage Amsterdam	Ernst Veen, Director	www.nieuwekerk.nl
NV Stadsgoed	J.A. (Ronald) Wiggers, Director	www.stadsgoed.nl
Okura Hotel	M.P. van Aelst, President en Chairman of all 5* hotels in A'dam	www.okura.nl
Oude Kerk Foundation	Herbert van Hasselt, Director	www.oudekerk.nl
Passenger Terminal Amsterdam	Rene Kouwenberg, Director	www.ptamsterdam.nl

Rijksmuseum Amsterdam	Wim M.J. Pijbes, Executive Director	www.rijksmuseum.nl
Royal Archaeological League *	Wim Eggenkamp, Chairman	www.knob.nl
Concertgebouw Amsterdam	Simon A. Reinink, Director	www.concertgebouw.nl
Royal Netherlands Catering Organization, Amsterdam	Paul Hermanides, Chairman	www.horeca.org/smartsite.dws?id=34144
Society Amstelodamum *	M.G.B. Evers, Secretary of the Board	www.amstelodamum.nl
Society for Monuments and History in Amsterdam	Karel Leeftang, Chairman	www.amsterdammonumentenstad.nl
Society of Entrepreneurs in the Amsterdam Area *	Jack Steijn, Director	www.oram.nl
Stadsdeel Oud-West	Bouwe Olij, Chairman	www.oud-west.amsterdam.nl
Stadsherstel Amsterdam NV	A. Meerstadt, Director MRE	www.stadsherstel.nl
The John Adams Institute	Russel Shorto, Director	www.john-adams.nl
Van Gogh Museum	Axel Rüger, Directeur	www.vangoghmuseum.nl
Waag Society *	Mrs. Marleen Stikker, Director	www.waag.org
Wijkcentrum d'Oude Stadt	Mrs. Minne Meijering, Vice Chairman	www.oudestadt.nl
Total / January 2009	43	
Signed	31	
* Signed Letters of Intent to be received shortly	12	

Statement

Concerning the nomination to designate ‘Amsterdam’s 17th-century ring of canals’ as an intended future UNESCO World Heritage Site

The undersigned hereby declares that the placement of Amsterdam’s 17th-century ring of canals on the World Heritage Site list accurately reflects the positioning of Amsterdam as a top international city with the unique values of creativity, entrepreneurial spirit and innovation. These core values are also inspired by the history of the city, and have contributed to Amsterdam’s status as a trade centre and free port for more than five centuries.

Designating Amsterdam’s ring of canals as a World Heritage Site emphasises both the importance of this area as the high point of the Golden Age, a period in which the city quickly became a major world player, and the fact that this period also formed the basis for the city’s development in the centuries that followed.

In addition, designating Amsterdam’s ring of canals as a World Heritage Site offers the city the opportunity to maintain the underlying intangible values that contributed to the development of Amsterdam as a city where people of all nationalities and beliefs can move about, think and trade freely, and the importance of this in the modern world.

I hereby support the position that the involvement of all relevant public and private parties in the city in both a tangible and metaphorical sense is necessary in this context.

Date

Signature

**HEEMSCHUT
PROTECTION OF CULTURAL MONUMENTS**

Bond Heemschut, Association for the protection of Cultural Monuments in the Netherlands. Founded in 1911. Under the patronage of Her Majesty the Queen.

Letter of Intent

Concerning the protection and maintenance of 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals' as an intended UNESCO World Heritage Site

The Undersigned,

The Heemschut Union (Bond Heemschut), Association for the protection of Cultural Monuments in the Netherlands,

Hereby confirms that, together with other stakeholders, it bears responsibility for protecting and maintaining 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals' as an intended future UNESCO World Heritage Site.

In the performance of the objectives stated in its articles of association, Heemschut also bases its activities on applicable international treaties, charters and resolutions that concern UNESCO World Heritage Sites, intended to protect and maintain sites of cultural and natural importance for the history of humankind.

Heemschut shall use the nomination file, which includes the management plan dated 9 September 2008, drawn up by the College of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Amsterdam and the executive committee of the Central Amsterdam District, and the area document dated June 2007, as the basis for further agreements concerning the protection and maintenance of the outstanding universal value, the authenticity and the integrity of 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals'.

Heemschut hereby declares, with reference to the objectives stated in its articles of association, that it will actively cooperate to maintain 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals' as an intended internationally recognised World Heritage Site for the current and future generations of residents of and visitors to Amsterdam, in accordance with the World Heritage Convention (UNESCO 1972) and the associated Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

Heemschut shall, as a cultural heritage organisation and in its involvement with the intended World Heritage Site, promote the sustainable and future-oriented use of this site entrusted to it and increase the site's recognition as a World Heritage Site. To this end, Heemschut has appointed a committee by virtue of Article 8 of its articles of association. This Amsterdam Committee shall actively work to safeguard protected and unprotected built, designed and archaeological cultural heritage sites in the City of Amsterdam. Together with other private and non-private organisations, Heemschut is honoured to work towards a broad appreciation for the intended Amsterdam World Heritage Site.

On behalf of the Heemschut Union,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karel Loeff', written over a faint horizontal line.

Karel Loeff, Managing Director

Cc: executive committee and general management



Bond Heemschut, Vereniging tot bescherming van cultuurmonumenten in Nederland. Opggericht in 1911. Beschermt door H.M. de Koningin.

Intentieverklaring

inzake het beschermen en in stand houden van "De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam" als beoogd Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

Ondergetekende,

Bond Heemschut, Vereniging tot bescherming van Cultuurmonumenten in Nederland,

bevestigt hierbij dat zij samen met andere stakeholders verantwoordelijkheid heeft voor het beschermen en in stand houden van 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO.

Heemschut gaat bij de uitoefening van haar statutaire doelstelling mede uit van de internationaal geldende verdragen, charters en resoluties die betrekking hebben op het Werelderfgoed van UNESCO, bedoeld ter bescherming en instandhouding van cultureel en natuurlijk erfgoed van betekenis voor de geschiedenis van de mensheid.

Heemschut zal het nominatiedossier, waarvan het op 9 september 2008 door het College van Burgemeester en Wethouders van Amsterdam en het dagelijks bestuur van stadsdeel Centrum vastgestelde Managementplan en het Gebiedsdocument van juni 2007 deel uitmaken, gebruiken als leidraad bij nadere afspraken over het beschermen en in stand houden van de uitzonderlijke en universele waarden (*Outstanding Universal Value*), de *authenticity* en de *integrity* van 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam'.

Heemschut verklaart hierbij om, verwijzend naar haar statutaire doelstelling, daadwerkelijk mee te zullen werken "De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam" als beoogd internationaal erkend Werelderfgoed in stand te houden voor de huidige en toekomstige generaties bewoners en bezoekers van Amsterdam, in overeenstemming met *The World Heritage Convention* (UNESCO 1972 en de daarmee verbonden *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*).



Bond Heemschut, Vereniging tot bescherming van cultuurmonumenten in Nederland. Opgericht in 1911. Beschermvrouwe H.M. de Koningin.

Met dit doel zal Heemschut als erfgoedorganisatie en uit dien hoofde betrokken bij het beoogde Werelderfgoed een duurzaam en toekomstgericht gebruik van het aan hun toevertrouwde erfgoed bevorderen en zijn herkenbaarheid als Werelderfgoed vergroten. Heemschut heeft hiertoe krachtens artikel 8 van haar statuten een commissie benoemd. Deze Commissie Amsterdam zet zich actief in voor de bewaking van beschermd en niet beschermd gebouwd, aangelegd en archeologisch erfgoed in de gemeente Amsterdam. Heemschut zal zich, samen met andere particuliere en niet particuliere organisaties, gaarne inzetten voor een brede waardering van het beoogd Amsterdamse Werelderfgoed.

Namens de Bond Heemschut,

Drs. Karel Loeff
Algemeen directeur

cc. dagelijks-en algemeen bestuur

HET CONCERTGEBOUW

Het Concertgebouw N.V.
Concertgebouwplein 2-6
1071 LN Amsterdam
Internet: <http://www.concertgebouw.nl>
E-mail: concertgebouw@concertgebouw.nl

Aan

Algemeen
Telefoon: 31 (0)20 573 0 573
Fax: 31 (0)20 573 0 570
Zaaknummer
Telefoon: 31 (0)20 573 0 400
Fax: 31 (0)20 573 0 563
Besprekingsruimte
Telefoon: 31 (0)20 671 83 45
Fax: 31 (0)20 573 0 460

Datum 5 november 2008

Ontwerp

ABN AMRO 43.30.15.268, Postbank 68625
Handelsregister Amsterdam 33014504

Verklaring

Iuzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^e eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomst werelderfgoed van UNESCO

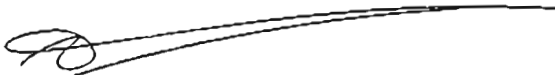
Ondertekende onderschrijft dat de plaatsing van de 17^e eeuwse grachtengordel op de Werelderfgoedlijst recht doet aan de positionering van Amsterdam als internationale topstad met de unieke waarden creativiteit, handelsgeest en innovatie. Deze kernwaarden zijn mede ingegeven door de geschiedenis van de stad en maken van Amsterdam al ruim vijf eeuwen een handelscentrum en vrijhaven.

De aanwijzing van de grachtengordel als Werelderfgoed benadrukt niet alleen het belang van dit gebied als het hoogtepunt van de Gouden Eeuw, een periode waarin de stad in korte tijd tot grote bloei werd gebracht, maar ook dat deze periode de grondslag vormt voor de ontwikkeling van de stad in de eeuwen daarna.

Het aanwijzen van de grachtengordel als Werelderfgoed biedt de stad dan ook de gelegenheid om de achterliggende immateriële waarden van het ontstaan van Amsterdam als stad waar mensen van alle nationaliteiten en gezindten zich vrij kunnen bewegen, denken en handelen en de betekenis van het belang daarvan tot op de dag van vandaag, blijvend in stand te kunnen houden.

Ik ondersteun daarbij het gegeven dat betrokkenheid in zowel materiële als overdrachtelijke zin van alle relevante publieke en private partijen in de stad daarbij belangrijk is.

Hoogachtend,
Het Concertgebouw N.V.


Mr. S.A. Reinink,
Algemeen Directeur

Ingekomen

- 8 DEC 2008

 Monumenten & Archeologie



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

R. Sharto, Director
The John A. Lane Institute
Herengracht 97
1013 EC Amsterdam
4 november 2008
Intentieverklaring

Datum
Onderwerp

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de} -eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

Ondergetekende onderschrijft dat de plaatsing van de 17^{de} -eeuwse grachtengordel op de Werelderfgoedlijst recht doet aan de positionering van Amsterdam als internationale topstad met de unieke waarden, creativiteit, handelsgeest en innovatie. Deze kernwaarden zijn mede ingegeven door de geschiedenis van de stad en maken van Amsterdam al ruim vijf eeuwen een handelscentrum en vrijhaven.

De aanwijzing van de grachtengordel als Werelderfgoed benadrukt niet alleen het belang van dit gebied als het hoogtepunt van de Gouden Eeuw, een periode waarin de stad in korte tijd tot grote bloei werd gebracht, maar ook dat deze periode de grondslag vormt voor de ontwikkeling van de stad in de eeuwen daarna.

Het aanwijzen van de grachtengordel als Werelderfgoed biedt de stad dan ook de gelegenheid om de achterliggende immateriële waarden van het ontstaan van Amsterdam als stad waar mensen van alle nationaliteiten en gezindten zich vrij kunnen bewegen, denken en handelen en de betekenis en het belang daarvan tot op de dag van vandaag, blijvend in stand te kunnen houden.

Ik ondersteun daarbij het gegeven dat betrokkenheid in zowel materiële als overdrachtelijke zin van alle relevante publieke en private partijen in de stad daarbij belangrijk is.

Datum

Nov. 12, 2008

Handtekening

R. Sharto

13 NOV 2008

Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

**ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR**
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de}-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

Ondergetekende onderschrijft dat de plaatsing van de 17^{de}-eeuwse grachtengordel op de Werelderfgoedlijst recht doet aan de positionering van Amsterdam als internationale topstad met de unieke waarden, creativiteit, handelsgeest en innovatie. Deze kernwaarden zijn mede ingegeven door de geschiedenis van de stad en maken van Amsterdam al ruim vijf eeuwen een handelscentrum en vrijhaven.

De aanwijzing van de grachtengordel als Werelderfgoed benadrukt niet alleen het belang van dit gebied als het hoogtepunt van de Gouden Eeuw, een periode waarin de stad in korte tijd tot grote bloei werd gebracht, maar ook dat deze periode de grondslag vormt voor de ontwikkeling van de stad in de eeuwen daarna.

Het aanwijzen van de grachtengordel als Werelderfgoed biedt de stad dan ook de gelegenheid om de achterliggende immateriële waarden van het ontstaan van Amsterdam als stad waar mensen van alle nationaliteiten en gezinden zich vrij kunnen bewegen, denken en handelen en de betekenis en het belang daarvan tot op de dag van vandaag, blijvend in stand te kunnen houden.

Ik ondersteun daarbij het gegeven dat betrokkenheid in zowel materiële als overdrachtelijke zin van alle relevante publieke en private partijen in de stad daarbij belangrijk is.

Datum

6.11.2008

Handtekening

Marcel P. van Aelst
President and General Manager

Hotel ~~Clara~~ Amsterdam



STICHTING DE OUDE KERK TE AMSTERDAM

Oudekerksplein 23 - 1012 GX Amsterdam - tel. 020 6256284 - fax 020 6200371

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de} -eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

Ondergetekende onderschrijft dat de plaatsing van de 17^{de} -eeuwse grachtengordel op de Werelderfgoedlijst recht doet aan de positionering van Amsterdam als Internationale topstad met de unieke waarden, creativiteit, handelsgeest en innovatie. Deze kernwaarden zijn mede ingegeven door de geschiedenis van de stad en maken van Amsterdam al ruim vijf eeuwen een handelscentrum en vrijhaven.

De aanwijzing van de grachtengordel als Werelderfgoed benadrukt niet alleen het belang van dit gebied als het hoogtepunt van de Gouden Eeuw, een periode waarin de stad in korte tijd tot grote bloei werd gebracht, maar ook dat deze periode de grondslag vormt voor de ontwikkeling van de stad in de eeuwen daarna.

Het aanwijzen van de grachtengordel als Werelderfgoed biedt de stad dan ook de gelegenheid om de achterliggende immateriële waarden van het ontstaan van Amsterdam als stad waar mensen van alle nationaliteiten en gezindten zich vrij kunnen bewegen, denken en handelen en de betekenis en het belang daarvan tot op de dag van vandaag, blijvend in stand te kunnen houden.

Ik ondersteun daarbij het gegeven dat betrokkenheid in zowel materiele als overdrachtelijke zin van alle relevante publieke en private partijen in de stad daarbij belangrijk is.

Hoogachtend,

Herbert van Hasselt
directeur

Ingekomen:

- 1 DEC 2008

Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de} -eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

Ondertekende onderschrijft dat de plaatsing van de 17^{de} - eeuwse grachtengordel op de Werelderfgoedlijst recht doet aan de positionering van Amsterdam als Internationale topstad met de unieke waarden, creativiteit, handelsgeest en innovatie. Deze kernwaarden zijn mede ingegeven door de geschiedenis van de stad en maken van Amsterdam al ruim vijf eeuwen een handelscentrum en vrijhaven.

De aanwijzing van de grachtengordel als Werelderfgoed benadrukt niet alleen het belang van dit gebied als het hoogtepunt van de Gouden Eeuw, een periode waarin de stad in korte tijd tot grote bloei werd gebracht, maar ook dat deze periode de grondslag vormt voor de ontwikkeling van de stad in de eeuwen daarna.

Het aanwijzen van de grachtengordel als Werelderfgoed biedt de stad dan ook de gelegenheid om de achterliggende immateriële waarden van het ontstaan van Amsterdam als stad waar mensen van alle nationaliteiten en gezinden zich vrij kunnen bewegen, denken en handelen en de betekenis en het belang daarvan tot op de dag van vandaag, blijvend in stand te kunnen houden.

Ik ondersteun daarbij het gegeven dat betrokkenheid in zowel materiële als overdrachtelijke zin van alle relevante publieke en private partijen in de stad daarbij belangrijk is.

Datum
01.12.2008

Handtekening

Ingekomen

- 2 DEC 2008

Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

VERENIGING VRIENDEN
VAN DE AMSTERDAMSE
BINNENSTAD

Datum
Onderwerp

4 november 2008
Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de}-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als voorged toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

Ondergetekende onderschrijft dat de plaatsing van de 17^{de}-eeuwse grachtengordel op de Werelderfgoedlijst recht doet aan de positionering van Amsterdam als internationale topstad met de unieke waarden, creativiteit, handelsgeest en innovatie. Deze kernwaarden zijn mede ingegeven door de geschiedenis van de stad en maken van Amsterdam al ruim vijf eeuwen een handelscentrum en vlihaven.

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Datum

Handtekening



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum
Onderwerp

4 november 2008
Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de} -eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

Ondergetekende onderschrijft dat de plaatsing van de 17^{de} -eeuwse grachtengordel op de Werelderfgoedlijst recht doet aan de positionering van Amsterdam als internationale topstad met de unieke waarden, creativiteit, handelsgeest en innovatie. Deze kernwaarden zijn mede ingegeven door de geschiedenis van de stad en maken van Amsterdam al ruim vijf eeuwen een handelscentrum en vrijhaven.

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Datum 13-11-2008

Handtekening

R. Klamer
voorzitter
VNO-NCW - WEST



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum
Onderwerp

4 november 2008
Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de}-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

Ondergetekende onderschrijft dat de plaatsing van de 17^{de}-eeuwse grachtengordel op de Werelderfgoedlijst recht doet aan de positionering van Amsterdam als internationale topstad met de unieke waarden, creativiteit, handelsgeest en innovatie. Deze kernwaarden zijn mede ingegeven door de geschiedenis van de stad en maken van Amsterdam al ruim vijf eeuwen een handelscentrum en vrijhaven.

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Datum

10/11/08

Handtekening

Bouwe Olij

VAN GOGH MUSEUM

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fax +31 (0)20 670 3177
www.vangoghmuseum.nl
Bezoekadres/Visitors
Paulus Potterstraat 7 Amsterdam

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR

Verenigd Koninkrijk
Monumenten & Archeologie

Verklaring

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^e eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

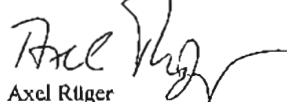
Ondergetekende onderschrijft dat de plaatsing van de 17e eeuwse grachtengordel op de Werelderfgoedlijst recht doet aan de positionering van Amsterdam als internationale topstad met de unieke waarden creativiteit, handelsgeest en innovatie. Deze kernwaarden zijn mede ingegeven door de geschiedenis van de stad en maken van Amsterdam al ruim vijf eeuwen een handelscentrum en vrijhaven.

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Amsterdam, 23 oktober 2008



Axel Rütger
Directeur

DIRECTIE

Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie
'De Bazel'
Herengracht 482
1017 CB Amsterdam

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1070 MS Amsterdam
Europaplein 2-22
1078 GZ Amsterdam
T 020 549 12 12
F 020 646 44 69
www.rai.nl

T direct 020 549 16 68
F direct 020 549 18 47
h.bakker@rai.nl

Verklaring

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^e eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

Ondergetekende onderschrijft dat de plaatsing van de 17e eeuwse grachtengordel op de Werelderfgoedlijst recht doet aan de positionering van Amsterdam als internationale topstad met de unieke waarden creativiteit, handelsgeest en innovatie. Deze kernwaarden zijn mede ingegeven door de geschiedenis van de stad en maken van Amsterdam al ruim vijf eeuwen een handelscentrum en vrijhaven.

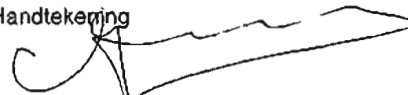
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Ik ondersteun daarbij het gegeven dat betrokkenheid in zowel materiele als overdrachtelijke zin van alle relevante publieke en private partijen in de stad daarbij belangrijk is.

Datum 17.10.2008

Handtekening



A. J. Bakker
voorzitter directie

AMSTERDAMS
Historisch Museum

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1001 AC AMSTERDAM

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EXEMPLAAR

Monumenten & Archeologie
KALVERSTRAAT 92
AMSTERDAM

tel
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fax
+31 (0)20 620 77 89

email
INFO@AHM.AMSTERDAM.NL

datum
20 oktober 2008

nummer

uw referentie

behandeld door

24 OKT 2008
461
Agencia (G.K.)
SLOPP

Verklaring

inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^e eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

Ondergetekende onderschrijft dat de plaatsing van de 17e eeuwse grachtengordel op de Werelderfgoedlijst recht doet aan de positionering van Amsterdam als internationale topstad met de unieke waarden creativiteit, handelsgeest en innovatie. Deze kernwaarden zijn mede ingegeven door de geschiedenis van de stad en maken van Amsterdam al ruim vijf eeuwen een handelscentrum en vrijhaven.

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Datum

20 oktober 2008

Handtekening

P.W. Kruseman
P.W. Kruseman, directeur

Bij correspondentie gebruikte briefnummers vermelden.

Museum Willem-Holthuysen wordt door het
Amsterdams Historisch Museum beheerd.

Directie

RIJKS MUSEUM
a m s t e r d a m

POSTBUS 74888
1070 DN AMSTERDAM
TELEFOON 020 674 70 00
TELEFAX 020 674 70 01
WWW.RIJKSMUSEUM.NL

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Ministerie van Monumenten & Archeologie

Uw referentie

Uw brief van

Onze referentie

Datum

30 oktober 2008

Verklaring

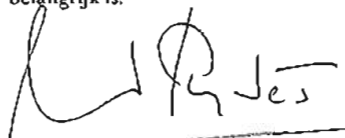
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Wim Pijbes
Hoofddirecteur Rijksmuseum

Amsterdam, 30 oktober 2008

478

AGRI COLA (A.K.)

STOOP

POSTBANK 4060
ING Bank 65 13 40 577



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de} -eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

Ondergetekende onderschrijft dat de plaatsing van de 17^{de} -eeuwse grachtengordel op de Werelderfgoedlijst recht doet aan de positionering van Amsterdam als internationale topstad met de unieke waarden, creativiteit, handelsgeest en innovatie. Deze kernwaarden zijn mede ingegeven door de geschiedenis van de stad en maken van Amsterdam al ruim vijf eeuwen een handelscentrum en vrijhaven.

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Datum

6-11-2008

Handtekening



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum
Onderwerp

4 november 2008
Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de}-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

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Datum

07 NOVEMBER 2008

Handtekening



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum
Onderwerp

4 november 2008
Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de}-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

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Datum

7 november 2008

Handtekening



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de} -eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

Ondergetekende onderschrijft dat de plaatsing van de 17^{de}- eeuwse grachtengordel op de Werelderfgoedlijst recht doet aan de positionering van Amsterdam als internationale topstad met de unieke waarden, creativiteit, handelsgeest en innovatie. Deze kernwaarden zijn mede ingegeven door de geschiedenis van de stad en maken van Amsterdam al ruim vijf eeuwen een handelscentrum en vrijhaven.

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Datum

10-11-2008

Handtekening

11 NOV 2008

Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

**ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR**
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum
Onderwerp

4 november 2008
Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de} eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO


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Datum 6 november 2008

Handtekening

K. J. Leeflang
voorzitter
Stichting Amsterdam
Monumenten Stad

Handtekening

14 NOV 2008



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
vrij van Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intenteverklaring

VERKLARING

inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de} -eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

Ondergetekende onderschrijft dat de plaatsing van de 17^{de} -eeuwse grachtengordel op de Werelderfgoedlijst recht doet aan de positionering van Amsterdam als internationale topstad met de unieke waarden, creativiteit, handelsgeest en innovatie. Deze kernwaarden zijn mede ingegeven door de geschiedenis van de stad en maken van Amsterdam al ruim vijf eeuwen een handelscentrum en vrijhaven.

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Ik ondersteun daarbij het gegeven dat betrokkenheid in zowel materiële als overdrachtelijke zin van alle relevante publieke en private partijen in de stad daarbij belangrijk is.

Datum 6 november 2008

Handtekening


M. KLOOS
DIRECTEUR ARCAM

11 NOV 2008



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intenleverklaring

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de} -eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

Ondergetekende onderschrijft dat de plaatsing van de 17^{de}- eeuwse grachtengordel op de Werelderfgoedlijst recht doet aan de positionering van Amsterdam als internationale topstad met de unieke waarden, creativiteit, handelsgeest en innovatie. Deze kernwaarden zijn mede ingegeven door de geschiedenis van de stad en maken van Amsterdam al ruim vijf eeuwen een handelscentrum en vrijhaven.

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Datum

6/11/2008

Handtekening

Van Harte!

~~Dhr. R. Bouwenberg~~
Passenger Terminal Amsterdam
Piet Heinkade 27
1019 BA Amsterdam
renekouwenberg@ptamsterdam.com



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

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J. Vranken
CEO NBTC

Datum 7-11-2008

Handtekening

Ingezonden

11 NOV 2008

Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

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Datum

Amsterdam 7-11-08

Handtekening

Ingeschreven op

4 1 NOV 2008

Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

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Datum 10/11-2008


Handtekening

Pieter G. M. Dierckx
Algemeen Directeur
Amsterdam Stads- & Oude
Ruimte

10 NOV 2008



Nationale Stichting
De Nieuwe Kerk Amsterdam

Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie
Mevrouw E. Agricola
Postbus 10718
1001 ES AMSTERDAM

National Foundation
De Nieuwe Kerk Amsterdam

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Nederland / The Netherlands
Bezoek / Visiting address:
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107715 BANK 64 01 13 699
BIC: NL0057-73 647-5-01
RIBK 41199682

10 november 2008

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Verklaring

inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^e eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

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Datum

10/11/08

Handtekening

107715 BANK 64 01 13 699

BIC: NL0057-73 647-5-01

RIBK 41199682



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

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Datum 10-11-2008

Handtekening

P. HERMA WIJDES
alg. dir. A'DAM VILLAGE COMPANY
VZ. KHH AMST



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intantieverklaring

VERKLARING

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Datum 10.11.08

Handtekening


ANNA LYENKO
ACCESS Amsterdam
Directeur

10.11.2008



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

Intentieverklaring

Inzake het beschermen en in stand houden van "De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam" als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

Ondertekenden bevestigen hun gezamenlijke verantwoordelijkheid voor het beschermen en in stand houden van 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO.

Zij gaan in hun beleid en daaruit voortvloeiende maatregelen uit van de internationaal geldende verdragen, charters en resoluties die betrekking hebben op het Werelderfgoed van UNESCO, bedoeld ter bescherming en instandhouding van cultureel en natuurlijk erfgoed van betekenis voor de geschiedenis van de mensheid.

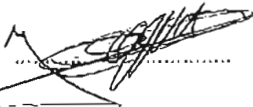
Zij gebruiken het nominatiedossier, waarvan het op 9 september 2008 door het College van Burgemeester en Wethouders van Amsterdam en het dagelijks bestuur van stadsdeel Centrum vastgestelde Managementplan en het Gebiedsdocument van juni 2007 deel uitmaken, als leidraad bij afspraken over het beheren, beschermen en in stand houden van de uitzonderlijke en universele waarden (*Outstanding Universal Value*), de *authenticity* en de *integrity* van 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam'.

Zij verklaren hierbij om daadwerkelijk mee te zullen werken 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd Internationaal erkend Werelderfgoed in stand te houden voor de huidige en toekomstige generaties bewoners en bezoekers van Amsterdam, in overeenstemming met *The World Heritage Convention* (UNESCO 1972) en de daarmee verbonden *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*.

Met dit doel zullen zij als elgenaar, beheerder dan wel uit anderen hoofde bij het beoogde Werelderfgoed betrokkenen, een duurzaam en toekomstgericht gebruik van het aan hun toevertrouwde erfgoed bevorderen en zijn herkenbaarheid als Werelderfgoed vergroten, door middel van zorgvuldig beheer, onderhoud, onderzoek, kennisoverdracht en publiciteit.

Namens

N.V. STADSGOED
Postbus 700
1000 AS Amsterdam



J. A. WIGGINS
DIRECTIEUR N.V. STADSGOED EN STADSGOED MONUMENTEN B.V.

AMSTERDAM, 14 NOVEMBER 2008



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de} -eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

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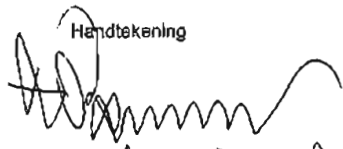
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Datum

11-11-08

Handtekening


directie Academie van Beeldende
Amsterdam.

11-11-2008



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

American
Chamber of Commerce
in the Netherlands
Roul Obenman,
President

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intenleverklaring

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de} -eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

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Datum
01-12-2008

Handtekening

Ingekomen

2 DEC 2008



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Vereniging
Amsterdam City
G. Bakker, Voorzitter

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de}-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

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Datum

11 nov 2008

Handtekening

Ingekomen

.. 5 JAN 2009

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Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

*Wijkcentrum
D'oude staat
Winne Meyerling,
hce voorster*

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum

Verklaring

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de} - eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

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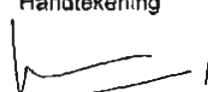
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Ingekomen
14 JAN 2009

Datum 13 januari 2009

Handtekening



www.bma.amsterdam.nl Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie is onderdeel van Dienst Milieu & Bouwtoezicht

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Herengracht 482
1017 CB Amsterdam

Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Postbus 10718
1001 ES Amsterdam
Telefoon 020 2514 900
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Datum

Verklaring

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de} - eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

Ondergetekende onderschrijft dat de plaatsing van de 17^{de}- eeuwse grachtengordel op de Werelderfgoedlijst recht doet aan de positionering van Amsterdam als internationale topstad met de unieke waarden, creativiteit, handelsgeest en innovatie. Deze kernwaarden zijn mede ingegeven door de geschiedenis van de stad en maken van Amsterdam al ruim vijf eeuwen een handelscentrum en vrijhaven.

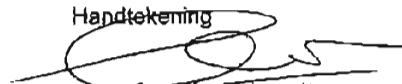
De aanwijzing van de grachtengordel als Werelderfgoed benadrukt niet alleen het belang van dit gebied als het hoogtepunt van de Gouden Eeuw, een periode waarin de stad in korte tijd tot grote bloei werd gebracht, maar ook dat deze periode de grondslag vormt voor de ontwikkeling van de stad in de eeuwen daarna.

Het aanwijzen van de grachtengordel als Werelderfgoed biedt de stad dan ook de gelegenheid om de achterliggende immateriële waarden van het ontstaan van Amsterdam als stad waar mensen van alle nationaliteiten en gezindten zich vrij kunnen bewegen, denken en handelen en de betekenis en het belang daarvan tot op de dag van vandaag, blijvend in stand te kunnen houden.

Ik ondersteun daarbij het gegeven dat betrokkenheid in zowel materiele als overdrachtelijke zin van alle relevante publieke en private partijen in de stad daarbij belangrijk is.

Datum 22 de Umban 2008

Handtekening



Mr. A. Meesterhout MRE

Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie is onderdeel van Dienst Milieu & Bouwtoezicht

Appendix 6

Action plan regarding the Amsterdam World Heritage Office

ACTION PLAN

AMSTERDAM WORLD HERITAGE OFFICE 2008-2010

UNESCO Nomination World Heritage List of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'

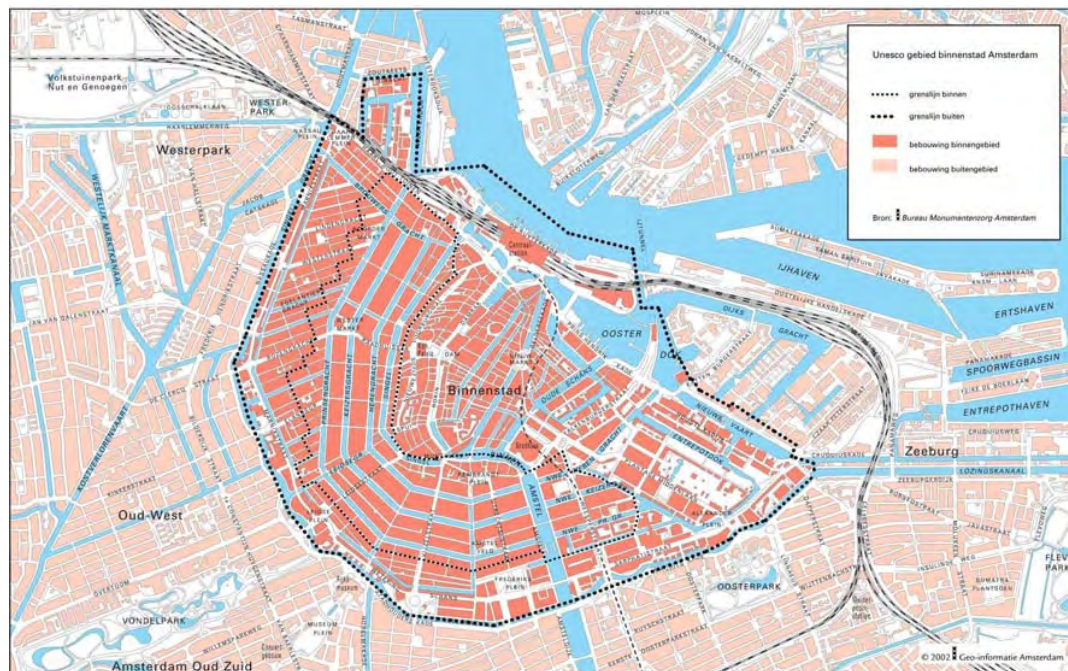


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1. INTRODUCTION

The City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District aim to preserve 17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as World Heritage and protect the *property* in accordance with the Management plan. As Property Manager the Central Amsterdam District is in daily charge.

The Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam together declare, as the immediate responsible parties for the protection of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as World Heritage, to preserve this internationally recognised cultural heritage for its present and future generation of inhabitants and visitors of Amsterdam, in accordance with the World Heritage Convention en the herewith attached *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* and the *Statement of Outstanding Value*, as specified by the World Heritage Committee.

The Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam meet the conditions stipulated by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee to secure a place on the World Heritage List for the Amsterdam ring of canals by setting up an implementing organization, which puts its operations in progress, preceding the submission of the nomination. This organisation is called the Amsterdam World Heritage Office.

This memorandum describes the activities of the Office in the field of:

- a. monitoring en reporting and;
- b. communication and information.

2. ORGANIZATION AMSTERDAM WORLD HERITAGE OFFICE

After securing a place on the World Heritage List the Central Amsterdam District as Property Manager will be immediately responsible for the daily management and the coordination and implementation and preservation of the property, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'. Likewise they are the immediate responsible organisation in charge of the conservation area, in which the property and its allocated buffer zone are situated. See chapter 2.4 of the Management plan for tasks and qualifications of the Property Manager.

In chapter 4 of the Management plan the responsibilities and qualifications of the Central Amsterdam District as Property Manager are described. The measures for the preservation of the property and its buffer zone within the conservation area are described in chapter 5 of the Management plan. The signed Agreement between the Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam on the implementation of the responsibilities, tasks and qualifications of the Property Manager, are included in the Management plan.

In accordance with and with the advice and support of the City of Amsterdam, the Central Amsterdam District as Property Manager establishes the Amsterdam World Heritage Office.

2.1 Amsterdam World Heritage Steering Committee

As of November/December 2008 a Steering Committee Amsterdam World Heritage is founded by the Property Manager of which the jointly responsible authorities (City of Amsterdam and Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board (AGV)) are members. They have an immediate responsibility for the preservation of the property and the *Statement of Outstanding Value*, as specified by the *World Heritage Committee*. The Steering Committee has an important task with regards to the creation and maintaining of support for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as World Heritage. The Steering Committee is chaired by an independent person, with a relevant commitment to the City of Amsterdam. Members of the Steering Committee are:

- independent Chairperson, prominent citizen of Amsterdam;
- Municipal Executive for Cultural Heritage, Tjeerd Herrema;
- Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Central Amsterdam District, Mrs. Els Iping
- Dike Grave of the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board (AGV);
- Secretary (Office Coordinator of the Amsterdam World Heritage Office);
- Advising Member: Director Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology.

The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science shall be asked to appoint an Agenda Member in order to advise the Steering Committee World Heritage Amsterdam on the effects and measurements following the obligations and responsibilities of the member state regarding *World Heritage* regulations.

Together with creating public support, the Steering Committee World Heritage Amsterdam is responsible for the effects and changes in the Management plan '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' (Amsterdam, 9 September 2008) as proposed by the Amsterdam World Heritage Office. And further to broach and approve the Action Plans of the Office and facilitate and support them.

The Steering Committee commissions the recruitment of a Office Coordinator on behalf of the Amsterdam World Heritage Office, who will be appointed as of the beginning of 2009. The Steering Committee will also evaluate the staffing and the budget of the Office and will initiate potential amendments to the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District as Property Manager. The Office Coordinator will take up the position of Secretary in the Steering Committee. The performance of the Office Coordinator will be the responsibility of the Amsterdam World Heritage Steering Committee. The Director Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology will be acting as daily executive.

2.2. Amsterdam World Heritage Office

2.2.1 Tasks

Guardian of the Management plan

The Office is in charge of a specified cycle of planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and adjustment of the Management plan and the incorporated points of particular interest. The Office will take care of all this, including the implementation by means of annual action plans.

Guardian of the Amsterdam World Heritage

The Office develops operating procedures and strategies which will prevent undesired developments and risk of adverse effects on the *Outstanding Universal Value* of the Property (both for the canal belt itself as well as the buffer zone within the Singelgracht) on behalf of the World Heritage Committee. On behalf of the Amsterdam World Heritage Steering Committee the Office will furthermore analyse and register the effects of tourism on the heritage.

Central Monitor

On the basis of existing data with application of council wide available expertise, the Office facilitates the continual process of the observation of the condition of the Property. This results in an annual report to the Amsterdam World Heritage Steering Committee. These annual reports are the basis for the mandatory six-year *Periodic Reporting* by the Netherlands to the *World Heritage Committee*.

Information Centre for Amsterdam and the Netherlands

For the implementation of the Management plan and the annual action plans, the Office keeps in contact with the sectors of the Central Amsterdam District as Property Manager and all relevant municipal administrations and businesses of the City of Amsterdam.

The Office is the information centre for the stakeholders. Among other things the Office organises networking meetings for the stakeholders and other relevant target groups. The role of ambassador of the Office is important, because the support and dedication of those parties involved in and interested in the World Heritage are of essential importance for an effective implementation of the Management plan and the annual action plans.

In accordance with the demands of UNESCO, the Office develops on behalf of native and foreign visitors' multi-lingual publications and virtual and multimedia data carriers with available information of the Property and surrounding area with cultural historical background information. In addition the Office seeks partnerships with relevant parties, such as the Amsterdam Tourism & Convention Board.

Coordination -and knowledge centre for municipal departments

The Office functions as a formalised coordination –en knowledge centre for municipal departments and institutions and city districts which are directly involved and/or responsible for the preservation of the *Outstanding Universal Value* of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.

Press information centre

The Office keeps in touch with local, regional, national, and international (trade) press and knows how to bring these into action at relevant moments and/or to obtain free publicity.

Webmaster and website manager

The Office looks after the multi-lingual website (www.werelderfgoed.amsterdam.nl) of the Property and makes sure actual information and monitoring data are available on the website for the Steering Committee, the stakeholders and all other parties and individuals with an interest in or for World Heritage.

Representative in the national Foundation Platform of World Heritage in the Netherlands

The Office represents the Amsterdam in the national Foundation Platform of World Heritage in the Netherlands.

2.2.2 Competences

The Office must be able to build bridges and keep them open, to cooperate with the many and various stakeholders and responsible authorities, to enthuse all parties concerned and maintain contacts with the press.

The Office Coordinator excels in communicative skills, both through the spoken and the written word, and is expert in the field of heritage and in particular the international obligations concerning the World Heritage. He/she knows his/her way around within the municipal organisation of Amsterdam and is a worthy interlocutor for those from outside de City of Amsterdam, both nationally and internationally. The Office Coordinator has the necessary knowledge of research methods and reporting and is able to submit a translation of the facts on behalf of UNESCO, meeting the demands as given in the *Operational Guideline*. In addition the Office Coordinator is able to play a directing and advising part

when it comes down to the execution of the annual plans concerning the reporting to the Steering Committee.

2.2.3 Organization

Office Coordinator

The Steering Committee appoints a Office Coordinator for the Amsterdam World Heritage Office who is responsible for the execution of the duties of the Office (see also 2.1).

Daily Practice

For the execution of the activities of the Office expertise is made available by the relevant municipal departments and organizations and/or partners with whom the City of Amsterdam cooperates, including in any case:-

- municipal contact point of the Property Manager;
- Physical Planning Department;
- Social Development and Economic Affairs Department;
- Amsterdam Development Corporation;
- The Environmental and Building Department;
- Department for Research and Statistics;
- Inland Waterway Department;
- Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology;
- Municipal Bureau for Project Management:
 - Bureau for the North-South metro line;
 - Bureau for the Southern banks of the IJ river;
 - Bureau for the Northern Amsterdam District.
- Waternet;
- The Amsterdam Tourism & Convention Board (ATCB).

The Office works thematically (among others in the fields of heritage, communication, tourism, town planning, economy, statistics); for each separate project the Office Coordinator determines the necessary staff and expertise. If necessary, the Office asks for the cooperation of the relevant municipal departments and organizations and/or partners cooperating with the City of Amsterdam and appoints committees to adequately execute parts of the Management plan or action plans. In any case there are two permanent committees; the Communication and Monitoring Committees. These committees are directed by the Desk Office Coordinator. In the Communication Committee communicative expertise is represented by a.o.:

- City of Amsterdam; Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology;
- Amsterdam Tourist & Convention Board;
- Amsterdam Partners;
- The Amsterdam Historic Museum;
- National Foundation Platform of World Heritage in the Netherlands;

In the Monitoring Committee expertise is put together in the field of monuments and statistics. Members of this Committee are a.o.:

- City of Amsterdam;
- Department for Research and Statistics;
- Department for Geo and Real Estate information;
- Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology.

2.2.4 Budget

Staff

During the period up till the eventual nomination (2008 – mid 2010) Amsterdam has decided to appoint a Office Coordinator for the Amsterdam World Heritage Office and to seek for further expertise, necessary for the execution of the activities of the Office, within its own ranks (see 2.2.3).

Working budget

To execute its duties the Office needs a working budget. This concerns expenses for amongst others:

- the building and maintenance of the website www.werelderfgoed.amsterdam.nl;
- the organization of, for example, networking meetings for administrating authorities and stakeholders;
- the design of a corporate identity to be implemented on stationary, business cards, and other printed material.

The budget required for the payment of staff, approx. 1,5 employees, and the working budget are fixed at € 150.000,- for the time being. This amount will be made available by the City of Amsterdam.

2.2.5 Positioning

In accordance with the Management plan the Amsterdam World Heritage Office will officially be positioned under the responsibility of the General Manager Construction and Housing Department, Central Amsterdam District. The Office will be housed in the characteristic and monumental building The Bazel, which also houses the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology and the City Archives. The Bazel is situated on the immediate verge of the World Heritage Property.

2.2.6 Evaluation

Evaluation of the Office takes place on a biannual basis. In that same period of time, the working budget will be mainly allocated for the design of a website and a corporate identity, during the following period more precedence will be given to the design of brochures and public events. The evaluation may lead to proposals to expand the formation and budget.

2.2.7 Relation with the Amsterdam Heritage Centre

The future Amsterdam World Heritage Property and the surrounding buffer zone will be given a prominent place in the Amsterdam Heritage Centre, but will be given a wider interpretation, where attention will also be paid to the relation of the World Heritage Property with other parts of the town. On account of the town wide character of the Amsterdam Heritage Centre the final responsibility therefore rests with the City of Amsterdam.

Although the tasks of the future Visitors' Centre are essentially different, the expertise needed for its realisation is partly identical to the know-how the Office demands. The Visitors' Centre and the Office can be of mutual service to each other. In the Amsterdam Heritage Centre feasibility study which is carried out at this moment the allocation of tasks and synergy between the World Heritage Office and the Heritage Centre will be expressly considered in the final planning.

2.2.8 Relation with the national Foundation Platform World Heritage in the Netherlands

The Dutch World Heritage properties are united in the national Foundation Platform of World Heritage in the Netherlands. The Foundation develops programmes for transfer of knowledge, information and education to promote an increasing popular appeal and public support for World Heritage in the Netherlands. It will also see that this is executed.

At managerial level the Chairperson of the City Centre District is a member of the Foundation and participates in the realisation of the above mentioned programme.

The Office Coordinator is a member of the Foundation Platform World Heritage in the Netherlands at an official level. In this case his duties are to inform the official implementation organizations concerned about the contents of the Management plan; he communicates with the administrating authorities about the implementation of the action plans resulting from this. The Office Coordinator provides them on request and/or unsolicited with all the information concerning World Heritage of UNESCO and relevant to an optimum conservation policy of the property.

3. TIME SCHEDULE

- The Amsterdam World Heritage Steering Committee will be installed in November/December 2008, by the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District as Property Manager.
- In the beginning of 2009 the Steering Committee will appoint a Office Coordinator and two permanent committees (Communication and Monitoring) will be installed. As of that moment the Office and committees will commence their activities, which includes
 - the preparation of the implementation of the Management plan;
 - the further development of the website;
 - the drawing up of newsletters, brochures, and the like;
 - networking meetings for the stakeholders;
 - the formulation of a model for annual reports;
 - the preparation of the review by ICOMOS in June 2009;
 - the preparations connected with the moment of the ultimate inscription on the World Heritage List.
- A first evaluation of the functioning of the Office will take place in June 2009 by the Amsterdam World Heritage Committee. They will report their findings tot to the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District. If necessary supplementary proposals will be made, and a new time schedule will be drawn up.

Appendix 7

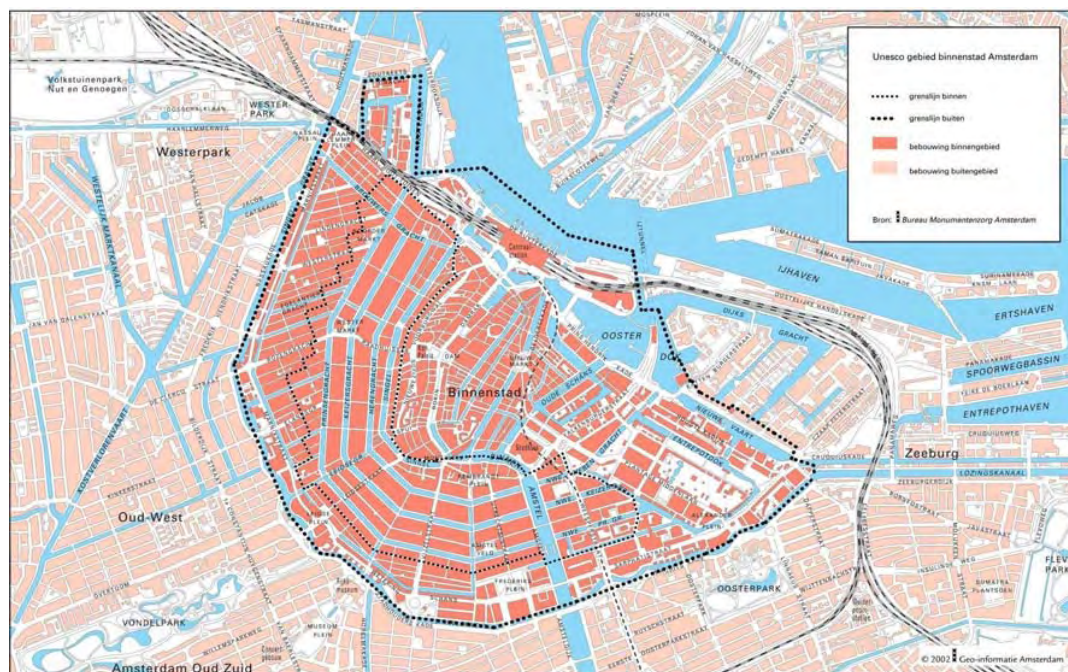
Action plan: Information and communication Strategy 2008- 2010



ACTION PLAN

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION STRATEGY 2008-2010

UNESCO Nomination World Heritage List of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'



October, 2008

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0. INTRODUCTION

In this Action Plan a specification is given of how the City of Amsterdam, in cooperation with the Central Amsterdam District as Property Manager, will execute the information and communication about the preservation and the protection of the site and the related *Unique Outstanding Value* (OUV), according to the Operational Guidelines of UNESCO. This Policy Plan concerns the period of time 2008 until mid 2010, the period of time in which UNESCO will decide whether the nomination of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' will be awarded. In 2009 the City of Amsterdam starts with making of a communication plan, which will take effect from the moment (mid 2010) Amsterdam has been granted the nomination or otherwise.

1. MOTIVE

Amsterdam is positioning itself as an internationally oriented top city with its unique values, such as creativity, spirit of commerce and innovation. These values have also been inspired by the history of the city. Amsterdam has been a centre of commerce, a spiritual free port, a city with an international position and history in the field of art, culture and architecture for 500 years. The ring of canals is the highlight of the urban development in the Golden Age. In the Golden Age the city was brought to great prosperity in a short period of time and therefore the foundations were laid for the development of the city in the centuries after that. By placing the '17th century ring of canals inside the Singelgracht' on the short list as World Heritage of UNESCO, The Netherlands, in cooperation with the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District, emphasises the historic importance of this unique area for the development of the city.

2. POSITIONING AND TARGET GROUPS

The core values of the city: 'creativity, spirit of commerce and innovation' has been very relevant to our times and characteristic of the DNA of Amsterdam and its inhabitants. Besides, they hold a great attraction to visitors and companies from home and abroad. Nearly all visitors to the city are mentioning the historic centre with its canals as one of the highlights of the city. In particular to the creative sector (one of the 6 pillars of the Amsterdam economy) the historic centre of Amsterdam is a unique selling point. Designating the ring of canals as a World Heritage Site, in fact offers the city the opportunity to communicate the underlying immaterial values of the origin of Amsterdam (free port, spirit of commerce) and the necessity of a careful preservation of this unique area for the entire humanity, and communicate those values to a broad public at home, as well as abroad.

2.1 Target groups

The target groups are broad and diverse. During the application the communication is firstly aimed at stake holders and jointly responsible authorities that are living and/ or working in the area or are having an immediate interest in it. The stake holders consist of a large group of involved organizations from a.o. the heritage -, tourist- and commercial sector (museums, hotel and catering industry, organizations in the field of promoting the city), (inter)national companies, heritage organizations and real estate owners). Furthermore, the citizens and companies in the Central Amsterdam District are an important target. After all, they make use of the area every day.

The inhabitants and users of the area can be split up in:

Citizens, entrepreneurs and passers-by

In the area of the potential World heritage Site – and the surrounding area, more than 8.500

buildings are protected as national- or municipal monuments. These monuments are for a large extent inhabited or occupied by companies. It mostly concerns private ownership. Since 1999 this part of the city is designated as protected urban conservation area. From that time there has been structural attention for the unique quality of the area and the resulting consequences. Actually, not many changes will occur to the citizens and users of the area. The so far developed and used data –and communication systems offer an excellent basis to bring explain the World Heritage nomination and its related values.

Tourists and business travellers

Amsterdam is a popular destination for tourists and business people from the Netherlands and abroad. The tourism- and conference system is one of the pillars of the Amsterdam economy, amounting to a turnover of almost 5 billion Euros and generates 48.000 full time job opportunities. The Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board (ATCB) takes care of the tourist marketing of- and communication policy, under the authority of the Amsterdam City Council. The ATCB has been drawing up a strategic marketing – and communication plan once every four years and has been examining the number of visitors to Amsterdam annually and their appreciation for the city. Visitors appreciate the city especially because of the arts, culture, the still visible and tangible historic past, the atmosphere of the canals and the adjacent monuments. It has emerged from research of ATCB that 38% of visitors mention the Amsterdam city canals as the main reason for visiting the city. Moreover most visitors are well informed before they come to the city. The internet is the principal source of information for the preparation of their visit to the city. 80% of the visitors is of foreign descent and 75% stays in the city for more than one day, most of whom are originating from the metropolitan European territories, from where Amsterdam is well accessible (Great Britain, Belgium, Germany, France, Spain and Italy) and the United States (*Source: ATCB Amsterdam Visitors Profile Edition 2008*).

Within the sector of tourism- and conferences there is an enormous potential for stake holders (companies, organizations, cultural institutions, museums, public events- organizations, and so on), which are an important partner and entry, in order to be able to guarantee the standard of the 6 principles, articulated in the *'International Cultural Tourism Charter'*. The principal organizations like the ATCB, Amsterdam Partners (responsible for implementing the city marketing of Amsterdam), the hotel -and catering sector and congress- and public events- organizations aim directly at the influx of visitors from home and abroad. For that purpose they are having their own and proven effective channels at their disposal and offer an excellent basis to reach this specific target group and to inform them about the nomination of the 17th century ring of canals of Amsterdam inside the 'Singelgracht' and its meaning.

2.2 Aim, starting-point issues and characteristics of the information- and communication strategy

The **aim** of the information- and communication strategy is providing an adequate, regular supply of information by means of effective communication channels for the benefit of the various target groups (such as citizens, visitors, stake holders and jointly responsible authorities).

The **starting-point** of the strategy is the availability of timely, accessible and correct information through well attainable, desirable and logic sources of information. Questions, wishes and opinions of the various target groups, and efficient means to communicate about those with the responsible (administrative) authorities and stake holders and their (professional) organizations, must lead to both understanding and support for the protection and preservation of the World Heritage Site. The idea that that interaction between tourism and economic activity on the one hand, and preserving cultural heritage on the other hand will be dynamic in principal, will be taken into account

A crucial element of the communication strategy is the **characteristic** of the Netherlands, and also of the culture of Amsterdam, that joint interests are generally and publicly discussed and decided about with all involved parties, in order to reach support and consensus as broadly as possible. This principal has been employed from the 17th Century, when ordinary citizens were consulted in questions of public interest. This is not essentially different today. Up till now, not only Local Authorities, but also citizens, industry and interest groups have an important voice and contribution in matters concerning the whole city. Because of that the structure and commitment of all parties is organized very well in the city. This offers opportunities of organizing shared responsibility and commitment of all parties in a natural and efficient way, and bringing it into the limelight adequately to all (future) users of and visitors to the area.

2.3 Core message

The central idea is twofold and consists of a procedural (causal) and a promotional (as regards to the content) message.

Procedural

By designating the ring of canals as World Heritage this unique area will obtain the international recognition it deserves. As the Amsterdam inner city has been a protected cityscape since 1999, the predicate World Heritage changes nothing to the way of protection the area and its monuments already have. At the same time Amsterdam keeps taking care that the ring of canals will continue to stay the lively and dynamic place it has been throughout the centuries.

Promotional

The designation of the ring of canals as World heritage emphasizes the importance of this area for the development of the city. The ring of canals is the highlight of the Golden Age, a period in which the city was brought to great prosperity and has constituted the basis for the development of the city in the centuries after that. The development of the ring of canals shows where Amsterdam is coming from and what it is today and would like to preserve; a city full of creativity, commercial spirit and the capability for innovation.

3. ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMUNICATION

3.1 Amsterdam World Heritage Office

The Project Group World heritage, consisting of the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (management) and the Central Amsterdam District is preparing the founding of the Bureau World Heritage Amsterdam. The Bureau World Heritage will be responsible for:

- monitoring and reporting to the secretariat of the World Heritage Committee via the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW), with the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM) as executive party;
- maintaining all contacts with the World Heritage Committee via the Ministry of ECS, with RACM as executive party;
- secretariat on behalf of the Steering Group and Platform World Heritage Amsterdam;
- coordinating information and communication to all target groups in cooperation with Central Amsterdam District and ACTB.

The central and coordinating communication will be implemented and executed by the Bureau World Heritage Amsterdam. The Bureau's primary objective is creating and permanently maintaining the support of all concerned parties that have an interest in and for the area. The Bureau will not only inform about World Heritage issues, but also create support and ambassadorship, and takes care of transfer of knowledge and education in cooperation with all relevant parties in the city.

The Bureau will be the central office for all locally, nationally and internationally interested -, involved -, and concerned parties, with regard to the World Heritage Area, the '17th century ring of canals of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht'.

The Bureau will act as a centre of knowledge, when it is dealing with guarding the *Statement of Outstanding and Universal Value* and will provide, invited and uninvited, the necessary resources in order to maintain the body of ideas of UNESCO irrefutably and in the future. Apart from that it will stimulate the committed parties to pay prominent attention to the World Heritage Area within their own resources. Until the moment of founding the Bureau World Heritage Amsterdam, the Project Group World Heritage Amsterdam will execute these tasks.

3.2 Municipal contact point for citizens and entrepreneurs

The area of "17th century ring of canals of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht" covers several hectares and with the buffer zone it even comprises virtually the entire Central Amsterdam District. Approx. 80.000 people are living and 85.000 people are working in the Central Amsterdam District.

As *Property Manager*, the Central Amsterdam District, has a municipal contact point for citizens within the boundaries of the ring of canals. Very often questions by citizens, by entrepreneurs and institutions, will cohere with the obligations and restrictions connected to the monumental status of their residence or property in relation to the protection and maintaining the World Heritage *Statement of Outstanding and Universal Value*. Therefore, the staff members of the Central Amsterdam District contact point have the necessary knowledge in the field of Architecture, Building, Cultural History and World Heritage at their disposal. They also have knowledge of the existing monuments and the whole wide area of the ring of canals, which has been a protected cityscape since 1999.

With complex questions the staff members will be supported by the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology, the Amsterdam centre of knowledge of cultural heritage.

Information about the meaning of World Heritage, but also zoning plans, licenses related to the building industry, and building opportunities, is available from the municipal contact point.

The counter is accessible by telephone and can be visited three days a week. Simple (building) questions will be answered via the Internet and by telephone, in order of preference. If questions are complex, an appointment can be made with a license manager. He can ask for support, if necessary, at the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology.

3.3. Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) is the cities centre of knowledge and expertise in the field of preservation, reinforcement and permanent development of constructed and archaeological cultural heritage of Amsterdam; as a liaising element between the present, the past and the future, in an ever changing environment.

The core-tasks of BMA are:

- spreading knowledge and enlarging support for architectural, urban development and archaeological heritage of Amsterdam;
- advising on protection (indication, alteration or demolition) and subsidizing and financing the maintenance of protected monuments;
- providing custom made I advise and implementations for companies, private persons and municipal departments with regard to large -and small -scale building projects. BMA is taking care of a pragmatic fitting in of archaeological research when it comes to physical planning;
- providing the opening up of the archaeological tangible past in the form of excavations, publications and presentations;
- advising on the way in which cultural history can contribute to the physical planning and development of the city.

3.4 Amsterdam Tourism & Convention Board

Commissioned by the City of Amsterdam, the Amsterdam Tourism & Convention Board (ATCB) takes care of all information and communication to (inter)national visitors. It distinguishes between business (congress visitors) and tourists. The nomination of the "17th century ring of canals of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht" will mainly focus on tourists. The ACTB has a diverse range of means at its disposal and closely cooperates with the Dutch Tourist & Congress Board.

4. MEANS

By using existing and already proven effective channels, as well as new ones to be developed, it will be possible to serve the whole broad target group. In the matrix of means, the various information- and knowledge needs of the target group are taken into account, dealing with:

- informing about;
- creating support and ambassadorship;
- transfer of knowledge and education.

Inside the matrix of means the Internet takes up a key position. All information about the nomination of the ring of canals is to be found on the multilingual portal site

www.werelderfgoed.amsterdam.nl. On this website information can be found about a.o.:

- all relevant and current information about the ring of canals and the UNESCO World Heritage nomination;
- FAQ's for all relevant target groups;
- information for the (professional) press;
- information about UNESCO
- news

The Amsterdam World Heritage Office cares for the topicality of the website and link's to all relevant existing (international) websites that are related to UNESCO and World Heritage.

www.werelderfgoed.amsterdam.nl will get a prominent position on the following already existing websites.

Current internet sites

All information in Dutch about Amsterdam can be found on www.amsterdam.nl. This portal

site is actively used by inhabitants of the city, but is also consulted by visitors from outside. The website provides information about policy and issuing instructions of the City of Amsterdam with regard to economy, culture, education, living, and etcetera. On this website a counter has been arranged for citizens as well as entrepreneurs, on which one can directly search for information about e.g. applying for a passport, or licensees and other municipal issues and also be dealt with immediately. The website has 20.000 unique visitors a day and 7.300.000 a year. www.iamsterdam.com, the international portal site of City of Amsterdam generates 150.000 visitors a month and 1.800.000 a year. The number is growing at present due to joining the international websites of *Amsterdam Uit Bureau* (theatre and leisure information and ticket reservation), ATCB and Amsterdam Partners. Apart from information about council policy, this site offers specific information for tourists and business visitors. The Amsterdam inner city, with its 17th century ring of canals will be put on the screen three-dimensionally on this website via Google Maps. This will be available in 2009 in order to allow visitors to take a virtual walk and be able to watch the most important monuments and places if interest. www.centrum.amsterdam.nl: the website of the *Property Manager* Central Amsterdam District, in which all relevant information, the building counter included, can be found for citizens and companies living and working in the '17th century ring of canals of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht' and surrounding area. www.bma.amsterdam.nl: the website of the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology, the cities expert and knowledge centre in the field of cultural heritage. The website offers a.o. descriptions and background information concerning national and municipal heritage in the World Heritage Area and the buffer zone.

4.1 Information and communications resource matrix

Means	Time: start and so on	Target group	Objective	Final responsibility	Costs in Euros
Feasibility study World Heritage Visitors centre	Start feasibility study in 2008. Operational from mid 2010.	Visitors from home and abroad	Inform and educate	Feasibility study, Central Amsterdam District, i.c.w. BMA	60.000,- from budget BMA and Central Amsterdam District
Internet multilingual: www.werelderfgoed.amsterdam.nl with links to all relevant (international) websites	Start autumn 2008 and continually afterwards and expand	All	Inform	Amsterdam World Heritage Office	20.000,- once only and annually: 10.000,-
Virtual tour on line at www.iamsterdam.com	Start beginning 2009 and continually afterwards and expand	Visitors from home and abroad	Inform and educate	City of Amsterdam	Current budget City of Amsterdam
Means	Time: start and so on	Target group	Objective	Final responsibility	Costs in Euros
Signposting 'on site'	2010 and afterwards continually	Citizens, visitors from home and abroad	Inform	Municipal Department of Infrastructure, Traffic and Transportation i.c.w. Central Amsterdam District and ATCB	Current budget City of Amsterdam and Central Amsterdam District
Maps, brochures and other printed matters / multilingual	Start development in 2009, concluded mid 2010	All	Inform and educate	Amsterdam World Heritage Office, in close cooperation and consultation with jointly responsible authorities	30.000,- once only and annually 10.000,-

Newsletters: -Digital / periodical and multilingual -Central Amsterdam District Newspaper	- Start autumn 2008 and afterwards continually - Start 2008/ monthly and a special issue in 2008	-All -Citizens and companies in Central Amsterdam District	Inform and create support	-Amsterdam World Heritage Office -Central Amsterdam District	Once only 2.500,- Current budget BMA and Central Amsterdam District and annually 5.000,-
Periodic letters to citizens and companies Central Amsterdam District	Start in 2008 and afterwards continually as relevant	Citizens and companies	Inform, educate and create support	Central Amsterdam District	Current budget Central Amsterdam District
Published Essay about the Ring of Canals from the origin up till now	Spring 2009, multilingual	All	Inform and create support	Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology	25.000,- once only, and annually 2.000,-
Physical and virtual counter for all questions concerning heritage in the Central Amsterdam District	Autumn 2008	Citizens and companies	Inform	Central Amsterdam District	Current budget Central Amsterdam District
Media, press meetings and free publicity	August 2008 and afterwards continually as relevant	(inter)national press	Inform and create support	Amsterdam World Heritage Office i.c.w. Central Amsterdam District, (inter)national press department City of Amsterdam and ATCB.	5.000,- once only and annually 1.000,-

Education

Means	Time: start and so on	Target group	Objective	Final responsibility	Costs in Euros
Connecting to existing programmes and developing new programmes, focussed on World Heritage	2009 and afterwards continually, and developing further	Primary and secondary schools	Education	Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology i.c.w. heritage organizations and the Municipal Social Development Department	PM
Developing new study material	Start 2009	Primary and secondary schools	Education	Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology i.c.w. De Waag Foundation, Municipal Social Development Department and the Amsterdam Art Fund	Annually 10.000, -
Course Restoration Techniques	2008 and afterwards every year	Architects, building inspectors, real estate agencies, contractors, a.o.	Inform, educate and create support	Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology	Current budget BMA

Events

Means	Time: start and further	Target group	Objective	Final responsibility	Costs in Euros
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Celebration World Heritage status if granted	Mid 2010	All	Inform and create support & ambassadorship	Amsterdam World Heritage Office i.c.w. Central Amsterdam District	25.000,-
Connecting to existing public events in the area such as: - Annual Open Heritage Day - Annual Open Gardens Day - Annual Canal Festival - Sail 2010 - Reopening National Maritime Museum in Amsterdam	2010 -September -June -August -September -2010	All	Inform and create support & ambassadorship	Amsterdam World Heritage Office i.c.w. organizers of these a.o. public events	PM
Connecting to tourists theme years Theme: - 2009, 2010: Art City - 2011: still unknown	2009 en afterwards continually	All	Inform and create support & ambassadorship	Amsterdam World Heritage Office Amsterdam i.c.w. ATBC	PM
Opening of the restored "Oude Kerk"	2012	All	Inform and create support & ambassadorship	Amsterdam World Heritage Office Amsterdam i.c.w. Oude Kerk	PM
400 years ring of canals	2013	All	Inform and create support & ambassadorship	Amsterdam World Heritage Office i.c.w. City of Amsterdam, Central Amsterdam District and ACTB	PM

Information and Relation Management

Means	Time: start and further	Target group	Objective	Final responsibility	Costs in Euros
Twice a year information meeting, after 2010 once a year. Further information via newsletters	2008 and afterwards continually	Platform Stakeholders	Inform and create support & ambassadorship	Amsterdam World Heritage Office	2.000,- in the starting up phase, afterwards 1.000,- annually
Twice a year information meeting, after 10 once a year. Further information via newsletters	2008 and afterwards continually	Responsible authorities	Inform	Amsterdam World Heritage Office i.c.w. Steering Committee World Heritage	2.000,- in the starting up phase, afterwards 1.000,- annually
Means	Time: start and further	Target group	Objective	Final responsibility	Costs in Euros
General information meeting, Further information via newsletters.	December 2008	Urban Development Board and Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency	Inform	Amsterdam World Heritage Office	1.000,-
General information meetings. Further and complementary information via newsletters	2007 and 2008 (3 times) and further as relevant	Citizen and companies in the Central Amsterdam District	Inform and create support & ambassadorship	Amsterdam World Heritage Office	Current budget Central Amsterdam District
General information meeting. Further information via newsletters	2008/2009 and afterwards continually	Companies, and organizations for the industry and entrepreneurs	Inform and create support & ambassadorship	Amsterdam World Heritage Office i.c.w. Central Amsterdam District and ATCB	2.000,-

4.2 Information / communication 2008-2010

Information and communication moments 2008-2010				
Date	Description	Target Group	Objective	Final responsibility
11-09-08	Determining Management Plan by the Executives Committees of the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District	All	Inform	BMA and Central Amsterdam District
24-09-08	Determining Management Plan by the Amsterdam Council Committee	All	Inform	BMA and Central Amsterdam District
24-11-08	Cabinet decision regarding the final application for the nomination of the '17 th century ring of canals of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht' to the UNESCO World Heritage List	All	Inform	Government (ministry of Education, Culture and Science), in cooperation with BMA and Central Amsterdam District
Spring 2009	Multilingual website available	All	Inform	BMA and Central Amsterdam District
01-02-09	Nomination filed at the World Heritage Committee UNESCO in Paris	All	Inform	Government (ministry of Education, Culture, and Science), in cooperation with BMA and Central A. district
Spring 2009	Start drawing up communication and publicity plan from publishing redeeming nomination by UNESCO	NA (not applicable)	Determining communication strategy	Amsterdam World Heritage Office i.c.w. Central Amsterdam District
Autumn 2009	Start executing communication and publicity plan and developing means	NA	Executing communication strategy and developing means	Amsterdam World Heritage Office i.c.w. Central Amsterdam District
March '09- May '10	Evaluation nomination file World Heritage Committee and advice about nomination	NA	NA	NA
June/July 2010	Publishing and redeeming nomination by UNESCO	All, including international media	Inform and enthuse	Amsterdam World Heritage Office i.c.w. Central Amsterdam District

4.3 Budget

Budget Statement		
Description	Starting up phase	Structural annual
Means and meetings Development Translations Organization	114.500*	
Maintenance means		40.000*
* =preliminary estimate		

4.3 Working agreements

Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology and the Central Amsterdam District declare that the administrative working agreements for the period of 2008 – mid 2010 have been registered on account of the information and communication regarding the conservation and protection of the area nominated for the UNESCO World Heritage List, the '17th century ring of canals of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht', and accordingly the significance of the *Outstanding Universal Value*.

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Director
Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology

E. Loos
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Construction and Housing Department

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Appendix 8

Assignment Amsterdam Heritage Centre

ASSIGNMENT

Amsterdam Heritage Centre (working title)

1. Introduction

In the framework of the application of the City of Amsterdam to UNESCO, to put '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' on the World Heritage list, ideas have been proposed to establish a visitors' centre. In this paper these ideas have been elaborated into a proposition. This proposition may serve as an assignment to a feasibility study for an Amsterdam Heritage Centre.

In order to draft this proposal, the so-called Management plan (September 2008) and the report 'Heritage Centre Amsterdam *feasibility*' (October 2007) have been used.

In the latter document the objectives for the visitors' centre are mentioned as follows:

1. assemble and combine today's fragmented information of the historical inner city;
2. positioning of the inner city as one large monument and attracting cultural tourists;
3. creating awareness among Amsterdam citizens of the unique historic values of their city and the connection to the present;
4. stating the importance and the conservation of heritage in the inner city.

2. Amsterdam Heritage Centre

Starting from the four objectives, as formulated in the document 'Heritage Centre Amsterdam *feasibility*', the Amsterdam Heritage Centre will surely not exist only of a physical location from where information on cultural tourism will be available.

Objective 1, *assemble and combine today's fragmented information of the historical inner city* looks mostly like an actual visitors' centre, but will also reflect in different and more modern applications such as:

- a website with a very user friendly information structure, on which the potential visitor will be able to prepare his historical/cultural visit thoroughly and on which interested and involved people can gather and provide interactive information;
- historical/cultural guided tours through the city, accompanied by experts and/or with the aid of audio-technique, such as mobile telephones and audio-systems.

Objective 2, *the positioning of the inner city of Amsterdam as one large monument and attracting cultural tourists*, contains mainly marketing-communication means, which in fact precedes objective 1. The visitors' centre undertakes the task of campaigning world wide permanently, in order to promote the Amsterdam inner city as a cultural tourist crowd-puller. This requires a far-reaching tuning with e.g. the

Amsterdam Tourism & Convention Board and the Amsterdam cultural-historical organizations with a public function.

Objective 3 and 4, *creating awareness among the citizens of Amsterdam about the unique historic values of their city and the relationship with the present and the future; imparting the preservation of heritage in the inner city*; this means something like a widening of objective 2 (marketing-communication) towards the Amsterdam population and the Amsterdam business community, but in the capacity of resources that will prompt participation (lectures, debates, meetings, providing information, etcetera).

The Amsterdam Heritage Centre, in short, is going to consist of a 'front office', a 'back office' and a website.

Front office

Somewhere in the middle of the city (let's say: at the Dam for the time being) a visitors' centre, with a large entering-capacity will be established. The location is in a strategic and visible position in relation to the main walking stream and admission will be free. The function as a visitors' centre is clearly visible from the outside. Inside are:

1. an information desk;
2. an exhibition;
3. a number of computer units.

1. The **information desk** will be occupied by at least one assistant who will be able to answer questions of the public with regard to cultural tourism in the inner city, who can refer to the exhibition, the computer units, or other sources of information like the Amsterdam Tourist & Convention Board. This assistant (or assistants) will also keep an eye on the behaviour of incoming public.

2. The **exhibition** is of modest proportions (approx. 200 m² floor surface) and consists of a permanent and a variable presentation. The permanent presentation tells about the story of the historical inner city, accompanied by reproductions of maps and other historical images and photographs. The design will be spectacular and inviting, the information very brief.

For example every 3 months, the variable exhibition changes to a new subject about a specific part of the historical inner city, preferably a topical subject delivered (and/or financed) by the party interested in or familiar with the subject. The variable exhibitions are also compact, 'easily digestible' and designed in an attractive way.

An important part of both exhibitions is referring to the sites and organizations that are active within (culture tourism of) the Amsterdam inner city. This also applies to:

3. The **computer units** are offering a specific *search and find programme* for all kinds of questions the public is having about the cultural history of the inner city.

Back office

The back office of the Amsterdam Heritage Centre is responsible for the development of the marketing/communication and all related products. The staffing consists roughly out of a marketer, a communications employee, a webmaster, and an organizer of public events, working together and supporting each other in various projects.

The marketer maintains contact with the jointly responsible authorities and stakeholders (see under: 3. Joint venture) and develops a general policy program, among which providing variable exhibitions.

The communications employee will develop the on-going (inter)national campaign(s), in close coordination with partners and other jointly responsible authorities.

The webmaster is looking after the (partly interactive) content of the website and the programmes being shown in the units in the visitors' centre.

The public events organizer will take care of the programming, developed in coordination with the partners and other jointly responsible authorities. Containing variable exhibitions, lectures, debates, publications, etcetera.

Website

The virtual version of the visitors' centre plays a central role in the whole project. It is the source of information which will be used by numerous interested persons from home and abroad, like:

- (future) cultural tourists;
- the citizens of Amsterdam;
- students(pupils) (in the framework of the curriculum);
- interested people with regard to history and the architecture of the inner city, from enthusiastic amateurs to professionals;
- potential participants to the public events programmes.

The website is a source of knowledge, as an interactive platform, involving citizens and interested parties to communicate and actually committing themselves to participate (discussions and input of knowledge).

3. Joint venture

Many of above mentioned products and activities are already being offered completely or partly by existing parties : the Amsterdam Tourist & Convention Board is promoting the Amsterdam cultural tourism locally and (inter)nationally. The Amsterdam Historical Museum has a permanent exhibition about the history of the city, the City Archives and the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology collects and presents knowledge about the inner city, ARCAM, the Amsterdam Centre for Architecture, organizes numerous public events in the framework of inner city architecture, and so on. In order to prevent the visitors' centre from doubling these efforts, the programme will be determined in close coordination and collaboration with all parties. The visitors' centre is not going to be the producer of parts of the programming in many cases, but will be a platform for and promoter of the products of the above mentioned partners. In fact the visitors' centre will be the front office and portal of the websites and programmes of other partners. The Amsterdam Heritage Centre strongly supervises realisation of her own four objectives and if necessary, will produce the essential parts that other partners are not able to execute.

4. Realisation and exploitation

In order to create the visitors' centre, the following steps need to be taken:

1. drawing up the concept with regards to content in dialogue with all responsible authorities;
2. finding a suitable location;
3. drawing up a worked out concept, including a preliminary design and the programming of the first five years;
4. drawing up a worked out development- and exploitation budget;
5. developing a business plan (incl. an organization plan and a realistic financing scheme).

The steps 1 till 5 are part of the feasibility plan and will be followed by:

6. finding the necessary covering for the further development and exploitation;
7. drawing up a final design on the basis of a task-setting budget;
8. issuing invitations to tenders and selecting producers;
9. recruiting personnel;
10. communicating about the development phase;
11. producing/realising of the productions, incl. designing and refurbishing of the Centre.

5. Timing

- Drawing up the feasibility plan (above-mentioned points 1 till 5) a four- months' time span is needed. (delivery: 1 March 2009).
- Finding the necessary covering one needs to take into account the time span of almost one year (1 February 2010); this connected with the decision time limits of governments, funds, partners and sponsors.
- The definite design takes another 4 months to realise (1 June 2010).
- The external programming and campaigning can start from 1 February 2010 for that matter, so that the opening of the visitors' centre can be announced to the public from that date.
- The public tender can be finalized on 1 September 2010.
- Half a year is needed for producing the visitors' centre and the (worked-out) website, so that the opening and launch can take place on 1 March 2011.

15 October, 2008

Commissioned by





City of Amsterdam

**'17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within
the Singelgracht'**

Key Issues (part 3)

Management plan for World Heritage nomination

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Key Issue I 4: “Five Emperors”

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Key Issue K: Scaffolding Wrap Advertisements

Introduction

The City of Amsterdam (and the surrounding area) has experienced a dynamic and complex development of urban space.

The nomination of the 17th-century 'ring of canals' for inscription on UNESCO's list of World Heritage Sites raises the question of how this urban dynamic interacts with the protection of the historical city centre and, in particular, with the proposed World Heritage Site. In the first place, this relates to Amsterdam's high-rise construction policy, but also to a number of strategic projects which are currently in progress or which will be carried out in the near future.

Each key issue is accompanied by an explanation, of which the purpose is to provide insight into a number of projects and issues which may play a role in judging the nomination. By subject, a short description of the project is provided; coming administrative decisions and their justification are mentioned, plus the current state of affairs and the (possible) consequences for the 17th-century ring of canals concerning *visual impact, integrity and authenticity*, the criteria and the conditions of the *operational guidelines*¹ which form the basis for benchmarking the nomination. The explanations are supplemented with resources and visual material. When a resource is too extensive to be added to the explanations in digital format, references are provided to the relevant websites and links.

Included Key Issues

- A. High-rise construction
- B. Overhoeks
- C. Westerdokseiland (Westerdoks Island)
- D. North/South Metro line (Noord/zuidlijn)
- E. Coalition project 1012
- F. Chinatown
- G. Binnengasthuisterrein
- H. Construction plan kop Singel (Haringpakkerstoren)
- I. Projects in the planning stage lying within the *property*
 - I. 1 Former Prinsengracht Hospital
 - I. 2 Former Public Library Prinsengracht
 - I. 3 Former Bank Building ABN/AMRO Vijzelstraat
 - I. 4 De vijf Keizers (The Five Emperors)
- J. Water Level and Ground Water
- K. Scaffolding Wrap and Advertisement

Explanation

The explanation regarding high-rise construction the key issue (A) details how high-rise construction policy has been applied in Amsterdam, and the way in which the city wants to manage high-rise construction in the future. Overhoeks and Westerdoks island (B and C) explanations pertain to two central urban projects outside the historical city centre where high-rise construction already exists, and is still being developed.

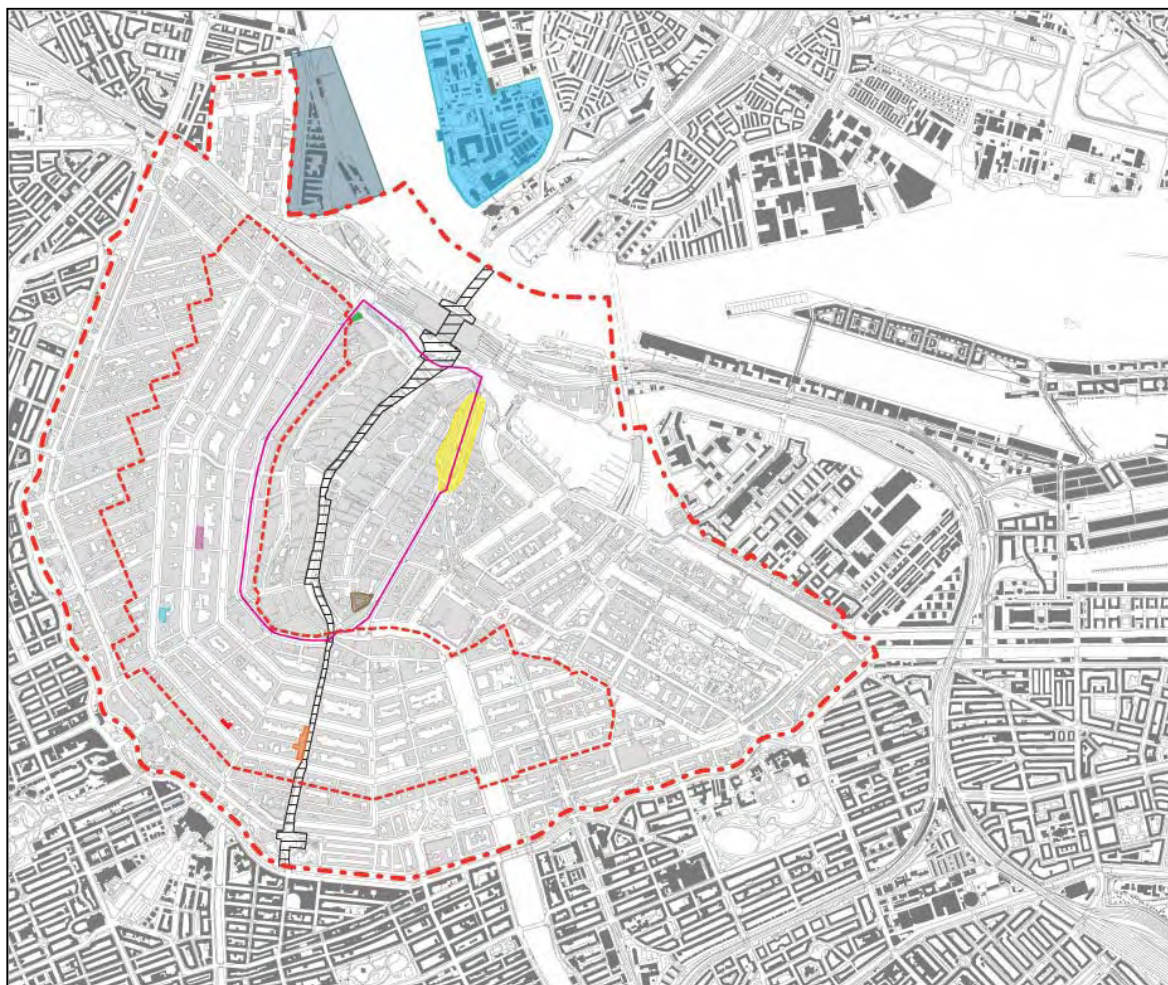
The Noord/Zuidlijn (D) is a central urban project; the alignment of the metro line directly traverses the historical city centre of Amsterdam.

The Coalition Project 1012 (E) pertains to a cooperative relationship between the city of Amsterdam and the District of Central Amsterdam, the objective of which is to improve the quality of life in the oldest parts of the historical city centre. Chinatown (F) is an initiative aimed at strengthening the economic situation of the Chinese merchants in the city centre and is implemented within the framework of the Coalition Project 1012.

Explanations H and I pertain to larger construction projects which are located partly inside and partly outside the ring of canals. In this respect, key issue Construction Plan Kop Singel has a unique position because it pertains to the reconstruction of a 17th-century tower (the Haringpakkerstoren). On the recommendation of the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM), an explanation regarding the key issue Water level and Ground Water (J) was included. Because the historical city centre of Amsterdam is founded for an important part on wooden poles, the ground water table constitutes an important piece of information.

¹ Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention par. 79-85.

Lastly, an explanation regarding key issue Steigerhoek Advert (K) has been included because there have been repeated discussions regarding this subject with the Werkgroep Buitenreclame of community centre d'Oude Stad.



Legenda	
	Grens bufferzone en beschermd gezicht
	Grens kernzone
	Bebouwing binnengebied
	Bebouwing buitengebied
	Overhoeks
	Westerdokseiland
	Noord-Zuidlijn
	Coalitieproject 1012
	Chinatown
	Binnengasthuisterrein
	Bouwplan kop Singel
	Prinsengrachtziekenhuis
	Prinsengracht OBA
	Vijzelstraat 66-80
	Vijf Keizers

Overview of locations involving key issues in the UNESCO area of the city centre of Amsterdam

Key issue A: High-Rise Construction in Amsterdam

Introduction

In 2008, the Physical Planning Service developed a policy for high-rise construction. On the one hand, the policy is an explanation and justification of the city's management regarding high-rise construction up until now, and the completed high-rise projects of years past. On the other hand, the policy contains proposals, which form an initiative for the formulation of a high-rise building policy as part of the framework of the Structural Concept Amsterdam 2010.

Main points High-Rise Construction Policy (September 2008)

Management up until now

In 1991, the need for the re-development of sites at a higher density, an optimum use of real estate and an increasing number of high-rise building initiatives led to the formulation of a high-rise construction policy. This policy was adopted as additional benchmark for construction plans currently in operation.

The basic principle of the high-rise construction policy was – and is – a careful application of high-rise construction within the existing structures. The policy included the obligation to extensively research the ramifications of plans with a building height of 30 meters or higher and to compile a separate report for evaluation, the so-called 'high-rise effect report' (HER), and to include it in land-use plans and/or construction plan procedures.

The current – central urban – high-rise policy dates from 2005 and is stipulated in a benchmark supplemental to the structural plan, *Opting for Urban Identity of 2003*. The requirement to compile an HER has been dropped with this last implementation. In certain cases the (central urban) city council is informed of a high-rise development plan in a given District, and of the ramifications of such a plan for the urban landscape.

Additionally, among other things, the execution of view-line studies form a standard requirement of the urban development policy of the District of Central Amsterdam for those development plans which could lead to a (substantial) change of the roofscape (surpassing building height, constructing roof terraces, etc).

Proposals for a new policy

As a consequence of the recent development of construction plans along the north bank of the IJ and at the tip of the Amsterscheg, a discussion arose about the visibility of high-rises from the city centre and about the effects on existing and cherished cityscapes. The City of Amsterdam insists that the unique quality of the historical city centre has to be handled with care. The proposed nomination of the ring of canals for the World Heritage list of UNESCO has been the incentive to formulate a high-rise policy as a starting point for a new policy, which will be further elaborated upon in time and which will be established as part of the Structural Concept Amsterdam 2010.

It is proposed to again proceed with a reactive high-rise policy whereby for certain areas of the city a more elaborate benchmark will be established than is currently the case. This applies in particular to the areas within the Singelgracht. Furthermore, it is proposed to make an HER or, at least a report relating accommodation into the urban landscape, a mandatory requirement. For additional clarification of the proposals, please refer to High-Rise Policy Amsterdam 2008 (reference A1).



Photo composition: Impression of the south bank from the Schaefer bridge, DRO 2004

Preparation of Structural Concept 2012

On April 22, 2008, with formulation of the notification of intent, Process Structural Concept Amsterdam, the municipal executive has given the starting signal to establish a structural concept for the area of the city of Amsterdam (reference A2). This structural concept will replace Choosing for Urbanity (2003). The objective of the structural concept is to provide direction for the dynamic and complex urban development of the Amsterdam metropolis. Which urban strategies and corresponding impulses are necessary to further cultivate Amsterdam as the nucleus of the metropolitan region of Amsterdam?

The structural concept will cover a long-term vision of the urban development of the city (2030/2040). Additionally, the concept will provide a unifying element and a benchmark for the city of Amsterdam and its Districts for all the relevant spatial policy for the period 2010-2020. The structural concept is also the framework for the prioritising and implementing of programmes and projects, with the objective of encouraging public/private investment in the city and region and the effective utilisation thereof. Thus, the policy regarding the spatial development pursued by the city of Amsterdam provides its citizens with security over the years.

Input for the structural concept is provided by Development Vision 2040 for the metropolitan region of Amsterdam, which defines the developmental direction of the region and the regional context, the long-term vision Randstad 2040 and the programme Amsterdam Top City, set up in extension of the programme People Make Amsterdam (2006-2010). This last also applies to the housing policy, harbour policy and public transportation policy (all with a view through 2020). Additionally, work is being done on the Spatial Economic Ambition of Amsterdam. This project adds to the implementation strategy of the structural concept.

In autumn, 2008, a communal discussion took place pertaining to the themes that determine the spatial questions in Amsterdam. The result of the discussion will lead to a statement, Keystones of the Structural Concept, in which the main points of the spatial tasks and the most important issues of

choice are described. This statement will become the agenda for the structural concept, and in 2009 will lead to a conceptual framework for the structural concept. After a sequence of consultations, the definitive structural concept will take effect.



Photo composition: the north and south banks of the IJ bay. The different towers near Overhoeks are visualised, as well as the planned construction on the south bank of the IJ.

References

- A1. High-rise policy Service of Physical Planning September 2008 (only available in Dutch)
- A2. Statement of principles discussion pertaining to the future of Amsterdam, to the structural concept 2010 – 2020 for the centre of the metropolitan area, as established by the municipal executive on June 17, 2008.

Key issue B: Overhoeks project

- Project description:** The plan for the site (formerly the Shell premises) comprises the construction of 2,200 homes, offices, restaurants, hotels, cultural and other social facilities. The provision of green space, such as a bank-side park and recreational facilities along Buiksloter Canal (*Buiksloterkanaal*) are also envisaged. Overhoeks will be realised by public/private co-operation between seven partners (ING Real Estate, Amsterdam City Council, Amsterdam North District, Ymere, Vesteda, Shell and the Film Museum).
- Location:** The area is in Amsterdam North and is bordered by the IJ, Buiksloter Road, the Buiksloter Canal and Johan van Hasselt Canal, outside the buffer zone, about 250 metres from the conservation area, 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.
- Status:** In progress

History and decision-making process

Urban development plan

The Urban Development Plan was adopted in September 2004 (preceded by a Project order). The Urban Development Plan comprises two parts. The northern part, the 'Campus', will be made up of buildings 8 to 9 storeys high (to a maximum of 35 metres) grouped round enclosed gardens. This part accounts for roughly half the development, and the accent will be on residential, working and non-commercial facilities.

The southern part of the planned site will be given over to a 'Strip' of high-rise blocks. Besides the Overhoeks Tower (*Toren Overhoeks*, the Shell Tower) and the Great Laboratory (*Groot Laboratorium*), the strip will comprise five new high-rise towers grouped round a number of gardens. The 'footprint' of the towers is 1,000 square metres per storey. To guarantee a relatively 'slim-line' look to the individual towers, each will be divided into two parts, staggered between 5 and 10 metres apart. The parts will be of differing heights, varying from between 75 and 110 metres. The strip will be a mixed development containing homes, hotels, offices, and cultural and catering facilities. At ground level, squares will be built round the towers, containing shops, restaurants, cafés and other facilities. The angular twist between the Strip and the Campus will be accentuated by the 'Green Wedge', alongside the IJ where the new Film Museum will be built. The most important open spaces in the development site will be the Oever Park, the 'Green Wedge', and the enclosed gardens in the campus.

Zoning plan

On 20 March 2007, the Provincial Executive of North Holland voted to approve the zoning plan, Overhoeks, which was adopted by the City of Amsterdam on 18 October 2006. The North Amsterdam Built Heritage Foundation (*Stichting Monumenten Amsterdam-Noord*; SMN) and the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre (*Vereniging Vrienden van de Amsterdamse Binnenstad*) registered an objection to this decision with the Council of State (*Raad van State*). Both organisations objected to the high-rise development because of its effect on the inner city. They argued that the high-rise development would damage the conservation area and the open quality of the views of the IJ from the inner city, and it would lead to a loss of 'typical, architectural features of the inner city'. Furthermore, according to the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre, 'the development would mean Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals would not be able to obtain the status of World Heritage Site'. The Council of State's administrative-judicial department then instructed the Administrative Justice for the Environment and Town Planning Foundation (*Stichting Advisering Bestuursrechtspraak voor Milieu en Ruimtelijke Ordening*; StAB) to launch an inquiry under Article 8:47 of the General Administrative Law Act (*Algemene Wet Bestuursrecht*; Awb). The StAB's guiding principle for its recommendations of 26 February 2007, concerning the visibility of the high-rise development from the inner city, was the map of sightlines and the montage photos from the supplementary High-Rise Effect Report produced by the Physical Planning Department in 2004 (see below). Using the evidence in the sightlines map, the foundation ruled that, from all points in the inner city from where the high-rise development would be visible, there would not be 'unacceptable damage' to the open quality of the views of the IJ and that the visibility of the development would not result in the 'fixing of a dominant image'. With regard to the World Heritage Site status, used as an argument by the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre, the foundation cited, in its ruling,

UNESCO's Declaration on the Conservation of Historic Urban Landscapes (Adoption of a Declaration on the Conservation of Historic Urban Landscapes, p. 1) as well as the notes to the decision to designate 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as a conservation area. The conclusion was that 'bearing in mind the findings concerning the visibility of the high-rise development from the inner city (...) the plan in question does not endanger obtaining the status of World Heritage Site'. See appendix: The Recommendations of the Administrative Justice for the Environment and Town Planning Foundation (*Advies Stichting Advisering Bestuursrechtspraak voor Milieu en Ruimtelijke Ordening*) of 26 February 2008.

On 2 July 2008, the Council of State declared the objections to the Overhoeks zoning plan unfounded, thereby ratifying the zoning plan, and making it possible to start further developments to the construction plans.

Consequences of the nomination of the 17th-century ring of canals as a UNESCO site

What impact will the high-rise buildings in the Overhoeks development have on the property and the buffer zone?

Visual impact

Behind the Overhoeks Tower (75 metres high), there will be five towers – staggered and separated from each other – which, seen from Overhoeks, will be 75, 110, 100, 75 and 90 metres tall. In 2003, a High-Rise Effects Report was compiled, and augmented in June 2004. This charts the visual effects of the towers on areas including the inner city, where they can be seen from Prins Hendrikkade/Oude Waal (buffer zone), Brugsteeg (buffer zone), Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal (buffer zone), Singelgracht canal from Haarlemmersluis (buffer zone/property border) Palm street (buffer zone) and Willemstraat (buffer zone).

Prins Hendrikkade/Oude Waal: from here, the towers are clearly visible.



Brugsteeg: the highest tower will be visible behind the station from this point. This will affect the silhouette of the station building. The extent of the damage to the view will depend on the design and materials used for the tower.

Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal: the highest towers will be visible from the bend in Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal near Korte Kolksteeg.

Singel canal/Haarlemmersluis (bridge no. 14): here, the image of the city is dominated by the silver tower next to the Ibis Hotel. The new towers directly behind the Overhoeks Tower will be obscured by the Ibis tower.



Kop Singel beside the Haarlemmersluis

Palmstraat (Jordaan): the new towers will be visible from Palm Street in the distance, on the horizon.
Willemsstraat (Jordaan district): Overhoeks Tower is in the centre of the view from Willemsstraat. The new development behind Overhoeks, partially visible from this street, will to an extent fill in the horizon.



Willemsstraat

In general: the new towers (still unknown) will influence the visual impact.

Authenticity and integrity

The answer to the question of how the Overhoeks high-rise development will affect the authenticity and integrity of the designated property depends on how much importance is given to the visual relationship between the ring of canals and the IJ. In the present structural concept, it is generally supposed that Amsterdam's inner city 'faces' the IJ. The western and eastern islands originated as water defences; in the 19th century, they grew into 'islands' with economic and industrial purposes; nowadays, they are being transformed into residential and business areas, which is bestowing them a new identity, thus changing their relationship with the historic inner city.

The high-rise development policy is constrained in view of this context: the height of new buildings is restricted, as are their locations and each project has to be drawn up with care in relation to the historic inner city. These principles will be realised within the framework of the structural plan.

In the historical context, it can be said that, in the 17th and 18th centuries, clear sightlines (interrupted by bridges and locks) to the IJ were only available from Singel canal and Prinsengracht canal in the western ring of canals. These sightlines were blocked firstly by the railway dyke constructed in the 19th century and, later, in the 20th century, by the Ibis Hotel, the silver tower and, in the distance, the Shell Tower, as well as recent developments on the island, Westerdokseiland. The high-rise Overhoeks development is not visible from the property, except from the end of Singel canal on the border of the buffer zone near Haarlemmersluis. The high-rise development is clearly visible from many areas of the buffer zone.

Progress so far

Phase 1 of the 'Campus' part of the plan is under construction: the first homes will be ready for occupation at the end of 2009. Construction of the 'Strip', the band of high-rise buildings directly behind the Overhoeks Tower, has begun. The Overhoeks Tower, the Great Laboratory and part of the Strip will be handed over to ING; further construction and other work will follow. The whole development site will be ready between 2018 and 2020.

Sources

- 'The Northern Shore of the IJ', A Cultural-historical Report on the Effects. What does the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology's Cultural-Historical Effects Report say About the Issue of Sightlines from the Property and the Buffer Zone?' (*De Noordelijke IJ-oever. Een cultuurhistorische effectrapportage wat zegt de CHER van BMA over de kwestie zichtlijnen vanuit de property en de bufferzone?*): Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology, August 2003.
- Supplementary High-rise Effects Report on the Shell Site (*Aanvullende Hoogbouw Effect Rapportage Shellterrein*), Physical Planning Department, June 2004.
- Objection to the Overhoeks zoning plan by the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre, 3 March 2008.
- Report re: Article 8:47 General Administrative Law Act by the Administrative Justice for the Environment and Town Planning Foundation (*Algemene Wet Bestuursrecht van de Stichting Advisering Bestuursrechtspraak voor Milieu en Ruimtelijke Ordening*), 26 February 2007.
- Defence of Amsterdam High-Rise Policy Memorandum (*Notitie Verantwoording Hoogbouwbeleid Amsterdam*), Physical Planning Department, 2008.
- Website <http://www.overhoeks.nl>

Key issue C: Westerdokseiland

Project description: The Westerdokseiland project concerns the redevelopment of areas including a train shunting yard to the northwest of the property. Homes for about 2,000 people and employment opportunities for about 5,000 people will be provided in the development. The project will be characterised by a high density of buildings, and a wide diversity of uses and living styles.

Location: Former train shunting yard in Westerdokseiland, the 'Kop' (the head, or end point) of the Westerdok and Stenen Hoofd, bordered by the IJ, Westerdoksdijk and Westerdok about 200 metres from the northern border of the property.

Status: In progress.

History and decision-making

Westerdokseiland

On 17 March 1999, Amsterdam City Council adopted the Westerdokseiland Urban Development Programme of Requirements (*Stedenbouwkundig Programma van Eisen*, SPvE). This signalled the start of the redevelopment of the area (including the Kop of the Wester-IJdok (the Western IJ dock). The council decided that a minimum of 900 homes, about 80,000 square metres of non-residential accommodation and at least 60 berths for houseboats should be provided at Westerdokseiland. Westerdokseiland is divided in the Northern Block 1st and 2nd phase (or Westerkaap I and II), the Middle Block (or VOC Cour), and the South Block (La Grand Cour). The construction of this area harmonises with the compact, brick inner city and western islands.

The Wester-IJdok will be located in the southeast corner of Westerdokseiland, partially in the IJ. This block is the counterpart to the end of the Oostelijk-Handelskade. These two developments to the west of Central Station form a symmetrical reflection along the city's historic front: Oudezijds Wallen and Nieuwezijds Wallen, Oudezijds Kolk and Nieuwezijds Kolk, the Church of St Nicholas (*Nicolaaskerk*) and the Posthoorn Church (*Posthoornkerk*). The scale of this complex of buildings is related to the grain silos, the Harbour Building (*Havengebouw*) and the Kop Oostelijke Handelskade.



View of the IJ from North Amsterdam

The Westerdokseiland Urban Development Plan (*Stedenbouwkundig Plan voor Westerdokseiland*) was adopted in 2001 and ratified by the Council of State on the 6 April 2005. Eleven parties and individuals objected to the Westerdokseiland zoning plan, including the Heemschut Union (*Bond Heemschut*), the Working Group Westerdoks Houseboats (*Werkgroep woon-schepen Westerdoks*), Amsterdam Water Front (*Waterig Amsterdam Front*), Golden Reael Neighbourhood Bond (*Wijkopbouworgaan Gouden Reael*) and the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre (*Vereniging Vrienden van de Amsterdamse Binnenstad*). Most of the objections concerned the

reorganisation of houseboats and the scale of the development in relation to the view from the old city. The section, Western IJ Dock, was twice dealt with by the Council of State and, following modification (survey of the sightlines Western IJ Dock on the planning map), was also adopted in 2005.

The material to be used, according to the Urban Development Plan, is the composite brick-built block. The maximum height will be 36.75 metres above the quay and 35 metres above Westerdoksdijk. The street layout will harmonise with that of the ring of canals and is based on the guidelines laid out in the Manual for the Redevelopment of the Public Space. The guiding principle is to use the same materials as in the surface relief of the ring of canals, i.e., red brick and natural stone kerbing (main roads are an exception and will be of black asphalt). The vast majority of homes are situated in three blocks: north, central and south. The first buildings in the north block were started on 11 November 2004. Most of the non-residential structures have been built in Western IJ Dock.

Wester IJdock (Kop Westerdokseiland)

A separate Urban Development Plan has been drawn up for the Kop (adopted on 3 July 2001). The maximum construction height will be 46 metres above Normal Amsterdam Water Level (*Normaal Amsterdams Peil*; NAP). Gaps have been designed in the new blocks to afford views of the IJ from various parts of the historic inner city (including from Keizergracht canal). The Kop is behind Westerdokseiland and is barely visible from the ring of canals. The Kop development will include a hotel (300 rooms, on 11 floors), 59 luxury owner-occupier houses, Amsterdam's Court Building (relocated from the Prinsengracht canal and other locations and comprising about 30,000 square metres), National Police Force Services (*Korps Landelijke Politie Diensten*, KLPD) and Inland Waterways Board (*Binnenwaterbeheer*) offices and a yachting marina (temporary berths for sea-going yachts to be run by the hotel).



Visualisation IJ Dock complex

Parking facilities will largely be located in garages inside the buildings. A public parking garage will be situated underneath the Western IJ Dock complex. A new square will be built alongside the marina, with services such as cafés, restaurants and other small businesses. The development plan for the Kop has been halted for four years due to judicial procedures (zoning plan) and the slow demand for business premises. In 2005, the Government Building Agency

(*Rijksgebouwendienst*) decided to locate the Amsterdam Court building here and the plan was again taken up.



Visualisation: IJ Dock from the East

Stenen Hoofd

Stenen Hoofd (Stone Head) is a former pier on the northeastern side of Westerdokdijk and will be given over to public use.

Consequences for the UNESCO nomination

Visual Impact

There are sightlines from the property, from Prinsengracht canal and Binnen Brouwers Street (leading on from Keizersgracht canal), towards Westerdokseiland. The new Westerdokseiland development will block the sightline from Prinsengracht canal to the IJ. Since the 19th century, this sightline has been partially blocked by the railway embankment.

Gaps have been left in the new blocks in front of the Kop, the Western IJ Dock, to secure views of the IJ from Keizersgracht canal/Binnen Brouwers Street. 'In situ' inspections revealed that this view was blocked by a tree. As far as can be ascertained from the sightlines studies, the new development at the end of Westerdokseiland will have no visual impact on the property. The gaps in the buildings will preserve the views to the IJ and on to the horizon.

Conclusion: there will be considerable visual impact on the property as an important sightline will be interrupted. However, it must be pointed out that the original sightlines did not afford direct views of the IJ or the harbour front. They did, of course, afford views of the open horizon, giving a sense of space.

Authenticity and integrity

The new Westerdokseiland development is outside the buffer zone. The civic design combines references from different epochs in Amsterdam's development, with the aim of making Westerdokseiland a logical link between the 17th-century inner city and the 19th-century harbour area around the IJ. The development thus harmonises with recent Amsterdam tradition in civic design illustrated in the developments in the southern shore of the IJ and the islands. The relationship to the authenticity and integrity of the property cannot be indicated.

Progress so far

Westerdokseiland

The completion process of the development started in 2007 and will be finished halfway through 2009. The 'La Grande Cour' block and 'Westerkaap I' have been completed and handed over to the residents. It is expected that 'Westerkaap II' and 'VOC Cour' will have been handed over by the middle of 2009. Work has begun on the final street-level layout around 'La Grande Cour'. The progress of the street-level work is dependant on the speed of the completion and handing over of the remaining blocks on the island. Where necessary, temporary surfaces will be laid. The restaurant, 'Open', began catering to the public at the beginning of this year. It is housed in a structure on the Western Dock's (*Westerdok*) former railway swing bridge.

Western IJ Dock (Kop of the Westerdokseiland)

The construction of boat collision defences (*aanvaarbescherming*) started in June 2008 and will be completed in 2012/2013. The necessary contracts were signed in February 2008 with Fortis Real Estate (*Fortis Vastgoed*), the Government Building Agency and the City of Amsterdam.

Stenen Hoofd

A Strategy Resolution (first plan, formulation phase) is being prepared for the re-zoning of Stenen Hoofd. It is hoped that Stenen Hoofd will remain open to the public.

Sources

- Westerdokseiland Urban Development Schedule of Requirements (*Stedenbouwkundig Programma van Eisen Westerdokseiland*) adopted by Amsterdam city council, 17 March 1999.
- Westerdokseiland Urban Development Plan (*Stedenbouwkundig Plan Westerdokseiland*) (October, 2000); adopted by the Executive Committee of the City of Amsterdam, 10 January 2001.
- Kop Westerdokseiland Urban Development Plan (*Stedenbouwkundig Plan Kop Westerdokseiland*) (September 2001); adopted by the Executive Committee of the City of Amsterdam, 3 July 2001.
- Kop of the Westerdokseiland Street-level layout (*Maaiveldinrichting [Kop] Westerdokseiland*)
- 'Westerdokseiland Zoning Plan (*Bestemmingsplan Westerdokseiland*) (regulations and map), adopted by the City of Amsterdam, 14 November 2001, adopted, 5 April 2005
- Sightlines study (to be attached)

Websites

www.westerdokseiland.nl (with photo montages of the development)

www.ijoevers.nl (general site)

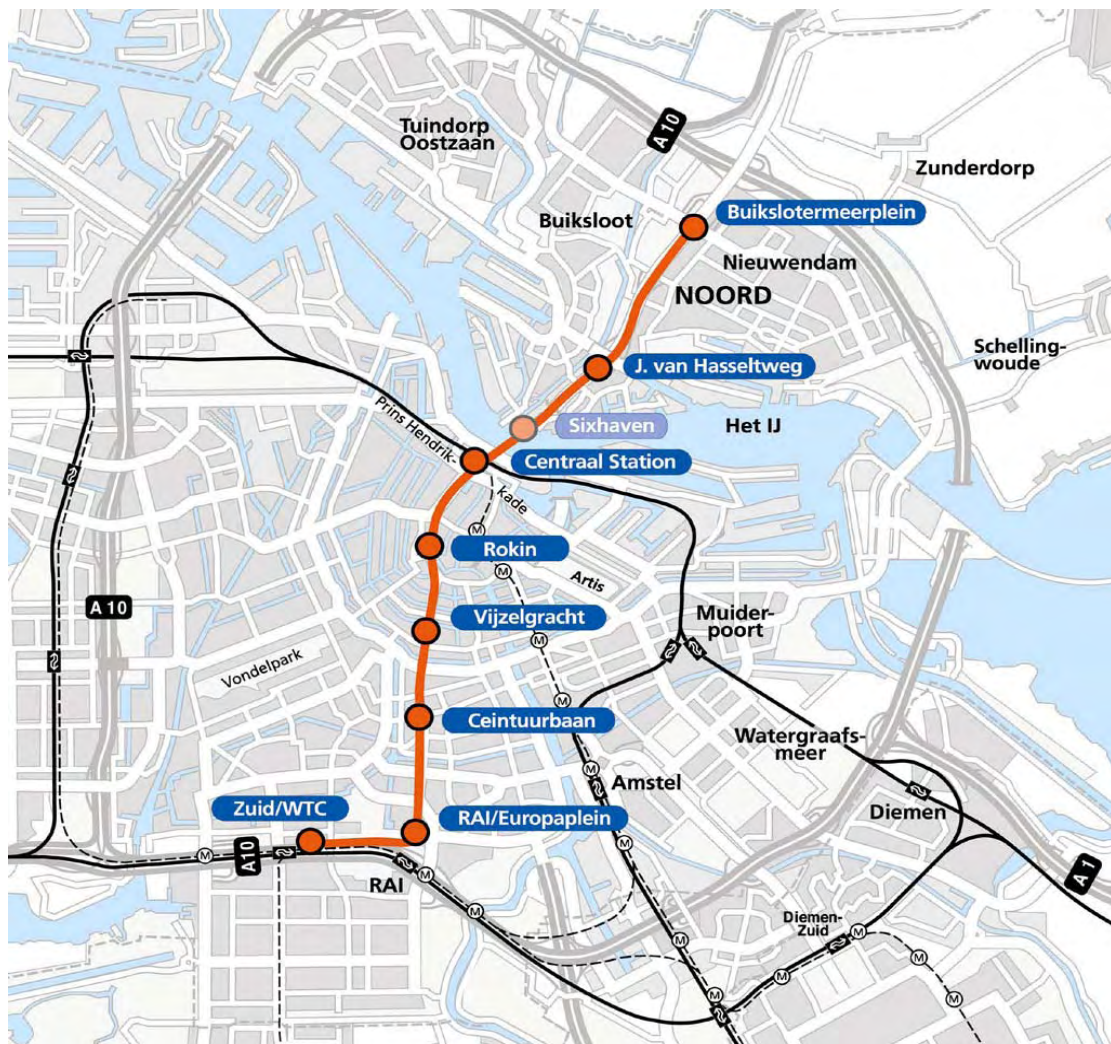
www.ijdock.nl

Key Issue D: North-South Metro Line (*Noord/Zuidlijn*)

Project overview: The North-South metro line (*Noord/Zuidlijn*) project concerns the construction of a metro line almost 10 kilometres long, 6 kilometres of which will be underground. The tunnel is being constructed deep underground and does not pass underneath any buildings with the exception of Central Station. When construction is finished in 2013, 200,000 people per day will use the metro link. Construction is being supervised by the North-South Metro Line Project Agency (*Projectbureau Noord/Zuidlijn*).

Route: The North-South metro line will run from Buikslotermeerplein in Amsterdam North, under the city centre (Stationsplein, Damrak, Dam, Rokin, Vijzel Street, Vijzelgracht canal, Weteringplantsoen) to the World Trade Centre in Amsterdam South.

Status: Under construction



The route map of the future North-South line. Station Sixhaven will not be realised.

History and decision-making process

On 9 October 2002, Amsterdam City Council voted to begin the North-South Metro Line (Council order, 9 October 2002; Council paper, Section 3A, no. 295/514).²

The vote was preceded by the necessary public debate. Amsterdam's Urban Development Board (*Amsterdamse Raad voor de Stadsontwikkeling*; ARS) pointed out – as early as 1995 – that town-planning considerations had to a large extent been forgotten because the debate had largely focused on the cost.³

In 1995, the d'Oude Stadt District Centre (*Wijkcentrum d'Oude Stadt*) published a report entitled *Metropijn (Metro Pain)*. This proposed alternatives to the construction of the North-South metro line, such as optimising the existing public aboveground transport links combined with measures dealing with parking and goods transportation.⁴

Official complaints about the council decision coupled with a demand for a referendum were registered by the Above-Grounders Association (*de Vereniging De Bovengrondse*), Nelly Frijda and Maarten Lubbers, on behalf of 75 well-known Amsterdam residents and many others. This was rejected because a plebiscite had already been held on 25 June 1997.

The complaint by the Above-Grounders Association was dismissed by the Council of State (*Raad van State*) in November 2005. The Council of State did, however, rule that, in 2000/2001, the Amsterdam City Council failed to pay enough attention to the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency's comments about the aesthetic problems regarding the design for the lift exit near Weteringscircuit (see below).

Foundations investigation and measuring programme

To prevent damage to the foundations of buildings along the metro line route, the foundations of 1700 buildings were examined before construction started. If there was a reasonable possibility of subsidence resulting from the construction of the tunnel, owners were able to claim subsidies covering the restoration of the foundations, for which an amount of 27 million guilders was made available. Many buildings have had new foundations laid using internally sunk steel piles.⁵

A system has also been installed along the entire route that continually monitors local buildings for any subsidence.

Compensation for loss and damage

Since 2002, affected parties (residents and businesses in premises along the North-South metro line) have been able to register damages and make a claim under the Regulation for the Compensation for Loss and Damage Due to Planning of the North-South Metro Line (*Verordening Nadeelcompensatie en Planschade Noord Zuid/lijn*). In the event of damage to buildings, an independent expert can be brought in. Compensation claims are dealt with by the North-South Metro Line Damage Agency (*Schadebureau Noord/Zuid/lijn*). Up to the end of 2006, 175 owners had made damages claims, and 3.2 million euros (a quarter of the available budget of 12.6 million euros) had been paid out (figures from the audit office report).

Building aesthetics

² An overview of the major events during the preparation and decision-making process can be gained by visiting www.noordzuidlijn.amsterdam.nl

³ Urban Development Board Recommendations on the North-South Metro Line (*Adviezen Amsterdamse Raad voor de Stadsontwikkeling over de Noord Zuid/lijn*) (February 1995), and no. 214 (August 1998).

⁴ The d'Oude Stad District Centre's May 1995 Traffic Working Group Report, 'Metropijn', a critical report into Amsterdam's planned North-South Metro Line (*Werkgroep Verkeer van het Wijkcentrum d'Oude Stadt, Metropijn. Kritisch onderzoek naar de geplande noord-zuid-metro in Amsterdam*), May 1995.

⁵ Wind, H., Major repairs of foundations along the new North-South Metro Line (*Grootchalig funderingsherstel langs nieuwe Noordzuid-lijn*), in: *Bouwwereld*, no. 5 (3 March 2003).

As far as this issue is concerned, this memorandum only deals with the position and architecture of Vijzelgracht metro station, which is within the property.

The Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency (CWM) has lodged the following objections to the building plans which have already received a building permit (advice issued on 31 May 2000, 20 September 2000 and 4 October 2000):

- Locating a lift at the junction of Nieuwe Vijzel Street and Weteringschans. The CWM believes the locating the lift just a few metres from the facades of existing buildings is very unfortunate; the entrances to the station are too large – ‘the size of the exits does not harmonise with the cityscape’ – and the CWM objects to this. The agency takes the view that additions to the public space should conform to the scale of the immediate area. It believes a guiding principle should be that such changes harmonise discreetly with the urban fabric, and this is not the case with the present proposal.

The City of Amsterdam’s Executive Committee decided to reject the agencies objections, citing opinions by external experts.

Part of the opinion given on 23 May 2005 by Prof H.C. Bekkering B.Sc. (professor of town planning at Delft University of Technology) is quoted below:

‘The view expressed by Amsterdam’s Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency at its 4 October 2000 meeting, that the design for the Vijzelgracht station would “monumentalise the metro within the cityscape”, is, as I pointed out earlier (in my opinion of 21 July 2004), in no way compatible with the scale, the materials used and the decoration of the visible parts of the station: the sunken entrance, the lift housing and ventilation shaft. In my opinion, the additions to the public space are totally in keeping with the scale of the immediate area and fit in discreetly. The transparency of a lift housing made entirely of glass and the extremely reserved decoration used in the Benthem Crouwel Architects design, in their very abstraction, draw little attention.

The advantage of this relatively neutral architectural approach is that, through the neutrality, not only is a certain timelessness achieved, but also the impact of new elements on the existing surroundings can remain limited. Partly for this reason, the entire North-South metro line design has been favourably received in specialist publications (see Aart Oxenaar in De Architect 29/5, 1998, among others).

The lift housing is relatively close to the pavement, in front of the buildings with the addresses, Vijzel Street nos. 3 and 5, near the corner of Weteringschans. These houses have retained some of their historic value. The lift housing, at 4.2 metres high, reaches roughly the first-floor windowsills of these and nearby buildings, a height that is marked by cornices on the facades and additions such as billboards and sun blinds. The lift housing fits in completely with the scale of what is to be found at ground level in the vicinity, viz. shops, restaurants and bars and other service outlets. Architecturally, it is totally different, but its overall transparency and neutrality ensure it does not really stand out. The proximity to the facades of the existing buildings does not counteract this.’

In November 2005, the Objections Committee (*Bezwaarschriftencommissie*) ruled that Prof Bekkering, in his opinion dated 23 May 2005, had sufficiently refuted the objections made by the CWM, and that the City of Amsterdam’s Executive Committee, in adopting this and earlier arguments, was justified in laying aside the CWM’s negative report.

Archaeology

In accordance with the guidelines laid down in the Malta Convention, archaeological investigations have been and are being carried out during the construction of the tunnel 30 metres underground. The City of Amsterdam has set aside 6 million euros for this work.



Damrak in 2005. Archaeologists made the first excavations here.

Archaeological research was carried out in the initial phase, long before the start of construction work: this centred on Station Island (*Stationseiland*), Damrak and Rokin. These are the sites of medieval Amsterdam and the River Amstel's IJ estuary. Pro-active archaeological supervision will take place or has taken place at the Vijzelgracht and Ceintuurbaan stations, and in Amsterdam North as far as the Willemssluizen (locks). A practical approach was adopted. This entails the archaeology being fitted in alongside the civil engineering work. No separate inventorial field research is done: instead, it takes place when the foundations for the stations are being excavated. The archaeological research/excavations are mostly done in the evening. The situation underground is documented as much as possible. During the day, the civil engineering work is also supervised by archaeologists to secure material and prepare for the evening's research work. In addition, all the material that comes to the surface is sifted and documented. So far, the most important finds have been made in the Damrak-Rokin area.⁶



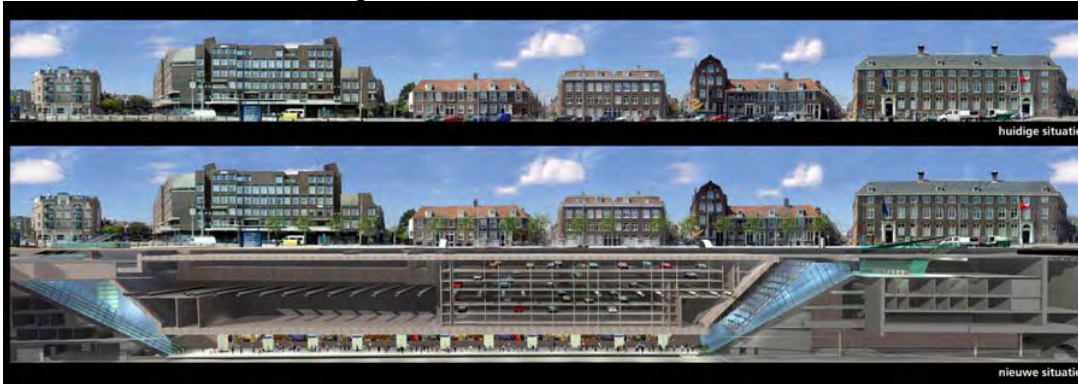
During excavations in the Damrak, a unique seal stamp, dating from the late 14th century, was found.

⁶ *Vitruvius*, vol. 1, no. 4, July 2008.

Consequences for the UNESCO nomination

Visual impact

The North-South metro line follows an underground route between Central Station and Weteringcircuit. On street level, only the station entrances are visible along Rokin (buffer zone) and the Vijzelgracht (property). Only the part of Vijzelgracht Station which is aboveground will be dealt with from now on. There will be three entrances, only one of which, the entrance near Maison Descartes, will be within the property. This entrance is only visible from Vijzel Street and partially visible from Prinsengracht canal. The lift and lift housing designed by Benthem Crouwel Architects is as far as possible transparent (for the most part glass). The use of transparent materials and its height, 4.20 metres, makes the modern design restrained.



Benthem Crouwel: impression of the Vijzelgracht with the mainly glass entrance to the metro.

Authenticity en Integrity

The design of the lift housing and the entrance to the North-South metro line is modern and at the same time restrained

Progress so far

Recently, work began on excavating the Vijzelgracht and building the station. On 19 June 2008, a leak occurred in a joint between two restraining wall panels of the excavated site for the station, and led to a number of nearby buildings subsiding and having to be evacuated and shored up (Vijzelgracht 20-24). An inquiry is underway into the Vijzelgracht Station leak and the subsidence of the building.

Sources

www.noordzuidlijn.amsterdam.nl

Key issue E: Coalition Project 1012 (*Coalitieproject 1012*)

- Project description:** Coalition Project 1012 aims to take a far-reaching approach to one of the oldest parts of Amsterdam's city centre. The goal is to inhibit the crime-conducive infrastructure of the city's red light district (the area centred on the Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canals known as the Wallen), and combat the degeneration of the Damrak, the street that serves as an entrance to the city from Central Station, by means of a large-scale, radical alteration of the area's function. The unique cultural and historic value of this part of the city is the starting-point for creating a high-quality, attractive and accessible environment.
- Location:** The 1012 postcode area is bordered by the Prins Hendrikkade, the Singel canal, the Kloveniersburgwal/Geldersekade canals and the Munt square; the area to the west of the Spuistraat lies within the property, the rest of the project area is in the buffer zone.
- Status:** Coalition Project. A collaboration between the City of Amsterdam and the District of Central Amsterdam.

History and decision-making process

In 1997, one of the findings of a parliamentary inquiry on crime detection was that the Wallen (the red light district) was in the hands of organised crime. This prompted the City of Amsterdam to make a concerted effort to tackle the problems in the area, leading to the foundation of the Van Traa Team. Working with partners including the organisations NV Zeedijk and NV Stadsgoed, the team has acquired around 100 properties. The buildings have thus successfully been kept out of criminal hands and subsequent to redevelopment given a new function. In 2005, the District of Central Amsterdam initiated a targeted approach to the northern Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canal area, with a view to achieving a general enhancement of the neighbourhood by actively tackling the physical infrastructure, nuisance in the street, and law enforcement in the widest sense. Leading on from this policy, in 2006 the Wallen Coordination Team was set up to take responsibility for surveillance and law enforcement in this part of the central Amsterdam district.



The Oudekerksplein square with the Old Church (*Oude Kerk*), the heart of the 1012 area

Because of the complexity of the task and the wide-ranging ambitions for a substantial enhancement of the Wallen area and the nearby Damrak and Rokin, in summer 2007 the City of Amsterdam (represented by the Mayor and the Alderman for Economic Affairs), and the District of Central Amsterdam (represented by the Chairman and Alderman for Public Space and Economic Affairs) initiated a process of consultation between the two local government bodies, and the collaboration was formalised as a so-called coalition project in a resolution adopted on 4 December 2007. The administrative coalition is responsible for inhibiting both the crime-conducive infrastructure in the Wallen area in particular, and the degeneration of the Damrak.

Moreover, there was an urgent desire to achieve a substantial enhancement to the area that forms an entrance to the city. Historically and spatially, the Damrak and Rokin have a key function in the city, but suffer from a lack of quality both in terms of architecture and function – the usage of the real estate. The proposed remodelling of the street layout, referred to as the ‘Red Carpet’ (see below), is an essential element. Another instrument both to reduce crime-conducive property functions and realise a qualitative improvement is to intervene in the use of real estate. A new premium-quality entrance area fits within the concept of the *Amsterdam Topstad* programme.

Furthermore, there are a range of projects already running in the area which can reinforce the Project 1012 quality impulse: the construction of the North-South Metro Line and car park beneath the Rokin; the development of a business plan for the *Beurs van Berlage* building; the restoration of the *Blauwsluis* block of buildings; the extension of Hotel Krasnapolsky; the renovation of the Royal Palace on Dam Square; the renovation and construction of the university in the grounds of the *Binnengasthuis*; the extension of the Hotel de l’Europe; the renewal of the Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canals; the acquisition and change in function of properties formerly owned by prostitution and sex shop entrepreneur Charles Geerts; and the acquisition and change in function of the Mata Hari building, a former gambling club.

The Coalition Project 1012 aims to link and extend these developments, as well as to coordinate projects undertaken in cooperation with private parties.

The resolution approving the establishment of Coalition Project 1012 (*Instellingsbesluit Coalitieproject 1012*) and the Shared Principles memorandum, commissioned by the board by the City of Amsterdam Project Management Bureau (PMB), refer to a range of action and strategic projects. There are four aspects to the approach:

1. The continuation of matters that are already running successfully: the renewal of the northern Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canal area with associated traffic measures, the remodelling of the street layout for the Damrak and Rokin, integral action to enforce the terms of existing permits, the application of the Public Administration Probity Screening Act (*Bevordering van de integriteitbeoordelingen door het openbaar bestuur – Bibob*), mediation and where necessary financial contribution to the acquisition of real estate.
2. Future perspective: clarity on the desired and commercially feasible functions in the project site, focusing on the northern Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canal area, the Damrak and Rokin (analysis and scenario study).
3. Acquisition strategy: the establishment of an acquisition strategy, including a model acquisition protocol, a survey of all possible legally legitimate means and possible special financing constructions.
4. Strategic projects: the promotion and monitoring of the quality of projects that could have a flywheel effect on the desired enhancement of the area:
 - a. Extension of the Hotel Victoria
 - b. Redevelopment of C&A Damrak department store
 - c. 2-4 Dam Square
 - d. Remodelling of the Damrak canal
 - e. Business plan for the *Beurs van Berlage* + Beursplein + Euronext
 - f. Redevelopment of the Bijenkorf department store underground car park
 - g. Redevelopment of the Hotel Krasnapolsky underground car park
 - h. Fortis Building, Rokin
 - i. Underground parking facilities, North-South Metro Line, Rokin

- j. 'Red Carpet' remodelled street layout
- k. Redevelopment of Mata Hari building
- l. *Ons' Lieve Heer op Solder* ('Our Lord in the Attic') museum and church
- m. Planning of underground parking facilities on the Geldersekaade canal
- n. Development possibilities for Chinatown
- o. Remodelling of the street layout in the northern Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canal area
- p. Extension of the Hotel de l'Europe
- q. Extension of the library in the grounds of the *Binnengasthuis*

The Red Carpet

One of the key projects within Coalition 1012 as a whole is known as the Red Carpet. Its goal is to give the 'entrance' to the city – along the route of the North-South Metro Line in the historic city centre from Station Square to the Weteringschans – a new, enhanced atmosphere. This not only involves remodelling the public space, but also redeveloping buildings and their functions. A range of other projects, such as the remodelling of the Leidseplein and Rembrandtplein squares, will be coordinated with the Red Carpet, so they are mutually complementary.

A draft document has been drawn up, setting out the basic principles for remodelling the public space. It is scheduled for approval by the District of Central Amsterdam Executive Committee and the City of Amsterdam Municipal Executive in mid-November 2008, after which it will be released for public consultation. The public consultation procedure was scheduled to begin in January 2009.

Consequences for the UNESCO nomination of the 17th-century ring of canals

At present, none of the projects referred to are at a stage that is sufficiently concrete for an assessment to be made of the possible affects on the property and buffer zone. The first plans are not expected to be handled before November 2008.

According to the vision on cultural history drawn up by Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) and the District of Central Amsterdam, the qualities of the property and buffer zone would be explicitly stated (report completed end of October 2008) and a proposal made for the 'operationalisation' these qualities, and how this can be linked to the various projects in the Strategy Resolution.



Map showing historic architectural value of the expanding city

Current situation

The Project Organisation established by the City of Amsterdam and the District of Central Amsterdam (7 December 2007) has been working on the draft Strategy Resolution (completed in Autumn 2008), detailing the strategic projects referred to above. At the same time, the dialogue with residents and businesses in the area is being continued, and consultation with market players on development and investment possibilities in the area is being intensified. This partly forms the basis for the content of the resolution.

In mid-February 2008, the Chair of the District of Central Amsterdam Executive Committee presented BMA's Classification Map for Historic Architectural Value (*Bouwhistorische Waardenkaart*) in the medieval city centre to the project manager of Coalition Project 1012. BMA and the District of Central Amsterdam have been working to establish a vision on cultural history for the project area (completed October 2008). This will be included in the Strategy Resolution.

In autumn 2008, wide public consultation was organised with residents and businesses in the area, to exchange ideas on the vision for the future of the 1012 area. The results will be taken into account in the draft Strategy Resolution 1012 for approval by the City of Amsterdam and the District of Central Amsterdam in spring 2009.

Sources

- Memorandum: Boundaries to enforcement; new ambitions for the Wallen area (Directorate of Public Order and Safety/Van Traa Team), September 2007
- Memorandum: Shared Principles 1012, 7 December 2007
- Memorandum: Resolution approving the establishment of Coalition Project 1012, 7 December 2007
- Strategy Resolution, autumn 2008
- BMA and the District of Central Amsterdam's vision on cultural history, end of October 2008

Key issue F: Chinatown

- Project description:** Strengthening the economic fabric of 'Chinatown'. Since the beginning of the 20th century, many Chinese people have settled in the area and set up businesses. The area is distinctive in Amsterdam because of the predominance of Chinese and Asian businesses, restaurants and amenities, and the presence of The Netherlands' only Buddhist temple.
- Location:** The area surrounds the Zeedijk and its side streets and alleyways, the Geldersekaade canal, the Nieuwmarkt square and the Binnen Bantammerstraat. The area lies within the buffer zone.
- Status:** Coalition Project. A collaboration between the City of Amsterdam and the District of Central Amsterdam.

History and decision-making process

On 6 May 2008, the District of Central Amsterdam Executive Committee approved a memorandum entitled Chinatown Amsterdam (source no. F 1). This was preceded by a variety of initiatives by a wide range of parties (residents, businesses, councillors), and the presentation of two analytical studies. The District of Central Amsterdam Executive Committee then responded with a memorandum.

The Coalition Project 1012 is to formulate a concept for the entire 1012 postcode area, to be completed by mid-2009. Chinatown is located within this area. The memorandum is to be presented to the coalition project to serve as building material for the concept. There is a particular focus on Chinatown, because the Executive Committee has established that in its present form the area functions weakly in social and economic terms. The committee sets great store by the continued presence of Chinatown in the neighbourhood and wishes to strengthen it in its present form. It has opted to do so in two ways:

1. Strengthen the economic fabric;
2. Broaden the supply of products and services that reinforce the neighbourhood's Chinese or Asian character.

To strengthen the economic fabric, the Executive Committee will cooperate with initiatives by Chinese entrepreneurs which contribute to a broader supply of products and services in the area. This also applies to initiatives that aim at increasing Chinatown's possibilities as a tourist destination and which encourage and prolong overnight stays by tourists and businesspeople, whether of Chinese or other origin. Efforts will also be made to promote a more attractive and safer environment for visitors by investing in remodelling the public space both of the Zeedijk and its side alleys, and of the Geldersekaade. The area's accessibility is to be improved by the provision of underground parking facilities.

To achieve a broader supply of goods and services appropriate to the Chinese and Asian character of the neighbourhood, the Executive Committee will support initiatives for the construction of housing for elderly people of Chinese ethnic origin. It will also support Chinese social, cultural, educational and sports associations in Amsterdam, either in organising temporary activities such as special events in the neighbourhood, or in moving into permanent premises in the area. The Executive Committee also proposes to work actively to interest Chinese cultural organisations in moving into the area, and to support private cultural initiatives such as a cinema or Chinese museum. Moreover, it will also support events that are Asian in character.

Critical factors

An absolute precondition for the Chinatown project is that the historic cityscape must be preserved. The policy document stresses that the conservation, broadening and strengthening of Chinatown must take place within the scope of policy applying to the city centre as a whole. In concrete terms this means that for the Executive Committee there is no question of dispensing with the conservation of the area for the sake of increasing its Asian atmosphere. It is virtually impossible to introduce gates,

lions, Chinese streetlamps and other such alterations or additions to the public space, because they are not in keeping with the neighbourhood's historic character as build heritage. The area's Asian atmosphere derives from the nature of the use of the buildings, and primarily this will have to remain so in future. Characteristically Chinese additions are only possible when they are appropriate and are not detrimental to the historic cityscape. Moreover, there must also be room for non-Chinese businesses to remain in the area, which must be prevented from becoming mono-functional. The design of the area will take place in accordance with the guidelines in the Handbook for the Design of Public Space.



Zeedijk

Current situation

The District of Central Amsterdam is working on a concept Policy Document on Basic Principles for underground parking facilities in the Chinatown area. A variety of possibilities are being considered, such as under the Geldersekaade canal or Oosterdok dock. The starting-point for the study is to provide a car park with 350 parking spaces, 70 percent of which are reserved for residents and local businesses and 30 percent for visitors to the area. The city council is due to reach a decision on the matter at the end of 2008.

The consequences for the UNESCO nomination

Visual impact

The neighbourhood has had an Asian character since the beginning of the 20th century. The coming of Chinese people, which has resulted in a neighbourhood with an Asian atmosphere, fits within the concept of Amsterdam as a free port.

Strengthening the neighbourhood's Asian atmosphere must not cause any harm to the conservation area and will primarily have to derive from the use of the buildings in the area. In the first place it should contribute to enhancing the atmosphere of the neighbourhood.

Authenticity and integrity

The neighbourhood lies within the buffer zone and will not essentially change in character (see above). The anticipated developments will not affect the property's authenticity and integrity.

Sources

1. *Memorandum on Chinatown, Amsterdam*, approved by the Executive Committee on 6 May 2008.

Key issue G: The Binnengasthuisterrein

Project description: A new library for the Humanities Faculty of the University of Amsterdam (UvA) on the Binnengasthuisterrein.

Location : The area is bordered by the Grimburgwal, the Oudemanhuispoort, Kloveniersburgwal, Nieuwe Doelenstraat and by the Oude Turfmarkt (in the buffer zone) at the back of the area. There are twelve national monuments in the area.

Status: The project is currently in the building permit application phase.

History and decision-making

The plans to establish the library of the Humanities Faculty of the University of Amsterdam (UvA) has a long history; a summary of the most important stages in the decision-making process follows:

- The UvA presented the university's entire plan for the library to the B&W in November 1998.
- The then Council Committee for Urban Renewal, Spatial Planning, Ground Affairs (*Commissie voor Volkshuisvesting, Stadsvernieuwing, Ruimtelijke Ordening en Grondzaken*) agreed in principle with this location plan and the cluster principle which forms its basic principles in February 1999. Regarding the Binnengasthuisterrein they stipulated that the results of further research into the suitability of the development had to be presented before they would make a final decision. This involved asking the B&W to conduct more extensive research into the suitability of the development.
- On 19 September 2001 the city council decided:
 - To cooperate in principle in the establishment of the Faculty Library and the Humanities Faculty on the Binnengasthuisterrein;
 - To ask the mayor and aldermen to appoint a quality control team to supervise further planning developments;
 - To endorse the drafting of a zoning plan for the Binnengasthuisterrein and surroundings based on the principles included in the recommendations.

The council's recommendation concluded that even though the UvA had limited the programme requirements in a revised plan, the development would still not harmonise with the existing structures, while there were no useable alternatives that did justice to the university's proposed plan, including the so-called Alfacluster (with, among others, language and cultural studies, [art]history, media, culture and philosophy) in and around the Binnengasthuisterrein. The decision-making explicitly mentions the possibility of erecting new buildings for the Faculty Library in the location of the convent, the Zusterhuis, and the former Theatre School (the former Second Surgical Clinic [*Tweede Chirurgische Kliniek*]).

- On 13 July 2001 the State Secretary of the OCW designated the Binnengasthuis complex as built heritage. The objections by the UvA to this – even in an appeal – were rejected (Council of State [*Raad van State*] 19 July 2006). An important consideration for this was: 'The designation of the buildings as built heritage does not necessarily imply that radical changes such as those proposed by the appellant (the UvA) for the realisation of the new building plans on the location of the buildings, does not necessarily imply that those changes will not be able to take place. This must be decided in the framework of the specified permit procedure described in Article 11 *et seq.* of the Monuments Act'.
- The zoning plan for the Binnengasthuisterrein and its surroundings was adopted on 28 February 2002. It specifies that the urban planning principles that were ratified by the city council on 19 September 2001 must be adopted in their entirety. It appears from the explanatory notes that the zoning plan includes the possibility of renovating or erecting new structures in the locations of the Second Surgical Clinic and the Zusterhuis convent.
- On 4 February 2004 the Council of State reached a decision regarding the appeals that were lodged against decision of the Provincial Executive of North Holland and (partially) approved the zoning plan. The Council of State's decision meant that a new zoning plan had to be drafted for the Binnengasthuis Street/Vendel Street corner. The resulting gap in this extremely small section of the Binnengasthuisterrein development zone was addressed by the

Zoning Plan for the Binnengasthuis Street/Vendel Street Corner (*Bestemmingsplan Hoek Binnengasthuisstraat/Vendelstraat*) that was adopted by the district council on 31 March 2005.

- At the end of October 2006 the UvA presented a preliminary application for the realisation of the library on the location of a building complex (part of the Zusterhuis convent and the Second Surgical Clinic) that is inscribed as a national monument. The UvA used this preliminary application to request the Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district to take a position regarding the proposed plans, prior to submitting the formal (building permit) applications.
- After an extensive advisory period and consultation with the Council Committee for Building, Living and Urban Development (*raadscommissie Bouwen, Wonen en Stedelijke Ontwikkeling*), the Executive Committee decided on 25 March 2008 that they approved in principle with the UvA's proposition of a newly-constructed university library on the Binnengasthuisterrein, despite the regrettable demolition of a national monument that this would entail. Important considerations included:
 - The quality of the plans for the new development (by the Spanish architects bureau Cruz y Ortiz), the realisation of which was guided by a district council-appointed Quality Team (that included representatives from The Netherlands Department for Conservation [*Rijksdienst voor de Monumentenzorg*; RDMZ] and the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency [*Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten Amsterdam*]);
 - The role the university and the library play in the city centre as well as the significance a quality impulse could have for the university and the city centre.

The Binnengasthuisterrein Memorandum. A New Library for the University of Amsterdam (*Binnengasthuisterrein. Een nieuwe bibliotheek voor de Universiteit van Amsterdam*; see source no. 1) extensively and carefully details the various considerations that served as the basis of the decision.



Current situation



Planned situation

Opinions in the framework of the zoning plan procedure

The following ten parties have submitted opinions in the framework of adopting a zoning plan for the Binnengasthuisterrein and its surroundings:

1. The Binnengasthuisterrein Society for the Quality of Life and Public Space (*Vereniging Openbaar en Leefbaar Binnen Gasthuisterrein*; VOLBG);
2. Amsterdam Discussion Platform (*Amsterdam Overleg*) on behalf of the Royal Antiquities Society (*Koninklijk Oudheidkundige Genootschap*), the Amstelodamum Society (*Genootschap Amstelodamum*), the Heemschut Society (*Bond Heemschut*), the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre (*Vereniging van Vrienden van de Amsterdamse Binnenstad*), the Cuypers Society (*Cuypers Genootschap*), the restoration company *NV Stadsherstel Amsterdam* and the Diogenes Foundation (*Stichting Diogenes*);
3. see no. 2;
4. University of Amsterdam;
5. Various individual opinions;
6. P. Veer;
7. Heemschut Society, Amsterdam Commission;
8. the Cuypers Society;
9. d'Oude Stadt District Centre (*Wijkcentrum d'Oude Stadt*);
10. Enterprise Group South Burgwallen (*Initiatiefgroep Burgwallen Zuid*).

These opinions and the reactions to them are detailed in the Binnengasthuisterrein and Environs Zoning Plan (*Bestemmingsplan Binnengasthuisterrein e.o.*; Council paper [*Gemeentebld*], no. 198, 28 February 2002).

See source no. 3.

The opinions are discussed below, insofar as they relate to the cultural-historical aspects:

The Binnengasthuisterrein Society for the Quality of Life and Public Space (VOLBG) advocates 'safeguarding the quality of the historic cityscape'.

Reaction: the zoning plan discusses the 'preservation of cultural-historical values' (like other zoning plans for the city centre), but with 'consideration for the cultural-historical values'. 'This distinction is made because the zoning plan considers the possibility of realising a new development or alterations to the existing structures on the location of the Second Surgical Clinic and the Zusterhuis convent'.

The Amsterdam Discussion Platform (*Amsterdam Overleg*) objects to the possible construction of a tower/high-rise structure in the new development.

Reaction: modern high-rise buildings do not harmonise with the city centre; hence, limiting the height to 40 metres.

In addition, the Amsterdam Discussion Platform states that the zoning plan does not comply with the requirements of a conservation zoning plan.

Reaction: 'The regulations in this zoning plan...more than meet the requirement to carefully consider of the valuable historic structures on the one hand, and suitable spatial preconditions relating to a new development in the historical context of the area on the other'. For the background to this reaction, see the complete text in the council recommendation.

The Heemschut Society is opposed to enabling a high-rise development by means of the B&W's executive authority and is concerned that this might set a precedent. The construction boundary on the planning map has insufficient measures to protect the Zusterhuis and the Theatre School (both with built heritage values).

Reaction: it is proposed to link the B&W's executive authority to a High-Rise Impact Report (*HoogbouwEffectRapportage*; HER). See the reaction by the VOLBG regarding the concerns for the conservation of built heritage.

The Cuypers Society is of the opinion that the zoning plan must use the existing valuable structures and buildings as a starting point. It must have an 'open' character and not incorporate any options involving (partial) demolition. The basic principle should be enforcing the courtyard structure.

Moreover, a Cultural-Historical Effect Report (*Cultuurhistorische Effect Rapportage*) is lacking.

Reaction: The zoning plan is neither explicit nor implicit about the conservation or about a new development on the location of the former Zusterhuis/Theatre School. Both options (enforcement and

– partial – demolition/new development) are possible. The more detailed information will have to explicitly take the cultural-historical context into consideration. The impact on the cultural-historical surroundings will be detailed in the urban planning/architectonic plans for the area. One of the basic principles in the zoning plan is enforcement and improving the courtyard structure.

The d'Oude Stadt District Centre requested a zoning plan that focuses more on preserving the quality of the historic cityscape. (Reaction: see above).

To do justice to the cultural-historical values, the construction area for renovation or erecting a new building will have to be reduced and the current building line (an unusual street plan) has to serve as the basis.

Reaction: Incorporating the construction area in the zoning plan will ensure that the characteristic open structure of the Binnengasthuisterrein remains recognisable. The building line retains its whimsical character.

The Enterprise Group South Burgwallen wants a zoning plan to be drafted with an emphasis on national monuments, courtyard structure and the existing public/urban planning character.

Reaction: Because of all the safeguards, this conservation zoning plan conforms to the framework of Article 36 of the Monuments Act .

The Enterprise Group also states that a building 22 metres tall (instead of the existing building height of 16.70 metres) will have serious and irreversible consequences on the surroundings and the conservation area.

Reaction: The zoning plan states that the maximum heights of the gutter and the building (of category 1 and category 2 buildings) may not exceed the current heights of the gutter and the building.



Above: current situation. Below: planned situation

Advice from the CWM, BMA and RdmZ (now the RACM) in the framework of the preliminary application

Based on the decision by the city council on 19 September 2001, a quality team comprising professionals and experts was established to safeguard the quality of the proposed new development. This included representatives from the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency (CWM), The Netherlands Department for Conservation (*Rijksdienst voor de Monumentenzorg*; RDMZ) (now: The National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage, RACM) and an architect (with proven experience with construction in a historical context). This team was charged with three tasks:

- Supervising the urban development-architectonic development and periodic evaluation of the results;
- Supervising the development of the architectonic design;
- Advising on the choice of architect/s.

Eventually, the proposal from the Spanish architects bureau Cruz Y Ortiz was selected by the quality team and the selection committee as the best design. The development was so positively received by the Building Aesthetics Agency at the end 2004 that from this perspective there was no objection to a formal application for a building permit. They did this in isolation from the quality team that was involved in developing the plan between 2000 and 2004.

In the framework of the preliminary application, advice was (again) requested from the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency (in its dual role as the Building Aesthetics Agency and the Monuments Commission [*Monumentencommissie*]), from the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology (BMA) as preliminary advisor of the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency (CWM) and from the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM).

In its role as the building aesthetics commission, the CWM reacted positively to the preliminary application, but in its role as the Monuments Commission (*Monumentencommissie*) the commission objected to the proposed demolition of the Second Surgical Clinic and the partial demolition of and extensive modifications to the Zusterhuis. The commission based its objection on the similar advice from the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology (BMA). 'Adoption of the Zoning Plan for the Binnengasthuisterrein and its Surroundings' (*Vaststelling bestemmingsplan Binnengasthuisterrein e.o.*; Council paper [*Gemeentebld*] 2002, no. 198, 28 February 2002).

The advice from the RACM was also negative, concluding with: 'The proposed plans for the new faculty library by Cruz & Ortiz have paid a great deal of attention to ensuring that the proposed development will harmonise with the area as well as refining the architectural design of a massive building. From its inception, the programme of realising a new building that does justice to the existing built heritage at this location appears to have been too ambitious in attempting to improve the characteristic courtyard structure. Despite the efforts taken with the design, in my opinion they do not justify the removal of a building of social, cultural-historical and architectonic national importance; I thus advise you *not* to demolish the Second Surgical Clinic.'

See source no. 1

The current state of affairs

On 30 June 2008 the formal building permit, monument permit and demolition permit applications relating to the new faculty library building and the related demolition of the Zusterhuis (the facade on the Nieuw Doelen Street and part of the gable will be retained) and the former Theatre School (the Second Surgical Clinic) were submitted. More than 40 opinions have already been presented. These will be evaluated and incorporated in the preparations for the decision-making process relating to the monument permit application and the necessary procedure as outlined in Article 19, Clause 2, WRO (applicable before 1 July 2008)

Regarding the building and monument permit applications, advice was requested from the CWM and the RACM, but has not yet been received. The spatial basis must still be worked out for the spatial planning procedure.

The publication of the concept decisions relating to the monument permit application and Article 19, Clause 2 of the WRO was in October, after which opinions were presented. The final decision-making

will probably occur before the end of this year, depending on the results of the (revised) agreement with the council committee.

Consequences for the 17th-century ring of canals resulting from the UNESCO nomination

Considering three of the *Operational Guidelines* criteria used by the *World Heritage Committee* in evaluating the nomination, the possible consequences of developments on the old hospital site, the Binnengasthuisterrein, could be defined as follows:

Visual impact

Cruz y Ortiz's design for a new library adds some volume, height and architectural style to the character of the area. The Binnengasthuisterrein, an enclosed and, for the most part, inward-looking group of buildings and gardens, determines the character of the terrain, which stands alone surrounded by urban structures. It was originally a monastery complex, which, at the end of the 19th century and beginning of the 20th century, was transformed into a city hospital and, in the 1980s, was altered once again to become part of the university. This has resulted in the Binnengasthuisterrein and the buildings it contains having little connection with the surrounding urban area. The library conforms to the site's existing building contours and volume (see source no. 4). The present facade of the convent (*Zusterhuis*) in Nieuwe Doelen Street has remained intact. The highest new building (22 metres above ground level) can only be seen locally from Staal Street (buffer zone). The tallest structure to remain on the old hospital site is 17.5 metres above ground level. The tallest surrounding buildings, such as the Doelen Hotel and the Hotel de L'Europe, are over 30 metres high.

Conclusion: There is no visual impact on the property. The building is not visible from the 17th-century ring of canals (see source no. 5).

Authenticity and integrity

The authenticity of the area will be affected if the decision is taken to demolish two national monuments. Whether the integrity of the area is affected will depend on how the eventual new development complements the existing urban fabric.

The demolition/new development plans will have no direct consequences on the authenticity and integrity of the property.





Above: current situation. Below: planned situation

Sources

1. Memorandum: Binnengasthuisterrein. A New Library for the University of Amsterdam (*Notitie: Binnengasthuisterrein. Een nieuwe bibliotheek voor de Universiteit van Amsterdam*). Adopted by the Central Amsterdam district council, 5 February 2008.
2. Council recommendation (Council paper [*Gemeentebblad*] section 1, 2001, no. 553)
3. Adoption Binnengasthuisterrein and Environs Zoning Plan (*Bestemmingsplan Binnengasthuisterrein e.o.*; Council paper [*Gemeentebblad*], no. 198, 28 February 2002).
4. Impression of the architectural design
5. Sightlines study

Key issue H: Construction Plan Kop Singel (*Haringpakkerstoren*)

Project description: The project concerns the planned construction of a tower with surrounding buildings. The design of the tower is based on the Haringpakkerstoren, which was pulled down in the 19th century. The new development will be located at the end of Singel canal near the abutment of Haringpakkersbrug (bridge no. 58) on the extension of Prins Hendrikkade. The project is the initiative of a number of private individuals and was taken over in 2005 by Amsterdam Urban Restoration PLC (*StadsHerstel Amsterdam NV*). Amsterdam Urban Restoration buys historically valuable buildings, restores them and maintains them in perpetuity.

Location: The uneven side of Singel canal near Prins Hendrikkade, in the buffer zone, bordering on the property.

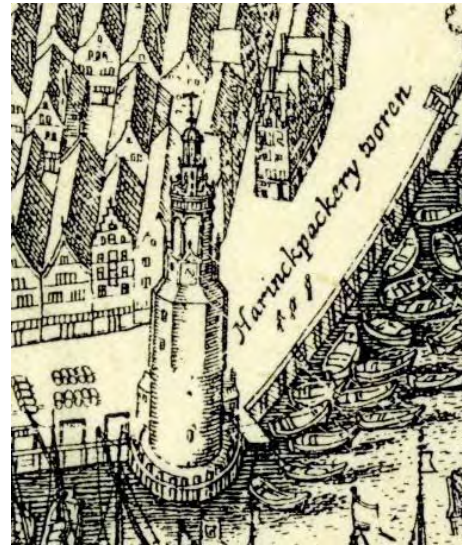
Status: The project is in the provisional design phase.

History and decision-making process

- In August 2005, during a press conference to mark its 50th anniversary, Amsterdam Urban Restoration announced it hoped to build a tower on the site of the Haringpakkerstoren, which was demolished in 1829. Amsterdam Urban Restoration's intention, in constructing the tower, was to restore a city view and, in the process, stimulate improvements to the quality of the surrounding area. The tower is to be used as office space, if possible by the creative industry sector. The street and cellar levels of the surrounding buildings will be given over to a catering facility.
- Amsterdam Urban Restoration will be responsible for the total cost of the project, including the cost of preparing the land for construction and of any necessary inspections.
- The wooden spire will be a reconstruction of the one added to the original medieval tower in the 17th century and is based on an early 19th-century surveyor's drawing. The brick tower base will be an interpretation of the medieval city-defences tower. The surrounding buildings will be of contemporary architectural design.
- Central Amsterdam district has been in consultation with Amsterdam Urban Restoration about this project since before August 2005. On 26 April 2005, the Executive Committee wrote to Amsterdam Urban Restoration saying that the district would in principle cooperate in the necessary procedures, once a request for building permission had been received.
- The City of Amsterdam has assisted in the adoption of a boundary correction (decision City Council and decision District Council 21 December 2005). Before this decision, part of the project location was within the metropolitan area Station Island (*Stationseiland*).
- On 11 July 2006, the Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district approved the project commission, after various investigations had been conducted.



View of the tower in the third quarter of the 17th century



Details from the map by Balthasar Florisz of Berckenrode, 1625

Investigations and recommendations

From December 2005, Central Amsterdam district's official project team started the preparatory investigation into the zoning plan and into the reorganisation of the public area (see source no. H 1). Furthermore, the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM) has provided a response (not requested) to the plan (source no. H 5), and the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology (BMA) has, in consultation with the district, carried out an archaeological investigation of the site. The results are summarised below.

1. The air quality investigation (*luchtkwaliteitonderzoek*) has been completed (IBA, July 2006, actualisation to follow); Result: The tower will not have a significant effect on air quality (see source no. H 2).
2. The High-Rise Impact Report Haringpakkerstoren Amsterdam (*De HoogbouwEffect Rapportage* [HER] *Haringpakkerstoren Amsterdam*; Physical Planning Department, May 2007) was sent for examination by the Advisory Commission of the City of Amsterdam on 5 September 2007. The Report concluded that a tower on the site would add to the cityscape and improve the skyline. A tower would combine well with a number of existing towers (South Church [*Zuiderkerk*], Old Church [*Oudekerk*], New Church [*Nieuwe Kerk*], the church, Posthoornkerk and the domes on the Royal Palace [*Paleis op de Dam*] and the Sonesta). It will be a new point of reference and will form a striking highlight at the beginning of Prins Hendrikkade. As far as visibility from a distance is concerned, there is certainly no negative effect (see source no. H 3).
3. From 30 November 2005, the Building Aesthetics Agency has been regularly informed about the project through preliminary consultation, and discussions on drawing up aesthetics criteria for an evaluation framework (for reports, see source no. H 4).
4. On 21 July 2006, the Netherlands Department for Conservation (RDMZ) (now the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage ; RACM) delivered unsolicited recommendations concerning the project to Central Amsterdam district's Executive Committee. These include the following:
 - a. A thorough and expert town planning and historic investigation should be instigated;
 - b. The choice should be made for a top-quality contemporary allusion to the original tower and not for a reconstruction which could only partially be realised;
 - c. Bear in mind the imminent application to UNESCO that the ring of canals be included on the World Heritage List.
 See source no. H 5.
5. The Archaeology Department of the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology has conducted a historical location investigation. Based on historical sources, an overview of the anticipated archaeological value has been compiled (31 March 2006). The site's archaeological value has been rated as high. Prior to construction work beginning, archaeological research, in the form

of inventorial field research (*inventariserend veldonderzoek, IVO*) or archaeological digs (*archeologische opgraving AO*), is compulsory.

6. The district's public space department (*sector Openbare Ruimte*) has drafted a proposal for the redevelopment of the site together with an estimate of the cost. The development will follow the guidelines laid down in the Manual for the Redevelopment of the Public Space (*Handboek Inrichting Openbare Ruimte*). The district will invest in the public space with the aim of improving its quality and appeal as a residential area. The public space in this area is badly in need of improvement and is moreover, according to the police responsible for the neighbourhood, viewed locally as unpleasant and unsafe.

Consequences for the UNESCO nomination

The plans are still in the preliminary design phase. The design concerns a new development inspired by the complex made up of the Haringpakkerstoren and adjoining buildings, which were demolished in 1829. The location of the historical complex (which made way for the road that became Prins Hendrikkade) was about 20 metres to the northeast of the proposed construction site. The design of the top part of the tower is based on an 1813 drawing by the architect Abraham van der Hart and will be built by master craftsmen using the best materials. The body of the tower, as far as material and details are concerned, will be a new construction, which will include references to the old tower so as to form a whole (architecturally and visually) with the upper part. The buildings surrounding the tower will be built in a contemporary architectural style which will harmonise with the characteristics of the city centre, and which will be visually distinct from the tower construction although joined by glass roofs.

Bearing in mind the principles and guidelines laid down in the Vienna Charter (2005) and the Operational Guidelines (2005), Chapter II E on integrity and/or authenticity, the following remarks can be made regarding the design.



The present situation

Authenticity

Article 7 of the Vienna Charter defines the historic urban landscape as follows: 'ensembles of any group of buildings, structures and open spaces, in their natural and ecological context, including archaeological and palaeontology sites, constituting human settlements in an urban environment over a relevant period of time, the cohesion and value of which are recognized from the archaeological, architectural, prehistoric, historic, scientific, aesthetic, social-cultural or ecological point of view'.

Article 21 of the Charter's guidelines for conservation management states: 'Taking into account the basic definition (according to Article 7 of this Charter), urban planning, contemporary architecture and preservation of the historic urban landscape should avoid all forms of pseudo-historical design...'

Paragraph 86 of the Operational Guidelines states, in relation to authenticity, that: 'the reconstruction of archaeological remains or historic buildings or districts is justifiable only in exceptional circumstances. Reconstruction is acceptable only on the basis of complete and detailed documentation and to no extent on conjecture'.

A strict interpretation of the texts would draw the conclusion that the design fails to comply with the principles of the guidelines concerning authenticity. The design concerns an architectural ensemble which will partly be constructed in contemporary style (surrounding buildings), and partly, in (reproduction) historical style (the body of the tower). To the untutored eye the latter will appear to be an old historical tower, the more so because the upper part will be a reconstruction based on detailed historical information. The exceptional circumstances, whereby reconstruction is allowed under Paragraph 86 of the Operational guidelines, are not present.

The following remarks, however, can be made. In the UNESCO documents, the idea of authenticity is firstly connected to cultural heritage in a material sense and is primarily object related. This refers to the conservation of historical buildings and structures, to the authenticity of the material elements of the area and the relation between these elements in their physical, cultural, urban and rural context. Traditional ideas about authenticity, which led built heritage conservation theory and practice in the last century, have recently become really dynamic.⁷ This issue is also under discussion within UNESCO. The alternative interpretations of the meaning of 'authenticity' arise out of intangible considerations relating to notions of a political, cultural-historical (religion, folk culture), spiritual and commemorative nature. From the standpoint of a wider interpretation of the meaning of authenticity, a development plan such as this is justified. Amsterdam Urban Renovation PLC, in the light of its aims (see source no. H6), intends that the tower should function as a landmark, as a reminder of and a delineation to the border of the medieval city and the 17th-century ring of canals. The design of and material used in the tower should, in the spirit of the protected historical cityscape, contribute to the visualisation of these ideas.

Integrity

There are no buildings on the site of the tower development; it has mainly been used by vehicles from the 20th century. Because the proposed development does not satisfy the quality demands of the Manual for the Redevelopment of the Public Space and because the area is in need of improvement, the quality of the public space is important in regard to the project.

In 2007, a radar survey of the construction site was carried out. This showed the existence in various places of solid remains. These are probably from stone scaffolding, rubble from the demolition of the Haringpikkerstoren, an embankment or part of the city walls. These remains are below the construction level of the proposed development.

Conclusion: considering that the quality of the location in terms of urban development has changed through the years, it can hardly be said that the urban fabric or the integrity of the location will be damaged.

⁷ For background information on the development of the idea of 'authenticity', see: Koos Bosma, *Het post-Belvederetijdperk: cultuurhistorisch beleid verankerd in de ruimtelijke ordening en in de ontwerpogave*, The Hague: Atelier Rijksbouwmeester, 2008.



Visualisation of the plan in the location

Visual Impact

The construction site is in the buffer zone, just beyond the boundary of the property. The tower will be 45.60 metres high and has a 300-square-metre 'footprint', which includes the adjoining buildings. These buildings will be able to be seen from the direct vicinity of the tower and from a small section of the property. As a vertical feature, the tower will itself be visible from a greater distance.

From the property, the tower is mainly to be seen from Singel canal; from the even-side of Singel canal roughly as far as Berg Street. The tower's visibility from Singel canal can be compared to that of the 55-metre-high Wagon Lits office building (Bentham Crouwel, 1991-1992) on Western Station Island (*Westelijk Stationseiland*). The view of these office buildings will actually be partially blocked by the new tower. The border of the property lies on the north side of Droogbak. The tower will be more or less visible from here as far as the intersection of Droogbak and Buiten Wieringer Street. It will not be visible from other public streets in the property.

The conclusion is that there is major visual impact on the cityscape in the property and in the buffer zone.

Progress so far

- There is a detailed provisional design for the tower (including installations). The Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency has, through the framework of preliminary talks, provided recommendations on this since 30 November 2005. The last recommendations were dated 21 May 2008; the comments/objections at present are mainly to do with (technical) details. With regards to architectural and urban planning issues, it has been noted that the quality of the plan has improved.
- As yet no building permit has been applied for.
- There have been discussions between Central Amsterdam district and Amsterdam Urban Restoration concerning the design and the requirements laid down in UNESCO's Vienna Charter about the relationship to historical urban landscapes. There have also been talks with the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology (August-October 2008).

- This has led to Amsterdam Urban Restoration drawing up a 'defence' of the development plan (24 October 2008).
- The zoning plan has to be revised for the building plan. The hope is that a zoning plan (including appendices) and draft building aesthetics criteria will be decided upon by the district council at the same time.

Sources

1. Haringpakkerstoren project commission, adopted by Central Amsterdam district's Executive Committee, 11 July 2006.
2. Haringpakkerstoren air quality investigation, IBA, July 2006.
3. Haringpakkerstoren: High-Rise Impact Report, DRO, May 2007.
4. Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency records, November 2005 to the present day.
5. Recommendations from the Netherlands Department for Conservation (RDMZ), 21 July 2006.
6. 'Defence' Amsterdam Urban Restoration, 24 October 2008.

Key issue I 1: Prinsengracht Hospital

Description of project: The Prinsengracht hospital is part of the Onze Lieve Vrouwen Gasthuis (OLVG), Amsterdam's major medical centre, and is situated on the Prinsengracht. OLVG has plans to remodel the hospital and has commissioned architectural firm Henket & Partners to prepare a conceptual development plan. This conceptual development plan is based on the idea of restructuring the national built heritage into a hospital with diverse functions, for example a pharmacy, restaurant facilities and housing. Under this plan, Prinsengracht 769 (a building dating from the 1950s), would be demolished and replaced with new buildings. Demolition is also proposed for the building extensions within the enclosure. Because of the proposed increase in volume, the zoning plan will have to be revised.

As is usual for large projects, the District will shortly compose architectural boundary conditions for urban development including a historical paragraph and benefit criteria. The *Outstanding Universal Values* will hereby be taken into consideration as well.

Location: Prinsengracht 751-769; Kerkstraat 122, 124, 126, located within *the property*.

Status: Private initiative (OLVG), in planning stage



View Kerkstraat



View Prinsengracht

History and Managerial Decision

No decision has so far been made.



Aerial photograph of the current site

References

- 1.1 Conceptual development plan Prinsengracht hospital by the firm of Henket & Partners
(Not included, not yet finalised)

Key issue I 2: Former Main Branch Public Library

Description of project: The project pertains to a development plan by Aedes Real Estate concerning the internal remodelling and elevation, including a new façade of a hotel (Pollux Gallery Hotel).

Architectural firm Kentie (with the assistance of Marcel Wanders). A centre for creative enterprise is proposed on the side of the Keizersgracht. The façade on the Keizersgracht will not be altered.

Location: Prinsengracht 587(the 70's) and Keizersgracht 440 (= national built heritage), located within *the* property.

Status: Private initiative (Aedes Real Estate), in planning stage

History and Managerial Decision

A building request has been submitted for July 1 2008. As a consequence of this request the District of Central Amsterdam will formulate supplemental benefit criteria, among others regarding the partitioning of the façade. To enable a different utilization of the premises (as hotel with a gallery and other creative endeavours) it is necessary to start with a release procedure from the zoning plan (article 19 WRO).

On August 8 2008 the Heemschut Society has submitted a request to designate Prinsengracht 587 as municipal built heritage. The designation procedure has been set in motion. Other managerial decisions have not been initiated.



Current situation

References

- I 2 1. Building request dated June 30 2008 (façade design not final, therefore not included);
- I 2 2. Built heritage request of the Heemschut Society dated August 8 2008.

Key issue I 3: Vijzelstraat 66-80

Description of project: The property on Vijzelstraat 66-80 is an office building which has been used as bank building for years. It consists of a plinth area and five storeys with a gross surface area of 24,000 m². The basement has three building layers with a total surface area of 15,000 m². Two basement layers are used for parking; the uppermost basement layer is used for storage. One part of the property has been let to ABN AMRO (the former owner of the building) through 2008. The remaining portion is temporarily in use as gallery space, for art expressions and as creative 'hotspot'. By order of developer Vesteda and housing corporation Stadgenoot (formerly Het Oosten), this former office building will be remodelled.

Location: Vijzelstraat 66-80, located in *the property*.

Status: Private initiative (Vesteda, Stadgenoot); project is in planning stage

History and Managerial Decision

Until 2008 Vijzelstraat 66-80 had been used as bank office of ABN AMRO. The building is located on the right-of-way of the Noord/Zuidlijn and the so-called 'Rode Loper' (Red Carpet). The Noord/Zuidlijn connects the most important employment areas in the city. The 'Rode Loper' is the corridor along the Noord/Zuidlijn, from Central Station to the Pijp district. Efforts at renovating the street level are aimed at creating an exceptional, beautiful and lasting public space. The Vijzelstraat location means that the site is easily accessible by car, bicycle or public transportation. The objective of Het Oosten and Vesteda is to develop a high-quality building which fits in with the level of ambition of the 'Rode Loper'. For the design the architectural firm of Baumschlager & Eberle have been retained.



The location of the project

Conceptual Statement of Basic Principles and Directional Procedure Built Heritage

The District of Central Amsterdam has composed a Conceptual Statement of Basic Principles regarding Vijzelstraat 66-80, including benefit criteria and a historical analysis. See reference nr I 3 1. The most important principle is that the current building is preserved and that functions will adapt themselves to the building. The proposed functionalities are: 50% housing (12,000 m²), 50% commercial space (12,000 m²) with public functions at ground level and two layers for parking in the basement. The current zoning plan must be adapted to allow for the housing function.

Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) has described the building, by architect M. F. Duintjer from 1969-1973, and found it worth preserving on the basis of architectural, urban design and cultural historical values. The building can be seen as a commemorative symbol of the popular protests against the coming of the colossal bank building in the city centre. These protests led to a cultural revision regarding the management of the city centre, which was eventually resolved with its designation as preserved cityscape. See reference I 3 2.

The municipal monument procedure was started in 2006. The Monument Advisory Committee (Committee IV of the Committee for Welfare and Monuments) has reacted positively on the designation of the building as city monument (reference I 3 3). Vesteda and Het Oosten have submitted opinions (articulated by Bureau M&DM and professor Henket of architectural firm Henket & Partners), in which they question the worthiness of the building as monument and in which they suggest to enter into a covenant regarding the values to be preserved instead of declaring the building a city monument. (Reference I 3 4).

The cultural historical (monumental) value and the benefit criteria, which have been drafted after in depth consultation with BMA, have been included in the Conceptual Statement of Basic Principles. The Statement of Basic Principles will be determined executively in the first quarter of 2009 when, simultaneously, the monument procedure will be completed.



Current situation

Relevant data Executive Decision process:

- Project commission assigned on February 19 2007;
- Information evening January 30 2008;
- Conceptual Statement of Basic Principles Vijzelstraat 66-80 incl. historical analysis and benefit criteria composed (executive resolution follows in 2009);
- On March 4 the executive committee releases the Concept Basic Principles for community input;
- Input conference Conceptual Statement of Basic Principles March 26 2008;
- City's monument procedure has been started and still has to be completed.

Sources

- I 3 1. Conceptual Statement of Basic Principles Vijzelstraat 66-80, input version dated February 25 2008;
- I 3 2. Description of the building, Bureau Monuments & Archaeology May 10 2006;
- I 3 3. Advice Monument Advisory committee dated August 29 2006;
- I 3 4. Viewpoints Vesteda and Het Oosten dated September 20 2006, with reference to opinions of Bureau D&DM and Prof. H. J. Henket of Architectural firm Henket & Partners.

Key Issue I 4: “Five Emperors”

Description of project: The premises on the Keizersgracht 271 through 287 are empty and were used for office space. The project concerns 5 buildings with individual façades. The premises at Keizersgracht 271-275 are designated as city monuments (architect A. J. Westerman, 1955). It was the original office building for the Nederlandse Crediet Maatschappij (NCM). The neighbouring properties were built later as an expansion of NCM over a time span of thirty years.

The total combined floor space is almost 17,000 m² whereby each site has a gross floor space of over 1000 m². A private developer has submitted a development request for Keizersgracht 287 (corner Wolvenstraat) on June 27, 2008 to split off this building and transform it into housing. This plan will not change the building's height nor the layout of the façade, except that an entrance has been added to the façade at the Wolvenstraat. The building at Keizersgracht 287 is not a monument and is indicated on the Map of Protected Cityscapes as “new development from later than 1940”.

The proposal envisions 23 flats varying in size between 90 and 200 m². It is noteworthy that each bedroom (sometimes mention is made of four bedrooms) is provided with a separate shower/bathroom with lavatory. Judging from the size of the flats and their relationship to location, expensive free sector homes are involved here. 23 parking spaces for the residents will be provided in the basement.

An initial request for a top hotel with 120 rooms for all buildings was submitted on July 10, 2008 (policy framework: *Hotel Policy City Centre 2008-2011*, established by the District council May 29, 2008).

Location: Keizersgracht 271-287, located within *the property*.

Status: Private initiative (Van der Schroeff Beheer BV), partitioning request for Keizersgracht 287 and initial request for top hotel for all buildings submitted.

History and Managerial Decision

District drafts a quick scan as framework for possible additional realisations. Plans for Keizersgracht 271-287 are investigated with the existing boards and administrations (such as Protected Cityscape, zoning Western Canal Belt, Car park Ordinances, etc.). Within the executive framework, attention is paid to the UNESCO nomination. The cultural-historical context is also examined. Urban constructive and architectural principles are formulated for the renovation of Keizersgracht 271-287 based on this analysis. The managerial decision-making has not yet begun.



Current situation

Sources:

Not applicable.

Key issue J: Surface and groundwater levels

Introduction

In an old city like Amsterdam with a specific soil composition and hydrological regime, groundwater problems are a given, and there is limited room for manoeuvre in influencing the groundwater level. Nevertheless, the habitation of Amsterdam is an irreversible fact. The land use both above and below ground is increasingly intensive. To keep Amsterdam habitable, groundwater management is focused on dealing with existing problems and preventing new ones from occurring.

Problems with groundwater can arise if the level in relation to the buildings and land use is either too high or too low.

In Amsterdam, water management is contracted out to Waternet by the city council.

Problems caused by high groundwater levels

High groundwater levels can result in problems such as water in crawl spaces, wet cellars and damp ground floor rooms. Most of these problems occur in Amsterdam's 19th century neighbourhoods, often in buildings that are not in the best structural condition. Specific problems occur in what are known as polder sewerage areas (low-lying areas within polders), all of which lie outside the city centre. In public spaces, the principal groundwater problems occur in the older public parks, where the land is not raised. Areas of poorly raised land are also affected, with trees dying prematurely due to the high groundwater level. This occurs chiefly in the suburbs of Amsterdam North, Slotervaart and Watergraafsmeer.

Problems caused by low groundwater levels

If the groundwater level is low for a prolonged period, wooden foundation piles can become dry and begin to rot, potentially resulting in building subsidence. The centre of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal is largely built on wooden piles, which in many older buildings extend only as far as a shallow silty sand layer to a depth of approximately 8 metres below Amsterdam Ordnance Datum (or Normal Amsterdam Water Level). Today, concrete piles are driven into deeper sand layers (the first or second sand layer). To measure building subsidence, a network of 10,000 survey bolts have been mounted in the facades of buildings in the city centre and other areas.

Problems with high and low groundwater levels in the 17th-century canal belt

Problems with high groundwater levels

The drainage depth (the distance between the ground level and the highest water level) in the city centre, which is entirely raised above storage-basin level, is generally quite large (approximately 1.5 metres). With the exception of the Jordaan and Plantagebuurt neighbourhoods (both of which lie within the buffer zone), where the drainage depth is quite small, up to now little or no problems with groundwater have been reported. The impression is that in the city centre, water problems chiefly concern rainwater seeping into non-watertight basements and cellars.

Problems with low groundwater levels

A fall in the groundwater level can result in damage to wooden foundations. According to information from Waternet (source no. 2) there is no conceivable process that could lead to a general lowering of the groundwater level in the canal belt. Due to the presence of the canals, which are a relatively small distance apart and are kept at a stable level, even in periods of prolonged drought, for example, the supply of water to the groundwater system in the canal belt is assured.

The greatest threat to the foundations of the buildings in the 17th-century canal belt is a lowering of the groundwater level as a result of drainage for construction work. Damage may also occur due to the construction of underground structures. This is more likely to produce a high groundwater level, however, where due to the construction of retaining walls, for example, water is unable to drain away. In the past, piezometers were placed along the main sewers to indicate any fall in groundwater level as a result of drainage, and enable the prevention of any damage to wooden foundations.

For the drainage of groundwater for construction work, exemption from the water board statute (*Keur AGV*) is required. For the drainage of deep groundwater, a permit is required from provincial government; under the new Water Act this authority will be transferred to the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board (with Waternet as implementing organisation). The new Water Act was passed by the Lower House of Parliament in 2006, and is expected to come into force in 2009.

Water assessment procedure and basis in law and urban planning

For urban planning (the construction of new buildings and necessary underground structures) the City of Amsterdam operates a water assessment procedure, whereby the same steps are followed as for the Planning and Decision-making Process for Spatial Measures (*Plan- en Besluitvormingsproces Ruimtelijke Maatregelen - Plaberum*). The inclusion of a section on groundwater in plans is compulsory.

In addition, the City of Amsterdam is investigating the possibility to give a firmer legal basis to groundwater-related aspects and criteria currently applied to recommendations on construction plans, alterations and renovations, either by including them in the building regulations and zoning plans or by means of groundwater regulations for Amsterdam. Because of the nomination of the 17th-century canal belt for the UNESCO World Heritage List, the District of Central Amsterdam will handle this as a matter of priority.

Sources:

J.1 Policy Document on Groundwater for Amsterdam 2007-2011 (*Nota Grondwater Amsterdam 2007-2011*), approved by the Municipal Executive on 26 June 2007 and acknowledged by the Council Committee for Spatial Planning, Ground Affairs, Water Management and ICT (*Raadscommissie voor Ruimtelijke Ordening, Grondzaken, Waterbeheer en ICT*) on 26 September 2007.

J.2 Waternet Policy Document of 19 August 2008 on Groundwater management for the 17th-century canal belt in relation to the UNESCO Management Plan.

Key issue K: Scaffolding Wrap Advertisements

Introduction

Since 2003, scaffolding wrap advertisements are only allowed in Amsterdam city centre under strict conditions (see reference K 1). To be able to regulate this form of advertisement, the city centre has entered into a (private law) contract with advertisement firms. The agreements pertain to the appearance of the public space (see reference K 3). With this in mind, article 5 contains stipulations pertaining to the size of the wrap (maximum width 16m) the framework around the advertisement display, the location on the façade where the display is allowed (between ground level and gutter height) and the period during which the advertising campaign may be carried out. Moving images and/or three dimensional objects attached to the advertisements are not allowed and neither is the use of fluorescent colours. Also specified are conditions when investigation by the Committee for Built Heritage (Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten) is deemed necessary. Alcohol advertisement is not permitted. Furthermore, advertisement displays that run contrary to legislation, jurisprudence, and/or the guidelines and insights of the Advertising Code Commission are not permitted. Lighting up the advertisements at night is not permitted.

Specific requirements are included in the agreement for the ring of canals and Dam Square (the Dam). In these locations, only 10% of the scaffolding wrap surface may consist of advertisement displays. The advertisement may only be applied between the 1^o and 2^o storey of the building.

The scaffolding wraps are only permitted during the necessary maintenance activities of a building. Usually, a building does not need painting or other maintenance on a yearly basis. It is therefore not permitted to place a new advertisement on the same building within three years of the completion of maintenance activities.

In the preceding period (2003 – 2008 up to the present), scaffolding wrap advertisements have been placed on 11, 30, 37, 36, 32 and 28 locations respectively. A review of the locations shows that, during this period, one case involved the application of advertisements twice on the same building, to wit Koningsplein 11 (in 2003 and in 2008), but yet conformed to the rule of more than a three-year interval. For a review of the scaffolding wrap advertisements applied during the period 2003-2008, see reference K 4.

The proceeds of the advertisements are divided between the owner of the building around which the scaffolding has been placed, the District of Central Amsterdam and the advertisement firm. The idea is that in this way owners are motivated to spruce up their buildings, and that the District receives extra income to improve the quality of the centre city.



Rokin

History and managerial policy

Experiment

On July 8, 2003, the executive committee decided to conduct an experiment with scaffolding wrap advertisements (see reference K 2). Initially, the experiment ran from summer 2003 until January 1, 2004, but was later extended until January 2005. On November 25, 2004 the District council decided to make scaffolding wrap advertisements a structural part of the advertisement policy.

The results of the trial period have been evaluated (see reference K 4). Based on this evaluation the executive committee did not see a reason to adjust the policy at that time. However, promises were made to involve scaffolding wrap advertisement policy in the negotiations within the framework of the Programakkoord 2006-2010.

Discussion

From the beginning of the experiment there has been discussion over the tense relationship between the restrictive advertisement policies on the one hand and scaffolding wrap advertisements on the other. In this discussion, interested parties such as the Advertising in Public Space Workgroup (Werkgroep Buitenreclame) of the community centre d'Oude Stadt have argued that scaffolding wrap advertisements dominate the cityscape too much. Some more detail is needed here. In relationship to the protected cityscape the restrictive advertisement policy is specifically aimed at advertisement displays which are *permanent* and/or attached as an *extra component* to or on a façade. Scaffolding wrap advertisements are a temporary form of advertisement (maximum 9 weeks). Furthermore, as stated before, scaffolding wrap advertisements on the canals are very restricted. As a consequence, scaffolding wrap advertisements have never been used on the canals.

As a final point, within the framework of construction regulations (Arbo regulations) scaffolding wraps are mandatory. These scaffolding wraps are often dangling or fluttering shoddily alongside. Because of their meticulous and taut fastening, the scaffolding wrap advertisements are usually an improvement.

Objections of the Advertising in Public Space Workgroup (Werkgroep Buitenreclame) of community centre d'Oude Stadt

In relation to the UNESCO nomination, the Advertising in Public Space Workgroup of community centre d'Oude Stadt has again made its objections known to the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology. The group emphasised that scaffolding wrap advertisements, the introduction of large video screens, and other huge advertisements are purely commercial projects, an unprecedented expansion of commercial activity in the public space of the historical city centre. The group requested – also because of the UNESCO nomination – to put an end to the scaffolding wrap advertisements policy (see reference K 10).

In answer to the letter from the group (see reference K 11), the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology has pointed out that the District of Central Amsterdam will prepare a new Policy Statement regarding Façade Advertisement Regulations, which will include stricter rules for the replacement of advertisements either when the property is converted to another function or when it changes hands to a new owner. The objective is to better reconcile façade advertisement with the protected cityscape. Within a period of three to five years all advertisement displays have to comply with the new policy. The tempering of scaffolding wrap advertisements is appropriate within the framework of developing the entire façade advertisement policy for the District.

Tempering scaffolding wrap advertisement in Programakkoord 2006-2010

The executive committee of the District of Central Amsterdam attaches great importance to measures which improve the urban environment. In the Programakkoord 2006-2010 it is agreed that scaffolding wrap advertisements will be tempered in order that this temporary form of advertisement is less prominent in the street scene. For this reason the implementation of the Programakkoord requires, as well, that a tempered scaffolding wrap advertisement policy be determined in 2008 (see references K 5 and 6). To that end, the executive committee has submitted a temperance proposal to the advisory committee three times (November 14 2006, April 3 2007 and January 10 2008. For specifications see also reference K 9). This has not resulted in a consensus between council factions (see references K 7 and 8).

In the near future, the executive committee will again submit a temperance proposal and thereby take into consideration the UNESCO-nomination. This temperance proposal is based on a robust reduction of available surface for this type of temporary advertisement display. Furthermore, the intent is not to permit scaffolding wrap advertisements on the canals. A proposal will be drawn up more narrowly for corner properties in shopping streets which border on canals (like the Leidsestraat). The intent is not to allow advertisements on the side of canals. Also, use will be made of fixed rates per m2 rather than the current complicated system which includes passing on the media value. Fixed rates also have the advantage that they are transparent and easier to control. The executive committee aims to implement the temperance policy in the first quarter of 2009.



Corner of the Marnixstraat and the Rozengracht

Consequences for the UNESCO nomination

By means of the above mentioned temperance policy, the *visual impact* of scaffolding wrap advertisement will be severely limited beyond but especially within the *property*.

Sources

- K 1. Guidelines Façade advertisement (2004)
- K 2. Ordinance executive committee District of Central Amsterdam dated July 8 2003 regarding Scaffolding wrap advertisement
- K 3. Agreement Scaffolding wrap advertisement (2005)
- K 4. Evaluation Scaffolding wrap advertisement policy, included in the Evaluation Buildings Aesthetics Statement District of Central Amsterdam 2004 (decision District council January 26 2006-18)
- K 5. Paragraph Programakkoord 2006-2010 regarding temperance policy of Scaffolding wrap advertisement
- K 6. Paragraph Measurable Programakkoord 2006-2010 regarding temperance policy of Scaffolding wrap advertisement
- K 7. Proposal initiative SP dated June 19 2006
- K 8. Proposal initiative PvdA and GroenLinks dated June 28 2007

- K 9. Temperance proposals by the executive committee District of Central Amsterdam dated November 14 2006, April 3 2007, and January 10 2008
- K 10. Letter to Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology from Werkgroep Buitenreclame of community centre d' Oude dated July 16 2008
- K 11. Letter to Werkgroep Buitenreclame of community centre d'Oude Stadt from Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology dated September 10 2008

Kingdom of the Netherlands - 2009

The seventeenth-century canal ring area of **Amsterdam** within the Singelgracht

MANAGEMENT PLAN APPENDIX







City of Amsterdam



**'17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within
the Singelgracht'**

Appendix (part 2)

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Appendix 1

Covenant between Property Manager and City Executive

Covenant between Property Manager and City Executive

Covenant

Between the City of Amsterdam's City Executive and the Central Amsterdam District concerning the protection and maintenance of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as intended future UNESCO World Heritage Site

The undersigned (the parties)

1. The City of Amsterdam's city executive, represented in this matter by the Mayor of Amsterdam, Mr. M.J. Cohen;
2. The management board of the Central Amsterdam District, represented in this matter by the chair of the executive committee, Ms. E.H.M. Iping;

whereas:

- both parties shall bear joint responsibility for the protection and maintenance of 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals' to be nominated by the Kingdom of the Netherlands as World Heritage Site for the current and future generations of residents of, users of and visitors to Amsterdam;

designate the following as the basis for this covenant:

- The World Heritage Convention (UNESCO 1972);
- The Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention (January 2008);
- The International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (Venice 1964);
- The Charter on the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas (Washington 1987);
- The Nara Document on Authenticity (Nara 1994);
- The Vienna Memorandum on World Heritage and Contemporary Architecture - Managing the Historic Urban Landscape (Vienna 2005);
- The European Convention of the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage, Treaty of Malta (Valletta 1992);
- The nomination file submitted to the World Heritage Committee by the Kingdom of the Netherlands for the inclusion of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' on the UNESCO World Heritage Sites list (2008-2009);
- The Statement of Outstanding Value, compiled by the World Heritage Committee;
- The Districts bylaw, most recently amended by decree on 19 March 2008 no. 43/85;
- The covenant concerning monuments and archaeology between the Central

Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam's city executive, 14 October 2008;

- The area document drawn up in connection with the nomination of 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals' as a UNESCO World Heritage Site (June 2007);
- The management plan drawn up in connection with the nomination of 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals' as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, adopted by decrees of the College of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Amsterdam and the executive committee of the Central Amsterdam District on 9 September 2008;

Thus agree as follows:

1. That their policy and the associated measures for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' are based on the applicable international treaties, charters and resolutions that relate to UNESCO World Heritage Sites, intended to protect and maintain sites of cultural and natural importance for the history of humankind;
2. That they will use the nomination file, which includes the management plan and the area document, as the basis for agreements about the management, protection and maintenance of the outstanding universal value of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' to be nominated as World Heritage Site;
3. That, after the inclusion of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' in the list of World Heritage Sites ('the property'), they will jointly bear responsibility for maintaining the intent and meaning of the *Statement of Outstanding Universal Value* for the property established by the World Heritage Committee, and the applicable criteria for the assessment of outstanding universal value, attributes of authenticity and conditions of integrity;
4. That they will support this goal of sustainable and future-oriented use of the World Heritage Site to be nominated by means of the establishment of an Amsterdam World Heritage Office as the central contact point for all stakeholders, involved parties and interested parties. This office will be responsible for the coordination of communication at a municipal, national and international level, as well as for the performance of a six-year monitoring cycle as determined by the World Heritage Committee.
5. That they will keep records and submit this information to the World Heritage Office for this six-year monitoring cycle.
6. That the Central Amsterdam District, as day-to-day manager of the conservation area 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal' will function as property manager of the World Heritage Site to be nominated.

Amsterdam, dated 28 October 2008

The management board of the
Central Amsterdam district

The City of Amsterdam's city
executive

[signature]

[signature]

E.H.M. Iping
Chair of the executive committee

M.J. Cohen
Mayor



Gemeente Amsterdam



Gemeente Amsterdam
Stadsdeel Centrum

Convenant

tussen het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam en stadsdeel Centrum over het beschermen en in stand houden van 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

De ondergetekenden (partijen)

1. Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam, te dezen vertegenwoordigd door de burgemeester van Amsterdam, de heer mr. M.J. Cohen;
2. Het bestuur van het stadsdeel Centrum, te dezen vertegenwoordigd door de voorzitter van het dagelijks bestuur, mevrouw E.H.M. Iping;

nemen het volgende in aanmerking:

- dat beide partijen gezamenlijk verantwoordelijk zullen zijn voor het beschermen en het in stand houden van het door het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden te nomineren Werelderfgoed 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' ten behoeve van de huidige en toekomstige generaties bewoners, gebruikers en bezoekers van Amsterdam;

leggen aan dit convenant ten grondslag:

- *The World Heritage Convention* (UNESCO 1972);
- *The Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention (January 2008)*;
- *The International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (Venice 1964)*;
- *The Charter on the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas (Washington 1987)*;
- *The Nara Document on Authenticity (Nara 1994)*;
- *The Vienna Memorandum on World Heritage and Contemporary Architecture – Managing the Historic Urban Landscape (Vienna 2005)*;
- *The European Convention of the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage*, Verdrag van Malta (Valletta 1992);
- Het door het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden bij het *World Heritage Committee* ingediende nominatiedossier voor opname op de Lijst van het Werelderfgoed van UNESCO van 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' (2008-2009);
- *The Statement of Outstanding Value*, vastgesteld door *The World Heritage Committee*;
- De Verordening op de stadsdelen, laatstelijk gewijzigd bij besluit van 19 maart 2008 nr. 43/85;
- Het Convenant op het gebied van monumenten en archeologie tussen stadsdeel Centrum en het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam 14 oktober 2008;
- Het Gebiedsdocument opgesteld in verband met de nominatie van 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als Werelderfgoed van UNESCO (juni 2007);
- Het Managementplan opgesteld in verband met de nominatie van 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als Werelderfgoed van UNESCO, vastgesteld bij besluiten van het College van Burgemeester en Wethouders van Amsterdam en het dagelijks bestuur van stadsdeel Centrum van 9 september 2008;



Gemeente Amsterdam



Gemeente Amsterdam
Stadsdeel Centrum

komen het volgende overeen:

1. dat zij bij hun beleid en daarmee samenhangende maatregelen voor 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' uitgaan van de Internationaal geldende verdragen, charters en resoluties die betrekking hebben op het Werelderfgoed van UNESCO, bedoeld ter bescherming en instandhouding van cultureel en natuurlijk erfgoed van betekenis voor de geschiedenis van de mensheid;
2. dat zij het nominatiedossier, waarvan het Managementplan en het Gebiedsdocument deel uitmaken, als leidraad gebruiken bij afspraken over het beheren, beschermen en in stand houden van de uitzonderlijke universele waarden (*Outstanding Universal Value*) van het te nomineren Werelderfgoed 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam'.
3. dat zij na opname op de Lijst van het Werelderfgoed van "De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam" (*property*) er gezamenlijk zorg voor zullen dragen dat de door het *World Heritage Committee* voor de *property* vastgestelde *Statement of Outstanding Universal Value*, de door deze van toepassing verklaarde *Criteria for the assessment of Outstanding Universal Value*, *attributes of authenticity* en *conditions of integrity*, hun betekenis blijvend zullen behouden
4. dat zij met dit doel een duurzaam en toekomstgericht gebruik van het te nomineren Werelderfgoed zullen bevorderen door middel van het oprichten van een Bureau Werelderfgoed Amsterdam als centraal aanspreekpunt voor alle belanghebbenden, betrokkenen en geïnteresseerden. Dit bureau is naast de zorg voor de coördinatie van de communicatie op stedelijk, nationaal en internationaal niveau verantwoordelijk voor de uitvoering van zesjarige *monitoring* cyclus zoals bepaald door het *World Heritage Committee*.
5. dat zij gegevens bijhouden en verstrekken aan het Bureau Werelderfgoed voor deze zesjarige *monitoring* cyclus.
6. dat stadsdeel Centrum als dagelijks beheerder van het beschermde stadsgezicht "Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht" optreedt als *sitholder* van het te nomineren Werelderfgoed.

Amsterdam, datum 28 oktober 2008

Het bestuur van het stadsdeel Centrum

E.H.M. Iping
Voorzitter dagelijks bestuur stadsdeel Centrum

Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam

mr M.J. Cohen
burgemeester

Appendix 2

Covenant between Shareholders

Covenant between Shareholders

Covenant

Between the City of Amsterdam's City Executive, Central Amsterdam District and the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board concerning the protection and maintenance of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as intended future UNESCO World Heritage Site

The undersigned (the parties)

1. The City of Amsterdam's city executive, represented in this matter by the Mayor of Amsterdam, Mr. M.J. Cohen;
2. The management board of the Central Amsterdam District, represented in this matter by the chair of the executive committee, Ms. E.H.M. Iping;
3. The management of the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board, represented in this matter by the dike warden, Mr. J. de Bondt;

whereas:

as the competent authorities, the parties shall bear joint responsibility for the protection and maintenance of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' to be nominated by the Kingdom of the Netherlands as World Heritage Site for the current and future generations of residents of, users of and visitors to Amsterdam;

designate the following as the basis for this covenant:

- The World Heritage Convention (UNESCO 1972);
- The Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention (January 2008);
- The International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (Venice 1964);
- The Charter on the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas (Washington 1987);
- The Nara Document on Authenticity (Nara 1994);
- The Vienna Memorandum on World Heritage and Contemporary Architecture - Managing the Historic Urban Landscape (Vienna 2005);
- The European Convention of the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage, Treaty of Malta (Valletta 1992);
- The Statement of Outstanding Value, compiled by the World Heritage Committee;
- The Districts bylaw, most recently amended by decree on 19 March 2008 no. 43/85;
- The area document drawn up in connection with the nomination of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as a UNESCO World Heritage Site (June 2007);

- The management plan drawn up in connection with the nomination of ‘17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht’ as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, adopted by decrees of the College of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Amsterdam and the executive committee of the Central Amsterdam District on 9 September 2008;

Thus agree as follows:

1. That their policy and the associated measures for ‘17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht’ are based on the applicable international treaties, charters and resolutions that relate to UNESCO World Heritage Sites, intended to protect and maintain sites of cultural and natural importance for the history of humankind;
2. That they will use the nomination file, which includes the management plan and the area document, as the basis for agreements about the management, protection and maintenance of the outstanding universal value of ‘17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht’ to be nominated as World Heritage Site;
3. That, after the inclusion of ‘17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht’ in the list of World Heritage Sites (‘the property’), they will jointly bear responsibility for maintaining the intent and meaning of the *Statement of Outstanding Universal Value* for the property established by the World Heritage Committee, and the applicable criteria for the assessment of outstanding universal value, attributes of authenticity and conditions of integrity;
4. That they will support this goal of sustainable and future-oriented use of the World Heritage Site to be nominated by means of policy, regulations and knowledge transfer;
5. That they will focus on maintaining the cultural and historic values in the management of the water/groundwater in the World Heritage Site to be nominated;
6. That, if desired, they will keep records and submit this information to the World Heritage Office for the six-year monitoring cycle that is required in the context of the UNESCO nomination;
7. That they, due in part to the recognition of and familiarity with the ring of canals as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, will work to promote what is included in the communication plan for the World Heritage Site to be nominated.

Amsterdam, dated 28 October 2008

The management board of the Central
Amsterdam district

The City of Amsterdam's city executive

[signature]

E.H.M. Iping
Chair of the executive committee

[signature]

M.J. Cohen
Mayor

The management of the Amstel, Gooi
and Vecht Water Board

[signature]

J. de Bondt
Dike Warden



Gemeente Amsterdam



Gemeente Amsterdam
Stadsdeel Centrum



Convenant

tussen het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam, stadsdeel Centrum en het Hoogheemraadschap Amstel, Gooi en Vecht over het beschermen en in stand houden van 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam binnen de Singelgracht' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

De ondergetekenden (partijen)

1. Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam, te dezen vertegenwoordigd door de burgemeester van Amsterdam, de heer mr. M.J. Cohan;
2. Het bestuur van het stadsdeel Centrum, te dezen vertegenwoordigd door de voorzitter van het dagelijks bestuur, mevrouw E.H.M. Iping;
3. Het bestuur van het Hoogheemraadschap Amstel, Gooi en Vecht, te dezen vertegenwoordigd door de dijkgraaf de heer J. de Bondt;

nemen het volgende in aanmerking:

- dat partijen als bevoegd gezag gezamenlijk verantwoordelijk zijn voor het beschermen en in stand houden van het door het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden te nomineren Werelderfgoed 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' ten behoeve van de huidige en toekomstige generaties bewoners, gebruikers en bezoekers van Amsterdam;

leggen aan dit convenant ten grondslag:

- *The World Heritage Convention* (UNESCO 1972);
- *The Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* (January 2008);
- *The International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites* (Venice 1964);
- *The Charter on the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas* (Washington 1987);
- *The Nara Document on Authenticity* (Nara 1994);
- *The Vienna Memorandum on World Heritage and Contemporary Architecture – Managing the Historic Urban Landscape* (Vienna 2005);
- *The European Convention of the Protection of the Archeological Heritage*, Verdrag van Malta (Valletta 1992);
- *The Statement of Outstanding Value*, vastgesteld door *The World Heritage Committee*;
- De Verordening op de stadsdelen, laatstelijk gewijzigd bij besluit van 19 maart 2008 nr. 43/85;
- Het Gebiedsdocument opgesteld in verband met de nominatie van "De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam" als Werelderfgoed van UNESCO (juni 2007);
- Het Managementplan voor het beoogde werelderfgoed 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam', vastgesteld bij besluiten van het College van Burgemeester en Wethouders van Amsterdam en het dagelijks bestuur van stadsdeel Centrum van 9 september 2008;

komen het volgende overeen:

1. dat zij bij hun beleid en daarmee samenhangende maatregelen voor 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' uitgaan van de internationaal geldende verdragen, charters en resoluties die betrekking hebben op het Werelderfgoed van UNESCO, bedoeld ter bescherming en instandhouding van cultureel en natuurlijk erfgoed van betekenis voor de geschiedenis van de mensheid;



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Gemeente Amsterdam
Stadsdeel Centrum



2. dat zij het nominatiedossier, waarvan het Managementplan en het Gebiedsdocument deel uitmaken, als leidraad gebruiken bij afspraken over het beheren, beschermen en in stand houden van de uitzonderlijke universele waarden (*Outstanding Universal Value*) van het te nomineren Werelderfgoed 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam'.
3. dat zij na opname op de Lijst van het Werelderfgoed van 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' (*property*) er gezamenlijk zorg voor zullen dragen dat de door het *World Heritage Committee* voor de *property* vastgestelde *Statement of Outstanding Universal Value*, de door deze van toepassing verklaarde *Criteria for the assessment of Outstanding Universal Value*, *attributes of authenticity* en *conditions of integrity*, hun betekenis blijvend zullen behouden;
4. dat zij met dit doel een duurzaam en toekomstgericht gebruik van het te nomineren Werelderfgoed zullen bevorderen door middel van beleid, regelgeving en kennisoverdracht;
5. dat zij zich in het beheer van het (grond)water in het te nomineren Werelderfgoed zullen richten op het in stand houden van de cultuurhistorische waarden
6. zij desgewenst gegevens bijhouden en aanleveren aan het Bureau Werelderfgoed voor de zesjaarlijkse *monitoring* die in het kader van de Unesco-aanwijzing vereist is;
7. zij mede de herkenbaarheid van en de bekendheid met de grachtengordel als Unesco Werelderfgoed zullen bevorderen overeenkomstig hetgeen wordt opgenomen in het Communicatieplan voor het te nomineren Werelderfgoed.

Amsterdam, datum 28 oktober 2008

Het bestuur van het stadsdeel Centrum

E.H.M. Iping
voorzitter dagelijks bestuur stadsdeel Centrum

Het bestuur van het Hoogheemraadschap
Amstel, Gooi en Vecht

J. de Bondt
dijkgraaf

Het gemeente bestuur van Amsterdam

mr. M.J. Cohen
burgemeester

Appendix 3

Covenant concerning the conservation of built heritage and archaeology between the Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam's city executive

Covenant concerning the conservation of built heritage and archaeology between the Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam's city executive

The undersigned (the parties)

1. The management board of the Central Amsterdam District, represented in this matter by the sector manager of Building and Living (*Bouwen en Wonen*), Mr. E. Loos, to be referred to hereinafter as "the district";
2. The City of Amsterdam's city executive, represented in this matter by the manager of the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (*Bureau Monumenten en Archeologie*), Ms. E. Agricola;

whereas:

- the powers concerning the conservation of built heritage and archaeology are decentralised, with the exception of three powers, as included in chapter VII of list A of the Districts bylaw (municipal council decree of 10 June 1998, no. 284, last amended by decree on 19 March 2008 no. 43/85;
- that the district exercises the decentralised powers with respect to the conservation of built heritage and archaeology, subject to what is determined in this covenant;
- that there are activities that correspond to the exercising of these powers, for which the knowledge and expertise of the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology is indispensable;
- that advising by and consultation with the Central Amsterdam district are desired for the exercising of the central powers;
- that, for other aspects, the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology functions as a centre of knowledge and expertise on the subject of monument conservation and archaeology for the Central Amsterdam district;
- that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology plays a coordinating role in the city's built heritage and archaeology policy;

designate the following as the basis for this covenant:

- the Districts bylaw, and in particular the municipal council decree dated 10 June 1998, no. 284, amended by decree on 19 March 2008 no.43/85;
- five process descriptions, which set out working method and division of tasks between the Central Amsterdam District and the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology:
 - Process: Protection, dated June 2008;
 - Process: Permits, management and enforcement, dated June 2008;
 - Process: Subsidies and financing, decentralised powers, dated June 2008;
 - Process: Subsidies and financing, central powers, dated June 2008;
 - Process: Archaeology, dated June 2008;
- 'Room for history' (*Ruimte voor geschiedenis*), Policy Document on Monuments and Archaeology in Amsterdam for 2005-2010, adopted by the City Council on 13 April 2005.

Thus agree as follows:

1. To withdraw the covenant on the conservation of built heritage between the Amsterdam City Centre Service (*Dienst Binnenstad Amsterdam*) and the City of Amsterdam's city executive as determined on 17 July 2000;

2. To adopt the following covenant concerning the conservation of built heritage and archaeology between the Central Amsterdam district and the City of Amsterdam's city executive.

Article 1. Protection

- A. The district exercises the decentralised powers, as described in the Process: Protection.
- B. The City of Amsterdam's city executive ensures that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology performs the activities associated with these powers, as set out in the Process: Protection.
- C. The mutual working relationships are taken account of in this situation, as described in the Process: Protection.

Article 2. Permits, management and enforcement

- A. The Central Amsterdam district exercises the decentralised powers, as described in the Process: Permits, management and enforcement.
- B. The City of Amsterdam's city executive ensures that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology performs the activities associated with these powers, as set out in the Process: Permits, management and enforcement.
- C. The mutual working relationships are taken account of in this situation, as described in the Process: Permits, management and enforcement.

Article 3. Subsidies and financing, decentralised powers

- A. The Central Amsterdam district exercises the decentralised powers, as described in the Process: Subsidies and financing, decentralised powers.
- B. The City of Amsterdam's city executive ensures that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology performs the activities associated with these powers, as set out in the Process: Subsidies and financing, decentralised powers.
- C. The mutual working relationships are taken account of in this situation, as described in the Process: Subsidies and financing, decentralised powers.

Article 4. Subsidies and financing, central powers

- A. The City of Amsterdam's city executive ensures that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology performs the tasks arising from the central powers, as described in the Process: Subsidies and financing, central powers.
- B. The mutual working relationships are taken account of in this situation, as described in the Process: Subsidies and financing, central powers.

Article 5. Archaeology

- A. The Central Amsterdam district exercises the decentralised powers, as described in the Process: Archaeology.
- B. The City of Amsterdam's city executive ensures that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology performs the activities associated with these powers, as set out in the Process: Archaeology.
- C. The mutual working relationships are taken account of in this situation, as described in the Process: Archaeology.

- D. The City of Amsterdam's city executive ensures that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology performs the tasks arising from the central powers, as described in the Process: Archaeology.
- E. The mutual working relationships are taken account of in this situation, as described in the Process: Archaeology.

Article 6. Knowledge and expertise centre for monuments and archaeology

- A. The City of Amsterdam's city executive ensures that, for other aspects, the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology serves as a centre of knowledge and expertise with respect to monuments and archaeology for the district. This also means that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology provides official assistance and expert advice about plans and projects in the Central Amsterdam district, in which cultural and historic values play a role.
- B. The City of Amsterdam's city executive ensures that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology functions as a coordination point for the city's built heritage and archaeology policy by means of transferring information and making proposals concerning city-related aspects of the monument and archaeology policy.
- C. The first points of contact for the district are as follows:
- For advice about permits and enforcement, subsidies and financing of restoration or maintenance: the monument advisors assigned to the Central Amsterdam district from the Monuments department;
 - For the other aspects of the monument policy: the area advisor assigned to the district from the Monuments department;
 - For the archaeology policy: the archaeologists from the Archaeology department.

Article 7. Other provisions

- A. The covenant is concluded for an indefinite period.
- B. The covenant will be evaluated two years after the date it was concluded, and the evaluation may result in changes.

Amsterdam, 14 October 2008

On behalf of
the management board of the
Central Amsterdam District,

E. Loos

On behalf of
the City of Amsterdam's city executive,

E. Agricola

Explanation

Introduction

The covenant between the Amsterdam City Centre Service (*Dienst Binnenstad Amsterdam*) and the City of Amsterdam's city executive dated 17 July 2000 was modified as a result of the following developments:

1. Based on the Districts bylaw, the powers concerning conservation of built heritage and archaeology were decentralised, with the exception of three powers. The Central Amsterdam District was established in March 2002. In addition, on 19 March 2008, parts of the District bylaw that were relevant to the policy area were changed. In this covenant, agreements are made concerning the way in which the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology supports the district in the implementation of the tasks associated with the powers.
2. As a result of the consolidation of the Office of Built Heritage Conservation (*Bureau Monumentenzorg*) and the Municipal Archaeological Service (*Gemeentelijke Archeologische dienst*) in 2002, new policy developments at a national and local level, and changes in legislation and regulations, some of the activities that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology performs for the district were changed and expanded.

Several documents serve as the basis for this covenant.

These are as follows:

- a. The Districts bylaw
- b. Five process descriptions
- c. The Policy Document on Monuments and Archaeology in Amsterdam for 2005-2010;

These documents will be further addressed below.

In addition, an explanation will be provided for the articles of this covenant.

Sub a. Districts bylaw

The Districts bylaw indicates in Article 28 that the city council shall transfer all powers of the council and the College of Mayor and Alderman to the district councils and its (executive) committees, respectively. The following powers are not included in this transfer by decree of 10 June 1998, no. 284, amended by decree of 19 March 2008, with respect to the conservation of built heritage and archaeology:

1. The determination of the Subsidy Regulations for monuments and characteristic buildings, as well as the implementation of articles 2, 3 and 17 of these Regulations;
2. The application for and use of the permit stated in article 45 of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act 1988;

Article 45 of the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act 1988 concerns the use of the permit that the minister granted on 5 December 2002 to the City of Amsterdam for performing excavations.

The powers referred to in 1 and 2 are reserved for the City of Amsterdam's city executive. The authority to determine the Regulations for the Amsterdam Restoration Fund shall also be included in List A accompanying the Districts bylaw, as soon as the decision is taken to establish this fund.

Sub b. Five process descriptions

Four process descriptions are an update of the four scenarios that were included as appendices to the covenant between the City Centre Service and the Office of Built Heritage Conservation. A process description for archaeology has been added, which sets out the activities that are associated with the decentralised powers and a central authority (the authority to perform excavations). As a result of the implementation of the Valletta Treaty in the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act 1988, new legal requirements entered into force on 1 September 2007 to safeguard and document the 'ground archives' in physical/spatial developments. It should also be noted here that the way in which these powers (in

principle, decentralised) are exercised by the City of Amsterdam is still being determined.

Sub c. Policy Document on Monuments and Archaeology in Amsterdam for 2005-2010

Op 13 April 2005, the city council adopted Room for History, Policy Document on Monuments and Archaeology in Amsterdam for 2005-2010 (*Ruimte voor geschiedenis, beleidsnota Monumenten en Archeologie 2005-2010*). The main themes in this document are as follows:

- A cultural and historic policy for the entire city
- Extra attention for the physical context of monuments and the 'ground archives'
- More intensive cooperation with the city districts
- Attention for systematic maintenance of monuments, which must lead to a limitation of the number of restorations
- Systematic archaeological supervision of physical plans and construction plans
- Additional attention for gathering and transferring knowledge to strengthen the support for culture and history among all Amsterdam residents.

A number of products were made or are being prepared in elaboration of the policy document, such as the creation of a Classification Map for Historic Architectural Value for the medieval city centre of Amsterdam, the identification of new monuments from 1850-1940, the creation of archaeological policy maps, the establishment of an Amsterdam Restoration Fund and the creation and implementation of educational projects.

Explanation of the articles of the covenant

The Articles 1 to 3 and 5 (A to C) relate to the decentralised powers. In accordance with the Districts bylaw, the districts have the authority to exercise these powers.

Articles 1A, 2A, 3A and 5A

The district determines the way in which it exercises the decentralised powers.

Articles 1B, 2B, 3B and 5B

Activities are associated with the exercising of the decentralised powers, for which the knowledge and expertise of the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology are indispensable. In the context of applications for monument permits, for example, an appeal is made to the bureau's expertise to assist in the assessment of the admissibility of the application. In addition, the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology draws up a description of the monument involved and issues its recommendations to the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency about the consequences of the proposed intervention for the monumental values of the building.

Based on the Articles 1B, 2B, 3B and 5B, the City of Amsterdam's city executive ensures, with respect to knowledge, capacity and resources, that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology performs all activities as indicated in the process descriptions under 'Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology'.

Articles 1C, 2C, 3C and 5C

Many working relationships exist between the Central Amsterdam district and the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology; these are described in the process descriptions. These various relationships are taken into account based on the articles 1C, 2C, 3C and 5C.

Articles 4 and 5 (D)

The City of Amsterdam's city executive ensures that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology performs the tasks that arise from the central powers.

For the performance of these tasks as well, working relationships exist between the Central Amsterdam district and the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology. These working relationships are taken into account based on article 4 sub B and article 5 sub E.

Article 6

In addition to the activities that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology performs for the Central Amsterdam district as included in the process descriptions, it is the express intention that the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology also functions in other aspects as the knowledge and expertise centre with respect to monuments and archaeology for the district. The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology is the coordinator of the municipal monument and archaeology policy. This means it is responsible for good

coordination between the districts and acts as the (first) contact point in the network of external contacts (national government, province, Association of Netherlands Municipalities, Federation of Major Monument Municipalities (*Federatie Grote Monumentengemeenten*), and private monument organisations).

In this role, the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology also bears responsibility for the development of a comprehensive vision of Amsterdam's built heritage and archaeology policy and for the implementation thereof. This is a policy in which preventative care by means of monitoring and knowledge transfer is a priority.

Based on article 6, the city executive ensures that, with respect to knowledge, capacity and resources, the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology is able to perform these activities.

Article 7

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology shall take the initiative to evaluate the covenant and, if necessary, shall adapt the agreement in consultation with the district. The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology is responsible for the modification of the process descriptions, if a change is made to the laws and rules described therein.

Convenant op het gebied van monumentenzorg en archeologie tussen stadsdeel Centrum en het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam

De ondergetekenden (partijen)

1. Het bestuur van het stadsdeel Centrum, te dezen vertegenwoordigd door het sectorhoofd Bouwen en Wonen, de heer E. Loos, hierna te noemen "het stadsdeel";
2. Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam, te dezen vertegenwoordigd door het hoofd van het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie, mevrouw E. Agricola;

nemen het volgende in aanmerking :

- dat de bevoegdheden op het gebied van monumentenzorg en archeologie zijn gedecentraliseerd, met uitzondering van een drietal bevoegdheden, zoals opgenomen in hoofdstuk VII van lijst A van de Verordening op de stadsdelen (gemeenteraadsbesluit 10 juni 1998, nr. 284, laatstelijk gewijzigd bij besluit van 19 maart 2008 nr. 43/85;
- dat het stadsdeel de gedecentraliseerde bevoegdheden op het gebied van monumentenzorg en archeologie uitoefent, met inachtneming van hetgeen in dit convenant is bepaald;
- dat er met de uitoefening van die bevoegdheden samenhangende werkzaamheden zijn, waarvoor de kennis en de expertise van het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie onmisbaar zijn;
- dat advisering door en overleg met het stadsdeel gewenst is bij de uitoefening van de centrale bevoegdheden;
- dat het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie voor het overige fungeert als kennis- en expertisecentrum op het gebied van monumentenzorg en archeologie voor het stadsdeel;
- dat het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie een coördinerende rol heeft op het gebied van het stedelijke monumenten- en archeologiebeleid;

leggen aan dit convenant ten grondslag:

- de Verordening op de stadsdelen, en in het bijzonder het gemeenteraadsbesluit d.d. 10 juni 1998, nr. 284, gewijzigd bij besluit van 19 maart 2008 nr. 43/85;
- vijf procesbeschrijvingen, waarin de werkwijze en taakverdeling tussen stadsdeel Amsterdam Centrum en het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie zijn vastgelegd:
 - Proces Bescherming d.d. juni 2008;
 - Proces Vergunningen d.d. juni 2008;
 - Proces Subsidiëring en financiering, gedecentraliseerde bevoegdheden d.d. juni 2008;
 - Proces Subsidiëring en financiering, centrale bevoegdheden d.d. juni 2008;
 - Proces Archeologie d.d. juni 2008;
- 'Ruimte voor geschiedenis', Beleidsnota Monumenten en Archeologie Amsterdam 2005-2010, vastgesteld door de gemeenteraad op 13 april 2005.

komen het volgende overeen:

1. In te trekken het convenant op het gebied van monumentenzorg tussen de Dienst Binnenstad Amsterdam en het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam zoals dat is vastgesteld op 17 juli 2000;
2. Vast te stellen het navolgende convenant op het gebied van monumentenzorg en archeologie tussen stadsdeel Centrum en het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam.

Artikel 1. Bescherming

- A. Het stadsdeel oefent de gedecentraliseerde bevoegdheden uit, zoals beschreven in het Proces Bescherming.
- B. Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam draagt er zorg voor, dat het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie de met deze bevoegdheden samenhangende werkzaamheden verricht, zoals neergelegd in het Proces Bescherming.
- C. Hierbij worden de onderlinge werkrelaties in acht genomen, zoals beschreven in het Proces Bescherming.

Artikel 2. Vergunningen, beheer en handhaving

- A. Het stadsdeel oefent de gedecentraliseerde bevoegdheden uit, zoals beschreven in het Proces Vergunningen, beheer en handhaving.
- B. Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam draagt er zorg voor, dat het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie de met deze bevoegdheden samenhangende werkzaamheden verricht, zoals beschreven in het Proces Vergunningen, beheer en handhaving.
- C. Hierbij worden de onderlinge werkrelaties in acht genomen, zoals beschreven in het Proces Vergunningen, beheer en handhaving.

Artikel 3. Subsidiëring en financiering, gedecentraliseerde bevoegdheden

- A. Het stadsdeel oefent de gedecentraliseerde bevoegdheden uit, zoals beschreven in het Proces Subsidiëring en financiering, gedecentraliseerde bevoegdheden.
- B. Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam draagt er zorg voor, dat het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie de met deze bevoegdheden samenhangende werkzaamheden verricht, zoals beschreven in het Proces Subsidiëring en financiering, gedecentraliseerde bevoegdheden.
- C. Hierbij worden de onderlinge werkrelaties in acht genomen, zoals beschreven in het Proces Subsidiëring en financiering, gedecentraliseerde bevoegdheden.

Artikel 4. Subsidiëring en financiering, centrale bevoegdheden

- A. Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam draagt er zorg voor, dat het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie de taken verricht, voortvloeiend uit de centrale bevoegdheden, zoals beschreven in het Proces Subsidiëring en financiering, centrale bevoegdheden.
- B. Hierbij worden de onderlinge werkrelaties in acht genomen, zoals beschreven in het Proces Subsidiëring en financiering, centrale bevoegdheden.

Artikel 5. Archeologie

- A. Het stadsdeel oefent de gedecentraliseerde bevoegdheden uit, zoals beschreven in het Proces Archeologie.
- B. Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam draagt er zorg voor, dat het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie de met deze bevoegdheden samenhangende werkzaamheden verricht, zoals beschreven in het Proces Archeologie.
- C. Hierbij worden de onderlinge werkrelaties in acht genomen, zoals beschreven in het Proces Archeologie.
- D. Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam draagt er zorg voor, dat het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie de taken verricht, voortvloeiend uit de centrale bevoegdheid, zoals beschreven in het Proces Archeologie.
- E. Hierbij worden de onderlinge werkrelaties in acht genomen, zoals beschreven in het Proces Archeologie.

Artikel 6. Kennis en expertisecentrum monumenten en archeologie

- A. Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam draagt er zorg voor, dat het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie voor het overige voor het stadsdeel dient als een kennis- en expertisecentrum op het gebied van monumenten en archeologie. Hieronder wordt mede begrepen, dat het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie ambtelijke bijstand verleent en deskundig advies geeft over plannen en projecten in het stadsdeel, waar cultuurhistorische waarden in het geding zijn.
- B. Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam draagt er zorg voor, dat het Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie als coördinatiepunt fungeert van het stedelijke monumenten- en archeologiebeleid door middel van overdracht van informatie en het doen van voorstellen aangaande de stedelijke aspecten van het monumenten- en archeologiebeleid.
- C. Het eerste aanspreekpunt voor het stadsdeel zijn:
- Voor de advisering over vergunningen en handhaving, subsidiëring en financiering van restauratie of onderhoud de aan het stadsdeel toegewezen monumentenadviseurs van de afdeling Monumenten;
 - Voor de overige aspecten van het monumentenbeleid, de aan het stadsdeel toegewezen gebiedsadviseur van de afdeling Monumenten;
 - Voor het archeologiebeleid: de archeologen van de afdeling Archeologie.

Artikel 7. Overige bepalingen

- A. Het convenant wordt aangegaan voor onbepaalde tijd.
- B. Het convenant zal worden geëvalueerd twee jaar na datum van afsluiten, welke evaluatie kan leiden tot wijzigingen.



Amsterdam, 14 oktober 2008

Het bestuur van het stadsdeel
Centrum,
voor deze

E. Loos

Het gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam,
voor deze,

E. Agricola

Appendix 4
Declaration of approval by the Province of North Holland

Date: 30 October 2008

Our ref: 2008-63065

Subject: Nomination of Amsterdam's ring of canals as UNESCO World Heritage Site

Tel +31 (0)23 514 3143

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Visitors'

address

Dreef 3

Haarlem

College of Mayor and Aldermen
PO Box 202
1000 AE AMSTERDAM

Department
Enclosure(s)

Policy

Handled by GM Jacobs
E-mail jacobsm@noord-holland.nl

Telephone (023) 5144741 Your ref

SENT 10 NOVEMBER 2008

Dear Members of the City Executive,

We were very interested to hear about your intention to nominate 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals' as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

We agree that the placement of the 17th-century ring of canals on the World Heritage Site list adequately reflects the positioning of Amsterdam as a top international city with the unique values of creativity, entrepreneurial spirit and innovation. These core values are also inspired by the history of the city, and have contributed to Amsterdam's status as a trade centre and free port for more than five centuries.

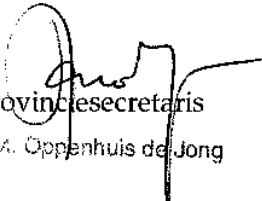
Designating Amsterdam's ring of canals as a World Heritage Site emphasises both the importance of this area as the high point of the Golden Age, a period in which the city quickly became a major world player, and the fact that this period also formed the basis for the city's development in the centuries that followed.

In addition, designating Amsterdam's canal ring as a World Heritage Site offers the city the opportunity to maintain the underlying intangible values that contributed to the development of Amsterdam as a city where people of all nationalities and beliefs can move about, think and trade freely, and the importance of this in the modern world. We therefore fully support this nomination and hope that the 17th-century ring of canals will indeed be included in the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Yours sincerely,
Provincial Executive of North Holland,

Provincial secretary

chair



provinciesecretaris
N.W.M. Oppenhuis de Jong



voorzitter
H.C.J.L. Borghouts

■ Gedeputeerde Staten



Datum 30 OKT 2008 Ons kenmerk 2008-63065

Onderwerp Nominatie grachtengordel Amsterdam Unesco Erfgoed

Burgemeester en Wethouders
van Amsterdam
Postbus 202
1000 AE AMSTERDAM

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Haarlem

Postadres
Postbus 123
2000 MD Haarlem

Tel (023) 514 3143
Fax (023) 514

Directie Beleid

Bijlage(n)

Behandeld door GM Jacobs
E-mail jacobsm@noord-holland.nl

Telefoon (023) 5144741 Uw kenmerk

Geacht college,

VERZONDEN 10 NOV. 2008

Wij hebben met buitengewone belangstelling kennis genomen van uw voornemen om 'De 17e eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' te nomineren als Werelderfgoed van UNESCO.

Wij onderschrijven dat de plaatsing van de 17e eeuwse grachtengordel op de Werelderfgoedlijst recht doet aan de positionering van Amsterdam als internationale topstad met de unieke waarden creativiteit, handelsgeest en innovatie. Deze kernwaarden zijn mede ingegeven door de geschiedenis van de stad en maken van Amsterdam al ruim vijf eeuwen een handelscentrum en vrijhaven.

De aanwijzing van de grachtengordel als Werelderfgoed benadrukt niet alleen het belang van dit gebied als het hoogtepunt van de Gouden Eeuw, een periode waarin de stad in korte tijd tot grote bloei werd gebracht, maar ook dat deze periode de grondslag vormt voor de ontwikkeling van de stad in de eeuwen daarna.

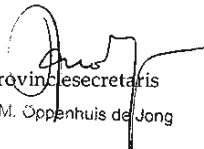
Het aanwijzen van de grachtengordel als Werelderfgoed biedt de stad dan ook de gelegenheid om de achterliggende immateriële waarden van het ontstaan van Amsterdam blijvend in stand te kunnen houden. Amsterdam is een stad waar mensen van alle nationaliteiten en gezindten zich vrij kunnen bewegen, denken en handelen.

PRH 000

Internet: www.noord-holland.nl
Email: post@noord-holland.nl

Wij steunen dan ook van harte de nominatie en hopen dat de 17e eeuwse grachtengordel inderdaad opgenomen wordt in de lijst van Unesco werelderfgoed.

Hoogachtend,
Gedeputeerde Staten
van Noord-Holland,


provinciesecretaris
W.M. Oppenhuis de Jong


voorzitter
H.C.J.L. Borghouts

Appendix 5

Statements and letters of Intent most significant Stakeholder Organizations

Appendix 5		
Statements and Letters of Intent most significant stake holder organizations / alphabetical order		
Amsterdam Academy of Architecture	Aart Oxenaar, Director	www.academievandebouwkunst.nl
Access Amsterdam	Mrs. Anna Lysenko, Director	www.access-nl.org
American Business Club *	Charles Ruffolo, President	www.aabc.nl
American Chamber of Commerce in the Netherlands	Raoul Oberman, President / Director McKinsy & Company	www.amcham.nl
Amsterdam City Association	Guus Bakker, Chairman	www.amsterdamcity.nl
Amsterdam Federation of Housing Corporations *	Mrs. Ankie Verlaan, Chairman General Board	http://afwc.nl
Amsterdam Historical Museum	Mrs. Pauline W. Kruseman, Director	www.ahm.nl
Amsterdam Partners *	Charles van Renesse, Director	www.amsterdampartners.nl
Amsterdam RAI Congress Centre	A.J. (Hans) Bakker, Chairman	www.rai.nl
Amsterdam Tourism and Congress Board	Stefan G.M. Diender, Director	www.atcb.nl
ARCAM Amsterdam Centre for Architecture	Maarten Kloos, Director	www.arcam.nl
Asia House *	Reind Mulder, Director	www.asiahouse.nl
Association of Friends of the Amsterdam City Centre	Walter Schoonenberg, Secretary of the Board	www.amsterdamsebinnenstad.nl
Association Hendrik de Keyser *	C.S.T. Huijts, Director	www.hendrickdekeyser.nl
Bond Heemschut	Karel Loeff, General Manager	www.heemschut.nl
Bureau Pindakaas	Mrs. Peggy Stein, Director	www.pindakaas.info
Canon of Amsterdam *	Piet de Rooij, Chairman	www.canonvanamsterdam.nl
Chamber of Commerce Amsterdam *	Oswald Schwirtz, Director	www.kvk.nl/amsterdam
Confederation of Netherlands Industry and Employers	Rene Klawer, Chairman	www.vno-ncw.nl
Cuypers Association, Amsterdam Department*	V.V. Stissi, Chairman	www.cuypersgenootschap.nl
Dutch Bureau for Tourism and Congresses	J. Vranken, CEO	www.nbtc.nl
Foundation 'Wijkcentrum Jordaan & Gouden Reel' *	Tryntsje Bakkum, Chairman	www.jordaanngoudenreel.nl
Housing Corporation Ymere *	Roel Steenbeek, Director	www.ymere.nl
International School of Amsterdam *	Edward Green, Director	www.isa.nl
Middle and Small Business Organization Amsterdam *	Mark van der Horst, Chairman	www.mkb-amsterdam.nl
National Foundation De Nieuwe Kerk / Hermitage Amsterdam	Ernst Veen, Director	www.nieuwekerk.nl
NV Stadsgoed	J.A. (Ronald) Wiggers, Director	www.stadsgoed.nl
Okura Hotel	M.P. van Aelst, President en Chairman of all 5* hotels in A'dam	www.okura.nl
Oude Kerk Foundation	Herbert van Hasselt, Director	www.oudekerk.nl
Passenger Terminal Amsterdam	Rene Kouwenberg, Director	www.ptamsterdam.nl

Rijksmuseum Amsterdam	Wim M.J. Pijbes, Executive Director	www.rijksmuseum.nl
Royal Archaeological League *	Wim Eggenkamp, Chairman	www.knob.nl
Concertgebouw Amsterdam	Simon A. Reinink, Director	www.concertgebouw.nl
Royal Netherlands Catering Organization, Amsterdam	Paul Hermanides, Chairman	www.horeca.org/smartsite.dws?id=34144
Society Amstelodamum *	M.G.B. Evers, Secretary of the Board	www.amstelodamum.nl
Society for Monuments and History in Amsterdam	Karel Leeftang, Chairman	www.amsterdammonumentenstad.nl
Society of Entrepreneurs in the Amsterdam Area *	Jack Steijn, Director	www.oram.nl
Stadsdeel Oud-West	Bouwe Olij, Chairman	www.oud-west.amsterdam.nl
Stadsherstel Amsterdam NV	A. Meerstadt, Director MRE	www.stadsherstel.nl
The John Adams Institute	Russel Shorto, Director	www.john-adams.nl
Van Gogh Museum	Axel Rüger, Directeur	www.vangoghmuseum.nl
Waag Society *	Mrs. Marleen Stikker, Director	www.waag.org
Wijkcentrum d'Oude Stadt	Mrs. Minne Meijering, Vice Chairman	www.oudestadt.nl
Total / January 2009	43	
Signed	31	
* Signed Letters of Intent to be received shortly	12	

Statement

Concerning the nomination to designate ‘Amsterdam’s 17th-century ring of canals’ as an intended future UNESCO World Heritage Site

The undersigned hereby declares that the placement of Amsterdam’s 17th-century ring of canals on the World Heritage Site list accurately reflects the positioning of Amsterdam as a top international city with the unique values of creativity, entrepreneurial spirit and innovation. These core values are also inspired by the history of the city, and have contributed to Amsterdam’s status as a trade centre and free port for more than five centuries.

Designating Amsterdam’s ring of canals as a World Heritage Site emphasises both the importance of this area as the high point of the Golden Age, a period in which the city quickly became a major world player, and the fact that this period also formed the basis for the city’s development in the centuries that followed.

In addition, designating Amsterdam’s ring of canals as a World Heritage Site offers the city the opportunity to maintain the underlying intangible values that contributed to the development of Amsterdam as a city where people of all nationalities and beliefs can move about, think and trade freely, and the importance of this in the modern world.

I hereby support the position that the involvement of all relevant public and private parties in the city in both a tangible and metaphorical sense is necessary in this context.

Date

Signature

**HEEMSCHUT
PROTECTION OF CULTURAL MONUMENTS**

Bond Heemschut, Association for the protection of Cultural Monuments in the Netherlands. Founded in 1911. Under the patronage of Her Majesty the Queen.

Letter of Intent

Concerning the protection and maintenance of 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals' as an intended UNESCO World Heritage Site

The Undersigned,

The Heemschut Union (Bond Heemschut), Association for the protection of Cultural Monuments in the Netherlands,

Hereby confirms that, together with other stakeholders, it bears responsibility for protecting and maintaining 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals' as an intended future UNESCO World Heritage Site.

In the performance of the objectives stated in its articles of association, Heemschut also bases its activities on applicable international treaties, charters and resolutions that concern UNESCO World Heritage Sites, intended to protect and maintain sites of cultural and natural importance for the history of humankind.

Heemschut shall use the nomination file, which includes the management plan dated 9 September 2008, drawn up by the College of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Amsterdam and the executive committee of the Central Amsterdam District, and the area document dated June 2007, as the basis for further agreements concerning the protection and maintenance of the outstanding universal value, the authenticity and the integrity of 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals'.

Heemschut hereby declares, with reference to the objectives stated in its articles of association, that it will actively cooperate to maintain 'Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals' as an intended internationally recognised World Heritage Site for the current and future generations of residents of and visitors to Amsterdam, in accordance with the World Heritage Convention (UNESCO 1972) and the associated Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

Heemschut shall, as a cultural heritage organisation and in its involvement with the intended World Heritage Site, promote the sustainable and future-oriented use of this site entrusted to it and increase the site's recognition as a World Heritage Site. To this end, Heemschut has appointed a committee by virtue of Article 8 of its articles of association. This Amsterdam Committee shall actively work to safeguard protected and unprotected built, designed and archaeological cultural heritage sites in the City of Amsterdam. Together with other private and non-private organisations, Heemschut is honoured to work towards a broad appreciation for the intended Amsterdam World Heritage Site.

On behalf of the Heemschut Union,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karel Loeff', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Karel Loeff, Managing Director

Cc: executive committee and general management



Bond Heemschut, Vereniging tot bescherming van cultuurmonumenten in Nederland. Opggericht in 1911. Beschermvrouwe H.M. de Koningin.

Intentieverklaring

inzake het beschermen en in stand houden van "De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam" als beoogd Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

Ondergetekende,

Bond Heemschut, Vereniging tot bescherming van Cultuurmonumenten in Nederland,

bevestigt hierbij dat zij samen met andere stakeholders verantwoordelijkheid heeft voor het beschermen en in stand houden van 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO.

Heemschut gaat bij de uitoefening van haar statutaire doelstelling mede uit van de internationaal geldende verdragen, charters en resoluties die betrekking hebben op het Werelderfgoed van UNESCO, bedoeld ter bescherming en instandhouding van cultureel en natuurlijk erfgoed van betekenis voor de geschiedenis van de mensheid.

Heemschut zal het nominatiedossier, waarvan het op 9 september 2008 door het College van Burgemeester en Wethouders van Amsterdam en het dagelijks bestuur van stadsdeel Centrum vastgestelde Managementplan en het Gebiedsdocument van juni 2007 deel uitmaken, gebruiken als leidraad bij nadere afspraken over het beschermen en in stand houden van de uitzonderlijke en universele waarden (*Outstanding Universal Value*), de *authenticity* en de *integrity* van 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam'.

Heemschut verklaart hierbij om, verwijzend naar haar statutaire doelstelling, daadwerkelijk mee te zullen werken "De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam" als beoogd internationaal erkend Werelderfgoed in stand te houden voor de huidige en toekomstige generaties bewoners en bezoekers van Amsterdam, in overeenstemming met *The World Heritage Convention* (UNESCO 1972 en de daarmee verbonden *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*).



Bond Heemschut, Vereniging tot bescherming van cultuurmonumenten in Nederland. Opgericht in 1911. Beschermvrouwe H.M. de Koningin.

Met dit doel zal Heemschut als erfgoedorganisatie en uit dien hoofde betrokken bij het beoogde Werelderfgoed een duurzaam en toekomstgericht gebruik van het aan hun toevertrouwde erfgoed bevorderen en zijn herkenbaarheid als Werelderfgoed vergroten. Heemschut heeft hiertoe krachtens artikel 8 van haar statuten een commissie benoemd. Deze Commissie Amsterdam zet zich actief in voor de bewaking van beschermd en niet beschermd gebouwd, aangelegd en archeologisch erfgoed in de gemeente Amsterdam. Heemschut zal zich, samen met andere particuliere en niet particuliere organisaties, gaarne inzetten voor een brede waardering van het beoogd Amsterdamse Werelderfgoed.

Namens de Bond Heemschut,

Drs. Karel Loeff
Algemeen directeur

cc. dagelijks-en algemeen bestuur

HET CONCERTGEBOUW

Het Concertgebouw N.V.
Concertgebouwplein 2-6
1071 LN Amsterdam
Internet: <http://www.concertgebouw.nl>
E-mail: concertgebouw@concertgebouw.nl

Aan

Algemeen
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Fax: 31(0)20 573 0 570
Zaaknummer
Telefoon: 31(0)20 573 0 400
Fax: 31(0)20 573 0 563
Besprekingsbureau
Telefoon: 31(0)20 671 83 45
Fax: 31(0)20 573 0 460

Datum 5 november 2008

Ontwerp

ABN AMRO 43.30.15.268, Postbank 68625
Handelsregister Amsterdam 33014504

Verklaring

Iuzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^e eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomst werelderfgoed van UNESCO

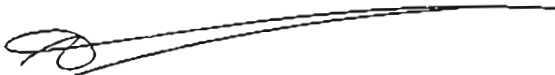
Ondertekende onderschrijft dat de plaatsing van de 17^e eeuwse grachtengordel op de Werelderfgoedlijst recht doet aan de positionering van Amsterdam als internationale topstad met de unieke waarden creativiteit, handelsgeest en innovatie. Deze kernwaarden zijn mede ingegeven door de geschiedenis van de stad en maken van Amsterdam al ruim vijf eeuwen een handelscentrum en vrijhaven.

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Ik ondersteun daarbij het gegeven dat betrokkenheid in zowel materiële als overdrachtelijke zin van alle relevante publieke en private partijen in de stad daarbij belangrijk is.

Hoogachtend,
Het Concertgebouw N.V.


Mr. S.A. Reinink,
Algemeen Directeur

Ingekomen

- 8 DEC 2008

 Monumenten & Archeologie



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

R. Sharto, Director
The John A. Lane Institute
Herengracht 97
1013 EC Amsterdam
4 november 2008
Intentieverklaring

Datum
Onderwerp

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de} -eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

Ondergetekende onderschrijft dat de plaatsing van de 17^{de} -eeuwse grachtengordel op de Werelderfgoedlijst recht doet aan de positionering van Amsterdam als internationale topstad met de unieke waarden, creativiteit, handelsgeest en innovatie. Deze kernwaarden zijn mede ingegeven door de geschiedenis van de stad en maken van Amsterdam al ruim vijf eeuwen een handelscentrum en vrijhaven.

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Datum

Nov. 12, 2008

Handtekening

R. Sharto

13 NOV 2008

Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

**ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR**
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de}-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

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Datum

6.11.2008

Handtekening

Marcel P. van Aelst
President and General Manager

Hotel Cluys Amsterdam



STICHTING DE OUDE KERK TE AMSTERDAM

Oudekerksplein 23 - 1012 GX Amsterdam - tel. 020 6256284 - fax 020 6200371

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

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Hoogachtend,

Herbert van Hasselt
directeur

Ingekomen:

- 1 DEC 2008

Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

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Datum
01-12-2008

Handtekening

Ingekomen

- 2 DEC 2008

Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

VERENIGING VRIENDEN
VAN DE AMSTERDAMSE
BINNENSTAD

Datum
Onderwerp

4 november 2008
Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de}-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als voorged toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

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Datum

Handtekening



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum
Onderwerp

4 november 2008
Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de} -eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

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Datum 13-11-2008

Handtekening

R. Klamer
voorzitter
VNO-NCW - WEST



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum
Onderwerp

4 november 2008
Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

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Datum

10/11/08

Handtekening

Bouwe Olij

VAN GOGH MUSEUM

Directie
Van Gogh Museum
Postbus 79366 1070 CA Amsterdam
tel +31 (0)20 673 8322
fax +31 (0)20 670 3177
www.vangoghmuseum.nl
Bezoekadres/Visitors
Paulus Potterstraat 7 Amsterdam

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR

Verdu & Monumenten & Archeologie

Verklaring

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^e eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

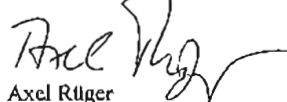
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Amsterdam, 23 oktober 2008



Axel Rütger
Directeur

DIRECTIE

Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie
'De Bazel'
Herengracht 482
1017 CB Amsterdam

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1070 MS Amsterdam
Europaplein 2-22
1078 GZ Amsterdam
T 020 549 12 12
F 020 646 44 69
www.rai.nl

T direct 020 549 16 68
F direct 020 549 18 47
h.bakker@rai.nl

Verklaring

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^e eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

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Datum 17.10.2008

Handtekening



A. J. Bakker
voorzitter directie

AMSTERDAMS
Historisch Museum

postadres - postal address
POSTBUS 3302
1001 AC AMSTERDAM

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR

Monumenten & Archeologie
KALVERSTRAAT 92
AMSTERDAM

tel
+31 (0)20 523 18 22

fax
+31 (0)20 620 77 89

email
INFO@AHM.AMSTERDAM.NL

datum
20 oktober 2008

nummer

uw referentie

behandeld door

24 OKT 2008
461
Agencia (G.K.)
SLOPP

Verklaring

inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^e eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

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Datum

20 oktober 2008

Handtekening

P.W. Kruseman
P.W. Kruseman, directeur

Bij correspondentie gebruik brievenmeter verzenden.

Museum Willem-Holthuysen wordt door het
Amsterdams Historisch Museum beheerd.

Directie

RIJKS MUSEUM
a m s t e r d a m

POSTBUS 74888
1070 DN AMSTERDAM
TELEFOON 020 674 70 00
TELEFAX 020 674 70 01
WWW.RIJKSMUSEUM.NL

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Ministerie van Monumenten & Archeologie

Uw referentie

Uw brief van

Onze referentie

Datum

30 oktober 2008

Verklaring

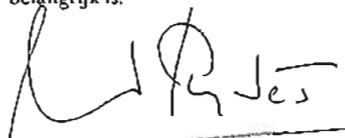
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Wim Pijbes
Hoofddirecteur Rijksmuseum

Amsterdam, 30 oktober 2008

478

AGRI COLA (A.K.)

STOOP

POSTBANK 4060
ING Bank 65 13 40 577



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de} -eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

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Datum
6-11-2008

Handtekening



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

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Ik ondersteun daarbij het gegeven dat betrokkenheid in zowel materiele als overdrachtelijke zin van alle relevante publieke en private partijen in de stad daarbij belangrijk is.

Datum
07 NOVEMBER 2008

Handtekening



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum
Onderwerp

4 november 2008
Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de}-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

Ondergetekende onderschrijft dat de plaatsing van de 17^{de}-eeuwse grachtengordel op de Werelderfgoedlijst recht doet aan de positionering van Amsterdam als internationale topstad met de unieke waarden, creativiteit, handelsgeest en innovatie. Deze kernwaarden zijn mede ingegeven door de geschiedenis van de stad en maken van Amsterdam al ruim vijf eeuwen een handelscentrum en vrijhaven.

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Datum

7 november 2008

Handtekening



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

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Datum

10-11-2008

Handtekening

11 NOV 2008

Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

✓



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum
Onderwerp

4 november 2008
Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

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Datum 6 november 2008

Handtekening

K. J. Leeflang
voorzitter
Stichting Amsterdam
Monumenten Stad

10011111

14 NOV 2008



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
vrij van Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intenteverklaring

VERKLARING

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Datum
6 november 2008

Handtekening


M. KLOOS
DIRECTEUR ARCAM

11 NOV 2008



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intenleverklaring

VERKLARING

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Datum

6/11/2008

Handtekening

Van Harte!

Dhr. R. Bouwenberg
Passenger Terminal Amsterdam
Plet Hainkade 27
1019 BA Amsterdam
renekouwenberg@ptamsterdam.com



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

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J. Vranken
CEO NBTC

Datum 7-11-2008

Handtekening

Ingezonden

11 NOV 2008

Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

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Datum

Amsterdam 7-11-08

Handtekening

Ingeschreven op

4 1 NOV 2008

Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

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Datum 10/11-2008


Handtekening

Pieter G. M. Dierckx
Algemeen Directeur
Amsterdam Stads- & Oude
Ruimte

10 NOV 2008



Nationale Stichting
De Nieuwe Kerk Amsterdam

Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie
Mevrouw E. Agricola
Postbus 10718
1001 ES AMSTERDAM

National Foundation
De Nieuwe Kerk Amsterdam

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107715 BANK 64 01 13 699
BIC: NL0057-73 647-5-01
RIBK 41199682

10 november 2008

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Verklaring

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Datum

10/11/08

Handtekening

107715 BANK 64 01 13 699

BIC: NL0057-73 647-5-01

RIBK 41199682



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de} - eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

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Datum 10-11-2008

Handtekening

P. HERMA WIJDES
alg. dir. A'DAM VILLAGE COMPANY
VZ. KHH AMST



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intantieverklaring

VERKLARING

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Datum 10.11.08

Handtekening 

ANNA LYENKO
ACCESS Amsterdam
Directeur

10.11.2008



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

Intentieverklaring

Inzake het beschermen en in stand houden van "De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam" als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

Ondertekenden bevestigen hun gezamenlijke verantwoordelijkheid voor het beschermen en in stand houden van 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO.

Zij gaan in hun beleid en daaruit voortvloeiende maatregelen uit van de internationaal geldende verdragen, charters en resoluties die betrekking hebben op het Werelderfgoed van UNESCO, bedoeld ter bescherming en instandhouding van cultureel en natuurlijk erfgoed van betekenis voor de geschiedenis van de mensheid.

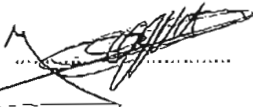
Zij gebruiken het nominatiedossier, waarvan het op 9 september 2008 door het College van Burgemeester en Wethouders van Amsterdam en het dagelijks bestuur van stadsdeel Centrum vastgestelde Managementplan en het Gebiedsdocument van juni 2007 deel uitmaken, als leidraad bij afspraken over het beheren, beschermen en in stand houden van de uitzonderlijke en universele waarden (*Outstanding Universal Value*), de *authenticity* en de *integrity* van 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam'.

Zij verklaren hierbij om daadwerkelijk mee te zullen werken 'De zeventiende-eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd Internationaal erkend Werelderfgoed in stand te houden voor de huidige en toekomstige generaties bewoners en bezoekers van Amsterdam, in overeenstemming met *The World Heritage Convention* (UNESCO 1972) en de daarmee verbonden *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*.

Met dit doel zullen zij als elgenaar, beheerder dan wel uit anderen hoofde bij het beoogde Werelderfgoed betrokken, een duurzaam en toekomstgericht gebruik van het aan hun toevertrouwde erfgoed bevorderen en zijn herkenbaarheid als Werelderfgoed vergroten, door middel van zorgvuldig beheer, onderhoud, onderzoek, kennisoverdracht en publiciteit.

Namens

N.V. STADSGOED
Postbus 700
1000 AS Amsterdam



J. A. WIGGINS
DIRECTIEUR N.V. STADSGOED EN STADSGOED MONUMENTEN B.V.

AMSTERDAM, 14 NOVEMBER 2008



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

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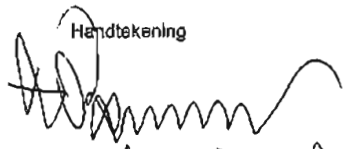
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Datum

11-11-08

Handtekening


directie Academie van Beeldende
Amsterdam.

11-11-2008



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

American
Chamber of Commerce
in the Netherlands
Rosal Oberman,
President

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intenleverklaring

VERKLARING

Inzake de nominatie met betrekking tot de aanwijzing van 'De 17^{de} -eeuwse grachtengordel van Amsterdam' als beoogd toekomstig Werelderfgoed van UNESCO

Ondergetekende onderschrijft dat de plaatsing van de 17^{de}- eeuwse grachtengordel op de Werelderfgoedlijst recht doet aan de positionering van Amsterdam als internationale topstad met de unieke waarden, creativiteit, handelsgeest en innovatie. Deze kernwaarden zijn mede ingegeven door de geschiedenis van de stad en maken van Amsterdam al ruim vijf eeuwen een handelscentrum en vrijhaven.

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Datum
01-12-2008

Handtekening

Ingekomen

2 DEC 2008



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Vereniging
Amsterdam City
G. Bakker, Voorzitter

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum 4 november 2008
Onderwerp Intentieverklaring

VERKLARING

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Datum

11 nov 2008

Handtekening

Ingekomen

.. 5 JAN 2009

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Winne Meyerling,
hce voorster*

ARCHIEF
EXEMPLAAR
Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Datum

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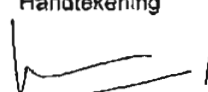
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Ingekomen
14 JAN 2009

Datum 13 januari 2009

Handtekening



www.bma.amsterdam.nl Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie

Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie is onderdeel van Dienst Milieu & Bouwtoezicht

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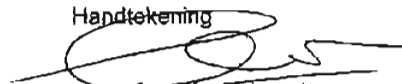
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Datum 22 de Umbra 2008

Handtekening



Mr. A. Meester MRE

Bureau Monumenten & Archeologie is onderdeel van Dienst Milieu & Bouwtoezicht

Appendix 6

Action plan regarding the Amsterdam World Heritage Office

ACTION PLAN

AMSTERDAM WORLD HERITAGE OFFICE 2008-2010

UNESCO Nomination World Heritage List of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'

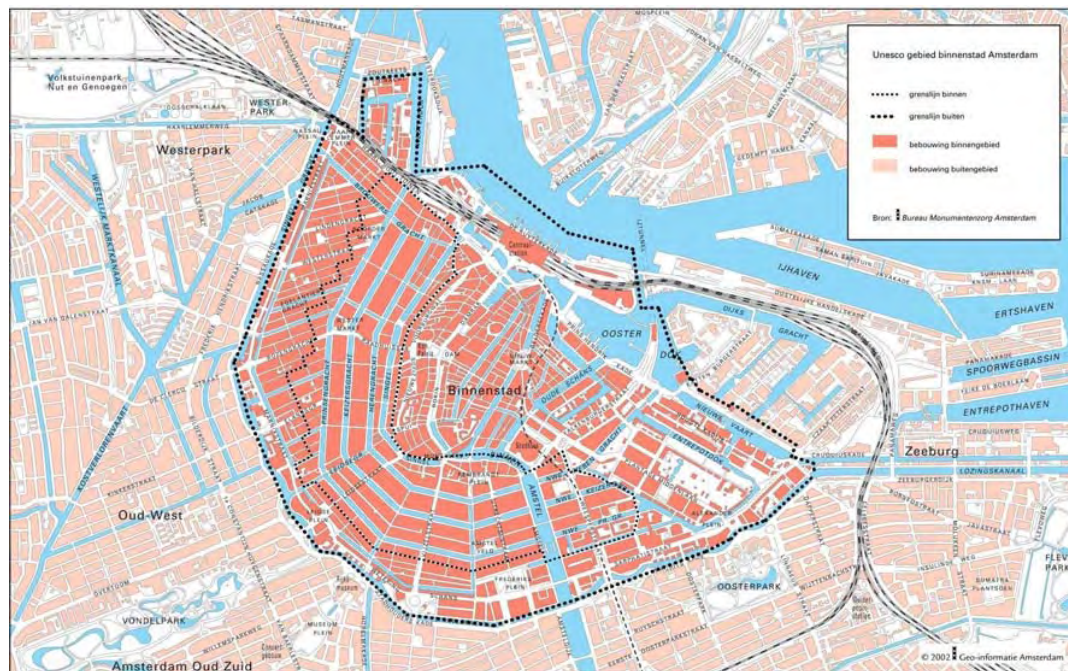


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1. INTRODUCTION

The City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District aim to preserve 17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as World Heritage and protect the *property* in accordance with the Management plan. As Property Manager the Central Amsterdam District is in daily charge.

The Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam together declare, as the immediate responsible parties for the protection of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as World Heritage, to preserve this internationally recognised cultural heritage for its present and future generation of inhabitants and visitors of Amsterdam, in accordance with the World Heritage Convention en the herewith attached *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* and the *Statement of Outstanding Value*, as specified by the World Heritage Committee.

The Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam meet the conditions stipulated by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee to secure a place on the World Heritage List for the Amsterdam ring of canals by setting up an implementing organization, which puts its operations in progress, preceding the submission of the nomination. This organisation is called the Amsterdam World Heritage Office.

This memorandum describes the activities of the Office in the field of:

- a. monitoring en reporting and;
- b. communication and information.

2. ORGANIZATION AMSTERDAM WORLD HERITAGE OFFICE

After securing a place on the World Heritage List the Central Amsterdam District as Property Manager will be immediately responsible for the daily management and the coordination and implementation and preservation of the property, '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'. Likewise they are the immediate responsible organisation in charge of the conservation area, in which the property and its allocated buffer zone are situated. See chapter 2.4 of the Management plan for tasks and qualifications of the Property Manager.

In chapter 4 of the Management plan the responsibilities and qualifications of the Central Amsterdam District as Property Manager are described. The measures for the preservation of the property and its buffer zone within the conservation area are described in chapter 5 of the Management plan. The signed Agreement between the Central Amsterdam District and the City of Amsterdam on the implementation of the responsibilities, tasks and qualifications of the Property Manager, are included in the Management plan.

In accordance with and with the advice and support of the City of Amsterdam, the Central Amsterdam District as Property Manager establishes the Amsterdam World Heritage Office.

2.1 Amsterdam World Heritage Steering Committee

As of November/December 2008 a Steering Committee Amsterdam World Heritage is founded by the Property Manager of which the jointly responsible authorities (City of Amsterdam and Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board (AGV)) are members. They have an immediate responsibility for the preservation of the property and the *Statement of Outstanding Value*, as specified by the *World Heritage Committee*. The Steering Committee has an important task with regards to the creation and maintaining of support for '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as World Heritage. The Steering Committee is chaired by an independent person, with a relevant commitment to the City of Amsterdam. Members of the Steering Committee are:

- independent Chairperson, prominent citizen of Amsterdam;
- Municipal Executive for Cultural Heritage, Tjeerd Herrema;
- Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Central Amsterdam District, Mrs. Els Iping
- Dike Grave of the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board (AGV);
- Secretary (Office Coordinator of the Amsterdam World Heritage Office);
- Advising Member: Director Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology.

The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science shall be asked to appoint an Agenda Member in order to advise the Steering Committee World Heritage Amsterdam on the effects and measurements following the obligations and responsibilities of the member state regarding *World Heritage* regulations.

Together with creating public support, the Steering Committee World Heritage Amsterdam is responsible for the effects and changes in the Management plan '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' (Amsterdam, 9 September 2008) as proposed by the Amsterdam World Heritage Office. And further to broach and approve the Action Plans of the Office and facilitate and support them.

The Steering Committee commissions the recruitment of a Office Coordinator on behalf of the Amsterdam World Heritage Office, who will be appointed as of the beginning of 2009. The Steering Committee will also evaluate the staffing and the budget of the Office and will initiate potential amendments to the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District as Property Manager. The Office Coordinator will take up the position of Secretary in the Steering Committee. The performance of the Office Coordinator will be the responsibility of the Amsterdam World Heritage Steering Committee. The Director Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology will be acting as daily executive.

2.2. Amsterdam World Heritage Office

2.2.1 Tasks

Guardian of the Management plan

The Office is in charge of a specified cycle of planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and adjustment of the Management plan and the incorporated points of particular interest. The Office will take care of all this, including the implementation by means of annual action plans.

Guardian of the Amsterdam World Heritage

The Office develops operating procedures and strategies which will prevent undesired developments and risk of adverse effects on the *Outstanding Universal Value* of the Property (both for the canal belt itself as well as the buffer zone within the Singelgracht) on behalf of the World Heritage Committee. On behalf of the Amsterdam World Heritage Steering Committee the Office will furthermore analyse and register the effects of tourism on the heritage.

Central Monitor

On the basis of existing data with application of council wide available expertise, the Office facilitates the continual process of the observation of the condition of the Property. This results in an annual report to the Amsterdam World Heritage Steering Committee. These annual reports are the basis for the mandatory six-year *Periodic Reporting* by the Netherlands to the *World Heritage Committee*.

Information Centre for Amsterdam and the Netherlands

For the implementation of the Management plan and the annual action plans, the Office keeps in contact with the sectors of the Central Amsterdam District as Property Manager and all relevant municipal administrations and businesses of the City of Amsterdam.

The Office is the information centre for the stakeholders. Among other things the Office organises networking meetings for the stakeholders and other relevant target groups. The role of ambassador of the Office is important, because the support and dedication of those parties involved in and interested in the World Heritage are of essential importance for an effective implementation of the Management plan and the annual action plans.

In accordance with the demands of UNESCO, the Office develops on behalf of native and foreign visitors' multi-lingual publications and virtual and multimedia data carriers with available information of the Property and surrounding area with cultural historical background information. In addition the Office seeks partnerships with relevant parties, such as the Amsterdam Tourism & Convention Board.

Coordination -and knowledge centre for municipal departments

The Office functions as a formalised coordination –en knowledge centre for municipal departments and institutions and city districts which are directly involved and/or responsible for the preservation of the *Outstanding Universal Value* of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.

Press information centre

The Office keeps in touch with local, regional, national, and international (trade) press and knows how to bring these into action at relevant moments and/or to obtain free publicity.

Webmaster and website manager

The Office looks after the multi-lingual website (www.werelderfgoed.amsterdam.nl) of the Property and makes sure actual information and monitoring data are available on the website for the Steering Committee, the stakeholders and all other parties and individuals with an interest in or for World Heritage.

Representative in the national Foundation Platform of World Heritage in the Netherlands

The Office represents the Amsterdam in the national Foundation Platform of World Heritage in the Netherlands.

2.2.2 Competences

The Office must be able to build bridges and keep them open, to cooperate with the many and various stakeholders and responsible authorities, to enthuse all parties concerned and maintain contacts with the press.

The Office Coordinator excels in communicative skills, both through the spoken and the written word, and is expert in the field of heritage and in particular the international obligations concerning the World Heritage. He/she knows his/her way around within the municipal organisation of Amsterdam and is a worthy interlocutor for those from outside de City of Amsterdam, both nationally and internationally. The Office Coordinator has the necessary knowledge of research methods and reporting and is able to submit a translation of the facts on behalf of UNESCO, meeting the demands as given in the *Operational Guideline*. In addition the Office Coordinator is able to play a directing and advising part

when it comes down to the execution of the annual plans concerning the reporting to the Steering Committee.

2.2.3 Organization

Office Coordinator

The Steering Committee appoints a Office Coordinator for the Amsterdam World Heritage Office who is responsible for the execution of the duties of the Office (see also 2.1).

Daily Practice

For the execution of the activities of the Office expertise is made available by the relevant municipal departments and organizations and/or partners with whom the City of Amsterdam cooperates, including in any case:-

- municipal contact point of the Property Manager;
- Physical Planning Department;
- Social Development and Economic Affairs Department;
- Amsterdam Development Corporation;
- The Environmental and Building Department;
- Department for Research and Statistics;
- Inland Waterway Department;
- Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology;
- Municipal Bureau for Project Management:
 - Bureau for the North-South metro line;
 - Bureau for the Southern banks of the IJ river;
 - Bureau for the Northern Amsterdam District.
- Waternet;
- The Amsterdam Tourism & Convention Board (ATCB).

The Office works thematically (among others in the fields of heritage, communication, tourism, town planning, economy, statistics); for each separate project the Office Coordinator determines the necessary staff and expertise. If necessary, the Office asks for the cooperation of the relevant municipal departments and organizations and/or partners cooperating with the City of Amsterdam and appoints committees to adequately execute parts of the Management plan or action plans. In any case there are two permanent committees; the Communication and Monitoring Committees. These committees are directed by the Desk Office Coordinator. In the Communication Committee communicative expertise is represented by a.o.:

- City of Amsterdam; Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology;
- Amsterdam Tourist & Convention Board;
- Amsterdam Partners;
- The Amsterdam Historic Museum;
- National Foundation Platform of World Heritage in the Netherlands;

In the Monitoring Committee expertise is put together in the field of monuments and statistics. Members of this Committee are a.o.:

- City of Amsterdam;
- Department for Research and Statistics;
- Department for Geo and Real Estate information;
- Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology.

2.2.4 Budget

Staff

During the period up till the eventual nomination (2008 – mid 2010) Amsterdam has decided to appoint a Office Coordinator for the Amsterdam World Heritage Office and to seek for further expertise, necessary for the execution of the activities of the Office, within its own ranks (see 2.2.3).

Working budget

To execute its duties the Office needs a working budget. This concerns expenses for amongst others:

- the building and maintenance of the website www.werelderfgoed.amsterdam.nl;
- the organization of, for example, networking meetings for administrating authorities and stakeholders;
- the design of a corporate identity to be implemented on stationary, business cards, and other printed material.

The budget required for the payment of staff, approx. 1,5 employees, and the working budget are fixed at € 150.000,- for the time being. This amount will be made available by the City of Amsterdam.

2.2.5 Positioning

In accordance with the Management plan the Amsterdam World Heritage Office will officially be positioned under the responsibility of the General Manager Construction and Housing Department, Central Amsterdam District. The Office will be housed in the characteristic and monumental building The Bazel, which also houses the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology and the City Archives. The Bazel is situated on the immediate verge of the World Heritage Property.

2.2.6 Evaluation

Evaluation of the Office takes place on a biannual basis. In that same period of time, the working budget will be mainly allocated for the design of a website and a corporate identity, during the following period more precedence will be given to the design of brochures and public events. The evaluation may lead to proposals to expand the formation and budget.

2.2.7 Relation with the Amsterdam Heritage Centre

The future Amsterdam World Heritage Property and the surrounding buffer zone will be given a prominent place in the Amsterdam Heritage Centre, but will be given a wider interpretation, where attention will also be paid to the relation of the World Heritage Property with other parts of the town. On account of the town wide character of the Amsterdam Heritage Centre the final responsibility therefore rests with the City of Amsterdam.

Although the tasks of the future Visitors' Centre are essentially different, the expertise needed for its realisation is partly identical to the know-how the Office demands. The Visitors' Centre and the Office can be of mutual service to each other. In the Amsterdam Heritage Centre feasibility study which is carried out at this moment the allocation of tasks and synergy between the World Heritage Office and the Heritage Centre will be expressly considered in the final planning.

2.2.8 Relation with the national Foundation Platform World Heritage in the Netherlands

The Dutch World Heritage properties are united in the national Foundation Platform of World Heritage in the Netherlands. The Foundation develops programmes for transfer of knowledge, information and education to promote an increasing popular appeal and public support for World Heritage in the Netherlands. It will also see that this is executed.

At managerial level the Chairperson of the City Centre District is a member of the Foundation and participates in the realisation of the above mentioned programme.

The Office Coordinator is a member of the Foundation Platform World Heritage in the Netherlands at an official level. In this case his duties are to inform the official implementation organizations concerned about the contents of the Management plan; he communicates with the administrating authorities about the implementation of the action plans resulting from this. The Office Coordinator provides them on request and/or unsolicited with all the information concerning World Heritage of UNESCO and relevant to an optimum conservation policy of the property.

3. TIME SCHEDULE

- The Amsterdam World Heritage Steering Committee will be installed in November/December 2008, by the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District as Property Manager.
- In the beginning of 2009 the Steering Committee will appoint a Office Coordinator and two permanent committees (Communication and Monitoring) will be installed. As of that moment the Office and committees will commence their activities, which includes
 - the preparation of the implementation of the Management plan;
 - the further development of the website;
 - the drawing up of newsletters, brochures, and the like;
 - networking meetings for the stakeholders;
 - the formulation of a model for annual reports;
 - the preparation of the review by ICOMOS in June 2009;
 - the preparations connected with the moment of the ultimate inscription on the World Heritage List.
- A first evaluation of the functioning of the Office will take place in June 2009 by the Amsterdam World Heritage Committee. They will report their findings tot to the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District. If necessary supplementary proposals will be made, and a new time schedule will be drawn up.

Appendix 7

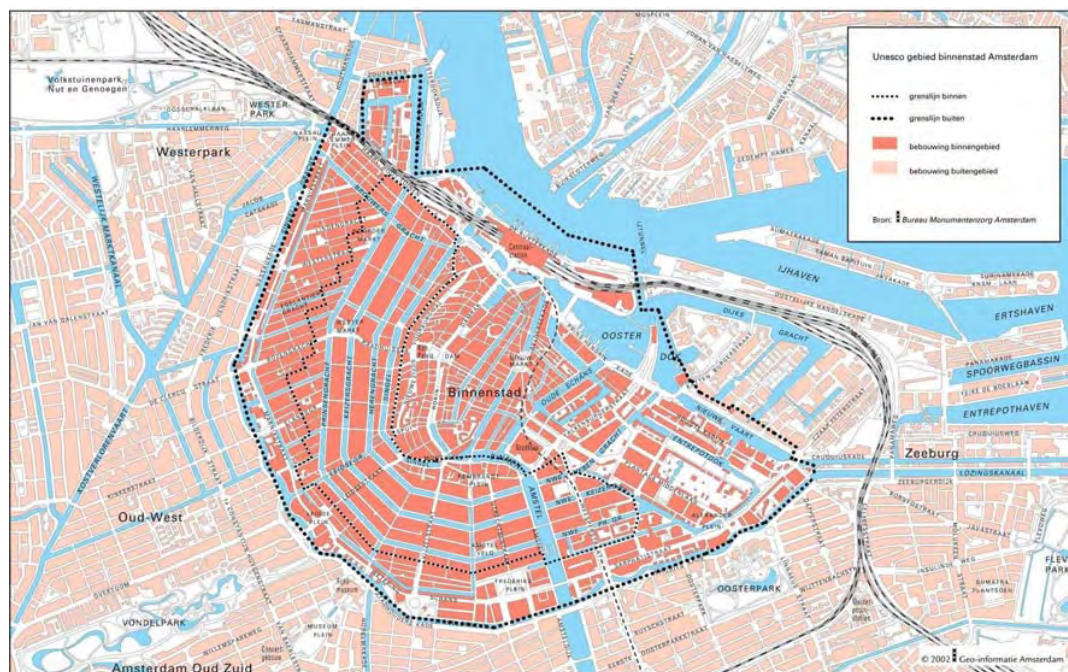
Action plan: Information and communication Strategy 2008- 2010



ACTION PLAN

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION STRATEGY 2008-2010

UNESCO Nomination World Heritage List of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'



October, 2008

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0. INTRODUCTION

In this Action Plan a specification is given of how the City of Amsterdam, in cooperation with the Central Amsterdam District as Property Manager, will execute the information and communication about the preservation and the protection of the site and the related *Unique Outstanding Value* (OUV), according to the Operational Guidelines of UNESCO. This Policy Plan concerns the period of time 2008 until mid 2010, the period of time in which UNESCO will decide whether the nomination of '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' will be awarded. In 2009 the City of Amsterdam starts with making of a communication plan, which will take effect from the moment (mid 2010) Amsterdam has been granted the nomination or otherwise.

1. MOTIVE

Amsterdam is positioning itself as an internationally oriented top city with its unique values, such as creativity, spirit of commerce and innovation. These values have also been inspired by the history of the city. Amsterdam has been a centre of commerce, a spiritual free port, a city with an international position and history in the field of art, culture and architecture for 500 years. The ring of canals is the highlight of the urban development in the Golden Age. In the Golden Age the city was brought to great prosperity in a short period of time and therefore the foundations were laid for the development of the city in the centuries after that. By placing the '17th century ring of canals inside the Singelgracht' on the short list as World Heritage of UNESCO, The Netherlands, in cooperation with the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District, emphasises the historic importance of this unique area for the development of the city.

2. POSITIONING AND TARGET GROUPS

The core values of the city: 'creativity, spirit of commerce and innovation' has been very relevant to our times and characteristic of the DNA of Amsterdam and its inhabitants. Besides, they hold a great attraction to visitors and companies from home and abroad. Nearly all visitors to the city are mentioning the historic centre with its canals as one of the highlights of the city. In particular to the creative sector (one of the 6 pillars of the Amsterdam economy) the historic centre of Amsterdam is a unique selling point. Designating the ring of canals as a World Heritage Site, in fact offers the city the opportunity to communicate the underlying immaterial values of the origin of Amsterdam (free port, spirit of commerce) and the necessity of a careful preservation of this unique area for the entire humanity, and communicate those values to a broad public at home, as well as abroad.

2.1 Target groups

The target groups are broad and diverse. During the application the communication is firstly aimed at stake holders and jointly responsible authorities that are living and/ or working in the area or are having an immediate interest in it. The stake holders consist of a large group of involved organizations from a.o. the heritage -, tourist- and commercial sector (museums, hotel and catering industry, organizations in the field of promoting the city), (inter)national companies, heritage organizations and real estate owners). Furthermore, the citizens and companies in the Central Amsterdam District are an important target. After all, they make use of the area every day.

The inhabitants and users of the area can be split up in:

Citizens, entrepreneurs and passers-by

In the area of the potential World heritage Site – and the surrounding area, more than 8.500

buildings are protected as national- or municipal monuments. These monuments are for a large extent inhabited or occupied by companies. It mostly concerns private ownership. Since 1999 this part of the city is designated as protected urban conservation area. From that time there has been structural attention for the unique quality of the area and the resulting consequences. Actually, not many changes will occur to the citizens and users of the area. The so far developed and used data –and communication systems offer an excellent basis to bring explain the World Heritage nomination and its related values.

Tourists and business travellers

Amsterdam is a popular destination for tourists and business people from the Netherlands and abroad. The tourism- and conference system is one of the pillars of the Amsterdam economy, amounting to a turnover of almost 5 billion Euros and generates 48.000 full time job opportunities. The Amsterdam Tourism and Convention Board (ATCB) takes care of the tourist marketing of- and communication policy, under the authority of the Amsterdam City Council. The ATCB has been drawing up a strategic marketing – and communication plan once every four years and has been examining the number of visitors to Amsterdam annually and their appreciation for the city. Visitors appreciate the city especially because of the arts, culture, the still visible and tangible historic past, the atmosphere of the canals and the adjacent monuments. It has emerged from research of ATCB that 38% of visitors mention the Amsterdam city canals as the main reason for visiting the city. Moreover most visitors are well informed before they come to the city. The internet is the principal source of information for the preparation of their visit to the city. 80% of the visitors is of foreign descent and 75% stays in the city for more than one day, most of whom are originating from the metropolitan European territories, from where Amsterdam is well accessible (Great Britain, Belgium, Germany, France, Spain and Italy) and the United States (*Source: ATCB Amsterdam Visitors Profile Edition 2008*).

Within the sector of tourism- and conferences there is an enormous potential for stake holders (companies, organizations, cultural institutions, museums, public events- organizations, and so on), which are an important partner and entry, in order to be able to guarantee the standard of the 6 principles, articulated in the '*International Cultural Tourism Charter*'. The principal organizations like the ATCB, Amsterdam Partners (responsible for implementing the city marketing of Amsterdam), the hotel -and catering sector and congress- and public events- organizations aim directly at the influx of visitors from home and abroad. For that purpose they are having their own and proven effective channels at their disposal and offer an excellent basis to reach this specific target group and to inform them about the nomination of the 17th century ring of canals of Amsterdam inside the 'Singelgracht' and its meaning.

2.2 Aim, starting-point issues and characteristics of the information- and communication strategy

The **aim** of the information- and communication strategy is providing an adequate, regular supply of information by means of effective communication channels for the benefit of the various target groups (such as citizens, visitors, stake holders and jointly responsible authorities).

The **starting-point** of the strategy is the availability of timely, accessible and correct information through well attainable, desirable and logic sources of information. Questions, wishes and opinions of the various target groups, and efficient means to communicate about those with the responsible (administrative) authorities and stake holders and their (professional) organizations, must lead to both understanding and support for the protection and preservation of the World Heritage Site. The idea that that interaction between tourism and economic activity on the one hand, and preserving cultural heritage on the other hand will be dynamic in principal, will be taken into account

A crucial element of the communication strategy is the **characteristic** of the Netherlands, and also of the culture of Amsterdam, that joint interests are generally and publicly discussed and decided about with all involved parties, in order to reach support and consensus as broadly as possible. This principal has been employed from the 17th Century, when ordinary citizens were consulted in questions of public interest. This is not essentially different today. Up till now, not only Local Authorities, but also citizens, industry and interest groups have an important voice and contribution in matters concerning the whole city. Because of that the structure and commitment of all parties is organized very well in the city. This offers opportunities of organizing shared responsibility and commitment of all parties in a natural and efficient way, and bringing it into the limelight adequately to all (future) users of and visitors to the area.

2.3 Core message

The central idea is twofold and consists of a procedural (causal) and a promotional (as regards to the content) message.

Procedural

By designating the ring of canals as World Heritage this unique area will obtain the international recognition it deserves. As the Amsterdam inner city has been a protected cityscape since 1999, the predicate World Heritage changes nothing to the way of protection the area and its monuments already have. At the same time Amsterdam keeps taking care that the ring of canals will continue to stay the lively and dynamic place it has been throughout the centuries.

Promotional

The designation of the ring of canals as World heritage emphasizes the importance of this area for the development of the city. The ring of canals is the highlight of the Golden Age, a period in which the city was brought to great prosperity and has constituted the basis for the development of the city in the centuries after that. The development of the ring of canals shows where Amsterdam is coming from and what it is today and would like to preserve; a city full of creativity, commercial spirit and the capability for innovation.

3. ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMUNICATION

3.1 Amsterdam World Heritage Office

The Project Group World heritage, consisting of the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (management) and the Central Amsterdam District is preparing the founding of the Bureau World Heritage Amsterdam. The Bureau World Heritage will be responsible for:

- monitoring and reporting to the secretariat of the World Heritage Committee via the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW), with the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM) as executive party;
- maintaining all contacts with the World Heritage Committee via the Ministry of ECS, with RACM as executive party;
- secretariat on behalf of the Steering Group and Platform World Heritage Amsterdam;
- coordinating information and communication to all target groups in cooperation with Central Amsterdam District and ACTB.

The central and coordinating communication will be implemented and executed by the Bureau World Heritage Amsterdam. The Bureau's primary objective is creating and permanently maintaining the support of all concerned parties that have an interest in and for the area. The Bureau will not only inform about World Heritage issues, but also create support and ambassadorship, and takes care of transfer of knowledge and education in cooperation with all relevant parties in the city.

The Bureau will be the central office for all locally, nationally and internationally interested -, involved -, and concerned parties, with regard to the World Heritage Area, the '17th century ring of canals of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht'.

The Bureau will act as a centre of knowledge, when it is dealing with guarding the *Statement of Outstanding and Universal Value* and will provide, invited and uninvited, the necessary resources in order to maintain the body of ideas of UNESCO irrefutably and in the future. Apart from that it will stimulate the committed parties to pay prominent attention to the World Heritage Area within their own resources. Until the moment of founding the Bureau World Heritage Amsterdam, the Project Group World Heritage Amsterdam will execute these tasks.

3.2 Municipal contact point for citizens and entrepreneurs

The area of "17th century ring of canals of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht" covers several hectares and with the buffer zone it even comprises virtually the entire Central Amsterdam District. Approx. 80.000 people are living and 85.000 people are working in the Central Amsterdam District.

As *Property Manager*, the Central Amsterdam District, has a municipal contact point for citizens within the boundaries of the ring of canals. Very often questions by citizens, by entrepreneurs and institutions, will cohere with the obligations and restrictions connected to the monumental status of their residence or property in relation to the protection and maintaining the World Heritage *Statement of Outstanding and Universal Value*. Therefore, the staff members of the Central Amsterdam District contact point have the necessary knowledge in the field of Architecture, Building, Cultural History and World Heritage at their disposal. They also have knowledge of the existing monuments and the whole wide area of the ring of canals, which has been a protected cityscape since 1999.

With complex questions the staff members will be supported by the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology, the Amsterdam centre of knowledge of cultural heritage.

Information about the meaning of World Heritage, but also zoning plans, licenses related to the building industry, and building opportunities, is available from the municipal contact point.

The counter is accessible by telephone and can be visited three days a week. Simple (building) questions will be answered via the Internet and by telephone, in order of preference. If questions are complex, an appointment can be made with a license manager. He can ask for support, if necessary, at the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology.

3.3. Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) is the cities centre of knowledge and expertise in the field of preservation, reinforcement and permanent development of constructed and archaeological cultural heritage of Amsterdam; as a liaising element between the present, the past and the future, in an ever changing environment.

The core-tasks of BMA are:

- spreading knowledge and enlarging support for architectural, urban development and archaeological heritage of Amsterdam;
- advising on protection (indication, alteration or demolition) and subsidizing and financing the maintenance of protected monuments;
- providing custom made I advise and implementations for companies, private persons and municipal departments with regard to large -and small -scale building projects. BMA is taking care of a pragmatic fitting in of archaeological research when it comes to physical planning;
- providing the opening up of the archaeological tangible past in the form of excavations, publications and presentations;
- advising on the way in which cultural history can contribute to the physical planning and development of the city.

3.4 Amsterdam Tourism & Convention Board

Commissioned by the City of Amsterdam, the Amsterdam Tourism & Convention Board (ATCB) takes care of all information and communication to (inter)national visitors. It distinguishes between business (congress visitors) and tourists. The nomination of the "17th century ring of canals of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht" will mainly focus on tourists. The ACTB has a diverse range of means at its disposal and closely cooperates with the Dutch Tourist & Congress Board.

4. MEANS

By using existing and already proven effective channels, as well as new ones to be developed, it will be possible to serve the whole broad target group. In the matrix of means, the various information- and knowledge needs of the target group are taken into account, dealing with:

- informing about;
- creating support and ambassadorship;
- transfer of knowledge and education.

Inside the matrix of means the Internet takes up a key position. All information about the nomination of the ring of canals is to be found on the multilingual portal site

www.werelderfgoed.amsterdam.nl. On this website information can be found about a.o.:

- all relevant and current information about the ring of canals and the UNESCO World Heritage nomination;
- FAQ's for all relevant target groups;
- information for the (professional) press;
- information about UNESCO
- news

The Amsterdam World Heritage Office cares for the topicality of the website and link's to all relevant existing (international) websites that are related to UNESCO and World Heritage.

www.werelderfgoed.amsterdam.nl will get a prominent position on the following already existing websites.

Current internet sites

All information in Dutch about Amsterdam can be found on www.amsterdam.nl. This portal

site is actively used by inhabitants of the city, but is also consulted by visitors from outside. The website provides information about policy and issuing instructions of the City of Amsterdam with regard to economy, culture, education, living, and etcetera. On this website a counter has been arranged for citizens as well as entrepreneurs, on which one can directly search for information about e.g. applying for a passport, or licensees and other municipal issues and also be dealt with immediately. The website has 20.000 unique visitors a day and 7.300.000 a year. www.iamsterdam.com, the international portal site of City of Amsterdam generates 150.000 visitors a month and 1.800.000 a year. The number is growing at present due to joining the international websites of *Amsterdam Uit Bureau* (theatre and leisure information and ticket reservation), ATCB and Amsterdam Partners. Apart from information about council policy, this site offers specific information for tourists and business visitors. The Amsterdam inner city, with its 17th century ring of canals will be put on the screen three-dimensionally on this website via Google Maps. This will be available in 2009 in order to allow visitors to take a virtual walk and be able to watch the most important monuments and places if interest. www.centrum.amsterdam.nl: the website of the *Property Manager* Central Amsterdam District, in which all relevant information, the building counter included, can be found for citizens and companies living and working in the '17th century ring of canals of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht' and surrounding area. www.bma.amsterdam.nl: the website of the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology, the cities expert and knowledge centre in the field of cultural heritage. The website offers a.o. descriptions and background information concerning national and municipal heritage in the World Heritage Area and the buffer zone.

4.1 Information and communications resource matrix

Means	Time: start and so on	Target group	Objective	Final responsibility	Costs in Euros
Feasibility study World Heritage Visitors centre	Start feasibility study in 2008. Operational from mid 2010.	Visitors from home and abroad	Inform and educate	Feasibility study, Central Amsterdam District, i.c.w. BMA	60.000,- from budget BMA and Central Amsterdam District
Internet multilingual: www.werelderfgoed.amsterdam.nl with links to all relevant (international) websites	Start autumn 2008 and continually afterwards and expand	All	Inform	Amsterdam World Heritage Office	20.000,- once only and annually: 10.000,-
Virtual tour on line at www.iamsterdam.com	Start beginning 2009 and continually afterwards and expand	Visitors from home and abroad	Inform and educate	City of Amsterdam	Current budget City of Amsterdam
Means	Time: start and so on	Target group	Objective	Final responsibility	Costs in Euros
Signposting 'on site'	2010 and afterwards continually	Citizens, visitors from home and abroad	Inform	Municipal Department of Infrastructure, Traffic and Transportation i.c.w. Central Amsterdam District and ATCB	Current budget City of Amsterdam and Central Amsterdam District
Maps, brochures and other printed matters / multilingual	Start development in 2009, concluded mid 2010	All	Inform and educate	Amsterdam World Heritage Office, in close cooperation and consultation with jointly responsible authorities	30.000,- once only and annually 10.000,-

Newsletters: -Digital / periodical and multilingual -Central Amsterdam District Newspaper	- Start autumn 2008 and afterwards continually - Start 2008/ monthly and a special issue in 2008	-All -Citizens and companies in Central Amsterdam District	Inform and create support	-Amsterdam World Heritage Office -Central Amsterdam District	Once only 2.500,- Current budget BMA and Central Amsterdam District and annually 5.000,-
Periodic letters to citizens and companies Central Amsterdam District	Start in 2008 and afterwards continually as relevant	Citizens and companies	Inform, educate and create support	Central Amsterdam District	Current budget Central Amsterdam District
Published Essay about the Ring of Canals from the origin up till now	Spring 2009, multilingual	All	Inform and create support	Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology	25.000,- once only, and annually 2.000,-
Physical and virtual counter for all questions concerning heritage in the Central Amsterdam District	Autumn 2008	Citizens and companies	Inform	Central Amsterdam District	Current budget Central Amsterdam District
Media, press meetings and free publicity	August 2008 and afterwards continually as relevant	(inter)national press	Inform and create support	Amsterdam World Heritage Office i.c.w. Central Amsterdam District, (inter)national press department City of Amsterdam and ATCB.	5.000,- once only and annually 1.000,-

Education

Means	Time: start and so on	Target group	Objective	Final responsibility	Costs in Euros
Connecting to existing programmes and developing new programmes, focussed on World Heritage	2009 and afterwards continually, and developing further	Primary and secondary schools	Education	Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology i.c.w. heritage organizations and the Municipal Social Development Department	PM
Developing new study material	Start 2009	Primary and secondary schools	Education	Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology i.c.w. De Waag Foundation, Municipal Social Development Department and the Amsterdam Art Fund	Annually 10.000, -
Course Restoration Techniques	2008 and afterwards every year	Architects, building inspectors, real estate agencies, contractors, a.o.	Inform, educate and create support	Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology	Current budget BMA

Events

Means	Time: start and further	Target group	Objective	Final responsibility	Costs in Euros
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Celebration World Heritage status if granted	Mid 2010	All	Inform and create support & ambassadorship	Amsterdam World Heritage Office i.c.w. Central Amsterdam District	25.000,-
Connecting to existing public events in the area such as: - Annual Open Heritage Day - Annual Open Gardens Day - Annual Canal Festival - Sail 2010 - Reopening National Maritime Museum in Amsterdam	2010 -September -June -August -September -2010	All	Inform and create support & ambassadorship	Amsterdam World Heritage Office i.c.w. organizers of these a.o. public events	PM
Connecting to tourists theme years Theme: - 2009, 2010: Art City - 2011: still unknown	2009 en afterwards continually	All	Inform and create support & ambassadorship	Amsterdam World Heritage Office Amsterdam i.c.w. ATBC	PM
Opening of the restored "Oude Kerk"	2012	All	Inform and create support & ambassadorship	Amsterdam World Heritage Office Amsterdam i.c.w. Oude Kerk	PM
400 years ring of canals	2013	All	Inform and create support & ambassadorship	Amsterdam World Heritage Office i.c.w. City of Amsterdam, Central Amsterdam District and ACTB	PM

Information and Relation Management

Means	Time: start and further	Target group	Objective	Final responsibility	Costs in Euros
Twice a year information meeting, after 2010 once a year. Further information via newsletters	2008 and afterwards continually	Platform Stakeholders	Inform and create support & ambassadorship	Amsterdam World Heritage Office	2.000,- in the starting up phase, afterwards 1.000,- annually
Twice a year information meeting, after 10 once a year. Further information via newsletters	2008 and afterwards continually	Responsible authorities	Inform	Amsterdam World Heritage Office i.c.w. Steering Committee World Heritage	2.000,- in the starting up phase, afterwards 1.000,- annually
Means	Time: start and further	Target group	Objective	Final responsibility	Costs in Euros
General information meeting, Further information via newsletters.	December 2008	Urban Development Board and Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency	Inform	Amsterdam World Heritage Office	1.000,-
General information meetings. Further and complementary information via newsletters	2007 and 2008 (3 times) and further as relevant	Citizen and companies in the Central Amsterdam District	Inform and create support & ambassadorship	Amsterdam World Heritage Office	Current budget Central Amsterdam District
General information meeting. Further information via newsletters	2008/2009 and afterwards continually	Companies, and organizations for the industry and entrepreneurs	Inform and create support & ambassadorship	Amsterdam World Heritage Office i.c.w. Central Amsterdam District and ATCB	2.000,-

4.2 Information / communication 2008-2010

Information and communication moments 2008-2010				
Date	Description	Target Group	Objective	Final responsibility
11-09-08	Determining Management Plan by the Executives Committees of the City of Amsterdam and the Central Amsterdam District	All	Inform	BMA and Central Amsterdam District
24-09-08	Determining Management Plan by the Amsterdam Council Committee	All	Inform	BMA and Central Amsterdam District
24-11-08	Cabinet decision regarding the final application for the nomination of the '17 th century ring of canals of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht' to the UNESCO World Heritage List	All	Inform	Government (ministry of Education, Culture and Science), in cooperation with BMA and Central Amsterdam District
Spring 2009	Multilingual website available	All	Inform	BMA and Central Amsterdam District
01-02-09	Nomination filed at the World Heritage Committee UNESCO in Paris	All	Inform	Government (ministry of Education, Culture, and Science), in cooperation with BMA and Central A. district
Spring 2009	Start drawing up communication and publicity plan from publishing redeeming nomination by UNESCO	NA (not applicable)	Determining communication strategy	Amsterdam World Heritage Office i.c.w. Central Amsterdam District
Autumn 2009	Start executing communication and publicity plan and developing means	NA	Executing communication strategy and developing means	Amsterdam World Heritage Office i.c.w. Central Amsterdam District
March '09- May '10	Evaluation nomination file World Heritage Committee and advice about nomination	NA	NA	NA
June/July 2010	Publishing and redeeming nomination by UNESCO	All, including international media	Inform and enthuse	Amsterdam World Heritage Office i.c.w. Central Amsterdam District

4.3 Budget

Budget Statement		
Description	Starting up phase	Structural annual
Means and meetings Development Translations Organization	114.500*	
Maintenance means		40.000*
* =preliminary estimate		

4.3 Working agreements

Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology and the Central Amsterdam District declare that the administrative working agreements for the period of 2008 – mid 2010 have been registered on account of the information and communication regarding the conservation and protection of the area nominated for the UNESCO World Heritage List, the '17th century ring of canals of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht', and accordingly the significance of the *Outstanding Universal Value*.

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Director
Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology

E. Loos
General Manager
Construction and Housing Department

Central Amsterdam District

Appendix 8

Assignment Amsterdam Heritage Centre

ASSIGNMENT

Amsterdam Heritage Centre (working title)

1. Introduction

In the framework of the application of the City of Amsterdam to UNESCO, to put '17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' on the World Heritage list, ideas have been proposed to establish a visitors' centre. In this paper these ideas have been elaborated into a proposition. This proposition may serve as an assignment to a feasibility study for an Amsterdam Heritage Centre.

In order to draft this proposal, the so-called Management plan (September 2008) and the report 'Heritage Centre Amsterdam *feasibility*' (October 2007) have been used.

In the latter document the objectives for the visitors' centre are mentioned as follows:

1. assemble and combine today's fragmented information of the historical inner city;
2. positioning of the inner city as one large monument and attracting cultural tourists;
3. creating awareness among Amsterdam citizens of the unique historic values of their city and the connection to the present;
4. stating the importance and the conservation of heritage in the inner city.

2. Amsterdam Heritage Centre

Starting from the four objectives, as formulated in the document 'Heritage Centre Amsterdam *feasibility*', the Amsterdam Heritage Centre will surely not exist only of a physical location from where information on cultural tourism will be available.

Objective 1, *assemble and combine today's fragmented information of the historical inner city* looks mostly like an actual visitors' centre, but will also reflect in different and more modern applications such as:

- a website with a very user friendly information structure, on which the potential visitor will be able to prepare his historical/cultural visit thoroughly and on which interested and involved people can gather and provide interactive information;
- historical/cultural guided tours through the city, accompanied by experts and/or with the aid of audio-technique, such as mobile telephones and audio-systems.

Objective 2, *the positioning of the inner city of Amsterdam as one large monument and attracting cultural tourists*, contains mainly marketing-communication means, which in fact precedes objective 1. The visitors' centre undertakes the task of campaigning world wide permanently, in order to promote the Amsterdam inner city as a cultural tourist crowd-puller. This requires a far-reaching tuning with e.g. the

Amsterdam Tourism & Convention Board and the Amsterdam cultural-historical organizations with a public function.

Objective 3 and 4, *creating awareness among the citizens of Amsterdam about the unique historic values of their city and the relationship with the present and the future; imparting the preservation of heritage in the inner city*; this means something like a widening of objective 2 (marketing-communication) towards the Amsterdam population and the Amsterdam business community, but in the capacity of resources that will prompt participation (lectures, debates, meetings, providing information, etcetera).

The Amsterdam Heritage Centre, in short, is going to consist of a 'front office', a 'back office' and a website.

Front office

Somewhere in the middle of the city (let's say: at the Dam for the time being) a visitors' centre, with a large entering-capacity will be established. The location is in a strategic and visible position in relation to the main walking stream and admission will be free. The function as a visitors' centre is clearly visible from the outside. Inside are:

1. an information desk;
2. an exhibition;
3. a number of computer units.

1. The **information desk** will be occupied by at least one assistant who will be able to answer questions of the public with regard to cultural tourism in the inner city, who can refer to the exhibition, the computer units, or other sources of information like the Amsterdam Tourist & Convention Board. This assistant (or assistants) will also keep an eye on the behaviour of incoming public.

2. The **exhibition** is of modest proportions (approx. 200 m² floor surface) and consists of a permanent and a variable presentation. The permanent presentation tells about the story of the historical inner city, accompanied by reproductions of maps and other historical images and photographs. The design will be spectacular and inviting, the information very brief.

For example every 3 months, the variable exhibition changes to a new subject about a specific part of the historical inner city, preferably a topical subject delivered (and/or financed) by the party interested in or familiar with the subject. The variable exhibitions are also compact, 'easily digestible' and designed in an attractive way.

An important part of both exhibitions is referring to the sites and organizations that are active within (culture tourism of) the Amsterdam inner city. This also applies to:

3. The **computer units** are offering a specific *search and find programme* for all kinds of questions the public is having about the cultural history of the inner city.

Back office

The back office of the Amsterdam Heritage Centre is responsible for the development of the marketing/communication and all related products. The staffing consists roughly out of a marketer, a communications employee, a webmaster, and an organizer of public events, working together and supporting each other in various projects.

The marketer maintains contact with the jointly responsible authorities and stakeholders (see under: 3. Joint venture) and develops a general policy program, among which providing variable exhibitions.

The communications employee will develop the on-going (inter)national campaign(s), in close coordination with partners and other jointly responsible authorities.

The webmaster is looking after the (partly interactive) content of the website and the programmes being shown in the units in the visitors' centre.

The public events organizer will take care of the programming, developed in coordination with the partners and other jointly responsible authorities. Containing variable exhibitions, lectures, debates, publications, etcetera.

Website

The virtual version of the visitors' centre plays a central role in the whole project. It is the source of information which will be used by numerous interested persons from home and abroad, like:

- (future) cultural tourists;
- the citizens of Amsterdam;
- students(pupils) (in the framework of the curriculum);
- interested people with regard to history and the architecture of the inner city, from enthusiastic amateurs to professionals;
- potential participants to the public events programmes.

The website is a source of knowledge, as an interactive platform, involving citizens and interested parties to communicate and actually committing themselves to participate (discussions and input of knowledge).

3. Joint venture

Many of above mentioned products and activities are already being offered completely or partly by existing parties : the Amsterdam Tourist & Convention Board is promoting the Amsterdam cultural tourism locally and (inter)nationally. The Amsterdam Historical Museum has a permanent exhibition about the history of the city, the City Archives and the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology collects and presents knowledge about the inner city, ARCAM, the Amsterdam Centre for Architecture, organizes numerous public events in the framework of inner city architecture, and so on. In order to prevent the visitors' centre from doubling these efforts, the programme will be determined in close coordination and collaboration with all parties. The visitors' centre is not going to be the producer of parts of the programming in many cases, but will be a platform for and promoter of the products of the above mentioned partners. In fact the visitors' centre will be the front office and portal of the websites and programmes of other partners. The Amsterdam Heritage Centre strongly supervises realisation of her own four objectives and if necessary, will produce the essential parts that other partners are not able to execute.

4. Realisation and exploitation

In order to create the visitors' centre, the following steps need to be taken:

1. drawing up the concept with regards to content in dialogue with all responsible authorities;
2. finding a suitable location;
3. drawing up a worked out concept, including a preliminary design and the programming of the first five years;
4. drawing up a worked out development- and exploitation budget;
5. developing a business plan (incl. an organization plan and a realistic financing scheme).

The steps 1 till 5 are part of the feasibility plan and will be followed by:

6. finding the necessary covering for the further development and exploitation;
7. drawing up a final design on the basis of a task-setting budget;
8. issuing invitations to tenders and selecting producers;
9. recruiting personnel;
10. communicating about the development phase;
11. producing/realising of the productions, incl. designing and refurbishing of the Centre.

5. Timing

- Drawing up the feasibility plan (above-mentioned points 1 till 5) a four- months' time span is needed. (delivery: 1 March 2009).
- Finding the necessary covering one needs to take into account the time span of almost one year (1 February 2010); this connected with the decision time limits of governments, funds, partners and sponsors.
- The definite design takes another 4 months to realise (1 June 2010).
- The external programming and campaigning can start from 1 February 2010 for that matter, so that the opening of the visitors' centre can be announced to the public from that date.
- The public tender can be finalized on 1 September 2010.
- Half a year is needed for producing the visitors' centre and the (worked-out) website, so that the opening and launch can take place on 1 March 2011.

15 October, 2008

Commissioned by

 City of Amsterdam







Kingdom of the Netherlands - 2009

The seventeenth-century canal ring area of **Amsterdam** within the Singelgracht

MANAGEMENT PLAN KEY ISSUES





City of Amsterdam

**'17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within
the Singelgracht'**

Key Issues (part 3)

Management plan for World Heritage nomination

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Key Issue K: Scaffolding Wrap Advertisements

Introduction

The City of Amsterdam (and the surrounding area) has experienced a dynamic and complex development of urban space.

The nomination of the 17th-century 'ring of canals' for inscription on UNESCO's list of World Heritage Sites raises the question of how this urban dynamic interacts with the protection of the historical city centre and, in particular, with the proposed World Heritage Site. In the first place, this relates to Amsterdam's high-rise construction policy, but also to a number of strategic projects which are currently in progress or which will be carried out in the near future.

Each key issue is accompanied by an explanation, of which the purpose is to provide insight into a number of projects and issues which may play a role in judging the nomination. By subject, a short description of the project is provided; coming administrative decisions and their justification are mentioned, plus the current state of affairs and the (possible) consequences for the 17th-century ring of canals concerning *visual impact, integrity and authenticity*, the criteria and the conditions of the *operational guidelines*¹ which form the basis for benchmarking the nomination. The explanations are supplemented with resources and visual material. When a resource is too extensive to be added to the explanations in digital format, references are provided to the relevant websites and links.

Included Key Issues

- A. High-rise construction
- B. Overhoeks
- C. Westerdokseiland (Westerdoks Island)
- D. North/South Metro line (Noord/zuidlijn)
- E. Coalition project 1012
- F. Chinatown
- G. Binnengasthuisterrein
- H. Construction plan kop Singel (Haringpakkerstoren)
- I. Projects in the planning stage lying within the *property*
 - I. 1 Former Prinsengracht Hospital
 - I. 2 Former Public Library Prinsengracht
 - I. 3 Former Bank Building ABN/AMRO Vijzelstraat
 - I. 4 De vijf Keizers (The Five Emperors)
- J. Water Level and Ground Water
- K. Scaffolding Wrap and Advertisement

Explanation

The explanation regarding high-rise construction the key issue (A) details how high-rise construction policy has been applied in Amsterdam, and the way in which the city wants to manage high-rise construction in the future. Overhoeks and Westerdoks island (B and C) explanations pertain to two central urban projects outside the historical city centre where high-rise construction already exists, and is still being developed.

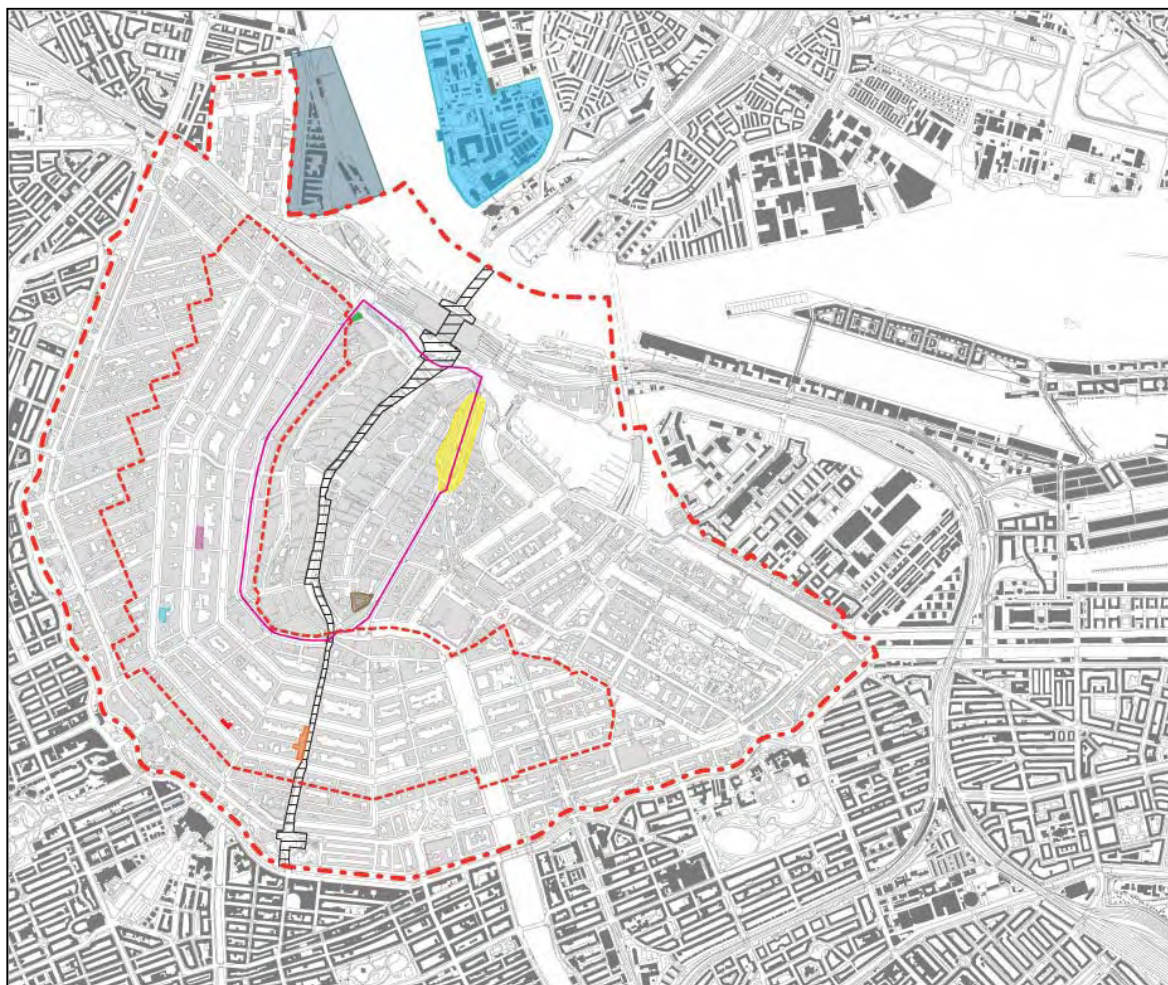
The Noord/Zuidlijn (D) is a central urban project; the alignment of the metro line directly traverses the historical city centre of Amsterdam.

The Coalition Project 1012 (E) pertains to a cooperative relationship between the city of Amsterdam and the District of Central Amsterdam, the objective of which is to improve the quality of life in the oldest parts of the historical city centre. Chinatown (F) is an initiative aimed at strengthening the economic situation of the Chinese merchants in the city centre and is implemented within the framework of the Coalition Project 1012.

Explanations H and I pertain to larger construction projects which are located partly inside and partly outside the ring of canals. In this respect, key issue Construction Plan Kop Singel has a unique position because it pertains to the reconstruction of a 17th-century tower (the Haringpakkerstoren). On the recommendation of the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM), an explanation regarding the key issue Water level and Ground Water (J) was included. Because the historical city centre of Amsterdam is founded for an important part on wooden poles, the ground water table constitutes an important piece of information.

¹ Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention par. 79-85.

Lastly, an explanation regarding key issue Steigerhoek Advert (K) has been included because there have been repeated discussions regarding this subject with the Werkgroep Buitenreclame of community centre d'Oude Stad.



Legenda	
	Grens bufferzone en beschermd gezicht
	Grens kernzone
	Bebouwing binnengebied
	Bebouwing buitengebied
	Overhoeks
	Westerdokseiland
	Noord-Zuidlijn
	Coalitieproject 1012
	Chinatown
	Binnengasthuisterrein
	Bouwplan kop Singel
	Prinsengrachtziekenhuis
	Prinsengracht OBA
	Vijzelstraat 66-80
	Vijf Keizers

Overview of locations involving key issues in the UNESCO area of the city centre of Amsterdam

Key issue A: High-Rise Construction in Amsterdam

Introduction

In 2008, the Physical Planning Service developed a policy for high-rise construction. On the one hand, the policy is an explanation and justification of the city's management regarding high-rise construction up until now, and the completed high-rise projects of years past. On the other hand, the policy contains proposals, which form an initiative for the formulation of a high-rise building policy as part of the framework of the Structural Concept Amsterdam 2010.

Main points High-Rise Construction Policy (September 2008)

Management up until now

In 1991, the need for the re-development of sites at a higher density, an optimum use of real estate and an increasing number of high-rise building initiatives led to the formulation of a high-rise construction policy. This policy was adopted as additional benchmark for construction plans currently in operation.

The basic principle of the high-rise construction policy was – and is – a careful application of high-rise construction within the existing structures. The policy included the obligation to extensively research the ramifications of plans with a building height of 30 meters or higher and to compile a separate report for evaluation, the so-called 'high-rise effect report' (HER), and to include it in land-use plans and/or construction plan procedures.

The current – central urban – high-rise policy dates from 2005 and is stipulated in a benchmark supplemental to the structural plan, *Opting for Urban Identity of 2003*. The requirement to compile an HER has been dropped with this last implementation. In certain cases the (central urban) city council is informed of a high-rise development plan in a given District, and of the ramifications of such a plan for the urban landscape.

Additionally, among other things, the execution of view-line studies form a standard requirement of the urban development policy of the District of Central Amsterdam for those development plans which could lead to a (substantial) change of the roofscape (surpassing building height, constructing roof terraces, etc).

Proposals for a new policy

As a consequence of the recent development of construction plans along the north bank of the IJ and at the tip of the Amsterscheg, a discussion arose about the visibility of high-rises from the city centre and about the effects on existing and cherished cityscapes. The City of Amsterdam insists that the unique quality of the historical city centre has to be handled with care. The proposed nomination of the ring of canals for the World Heritage list of UNESCO has been the incentive to formulate a high-rise policy as a starting point for a new policy, which will be further elaborated upon in time and which will be established as part of the Structural Concept Amsterdam 2010.

It is proposed to again proceed with a reactive high-rise policy whereby for certain areas of the city a more elaborate benchmark will be established than is currently the case. This applies in particular to the areas within the Singelgracht. Furthermore, it is proposed to make an HER or, at least a report relating accommodation into the urban landscape, a mandatory requirement. For additional clarification of the proposals, please refer to High-Rise Policy Amsterdam 2008 (reference A1).



Photo composition: Impression of the south bank from the Schaefer bridge, DRO 2004

Preparation of Structural Concept 2012

On April 22, 2008, with formulation of the notification of intent, Process Structural Concept Amsterdam, the municipal executive has given the starting signal to establish a structural concept for the area of the city of Amsterdam (reference A2). This structural concept will replace Choosing for Urbanity (2003). The objective of the structural concept is to provide direction for the dynamic and complex urban development of the Amsterdam metropolis. Which urban strategies and corresponding impulses are necessary to further cultivate Amsterdam as the nucleus of the metropolitan region of Amsterdam?

The structural concept will cover a long-term vision of the urban development of the city (2030/2040). Additionally, the concept will provide a unifying element and a benchmark for the city of Amsterdam and its Districts for all the relevant spatial policy for the period 2010-2020. The structural concept is also the framework for the prioritising and implementing of programmes and projects, with the objective of encouraging public/private investment in the city and region and the effective utilisation thereof. Thus, the policy regarding the spatial development pursued by the city of Amsterdam provides its citizens with security over the years.

Input for the structural concept is provided by Development Vision 2040 for the metropolitan region of Amsterdam, which defines the developmental direction of the region and the regional context, the long-term vision Randstad 2040 and the programme Amsterdam Top City, set up in extension of the programme People Make Amsterdam (2006-2010). This last also applies to the housing policy, harbour policy and public transportation policy (all with a view through 2020). Additionally, work is being done on the Spatial Economic Ambition of Amsterdam. This project adds to the implementation strategy of the structural concept.

In autumn, 2008, a communal discussion took place pertaining to the themes that determine the spatial questions in Amsterdam. The result of the discussion will lead to a statement, Keystones of the Structural Concept, in which the main points of the spatial tasks and the most important issues of

choice are described. This statement will become the agenda for the structural concept, and in 2009 will lead to a conceptual framework for the structural concept. After a sequence of consultations, the definitive structural concept will take effect.



Photo composition: the north and south banks of the IJ bay. The different towers near Overhoeks are visualised, as well as the planned construction on the south bank of the IJ.

References

- A1. High-rise policy Service of Physical Planning September 2008 (only available in Dutch)
- A2. Statement of principles discussion pertaining to the future of Amsterdam, to the structural concept 2010 – 2020 for the centre of the metropolitan area, as established by the municipal executive on June 17, 2008.

Key issue B: Overhoeks project

- Project description:** The plan for the site (formerly the Shell premises) comprises the construction of 2,200 homes, offices, restaurants, hotels, cultural and other social facilities. The provision of green space, such as a bank-side park and recreational facilities along Buiksloter Canal (*Buiksloterkanaal*) are also envisaged. Overhoeks will be realised by public/private co-operation between seven partners (ING Real Estate, Amsterdam City Council, Amsterdam North District, Ymere, Vesteda, Shell and the Film Museum).
- Location:** The area is in Amsterdam North and is bordered by the IJ, Buiksloter Road, the Buiksloter Canal and Johan van Hasselt Canal, outside the buffer zone, about 250 metres from the conservation area, 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.
- Status:** In progress

History and decision-making process

Urban development plan

The Urban Development Plan was adopted in September 2004 (preceded by a Project order). The Urban Development Plan comprises two parts. The northern part, the 'Campus', will be made up of buildings 8 to 9 storeys high (to a maximum of 35 metres) grouped round enclosed gardens. This part accounts for roughly half the development, and the accent will be on residential, working and non-commercial facilities.

The southern part of the planned site will be given over to a 'Strip' of high-rise blocks. Besides the Overhoeks Tower (*Toren Overhoeks*, the Shell Tower) and the Great Laboratory (*Groot Laboratorium*), the strip will comprise five new high-rise towers grouped round a number of gardens. The 'footprint' of the towers is 1,000 square metres per storey. To guarantee a relatively 'slim-line' look to the individual towers, each will be divided into two parts, staggered between 5 and 10 metres apart. The parts will be of differing heights, varying from between 75 and 110 metres. The strip will be a mixed development containing homes, hotels, offices, and cultural and catering facilities. At ground level, squares will be built round the towers, containing shops, restaurants, cafés and other facilities. The angular twist between the Strip and the Campus will be accentuated by the 'Green Wedge', alongside the IJ where the new Film Museum will be built. The most important open spaces in the development site will be the Oever Park, the 'Green Wedge', and the enclosed gardens in the campus.

Zoning plan

On 20 March 2007, the Provincial Executive of North Holland voted to approve the zoning plan, Overhoeks, which was adopted by the City of Amsterdam on 18 October 2006. The North Amsterdam Built Heritage Foundation (*Stichting Monumenten Amsterdam-Noord*; SMN) and the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre (*Vereniging Vrienden van de Amsterdamse Binnenstad*) registered an objection to this decision with the Council of State (*Raad van State*). Both organisations objected to the high-rise development because of its effect on the inner city. They argued that the high-rise development would damage the conservation area and the open quality of the views of the IJ from the inner city, and it would lead to a loss of 'typical, architectural features of the inner city'. Furthermore, according to the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre, 'the development would mean Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals would not be able to obtain the status of World Heritage Site'. The Council of State's administrative-judicial department then instructed the Administrative Justice for the Environment and Town Planning Foundation (*Stichting Advisering Bestuursrechtspraak voor Milieu en Ruimtelijke Ordening*; StAB) to launch an inquiry under Article 8:47 of the General Administrative Law Act (*Algemene Wet Bestuursrecht*; Awb). The StAB's guiding principle for its recommendations of 26 February 2007, concerning the visibility of the high-rise development from the inner city, was the map of sightlines and the montage photos from the supplementary High-Rise Effect Report produced by the Physical Planning Department in 2004 (see below). Using the evidence in the sightlines map, the foundation ruled that, from all points in the inner city from where the high-rise development would be visible, there would not be 'unacceptable damage' to the open quality of the views of the IJ and that the visibility of the development would not result in the 'fixing of a dominant image'. With regard to the World Heritage Site status, used as an argument by the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre, the foundation cited, in its ruling,

UNESCO's Declaration on the Conservation of Historic Urban Landscapes (Adoption of a Declaration on the Conservation of Historic Urban Landscapes, p. 1) as well as the notes to the decision to designate 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as a conservation area. The conclusion was that 'bearing in mind the findings concerning the visibility of the high-rise development from the inner city (...) the plan in question does not endanger obtaining the status of World Heritage Site'. See appendix: The Recommendations of the Administrative Justice for the Environment and Town Planning Foundation (*Advies Stichting Advisering Bestuursrechtspraak voor Milieu en Ruimtelijke Ordening*) of 26 February 2008.

On 2 July 2008, the Council of State declared the objections to the Overhoeks zoning plan unfounded, thereby ratifying the zoning plan, and making it possible to start further developments to the construction plans.

Consequences of the nomination of the 17th-century ring of canals as a UNESCO site

What impact will the high-rise buildings in the Overhoeks development have on the property and the buffer zone?

Visual impact

Behind the Overhoeks Tower (75 metres high), there will be five towers – staggered and separated from each other – which, seen from Overhoeks, will be 75, 110, 100, 75 and 90 metres tall. In 2003, a High-Rise Effects Report was compiled, and augmented in June 2004. This charts the visual effects of the towers on areas including the inner city, where they can be seen from Prins Hendrikkade/Oude Waal (buffer zone), Brugsteeg (buffer zone), Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal (buffer zone), Singelgracht canal from Haarlemmersluis (buffer zone/property border) Palm street (buffer zone) and Willemstraat (buffer zone).

Prins Hendrikkade/Oude Waal: from here, the towers are clearly visible.



Brugsteeg: the highest tower will be visible behind the station from this point. This will affect the silhouette of the station building. The extent of the damage to the view will depend on the design and materials used for the tower.

Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal: the highest towers will be visible from the bend in Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal near Korte Kolksteeg.

Singel canal/Haarlemmersluis (bridge no. 14): here, the image of the city is dominated by the silver tower next to the Ibis Hotel. The new towers directly behind the Overhoeks Tower will be obscured by the Ibis tower.



Kop Singel beside the Haarlemmersluis

Palmstraat (Jordaan): the new towers will be visible from Palm Street in the distance, on the horizon.
Willemsstraat (Jordaan district): Overhoeks Tower is in the centre of the view from Willemsstraat. The new development behind Overhoeks, partially visible from this street, will to an extent fill in the horizon.



Willemsstraat

In general: the new towers (still unknown) will influence the visual impact.

Authenticity and integrity

The answer to the question of how the Overhoeks high-rise development will affect the authenticity and integrity of the designated property depends on how much importance is given to the visual relationship between the ring of canals and the IJ. In the present structural concept, it is generally supposed that Amsterdam's inner city 'faces' the IJ. The western and eastern islands originated as water defences; in the 19th century, they grew into 'islands' with economic and industrial purposes; nowadays, they are being transformed into residential and business areas, which is bestowing them a new identity, thus changing their relationship with the historic inner city.

The high-rise development policy is constrained in view of this context: the height of new buildings is restricted, as are their locations and each project has to be drawn up with care in relation to the historic inner city. These principles will be realised within the framework of the structural plan.

In the historical context, it can be said that, in the 17th and 18th centuries, clear sightlines (interrupted by bridges and locks) to the IJ were only available from Singel canal and Prinsengracht canal in the western ring of canals. These sightlines were blocked firstly by the railway dyke constructed in the 19th century and, later, in the 20th century, by the Ibis Hotel, the silver tower and, in the distance, the Shell Tower, as well as recent developments on the island, Westerdokseiland. The high-rise Overhoeks development is not visible from the property, except from the end of Singel canal on the border of the buffer zone near Haarlemmersluis. The high-rise development is clearly visible from many areas of the buffer zone.

Progress so far

Phase 1 of the 'Campus' part of the plan is under construction: the first homes will be ready for occupation at the end of 2009. Construction of the 'Strip', the band of high-rise buildings directly behind the Overhoeks Tower, has begun. The Overhoeks Tower, the Great Laboratory and part of the Strip will be handed over to ING; further construction and other work will follow. The whole development site will be ready between 2018 and 2020.

Sources

- 'The Northern Shore of the IJ', A Cultural-historical Report on the Effects. What does the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology's Cultural-Historical Effects Report say About the Issue of Sightlines from the Property and the Buffer Zone?' (*De Noordelijke IJ-oever. Een cultuurhistorische effectrapportage wat zegt de CHER van BMA over de kwestie zichtlijnen vanuit de property en de bufferzone?*): Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology, August 2003.
- Supplementary High-rise Effects Report on the Shell Site (*Aanvullende Hoogbouw Effect Rapportage Shellterrein*), Physical Planning Department, June 2004.
- Objection to the Overhoeks zoning plan by the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre, 3 March 2008.
- Report re: Article 8:47 General Administrative Law Act by the Administrative Justice for the Environment and Town Planning Foundation (*Algemene Wet Bestuursrecht van de Stichting Advisering Bestuursrechtspraak voor Milieu en Ruimtelijke Ordening*), 26 February 2007.
- Defence of Amsterdam High-Rise Policy Memorandum (*Notitie Verantwoording Hoogbouwbeleid Amsterdam*), Physical Planning Department, 2008.
- Website <http://www.overhoeks.nl>

Key issue C: Westerdokseiland

Project description: The Westerdokseiland project concerns the redevelopment of areas including a train shunting yard to the northwest of the property. Homes for about 2,000 people and employment opportunities for about 5,000 people will be provided in the development. The project will be characterised by a high density of buildings, and a wide diversity of uses and living styles.

Location: Former train shunting yard in Westerdokseiland, the 'Kop' (the head, or end point) of the Westerdok and Stenen Hoofd, bordered by the IJ, Westerdoksdijk and Westerdok about 200 metres from the northern border of the property.

Status: In progress.

History and decision-making

Westerdokseiland

On 17 March 1999, Amsterdam City Council adopted the Westerdokseiland Urban Development Programme of Requirements (*Stedenbouwkundig Programma van Eisen*, SPvE). This signalled the start of the redevelopment of the area (including the Kop of the Wester-IJdok (the Western IJ dock). The council decided that a minimum of 900 homes, about 80,000 square metres of non-residential accommodation and at least 60 berths for houseboats should be provided at Westerdokseiland. Westerdokseiland is divided in the Northern Block 1st and 2nd phase (or Westerkaap I and II), the Middle Block (or VOC Cour), and the South Block (La Grand Cour). The construction of this area harmonises with the compact, brick inner city and western islands.

The Wester-IJdok will be located in the southeast corner of Westerdokseiland, partially in the IJ. This block is the counterpart to the end of the Oostelijk-Handelskade. These two developments to the west of Central Station form a symmetrical reflection along the city's historic front: Oudezijds Wallen and Nieuwezijds Wallen, Oudezijds Kolk and Nieuwezijds Kolk, the Church of St Nicholas (*Nicolaaskerk*) and the Posthoorn Church (*Posthoornkerk*). The scale of this complex of buildings is related to the grain silos, the Harbour Building (*Havengebouw*) and the Kop Oostelijke Handelskade.



View of the IJ from North Amsterdam

The Westerdokseiland Urban Development Plan (*Stedenbouwkundig Plan voor Westerdokseiland*) was adopted in 2001 and ratified by the Council of State on the 6 April 2005. Eleven parties and individuals objected to the Westerdokseiland zoning plan, including the Heemschut Union (*Bond Heemschut*), the Working Group Westerdoks Houseboats (*Werkgroep woon-schepen Westerdoks*), Amsterdam Water Front (*Waterig Amsterdam Front*), Golden Reael Neighbourhood Bond (*Wijkopbouworgaan Gouden Reael*) and the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre (*Vereniging Vrienden van de Amsterdamse Binnenstad*). Most of the objections concerned the

reorganisation of houseboats and the scale of the development in relation to the view from the old city. The section, Western IJ Dock, was twice dealt with by the Council of State and, following modification (survey of the sightlines Western IJ Dock on the planning map), was also adopted in 2005.

The material to be used, according to the Urban Development Plan, is the composite brick-built block. The maximum height will be 36.75 metres above the quay and 35 metres above Westerdoksdijk. The street layout will harmonise with that of the ring of canals and is based on the guidelines laid out in the Manual for the Redevelopment of the Public Space. The guiding principle is to use the same materials as in the surface relief of the ring of canals, i.e., red brick and natural stone kerbing (main roads are an exception and will be of black asphalt). The vast majority of homes are situated in three blocks: north, central and south. The first buildings in the north block were started on 11 November 2004. Most of the non-residential structures have been built in Western IJ Dock.

Wester IJdock (Kop Westerdokseiland)

A separate Urban Development Plan has been drawn up for the Kop (adopted on 3 July 2001). The maximum construction height will be 46 metres above Normal Amsterdam Water Level (*Normaal Amsterdams Peil*; NAP). Gaps have been designed in the new blocks to afford views of the IJ from various parts of the historic inner city (including from Keizergracht canal). The Kop is behind Westerdokseiland and is barely visible from the ring of canals. The Kop development will include a hotel (300 rooms, on 11 floors), 59 luxury owner-occupier houses, Amsterdam's Court Building (relocated from the Prinsengracht canal and other locations and comprising about 30,000 square metres), National Police Force Services (*Korps Landelijke Politie Diensten*, KLPD) and Inland Waterways Board (*Binnenwaterbeheer*) offices and a yachting marina (temporary berths for sea-going yachts to be run by the hotel).



Visualisation IJ Dock complex

Parking facilities will largely be located in garages inside the buildings. A public parking garage will be situated underneath the Western IJ Dock complex. A new square will be built alongside the marina, with services such as cafés, restaurants and other small businesses. The development plan for the Kop has been halted for four years due to judicial procedures (zoning plan) and the slow demand for business premises. In 2005, the Government Building Agency

(*Rijksgebouwendienst*) decided to locate the Amsterdam Court building here and the plan was again taken up.



Visualisation: IJ Dock from the East

Stenen Hoofd

Stenen Hoofd (Stone Head) is a former pier on the northeastern side of Westerdokdijk and will be given over to public use.

Consequences for the UNESCO nomination

Visual Impact

There are sightlines from the property, from Prinsengracht canal and Binnen Brouwers Street (leading on from Keizersgracht canal), towards Westerdokseiland. The new Westerdokseiland development will block the sightline from Prinsengracht canal to the IJ. Since the 19th century, this sightline has been partially blocked by the railway embankment.

Gaps have been left in the new blocks in front of the Kop, the Western IJ Dock, to secure views of the IJ from Keizersgracht canal/Binnen Brouwers Street. 'In situ' inspections revealed that this view was blocked by a tree. As far as can be ascertained from the sightlines studies, the new development at the end of Westerdokseiland will have no visual impact on the property. The gaps in the buildings will preserve the views to the IJ and on to the horizon.

Conclusion: there will be considerable visual impact on the property as an important sightline will be interrupted. However, it must be pointed out that the original sightlines did not afford direct views of the IJ or the harbour front. They did, of course, afford views of the open horizon, giving a sense of space.

Authenticity and integrity

The new Westerdokseiland development is outside the buffer zone. The civic design combines references from different epochs in Amsterdam's development, with the aim of making Westerdokseiland a logical link between the 17th-century inner city and the 19th-century harbour area around the IJ. The development thus harmonises with recent Amsterdam tradition in civic design illustrated in the developments in the southern shore of the IJ and the islands. The relationship to the authenticity and integrity of the property cannot be indicated.

Progress so far

Westerdokseiland

The completion process of the development started in 2007 and will be finished halfway through 2009. The 'La Grande Cour' block and 'Westerkaap I' have been completed and handed over to the residents. It is expected that 'Westerkaap II' and 'VOC Cour' will have been handed over by the middle of 2009. Work has begun on the final street-level layout around 'La Grande Cour'. The progress of the street-level work is dependant on the speed of the completion and handing over of the remaining blocks on the island. Where necessary, temporary surfaces will be laid. The restaurant, 'Open', began catering to the public at the beginning of this year. It is housed in a structure on the Western Dock's (*Westerdok*) former railway swing bridge.

Western IJ Dock (Kop of the Westerdokseiland)

The construction of boat collision defences (*aanvaarbescherming*) started in June 2008 and will be completed in 2012/2013. The necessary contracts were signed in February 2008 with Fortis Real Estate (*Fortis Vastgoed*), the Government Building Agency and the City of Amsterdam.

Stenen Hoofd

A Strategy Resolution (first plan, formulation phase) is being prepared for the re-zoning of Stenen Hoofd. It is hoped that Stenen Hoofd will remain open to the public.

Sources

- Westerdokseiland Urban Development Schedule of Requirements (*Stedenbouwkundig Programma van Eisen Westerdokseiland*) adopted by Amsterdam city council, 17 March 1999.
- Westerdokseiland Urban Development Plan (*Stedenbouwkundig Plan Westerdokseiland*) (October, 2000); adopted by the Executive Committee of the City of Amsterdam, 10 January 2001.
- Kop Westerdokseiland Urban Development Plan (*Stedenbouwkundig Plan Kop Westerdokseiland*) (September 2001); adopted by the Executive Committee of the City of Amsterdam, 3 July 2001.
- Kop of the Westerdokseiland Street-level layout (*Maaiveldinrichting [Kop] Westerdokseiland*)
- 'Westerdokseiland Zoning Plan (*Bestemmingsplan Westerdokseiland*) (regulations and map), adopted by the City of Amsterdam, 14 November 2001, adopted, 5 April 2005
- Sightlines study (to be attached)

Websites

www.westerdokseiland.nl (with photo montages of the development)

www.ijoevers.nl (general site)

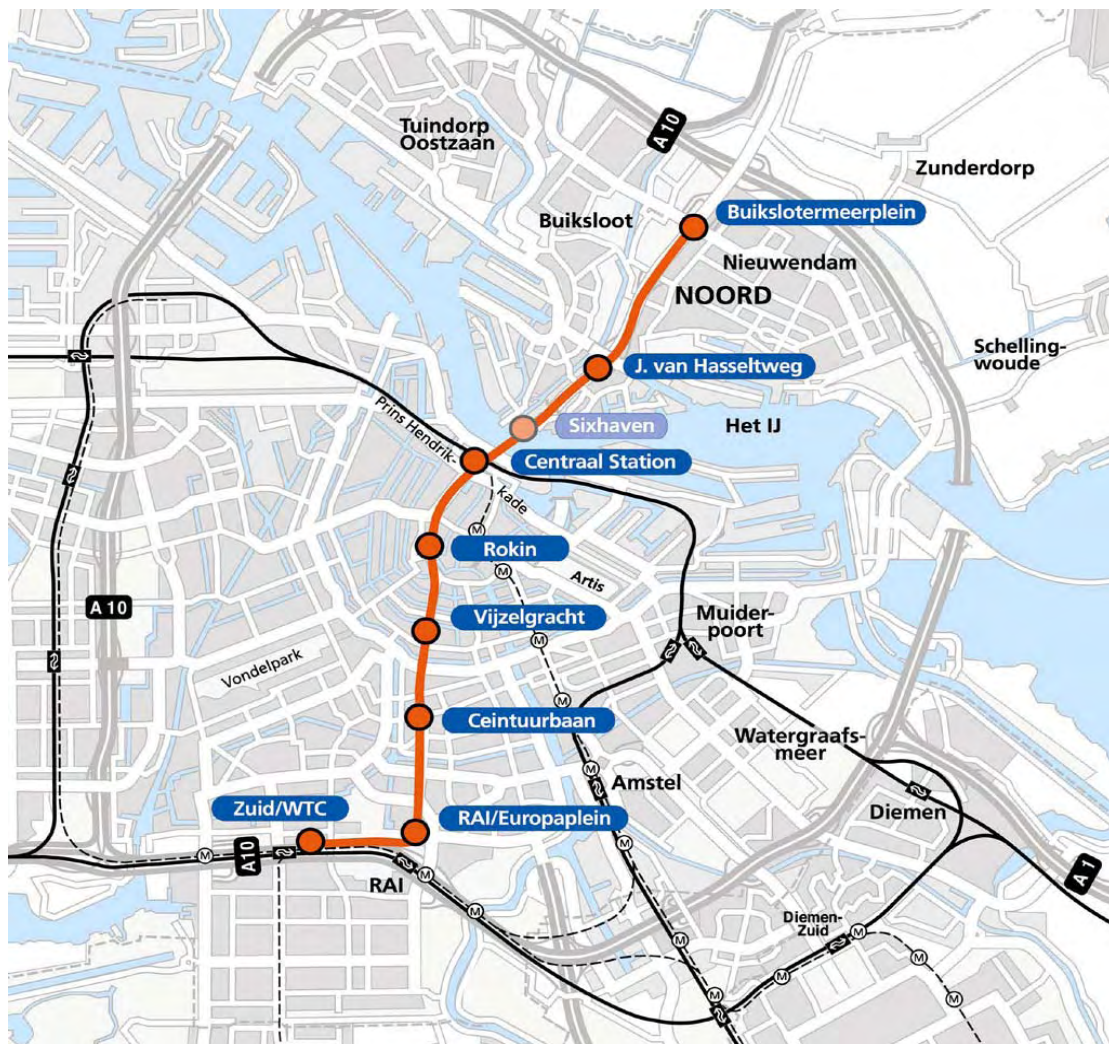
www.ijdock.nl

Key Issue D: North-South Metro Line (*Noord/Zuidlijn*)

Project overview: The North-South metro line (*Noord/Zuidlijn*) project concerns the construction of a metro line almost 10 kilometres long, 6 kilometres of which will be underground. The tunnel is being constructed deep underground and does not pass underneath any buildings with the exception of Central Station. When construction is finished in 2013, 200,000 people per day will use the metro link. Construction is being supervised by the North-South Metro Line Project Agency (*Projectbureau Noord/Zuidlijn*).

Route: The North-South metro line will run from Buikslotermeerplein in Amsterdam North, under the city centre (Stationsplein, Damrak, Dam, Rokin, Vijzel Street, Vijzelgracht canal, Weteringplantsoen) to the World Trade Centre in Amsterdam South.

Status: Under construction



The route map of the future North-South line. Station Sixhaven will not be realised.

History and decision-making process

On 9 October 2002, Amsterdam City Council voted to begin the North-South Metro Line (Council order, 9 October 2002; Council paper, Section 3A, no. 295/514).²

The vote was preceded by the necessary public debate. Amsterdam's Urban Development Board (*Amsterdamse Raad voor de Stadsontwikkeling*; ARS) pointed out – as early as 1995 – that town-planning considerations had to a large extent been forgotten because the debate had largely focused on the cost.³

In 1995, the d'Oude Stadt District Centre (*Wijkcentrum d'Oude Stadt*) published a report entitled *Metropijn (Metro Pain)*. This proposed alternatives to the construction of the North-South metro line, such as optimising the existing public aboveground transport links combined with measures dealing with parking and goods transportation.⁴

Official complaints about the council decision coupled with a demand for a referendum were registered by the Above-Grounders Association (*de Vereniging De Bovengrondse*), Nelly Frijda and Maarten Lubbers, on behalf of 75 well-known Amsterdam residents and many others. This was rejected because a plebiscite had already been held on 25 June 1997.

The complaint by the Above-Grounders Association was dismissed by the Council of State (*Raad van State*) in November 2005. The Council of State did, however, rule that, in 2000/2001, the Amsterdam City Council failed to pay enough attention to the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency's comments about the aesthetic problems regarding the design for the lift exit near Weteringscircuit (see below).

Foundations investigation and measuring programme

To prevent damage to the foundations of buildings along the metro line route, the foundations of 1700 buildings were examined before construction started. If there was a reasonable possibility of subsidence resulting from the construction of the tunnel, owners were able to claim subsidies covering the restoration of the foundations, for which an amount of 27 million guilders was made available. Many buildings have had new foundations laid using internally sunk steel piles.⁵

A system has also been installed along the entire route that continually monitors local buildings for any subsidence.

Compensation for loss and damage

Since 2002, affected parties (residents and businesses in premises along the North-South metro line) have been able to register damages and make a claim under the Regulation for the Compensation for Loss and Damage Due to Planning of the North-South Metro Line (*Verordening Nadeelcompensatie en Planschade Noord Zuid/lijn*). In the event of damage to buildings, an independent expert can be brought in. Compensation claims are dealt with by the North-South Metro Line Damage Agency (*Schadebureau Noord/Zuidlijn*). Up to the end of 2006, 175 owners had made damages claims, and 3.2 million euros (a quarter of the available budget of 12.6 million euros) had been paid out (figures from the audit office report).

Building aesthetics

² An overview of the major events during the preparation and decision-making process can be gained by visiting www.noordzuidlijn.amsterdam.nl

³ Urban Development Board Recommendations on the North-South Metro Line (*Adviezen Amsterdamse Raad voor de Stadsontwikkeling over de Noord Zuidlijn*) (February 1995), and no. 214 (August 1998).

⁴ The d'Oude Stad District Centre's May 1995 Traffic Working Group Report, 'Metropijn', a critical report into Amsterdam's planned North-South Metro Line (*Werkgroep Verkeer van het Wijkcentrum d'Oude Stadt, Metropijn. Kritisch onderzoek naar de geplande noord-zuid-metro in Amsterdam*), May 1995.

⁵ Wind, H., Major repairs of foundations along the new North-South Metro Line (*Grootchalig funderingsherstel langs nieuwe Noordzuid-lijn*), in: *Bouwwereld*, no. 5 (3 March 2003).

As far as this issue is concerned, this memorandum only deals with the position and architecture of Vijzelgracht metro station, which is within the property.

The Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency (CWM) has lodged the following objections to the building plans which have already received a building permit (advice issued on 31 May 2000, 20 September 2000 and 4 October 2000):

- Locating a lift at the junction of Nieuwe Vijzel Street and Weteringschans. The CWM believes the locating the lift just a few metres from the facades of existing buildings is very unfortunate; the entrances to the station are too large – ‘the size of the exits does not harmonise with the cityscape’ – and the CWM objects to this. The agency takes the view that additions to the public space should conform to the scale of the immediate area. It believes a guiding principle should be that such changes harmonise discreetly with the urban fabric, and this is not the case with the present proposal.

The City of Amsterdam’s Executive Committee decided to reject the agencies objections, citing opinions by external experts.

Part of the opinion given on 23 May 2005 by Prof H.C. Bekkering B.Sc. (professor of town planning at Delft University of Technology) is quoted below:

‘The view expressed by Amsterdam’s Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency at its 4 October 2000 meeting, that the design for the Vijzelgracht station would “monumentalise the metro within the cityscape”, is, as I pointed out earlier (in my opinion of 21 July 2004), in no way compatible with the scale, the materials used and the decoration of the visible parts of the station: the sunken entrance, the lift housing and ventilation shaft. In my opinion, the additions to the public space are totally in keeping with the scale of the immediate area and fit in discreetly. The transparency of a lift housing made entirely of glass and the extremely reserved decoration used in the Benthem Crouwel Architects design, in their very abstraction, draw little attention.

The advantage of this relatively neutral architectural approach is that, through the neutrality, not only is a certain timelessness achieved, but also the impact of new elements on the existing surroundings can remain limited. Partly for this reason, the entire North-South metro line design has been favourably received in specialist publications (see Aart Oxenaar in De Architect 29/5, 1998, among others).

The lift housing is relatively close to the pavement, in front of the buildings with the addresses, Vijzel Street nos. 3 and 5, near the corner of Weteringschans. These houses have retained some of their historic value. The lift housing, at 4.2 metres high, reaches roughly the first-floor windowsills of these and nearby buildings, a height that is marked by cornices on the facades and additions such as billboards and sun blinds. The lift housing fits in completely with the scale of what is to be found at ground level in the vicinity, viz. shops, restaurants and bars and other service outlets. Architecturally, it is totally different, but its overall transparency and neutrality ensure it does not really stand out. The proximity to the facades of the existing buildings does not counteract this.’

In November 2005, the Objections Committee (*Bezwaarschriftencommissie*) ruled that Prof Bekkering, in his opinion dated 23 May 2005, had sufficiently refuted the objections made by the CWM, and that the City of Amsterdam’s Executive Committee, in adopting this and earlier arguments, was justified in laying aside the CWM’s negative report.

Archaeology

In accordance with the guidelines laid down in the Malta Convention, archaeological investigations have been and are being carried out during the construction of the tunnel 30 metres underground. The City of Amsterdam has set aside 6 million euros for this work.



Damrak in 2005. Archaeologists made the first excavations here.

Archaeological research was carried out in the initial phase, long before the start of construction work: this centred on Station Island (*Stationseiland*), Damrak and Rokin. These are the sites of medieval Amsterdam and the River Amstel's IJ estuary. Pro-active archaeological supervision will take place or has taken place at the Vijzelgracht and Ceintuurbaan stations, and in Amsterdam North as far as the Willemssluizen (locks). A practical approach was adopted. This entails the archaeology being fitted in alongside the civil engineering work. No separate inventorial field research is done: instead, it takes place when the foundations for the stations are being excavated. The archaeological research/excavations are mostly done in the evening. The situation underground is documented as much as possible. During the day, the civil engineering work is also supervised by archaeologists to secure material and prepare for the evening's research work. In addition, all the material that comes to the surface is sifted and documented. So far, the most important finds have been made in the Damrak-Rokin area.⁶



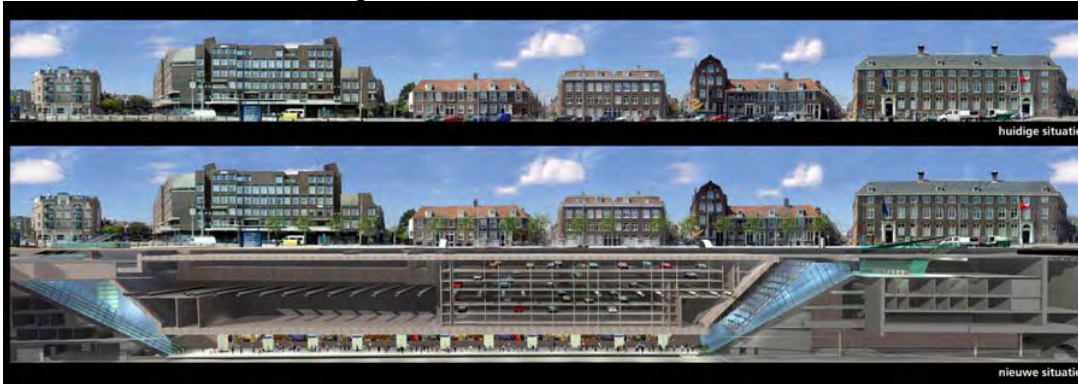
During excavations in the Damrak, a unique seal stamp, dating from the late 14th century, was found.

⁶ *Vitruvius*, vol. 1, no. 4, July 2008.

Consequences for the UNESCO nomination

Visual impact

The North-South metro line follows an underground route between Central Station and Weteringcircuit. On street level, only the station entrances are visible along Rokin (buffer zone) and the Vijzelgracht (property). Only the part of Vijzelgracht Station which is aboveground will be dealt with from now on. There will be three entrances, only one of which, the entrance near Maison Descartes, will be within the property. This entrance is only visible from Vijzel Street and partially visible from Prinsengracht canal. The lift and lift housing designed by Benthem Crouwel Architects is as far as possible transparent (for the most part glass). The use of transparent materials and its height, 4.20 metres, makes the modern design restrained.



Benthem Crouwel: impression of the Vijzelgracht with the mainly glass entrance to the metro.

Authenticity en Integrity

The design of the lift housing and the entrance to the North-South metro line is modern and at the same time restrained

Progress so far

Recently, work began on excavating the Vijzelgracht and building the station. On 19 June 2008, a leak occurred in a joint between two restraining wall panels of the excavated site for the station, and led to a number of nearby buildings subsiding and having to be evacuated and shored up (Vijzelgracht 20-24). An inquiry is underway into the Vijzelgracht Station leak and the subsidence of the building.

Sources

www.noordzuidlijn.amsterdam.nl

Key issue E: Coalition Project 1012 (*Coalitieproject 1012*)

- Project description:** Coalition Project 1012 aims to take a far-reaching approach to one of the oldest parts of Amsterdam's city centre. The goal is to inhibit the crime-conducive infrastructure of the city's red light district (the area centred on the Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canals known as the Wallen), and combat the degeneration of the Damrak, the street that serves as an entrance to the city from Central Station, by means of a large-scale, radical alteration of the area's function. The unique cultural and historic value of this part of the city is the starting-point for creating a high-quality, attractive and accessible environment.
- Location:** The 1012 postcode area is bordered by the Prins Hendrikkade, the Singel canal, the Kloveniersburgwal/Geldersekade canals and the Munt square; the area to the west of the Spuistraat lies within the property, the rest of the project area is in the buffer zone.
- Status:** Coalition Project. A collaboration between the City of Amsterdam and the District of Central Amsterdam.

History and decision-making process

In 1997, one of the findings of a parliamentary inquiry on crime detection was that the Wallen (the red light district) was in the hands of organised crime. This prompted the City of Amsterdam to make a concerted effort to tackle the problems in the area, leading to the foundation of the Van Traa Team. Working with partners including the organisations NV Zeedijk and NV Stadsgoed, the team has acquired around 100 properties. The buildings have thus successfully been kept out of criminal hands and subsequent to redevelopment given a new function. In 2005, the District of Central Amsterdam initiated a targeted approach to the northern Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canal area, with a view to achieving a general enhancement of the neighbourhood by actively tackling the physical infrastructure, nuisance in the street, and law enforcement in the widest sense. Leading on from this policy, in 2006 the Wallen Coordination Team was set up to take responsibility for surveillance and law enforcement in this part of the central Amsterdam district.



The Oudekerksplein square with the Old Church (*Oude Kerk*), the heart of the 1012 area

Because of the complexity of the task and the wide-ranging ambitions for a substantial enhancement of the Wallen area and the nearby Damrak and Rokin, in summer 2007 the City of Amsterdam (represented by the Mayor and the Alderman for Economic Affairs), and the District of Central Amsterdam (represented by the Chairman and Alderman for Public Space and Economic Affairs) initiated a process of consultation between the two local government bodies, and the collaboration was formalised as a so-called coalition project in a resolution adopted on 4 December 2007. The administrative coalition is responsible for inhibiting both the crime-conducive infrastructure in the Wallen area in particular, and the degeneration of the Damrak.

Moreover, there was an urgent desire to achieve a substantial enhancement to the area that forms an entrance to the city. Historically and spatially, the Damrak and Rokin have a key function in the city, but suffer from a lack of quality both in terms of architecture and function – the usage of the real estate. The proposed remodelling of the street layout, referred to as the ‘Red Carpet’ (see below), is an essential element. Another instrument both to reduce crime-conducive property functions and realise a qualitative improvement is to intervene in the use of real estate. A new premium-quality entrance area fits within the concept of the *Amsterdam Topstad* programme.

Furthermore, there are a range of projects already running in the area which can reinforce the Project 1012 quality impulse: the construction of the North-South Metro Line and car park beneath the Rokin; the development of a business plan for the *Beurs van Berlage* building; the restoration of the *Blauwsluis* block of buildings; the extension of Hotel Krasnapolsky; the renovation of the Royal Palace on Dam Square; the renovation and construction of the university in the grounds of the *Binnengasthuis*; the extension of the Hotel de l’Europe; the renewal of the Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canals; the acquisition and change in function of properties formerly owned by prostitution and sex shop entrepreneur Charles Geerts; and the acquisition and change in function of the Mata Hari building, a former gambling club.

The Coalition Project 1012 aims to link and extend these developments, as well as to coordinate projects undertaken in cooperation with private parties.

The resolution approving the establishment of Coalition Project 1012 (*Instellingsbesluit Coalitieproject 1012*) and the Shared Principles memorandum, commissioned by the board by the City of Amsterdam Project Management Bureau (PMB), refer to a range of action and strategic projects. There are four aspects to the approach:

1. The continuation of matters that are already running successfully: the renewal of the northern Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canal area with associated traffic measures, the remodelling of the street layout for the Damrak and Rokin, integral action to enforce the terms of existing permits, the application of the Public Administration Probity Screening Act (*Bevordering van de integriteitbeoordelingen door het openbaar bestuur – Bibob*), mediation and where necessary financial contribution to the acquisition of real estate.
2. Future perspective: clarity on the desired and commercially feasible functions in the project site, focusing on the northern Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canal area, the Damrak and Rokin (analysis and scenario study).
3. Acquisition strategy: the establishment of an acquisition strategy, including a model acquisition protocol, a survey of all possible legally legitimate means and possible special financing constructions.
4. Strategic projects: the promotion and monitoring of the quality of projects that could have a flywheel effect on the desired enhancement of the area:
 - a. Extension of the Hotel Victoria
 - b. Redevelopment of C&A Damrak department store
 - c. 2-4 Dam Square
 - d. Remodelling of the Damrak canal
 - e. Business plan for the *Beurs van Berlage* + Beursplein + Euronext
 - f. Redevelopment of the Bijenkorf department store underground car park
 - g. Redevelopment of the Hotel Krasnapolsky underground car park
 - h. Fortis Building, Rokin
 - i. Underground parking facilities, North-South Metro Line, Rokin

- j. 'Red Carpet' remodelled street layout
- k. Redevelopment of Mata Hari building
- l. *Ons' Lieve Heer op Solder* ('Our Lord in the Attic') museum and church
- m. Planning of underground parking facilities on the Geldersekaade canal
- n. Development possibilities for Chinatown
- o. Remodelling of the street layout in the northern Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canal area
- p. Extension of the Hotel de l'Europe
- q. Extension of the library in the grounds of the *Binnengasthuis*

The Red Carpet

One of the key projects within Coalition 1012 as a whole is known as the Red Carpet. Its goal is to give the 'entrance' to the city – along the route of the North-South Metro Line in the historic city centre from Station Square to the Weteringschans – a new, enhanced atmosphere. This not only involves remodelling the public space, but also redeveloping buildings and their functions. A range of other projects, such as the remodelling of the Leidseplein and Rembrandtplein squares, will be coordinated with the Red Carpet, so they are mutually complementary.

A draft document has been drawn up, setting out the basic principles for remodelling the public space. It is scheduled for approval by the District of Central Amsterdam Executive Committee and the City of Amsterdam Municipal Executive in mid-November 2008, after which it will be released for public consultation. The public consultation procedure was scheduled to begin in January 2009.

Consequences for the UNESCO nomination of the 17th-century ring of canals

At present, none of the projects referred to are at a stage that is sufficiently concrete for an assessment to be made of the possible affects on the property and buffer zone. The first plans are not expected to be handled before November 2008.

According to the vision on cultural history drawn up by Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) and the District of Central Amsterdam, the qualities of the property and buffer zone would be explicitly stated (report completed end of October 2008) and a proposal made for the 'operationalisation' these qualities, and how this can be linked to the various projects in the Strategy Resolution.



Map showing historic architectural value of the expanding city

Current situation

The Project Organisation established by the City of Amsterdam and the District of Central Amsterdam (7 December 2007) has been working on the draft Strategy Resolution (completed in Autumn 2008), detailing the strategic projects referred to above. At the same time, the dialogue with residents and businesses in the area is being continued, and consultation with market players on development and investment possibilities in the area is being intensified. This partly forms the basis for the content of the resolution.

In mid-February 2008, the Chair of the District of Central Amsterdam Executive Committee presented BMA's Classification Map for Historic Architectural Value (*Bouwhistorische Waardenkaart*) in the medieval city centre to the project manager of Coalition Project 1012. BMA and the District of Central Amsterdam have been working to establish a vision on cultural history for the project area (completed October 2008). This will be included in the Strategy Resolution.

In autumn 2008, wide public consultation was organised with residents and businesses in the area, to exchange ideas on the vision for the future of the 1012 area. The results will be taken into account in the draft Strategy Resolution 1012 for approval by the City of Amsterdam and the District of Central Amsterdam in spring 2009.

Sources

- Memorandum: Boundaries to enforcement; new ambitions for the Wallen area (Directorate of Public Order and Safety/Van Traa Team), September 2007
- Memorandum: Shared Principles 1012, 7 December 2007
- Memorandum: Resolution approving the establishment of Coalition Project 1012, 7 December 2007
- Strategy Resolution, autumn 2008
- BMA and the District of Central Amsterdam's vision on cultural history, end of October 2008

Key issue F: Chinatown

Project description: Strengthening the economic fabric of 'Chinatown'. Since the beginning of the 20th century, many Chinese people have settled in the area and set up businesses. The area is distinctive in Amsterdam because of the predominance of Chinese and Asian businesses, restaurants and amenities, and the presence of The Netherlands' only Buddhist temple.

Location: The area surrounds the Zeedijk and its side streets and alleyways, the Geldersekade canal, the Nieuwmarkt square and the Binnen Bantammerstraat. The area lies within the buffer zone.

Status: Coalition Project. A collaboration between the City of Amsterdam and the District of Central Amsterdam.

History and decision-making process

On 6 May 2008, the District of Central Amsterdam Executive Committee approved a memorandum entitled Chinatown Amsterdam (source no. F 1). This was preceded by a variety of initiatives by a wide range of parties (residents, businesses, councillors), and the presentation of two analytical studies. The District of Central Amsterdam Executive Committee then responded with a memorandum.

The Coalition Project 1012 is to formulate a concept for the entire 1012 postcode area, to be completed by mid-2009. Chinatown is located within this area. The memorandum is to be presented to the coalition project to serve as building material for the concept. There is a particular focus on Chinatown, because the Executive Committee has established that in its present form the area functions weakly in social and economic terms. The committee sets great store by the continued presence of Chinatown in the neighbourhood and wishes to strengthen it in its present form. It has opted to do so in two ways:

1. Strengthen the economic fabric;
2. Broaden the supply of products and services that reinforce the neighbourhood's Chinese or Asian character.

To strengthen the economic fabric, the Executive Committee will cooperate with initiatives by Chinese entrepreneurs which contribute to a broader supply of products and services in the area. This also applies to initiatives that aim at increasing Chinatown's possibilities as a tourist destination and which encourage and prolong overnight stays by tourists and businesspeople, whether of Chinese or other origin. Efforts will also be made to promote a more attractive and safer environment for visitors by investing in remodelling the public space both of the Zeedijk and its side alleys, and of the Geldersekade. The area's accessibility is to be improved by the provision of underground parking facilities.

To achieve a broader supply of goods and services appropriate to the Chinese and Asian character of the neighbourhood, the Executive Committee will support initiatives for the construction of housing for elderly people of Chinese ethnic origin. It will also support Chinese social, cultural, educational and sports associations in Amsterdam, either in organising temporary activities such as special events in the neighbourhood, or in moving into permanent premises in the area. The Executive Committee also proposes to work actively to interest Chinese cultural organisations in moving into the area, and to support private cultural initiatives such as a cinema or Chinese museum. Moreover, it will also support events that are Asian in character.

Critical factors

An absolute precondition for the Chinatown project is that the historic cityscape must be preserved. The policy document stresses that the conservation, broadening and strengthening of Chinatown must take place within the scope of policy applying to the city centre as a whole. In concrete terms this means that for the Executive Committee there is no question of dispensing with the conservation of the area for the sake of increasing its Asian atmosphere. It is virtually impossible to introduce gates,

lions, Chinese streetlamps and other such alterations or additions to the public space, because they are not in keeping with the neighbourhood's historic character as build heritage. The area's Asian atmosphere derives from the nature of the use of the buildings, and primarily this will have to remain so in future. Characteristically Chinese additions are only possible when they are appropriate and are not detrimental to the historic cityscape. Moreover, there must also be room for non-Chinese businesses to remain in the area, which must be prevented from becoming mono-functional. The design of the area will take place in accordance with the guidelines in the Handbook for the Design of Public Space.



Zeedijk

Current situation

The District of Central Amsterdam is working on a concept Policy Document on Basic Principles for underground parking facilities in the Chinatown area. A variety of possibilities are being considered, such as under the Geldersekaade canal or Oosterdok dock. The starting-point for the study is to provide a car park with 350 parking spaces, 70 percent of which are reserved for residents and local businesses and 30 percent for visitors to the area. The city council is due to reach a decision on the matter at the end of 2008.

The consequences for the UNESCO nomination

Visual impact

The neighbourhood has had an Asian character since the beginning of the 20th century. The coming of Chinese people, which has resulted in a neighbourhood with an Asian atmosphere, fits within the concept of Amsterdam as a free port.

Strengthening the neighbourhood's Asian atmosphere must not cause any harm to the conservation area and will primarily have to derive from the use of the buildings in the area. In the first place it should contribute to enhancing the atmosphere of the neighbourhood.

Authenticity and integrity

The neighbourhood lies within the buffer zone and will not essentially change in character (see above). The anticipated developments will not affect the property's authenticity and integrity.

Sources

1. *Memorandum on Chinatown, Amsterdam*, approved by the Executive Committee on 6 May 2008.

Key issue G: The Binnengasthuisterrein

Project description: A new library for the Humanities Faculty of the University of Amsterdam (UvA) on the Binnengasthuisterrein.

Location : The area is bordered by the Grimburgwal, the Oudemanhuispoort, Kloveniersburgwal, Nieuwe Doelenstraat and by the Oude Turfmarkt (in the buffer zone) at the back of the area. There are twelve national monuments in the area.

Status: The project is currently in the building permit application phase.

History and decision-making

The plans to establish the library of the Humanities Faculty of the University of Amsterdam (UvA) has a long history; a summary of the most important stages in the decision-making process follows:

- The UvA presented the university's entire plan for the library to the B&W in November 1998.
- The then Council Committee for Urban Renewal, Spatial Planning, Ground Affairs (*Commissie voor Volkshuisvesting, Stadsvernieuwing, Ruimtelijke Ordening en Grondzaken*) agreed in principle with this location plan and the cluster principle which forms its basic principles in February 1999. Regarding the Binnengasthuisterrein they stipulated that the results of further research into the suitability of the development had to be presented before they would make a final decision. This involved asking the B&W to conduct more extensive research into the suitability of the development.
- On 19 September 2001 the city council decided:
 - To cooperate in principle in the establishment of the Faculty Library and the Humanities Faculty on the Binnengasthuisterrein;
 - To ask the mayor and aldermen to appoint a quality control team to supervise further planning developments;
 - To endorse the drafting of a zoning plan for the Binnengasthuisterrein and surroundings based on the principles included in the recommendations.

The council's recommendation concluded that even though the UvA had limited the programme requirements in a revised plan, the development would still not harmonise with the existing structures, while there were no useable alternatives that did justice to the university's proposed plan, including the so-called Alfacluster (with, among others, language and cultural studies, [art]history, media, culture and philosophy) in and around the Binnengasthuisterrein. The decision-making explicitly mentions the possibility of erecting new buildings for the Faculty Library in the location of the convent, the Zusterhuis, and the former Theatre School (the former Second Surgical Clinic [*Tweede Chirurgische Kliniek*]).

- On 13 July 2001 the State Secretary of the OCW designated the Binnengasthuis complex as built heritage. The objections by the UvA to this – even in an appeal – were rejected (Council of State [*Raad van State*] 19 July 2006). An important consideration for this was: 'The designation of the buildings as built heritage does not necessarily imply that radical changes such as those proposed by the appellant (the UvA) for the realisation of the new building plans on the location of the buildings, does not necessarily imply that those changes will not be able to take place. This must be decided in the framework of the specified permit procedure described in Article 11 *et seq.* of the Monuments Act'.
- The zoning plan for the Binnengasthuisterrein and its surroundings was adopted on 28 February 2002. It specifies that the urban planning principles that were ratified by the city council on 19 September 2001 must be adopted in their entirety. It appears from the explanatory notes that the zoning plan includes the possibility of renovating or erecting new structures in the locations of the Second Surgical Clinic and the Zusterhuis convent.
- On 4 February 2004 the Council of State reached a decision regarding the appeals that were lodged against decision of the Provincial Executive of North Holland and (partially) approved the zoning plan. The Council of State's decision meant that a new zoning plan had to be drafted for the Binnengasthuis Street/Vendel Street corner. The resulting gap in this extremely small section of the Binnengasthuisterrein development zone was addressed by the

Zoning Plan for the Binnengasthuis Street/Vendel Street Corner (*Bestemmingsplan Hoek Binnengasthuisstraat/Vendelstraat*) that was adopted by the district council on 31 March 2005.

- At the end of October 2006 the UvA presented a preliminary application for the realisation of the library on the location of a building complex (part of the Zusterhuis convent and the Second Surgical Clinic) that is inscribed as a national monument. The UvA used this preliminary application to request the Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district to take a position regarding the proposed plans, prior to submitting the formal (building permit) applications.
- After an extensive advisory period and consultation with the Council Committee for Building, Living and Urban Development (*raadscommissie Bouwen, Wonen en Stedelijke Ontwikkeling*), the Executive Committee decided on 25 March 2008 that they approved in principle with the UvA's proposition of a newly-constructed university library on the Binnengasthuisterrein, despite the regrettable demolition of a national monument that this would entail. Important considerations included:
 - The quality of the plans for the new development (by the Spanish architects bureau Cruz y Ortiz), the realisation of which was guided by a district council-appointed Quality Team (that included representatives from The Netherlands Department for Conservation [*Rijksdienst voor de Monumentenzorg*; RDMZ] and the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency [*Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten Amsterdam*]);
 - The role the university and the library play in the city centre as well as the significance a quality impulse could have for the university and the city centre.

The Binnengasthuisterrein Memorandum. A New Library for the University of Amsterdam (*Binnengasthuisterrein. Een nieuwe bibliotheek voor de Universiteit van Amsterdam*; see source no. 1) extensively and carefully details the various considerations that served as the basis of the decision.



Current situation



Planned situation

Opinions in the framework of the zoning plan procedure

The following ten parties have submitted opinions in the framework of adopting a zoning plan for the Binnengasthuisterrein and its surroundings:

1. The Binnengasthuisterrein Society for the Quality of Life and Public Space (*Vereniging Openbaar en Leefbaar Binnen Gasthuisterrein*; VOLBG);
2. Amsterdam Discussion Platform (*Amsterdam Overleg*) on behalf of the Royal Antiquities Society (*Koninklijk Oudheidkundige Genootschap*), the Amstelodamum Society (*Genootschap Amstelodamum*), the Heemschut Society (*Bond Heemschut*), the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre (*Vereniging van Vrienden van de Amsterdamse Binnenstad*), the Cuypers Society (*Cuypers Genootschap*), the restoration company *NV Stadsherstel Amsterdam* and the Diogenes Foundation (*Stichting Diogenes*);
3. see no. 2;
4. University of Amsterdam;
5. Various individual opinions;
6. P. Veer;
7. Heemschut Society, Amsterdam Commission;
8. the Cuypers Society;
9. d'Oude Stadt District Centre (*Wijkcentrum d'Oude Stadt*);
10. Enterprise Group South Burgwallen (*Initiatiefgroep Burgwallen Zuid*).

These opinions and the reactions to them are detailed in the Binnengasthuisterrein and Environs Zoning Plan (*Bestemmingsplan Binnengasthuisterrein e.o.*; Council paper [*Gemeentebld*], no. 198, 28 February 2002).

See source no. 3.

The opinions are discussed below, insofar as they relate to the cultural-historical aspects:

The Binnengasthuisterrein Society for the Quality of Life and Public Space (VOLBG) advocates 'safeguarding the quality of the historic cityscape'.

Reaction: the zoning plan discusses the 'preservation of cultural-historical values' (like other zoning plans for the city centre), but with 'consideration for the cultural-historical values'. 'This distinction is made because the zoning plan considers the possibility of realising a new development or alterations to the existing structures on the location of the Second Surgical Clinic and the Zusterhuis convent'.

The Amsterdam Discussion Platform (*Amsterdam Overleg*) objects to the possible construction of a tower/high-rise structure in the new development.

Reaction: modern high-rise buildings do not harmonise with the city centre; hence, limiting the height to 40 metres.

In addition, the Amsterdam Discussion Platform states that the zoning plan does not comply with the requirements of a conservation zoning plan.

Reaction: 'The regulations in this zoning plan...more than meet the requirement to carefully consider of the valuable historic structures on the one hand, and suitable spatial preconditions relating to a new development in the historical context of the area on the other'. For the background to this reaction, see the complete text in the council recommendation.

The Heemschut Society is opposed to enabling a high-rise development by means of the B&W's executive authority and is concerned that this might set a precedent. The construction boundary on the planning map has insufficient measures to protect the Zusterhuis and the Theatre School (both with built heritage values).

Reaction: it is proposed to link the B&W's executive authority to a High-Rise Impact Report (*HoogbouwEffectRapportage*; HER). See the reaction by the VOLBG regarding the concerns for the conservation of built heritage.

The Cuypers Society is of the opinion that the zoning plan must use the existing valuable structures and buildings as a starting point. It must have an 'open' character and not incorporate any options involving (partial) demolition. The basic principle should be enforcing the courtyard structure.

Moreover, a Cultural-Historical Effect Report (*Cultuurhistorische Effect Rapportage*) is lacking.
Reaction: The zoning plan is neither explicit nor implicit about the conservation or about a new development on the location of the former Zusterhuis/Theatre School. Both options (enforcement and

– partial – demolition/new development) are possible. The more detailed information will have to explicitly take the cultural-historical context into consideration. The impact on the cultural-historical surroundings will be detailed in the urban planning/architectonic plans for the area. One of the basic principles in the zoning plan is enforcement and improving the courtyard structure.

The d'Oude Stadt District Centre requested a zoning plan that focuses more on preserving the quality of the historic cityscape. (Reaction: see above).

To do justice to the cultural-historical values, the construction area for renovation or erecting a new building will have to be reduced and the current building line (an unusual street plan) has to serve as the basis.

Reaction: Incorporating the construction area in the zoning plan will ensure that the characteristic open structure of the Binnengasthuisterrein remains recognisable. The building line retains its whimsical character.

The Enterprise Group South Burgwallen wants a zoning plan to be drafted with an emphasis on national monuments, courtyard structure and the existing public/urban planning character.

Reaction: Because of all the safeguards, this conservation zoning plan conforms to the framework of Article 36 of the Monuments Act .

The Enterprise Group also states that a building 22 metres tall (instead of the existing building height of 16.70 metres) will have serious and irreversible consequences on the surroundings and the conservation area.

Reaction: The zoning plan states that the maximum heights of the gutter and the building (of category 1 and category 2 buildings) may not exceed the current heights of the gutter and the building.



Above: current situation. Below: planned situation

Advice from the CWM, BMA and RdmZ (now the RACM) in the framework of the preliminary application

Based on the decision by the city council on 19 September 2001, a quality team comprising professionals and experts was established to safeguard the quality of the proposed new development. This included representatives from the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency (CWM), The Netherlands Department for Conservation (*Rijksdienst voor de Monumentenzorg*; RDMZ) (now: The National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage, RACM) and an architect (with proven experience with construction in a historical context). This team was charged with three tasks:

- Supervising the urban development-architectonic development and periodic evaluation of the results;
- Supervising the development of the architectonic design;
- Advising on the choice of architect/s.

Eventually, the proposal from the Spanish architects bureau Cruz Y Ortiz was selected by the quality team and the selection committee as the best design. The development was so positively received by the Building Aesthetics Agency at the end 2004 that from this perspective there was no objection to a formal application for a building permit. They did this in isolation from the quality team that was involved in developing the plan between 2000 and 2004.

In the framework of the preliminary application, advice was (again) requested from the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency (in its dual role as the Building Aesthetics Agency and the Monuments Commission [*Monumentencommissie*]), from the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology (BMA) as preliminary advisor of the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency (CWM) and from the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM).

In its role as the building aesthetics commission, the CWM reacted positively to the preliminary application, but in its role as the Monuments Commission (*Monumentencommissie*) the commission objected to the proposed demolition of the Second Surgical Clinic and the partial demolition of and extensive modifications to the Zusterhuis. The commission based its objection on the similar advice from the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology (BMA). 'Adoption of the Zoning Plan for the Binnengasthuisterrein and its Surroundings' (*Vaststelling bestemmingsplan Binnengasthuisterrein e.o.*; Council paper [*Gemeentebld*] 2002, no. 198, 28 February 2002).

The advice from the RACM was also negative, concluding with: 'The proposed plans for the new faculty library by Cruz & Ortiz have paid a great deal of attention to ensuring that the proposed development will harmonise with the area as well as refining the architectural design of a massive building. From its inception, the programme of realising a new building that does justice to the existing built heritage at this location appears to have been too ambitious in attempting to improve the characteristic courtyard structure. Despite the efforts taken with the design, in my opinion they do not justify the removal of a building of social, cultural-historical and architectonic national importance; I thus advise you *not* to demolish the Second Surgical Clinic.'

See source no. 1

The current state of affairs

On 30 June 2008 the formal building permit, monument permit and demolition permit applications relating to the new faculty library building and the related demolition of the Zusterhuis (the facade on the Nieuw Doelen Street and part of the gable will be retained) and the former Theatre School (the Second Surgical Clinic) were submitted. More than 40 opinions have already been presented. These will be evaluated and incorporated in the preparations for the decision-making process relating to the monument permit application and the necessary procedure as outlined in Article 19, Clause 2, WRO (applicable before 1 July 2008)

Regarding the building and monument permit applications, advice was requested from the CWM and the RACM, but has not yet been received. The spatial basis must still be worked out for the spatial planning procedure.

The publication of the concept decisions relating to the monument permit application and Article 19, Clause 2 of the WRO was in October, after which opinions were presented. The final decision-making

will probably occur before the end of this year, depending on the results of the (revised) agreement with the council committee.

Consequences for the 17th-century ring of canals resulting from the UNESCO nomination

Considering three of the *Operational Guidelines* criteria used by the *World Heritage Committee* in evaluating the nomination, the possible consequences of developments on the old hospital site, the Binnengasthuisterrein, could be defined as follows:

Visual impact

Cruz y Ortiz's design for a new library adds some volume, height and architectural style to the character of the area. The Binnengasthuisterrein, an enclosed and, for the most part, inward-looking group of buildings and gardens, determines the character of the terrain, which stands alone surrounded by urban structures. It was originally a monastery complex, which, at the end of the 19th century and beginning of the 20th century, was transformed into a city hospital and, in the 1980s, was altered once again to become part of the university. This has resulted in the Binnengasthuisterrein and the buildings it contains having little connection with the surrounding urban area. The library conforms to the site's existing building contours and volume (see source no. 4). The present facade of the convent (*Zusterhuis*) in Nieuwe Doelen Street has remained intact. The highest new building (22 metres above ground level) can only be seen locally from Staal Street (buffer zone). The tallest structure to remain on the old hospital site is 17.5 metres above ground level. The tallest surrounding buildings, such as the Doelen Hotel and the Hotel de L'Europe, are over 30 metres high.

Conclusion: There is no visual impact on the property. The building is not visible from the 17th-century ring of canals (see source no. 5).

Authenticity and integrity

The authenticity of the area will be affected if the decision is taken to demolish two national monuments. Whether the integrity of the area is affected will depend on how the eventual new development complements the existing urban fabric.

The demolition/new development plans will have no direct consequences on the authenticity and integrity of the property.





Above: current situation. Below: planned situation

Sources

1. Memorandum: Binnengasthuisterrein. A New Library for the University of Amsterdam (*Notitie: Binnengasthuisterrein. Een nieuwe bibliotheek voor de Universiteit van Amsterdam*). Adopted by the Central Amsterdam district council, 5 February 2008.
2. Council recommendation (Council paper [*Gemeentebblad*] section 1, 2001, no. 553)
3. Adoption Binnengasthuisterrein and Environs Zoning Plan (*Bestemmingsplan Binnengasthuisterrein e.o.*; Council paper [*Gemeentebblad*], no. 198, 28 February 2002).
4. Impression of the architectural design
5. Sightlines study

Key issue H: Construction Plan Kop Singel (*Haringpakkerstoren*)

Project description: The project concerns the planned construction of a tower with surrounding buildings. The design of the tower is based on the Haringpakkerstoren, which was pulled down in the 19th century. The new development will be located at the end of Singel canal near the abutment of Haringpakkersbrug (bridge no. 58) on the extension of Prins Hendrikkade. The project is the initiative of a number of private individuals and was taken over in 2005 by Amsterdam Urban Restoration PLC (*StadsHerstel Amsterdam NV*). Amsterdam Urban Restoration buys historically valuable buildings, restores them and maintains them in perpetuity.

Location: The uneven side of Singel canal near Prins Hendrikkade, in the buffer zone, bordering on the property.

Status: The project is in the provisional design phase.

History and decision-making process

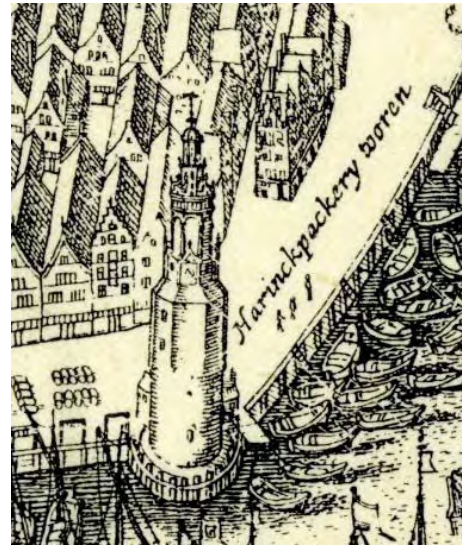
- In August 2005, during a press conference to mark its 50th anniversary, Amsterdam Urban Restoration announced it hoped to build a tower on the site of the Haringpakkerstoren, which was demolished in 1829. Amsterdam Urban Restoration's intention, in constructing the tower, was to restore a city view and, in the process, stimulate improvements to the quality of the surrounding area. The tower is to be used as office space, if possible by the creative industry sector. The street and cellar levels of the surrounding buildings will be given over to a catering facility.
- Amsterdam Urban Restoration will be responsible for the total cost of the project, including the cost of preparing the land for construction and of any necessary inspections.
- The wooden spire will be a reconstruction of the one added to the original medieval tower in the 17th century and is based on an early 19th-century surveyor's drawing. The brick tower base will be an interpretation of the medieval city-defences tower. The surrounding buildings will be of contemporary architectural design.
- Central Amsterdam district has been in consultation with Amsterdam Urban Restoration about this project since before August 2005. On 26 April 2005, the Executive Committee wrote to Amsterdam Urban Restoration saying that the district would in principle cooperate in the necessary procedures, once a request for building permission had been received.
- The City of Amsterdam has assisted in the adoption of a boundary correction (decision City Council and decision District Council 21 December 2005). Before this decision, part of the project location was within the metropolitan area Station Island (*Stationseiland*).
- On 11 July 2006, the Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district approved the project commission, after various investigations had been conducted.



View of the tower in the third quarter of the 17th century



Details from the map by Balthasar Florisz of Berckenrode, 1625



Investigations and recommendations

From December 2005, Central Amsterdam district's official project team started the preparatory investigation into the zoning plan and into the reorganisation of the public area (see source no. H 1). Furthermore, the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM) has provided a response (not requested) to the plan (source no. H 5), and the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology (BMA) has, in consultation with the district, carried out an archaeological investigation of the site. The results are summarised below.

1. The air quality investigation (*luchtkwaliteitonderzoek*) has been completed (IBA, July 2006, actualisation to follow); Result: The tower will not have a significant effect on air quality (see source no. H 2).
2. The High-Rise Impact Report Haringpakkerstoren Amsterdam (*De HoogbouwEffect Rapportage* [HER] *Haringpakkerstoren Amsterdam*; Physical Planning Department, May 2007) was sent for examination by the Advisory Commission of the City of Amsterdam on 5 September 2007. The Report concluded that a tower on the site would add to the cityscape and improve the skyline. A tower would combine well with a number of existing towers (South Church [*Zuiderkerk*], Old Church [*Oudekerk*], New Church [*Nieuwe Kerk*], the church, Posthoornkerk and the domes on the Royal Palace [*Paleis op de Dam*] and the Sonesta). It will be a new point of reference and will form a striking highlight at the beginning of Prins Hendrikkade. As far as visibility from a distance is concerned, there is certainly no negative effect (see source no. H 3).
3. From 30 November 2005, the Building Aesthetics Agency has been regularly informed about the project through preliminary consultation, and discussions on drawing up aesthetics criteria for an evaluation framework (for reports, see source no. H 4).
4. On 21 July 2006, the Netherlands Department for Conservation (RDMZ) (now the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage ; RACM) delivered unsolicited recommendations concerning the project to Central Amsterdam district's Executive Committee. These include the following:
 - a. A thorough and expert town planning and historic investigation should be instigated;
 - b. The choice should be made for a top-quality contemporary allusion to the original tower and not for a reconstruction which could only partially be realised;
 - c. Bear in mind the imminent application to UNESCO that the ring of canals be included on the World Heritage List.
 See source no. H 5.
5. The Archaeology Department of the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology has conducted a historical location investigation. Based on historical sources, an overview of the anticipated archaeological value has been compiled (31 March 2006). The site's archaeological value has been rated as high. Prior to construction work beginning, archaeological research, in the form

of inventorial field research (*inventariserend veldonderzoek, IVO*) or archaeological digs (*archeologische opgraving AO*), is compulsory.

6. The district's public space department (*sector Openbare Ruimte*) has drafted a proposal for the redevelopment of the site together with an estimate of the cost. The development will follow the guidelines laid down in the Manual for the Redevelopment of the Public Space (*Handboek Inrichting Openbare Ruimte*). The district will invest in the public space with the aim of improving its quality and appeal as a residential area. The public space in this area is badly in need of improvement and is moreover, according to the police responsible for the neighbourhood, viewed locally as unpleasant and unsafe.

Consequences for the UNESCO nomination

The plans are still in the preliminary design phase. The design concerns a new development inspired by the complex made up of the Haringpakkerstoren and adjoining buildings, which were demolished in 1829. The location of the historical complex (which made way for the road that became Prins Hendrikkade) was about 20 metres to the northeast of the proposed construction site. The design of the top part of the tower is based on an 1813 drawing by the architect Abraham van der Hart and will be built by master craftsmen using the best materials. The body of the tower, as far as material and details are concerned, will be a new construction, which will include references to the old tower so as to form a whole (architecturally and visually) with the upper part. The buildings surrounding the tower will be built in a contemporary architectural style which will harmonise with the characteristics of the city centre, and which will be visually distinct from the tower construction although joined by glass roofs.

Bearing in mind the principles and guidelines laid down in the Vienna Charter (2005) and the Operational Guidelines (2005), Chapter II E on integrity and/or authenticity, the following remarks can be made regarding the design.



The present situation

Authenticity

Article 7 of the Vienna Charter defines the historic urban landscape as follows: 'ensembles of any group of buildings, structures and open spaces, in their natural and ecological context, including archaeological and palaeontology sites, constituting human settlements in an urban environment over a relevant period of time, the cohesion and value of which are recognized from the archaeological, architectural, prehistoric, historic, scientific, aesthetic, social-cultural or ecological point of view'.

Article 21 of the Charter's guidelines for conservation management states: 'Taking into account the basic definition (according to Article 7 of this Charter), urban planning, contemporary architecture and preservation of the historic urban landscape should avoid all forms of pseudo-historical design...'

Paragraph 86 of the Operational Guidelines states, in relation to authenticity, that: 'the reconstruction of archaeological remains or historic buildings or districts is justifiable only in exceptional circumstances. Reconstruction is acceptable only on the basis of complete and detailed documentation and to no extent on conjecture'.

A strict interpretation of the texts would draw the conclusion that the design fails to comply with the principles of the guidelines concerning authenticity. The design concerns an architectural ensemble which will partly be constructed in contemporary style (surrounding buildings), and partly, in (reproduction) historical style (the body of the tower). To the untutored eye the latter will appear to be an old historical tower, the more so because the upper part will be a reconstruction based on detailed historical information. The exceptional circumstances, whereby reconstruction is allowed under Paragraph 86 of the Operational guidelines, are not present.

The following remarks, however, can be made. In the UNESCO documents, the idea of authenticity is firstly connected to cultural heritage in a material sense and is primarily object related. This refers to the conservation of historical buildings and structures, to the authenticity of the material elements of the area and the relation between these elements in their physical, cultural, urban and rural context. Traditional ideas about authenticity, which led built heritage conservation theory and practice in the last century, have recently become really dynamic.⁷ This issue is also under discussion within UNESCO. The alternative interpretations of the meaning of 'authenticity' arise out of intangible considerations relating to notions of a political, cultural-historical (religion, folk culture), spiritual and commemorative nature. From the standpoint of a wider interpretation of the meaning of authenticity, a development plan such as this is justified. Amsterdam Urban Renovation PLC, in the light of its aims (see source no. H6), intends that the tower should function as a landmark, as a reminder of and a delineation to the border of the medieval city and the 17th-century ring of canals. The design of and material used in the tower should, in the spirit of the protected historical cityscape, contribute to the visualisation of these ideas.

Integrity

There are no buildings on the site of the tower development; it has mainly been used by vehicles from the 20th century. Because the proposed development does not satisfy the quality demands of the Manual for the Redevelopment of the Public Space and because the area is in need of improvement, the quality of the public space is important in regard to the project.

In 2007, a radar survey of the construction site was carried out. This showed the existence in various places of solid remains. These are probably from stone scaffolding, rubble from the demolition of the Haringpikkerstoren, an embankment or part of the city walls. These remains are below the construction level of the proposed development.

Conclusion: considering that the quality of the location in terms of urban development has changed through the years, it can hardly be said that the urban fabric or the integrity of the location will be damaged.

⁷ For background information on the development of the idea of 'authenticity', see: Koos Bosma, *Het post-Belvederetijdperk: cultuurhistorisch beleid verankerd in de ruimtelijke ordening en in de ontwerpogave*, The Hague: Atelier Rijksbouwmeester, 2008.



Visualisation of the plan in the location

Visual Impact

The construction site is in the buffer zone, just beyond the boundary of the property. The tower will be 45.60 metres high and has a 300-square-metre 'footprint', which includes the adjoining buildings. These buildings will be able to be seen from the direct vicinity of the tower and from a small section of the property. As a vertical feature, the tower will itself be visible from a greater distance.

From the property, the tower is mainly to be seen from Singel canal; from the even-side of Singel canal roughly as far as Berg Street. The tower's visibility from Singel canal can be compared to that of the 55-metre-high Wagon Lits office building (Bentham Crouwel, 1991-1992) on Western Station Island (*Westelijk Stationseiland*). The view of these office buildings will actually be partially blocked by the new tower. The border of the property lies on the north side of Droogbak. The tower will be more or less visible from here as far as the intersection of Droogbak and Buiten Wieringer Street. It will not be visible from other public streets in the property.

The conclusion is that there is major visual impact on the cityscape in the property and in the buffer zone.

Progress so far

- There is a detailed provisional design for the tower (including installations). The Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency has, through the framework of preliminary talks, provided recommendations on this since 30 November 2005. The last recommendations were dated 21 May 2008; the comments/objections at present are mainly to do with (technical) details. With regards to architectural and urban planning issues, it has been noted that the quality of the plan has improved.
- As yet no building permit has been applied for.
- There have been discussions between Central Amsterdam district and Amsterdam Urban Restoration concerning the design and the requirements laid down in UNESCO's Vienna Charter about the relationship to historical urban landscapes. There have also been talks with the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology (August-October 2008).

- This has led to Amsterdam Urban Restoration drawing up a 'defence' of the development plan (24 October 2008).
- The zoning plan has to be revised for the building plan. The hope is that a zoning plan (including appendices) and draft building aesthetics criteria will be decided upon by the district council at the same time.

Sources

1. Haringpakkerstoren project commission, adopted by Central Amsterdam district's Executive Committee, 11 July 2006.
2. Haringpakkerstoren air quality investigation, IBA, July 2006.
3. Haringpakkerstoren: High-Rise Impact Report, DRO, May 2007.
4. Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency records, November 2005 to the present day.
5. Recommendations from the Netherlands Department for Conservation (RDMZ), 21 July 2006.
6. 'Defence' Amsterdam Urban Restoration, 24 October 2008.

Key issue I 1: Prinsengracht Hospital

Description of project: The Prinsengracht hospital is part of the Onze Lieve Vrouwen Gasthuis (OLVG), Amsterdam's major medical centre, and is situated on the Prinsengracht. OLVG has plans to remodel the hospital and has commissioned architectural firm Henket & Partners to prepare a conceptual development plan. This conceptual development plan is based on the idea of restructuring the national built heritage into a hospital with diverse functions, for example a pharmacy, restaurant facilities and housing. Under this plan, Prinsengracht 769 (a building dating from the 1950s), would be demolished and replaced with new buildings. Demolition is also proposed for the building extensions within the enclosure. Because of the proposed increase in volume, the zoning plan will have to be revised.

As is usual for large projects, the District will shortly compose architectural boundary conditions for urban development including a historical paragraph and benefit criteria. The *Outstanding Universal Values* will hereby be taken into consideration as well.

Location: Prinsengracht 751-769; Kerkstraat 122, 124, 126, located within *the property*.

Status: Private initiative (OLVG), in planning stage



View Kerkstraat



View Prinsengracht

History and Managerial Decision

No decision has so far been made.



Aerial photograph of the current site

References

- 1.1 Conceptual development plan Prinsengracht hospital by the firm of Henket & Partners
(Not included, not yet finalised)

Key issue I 2: Former Main Branch Public Library

Description of project: The project pertains to a development plan by Aedes Real Estate concerning the internal remodelling and elevation, including a new façade of a hotel (Pollux Gallery Hotel).

Architectural firm Kentie (with the assistance of Marcel Wanders). A centre for creative enterprise is proposed on the side of the Keizersgracht. The façade on the Keizersgracht will not be altered.

Location: Prinsengracht 587(the 70's) and Keizersgracht 440 (= national built heritage), located within *the* property.

Status: Private initiative (Aedes Real Estate), in planning stage

History and Managerial Decision

A building request has been submitted for July 1 2008. As a consequence of this request the District of Central Amsterdam will formulate supplemental benefit criteria, among others regarding the partitioning of the façade. To enable a different utilization of the premises (as hotel with a gallery and other creative endeavours) it is necessary to start with a release procedure from the zoning plan (article 19 WRO).

On August 8 2008 the Heemschut Society has submitted a request to designate Prinsengracht 587 as municipal built heritage. The designation procedure has been set in motion. Other managerial decisions have not been initiated.



Current situation

References

- I 2 1. Building request dated June 30 2008 (façade design not final, therefore not included);
- I 2 2. Built heritage request of the Heemschut Society dated August 8 2008.

Key issue I 3: Vijzelstraat 66-80

Description of project: The property on Vijzelstraat 66-80 is an office building which has been used as bank building for years. It consists of a plinth area and five storeys with a gross surface area of 24,000 m². The basement has three building layers with a total surface area of 15,000 m². Two basement layers are used for parking; the uppermost basement layer is used for storage. One part of the property has been let to ABN AMRO (the former owner of the building) through 2008. The remaining portion is temporarily in use as gallery space, for art expressions and as creative 'hotspot'. By order of developer Vesteda and housing corporation Stadgenoot (formerly Het Oosten), this former office building will be remodelled.

Location: Vijzelstraat 66-80, located in *the property*.

Status: Private initiative (Vesteda, Stadgenoot); project is in planning stage

History and Managerial Decision

Until 2008 Vijzelstraat 66-80 had been used as bank office of ABN AMRO. The building is located on the right-of-way of the Noord/Zuidlijn and the so-called 'Rode Loper' (Red Carpet). The Noord/Zuidlijn connects the most important employment areas in the city. The 'Rode Loper' is the corridor along the Noord/Zuidlijn, from Central Station to the Pijp district. Efforts at renovating the street level are aimed at creating an exceptional, beautiful and lasting public space. The Vijzelstraat location means that the site is easily accessible by car, bicycle or public transportation. The objective of Het Oosten and Vesteda is to develop a high-quality building which fits in with the level of ambition of the 'Rode Loper'. For the design the architectural firm of Baumschlager & Eberle have been retained.



The location of the project

Conceptual Statement of Basic Principles and Directional Procedure Built Heritage

The District of Central Amsterdam has composed a Conceptual Statement of Basic Principles regarding Vijzelstraat 66-80, including benefit criteria and a historical analysis. See reference nr I 3 1. The most important principle is that the current building is preserved and that functions will adapt themselves to the building. The proposed functionalities are: 50% housing (12,000 m²), 50% commercial space (12,000 m²) with public functions at ground level and two layers for parking in the basement. The current zoning plan must be adapted to allow for the housing function.

Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) has described the building, by architect M. F. Duintjer from 1969-1973, and found it worth preserving on the basis of architectural, urban design and cultural historical values. The building can be seen as a commemorative symbol of the popular protests against the coming of the colossal bank building in the city centre. These protests led to a cultural revision regarding the management of the city centre, which was eventually resolved with its designation as preserved cityscape. See reference I 3 2.

The municipal monument procedure was started in 2006. The Monument Advisory Committee (Committee IV of the Committee for Welfare and Monuments) has reacted positively on the designation of the building as city monument (reference I 3 3). Vesteda and Het Oosten have submitted opinions (articulated by Bureau M&DM and professor Henket of architectural firm Henket & Partners), in which they question the worthiness of the building as monument and in which they suggest to enter into a covenant regarding the values to be preserved instead of declaring the building a city monument. (Reference I 3 4).

The cultural historical (monumental) value and the benefit criteria, which have been drafted after in depth consultation with BMA, have been included in the Conceptual Statement of Basic Principles. The Statement of Basic Principles will be determined executively in the first quarter of 2009 when, simultaneously, the monument procedure will be completed.



Current situation

Relevant data Executive Decision process:

- Project commission assigned on February 19 2007;
- Information evening January 30 2008;
- Conceptual Statement of Basic Principles Vijzelstraat 66-80 incl. historical analysis and benefit criteria composed (executive resolution follows in 2009);
- On March 4 the executive committee releases the Concept Basic Principles for community input;
- Input conference Conceptual Statement of Basic Principles March 26 2008;
- City's monument procedure has been started and still has to be completed.

Sources

- I 3 1. Conceptual Statement of Basic Principles Vijzelstraat 66-80, input version dated February 25 2008;
- I 3 2. Description of the building, Bureau Monuments & Archaeology May 10 2006;
- I 3 3. Advice Monument Advisory committee dated August 29 2006;
- I 3 4. Viewpoints Vesteda and Het Oosten dated September 20 2006, with reference to opinions of Bureau D&DM and Prof. H. J. Henket of Architectural firm Henket & Partners.

Key Issue I 4: “Five Emperors”

Description of project: The premises on the Keizersgracht 271 through 287 are empty and were used for office space. The project concerns 5 buildings with individual façades. The premises at Keizersgracht 271-275 are designated as city monuments (architect A. J. Westerman, 1955). It was the original office building for the Nederlandse Crediet Maatschappij (NCM). The neighbouring properties were built later as an expansion of NCM over a time span of thirty years.

The total combined floor space is almost 17,000 m² whereby each site has a gross floor space of over 1000 m². A private developer has submitted a development request for Keizersgracht 287 (corner Wolvenstraat) on June 27, 2008 to split off this building and transform it into housing. This plan will not change the building's height nor the layout of the façade, except that an entrance has been added to the façade at the Wolvenstraat. The building at Keizersgracht 287 is not a monument and is indicated on the Map of Protected Cityscapes as “new development from later than 1940”.

The proposal envisions 23 flats varying in size between 90 and 200 m². It is noteworthy that each bedroom (sometimes mention is made of four bedrooms) is provided with a separate shower/bathroom with lavatory. Judging from the size of the flats and their relationship to location, expensive free sector homes are involved here. 23 parking spaces for the residents will be provided in the basement.

An initial request for a top hotel with 120 rooms for all buildings was submitted on July 10, 2008 (policy framework: *Hotel Policy City Centre 2008-2011*, established by the District council May 29, 2008).

Location: Keizersgracht 271-287, located within *the property*.

Status: Private initiative (Van der Schroeff Beheer BV), partitioning request for Keizersgracht 287 and initial request for top hotel for all buildings submitted.

History and Managerial Decision

District drafts a quick scan as framework for possible additional realisations. Plans for Keizersgracht 271-287 are investigated with the existing boards and administrations (such as Protected Cityscape, zoning Western Canal Belt, Car park Ordinances, etc.). Within the executive framework, attention is paid to the UNESCO nomination. The cultural-historical context is also examined. Urban constructive and architectural principles are formulated for the renovation of Keizersgracht 271-287 based on this analysis. The managerial decision-making has not yet begun.



Current situation

Sources:

Not applicable.

Key issue J: Surface and groundwater levels

Introduction

In an old city like Amsterdam with a specific soil composition and hydrological regime, groundwater problems are a given, and there is limited room for manoeuvre in influencing the groundwater level. Nevertheless, the habitation of Amsterdam is an irreversible fact. The land use both above and below ground is increasingly intensive. To keep Amsterdam habitable, groundwater management is focused on dealing with existing problems and preventing new ones from occurring.

Problems with groundwater can arise if the level in relation to the buildings and land use is either too high or too low.

In Amsterdam, water management is contracted out to Waternet by the city council.

Problems caused by high groundwater levels

High groundwater levels can result in problems such as water in crawl spaces, wet cellars and damp ground floor rooms. Most of these problems occur in Amsterdam's 19th century neighbourhoods, often in buildings that are not in the best structural condition. Specific problems occur in what are known as polder sewerage areas (low-lying areas within polders), all of which lie outside the city centre. In public spaces, the principal groundwater problems occur in the older public parks, where the land is not raised. Areas of poorly raised land are also affected, with trees dying prematurely due to the high groundwater level. This occurs chiefly in the suburbs of Amsterdam North, Slotervaart and Watergraafsmeer.

Problems caused by low groundwater levels

If the groundwater level is low for a prolonged period, wooden foundation piles can become dry and begin to rot, potentially resulting in building subsidence. The centre of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal is largely built on wooden piles, which in many older buildings extend only as far as a shallow silty sand layer to a depth of approximately 8 metres below Amsterdam Ordnance Datum (or Normal Amsterdam Water Level). Today, concrete piles are driven into deeper sand layers (the first or second sand layer). To measure building subsidence, a network of 10,000 survey bolts have been mounted in the facades of buildings in the city centre and other areas.

Problems with high and low groundwater levels in the 17th-century canal belt

Problems with high groundwater levels

The drainage depth (the distance between the ground level and the highest water level) in the city centre, which is entirely raised above storage-basin level, is generally quite large (approximately 1.5 metres). With the exception of the Jordaan and Plantagebuurt neighbourhoods (both of which lie within the buffer zone), where the drainage depth is quite small, up to now little or no problems with groundwater have been reported. The impression is that in the city centre, water problems chiefly concern rainwater seeping into non-watertight basements and cellars.

Problems with low groundwater levels

A fall in the groundwater level can result in damage to wooden foundations. According to information from Waternet (source no. 2) there is no conceivable process that could lead to a general lowering of the groundwater level in the canal belt. Due to the presence of the canals, which are a relatively small distance apart and are kept at a stable level, even in periods of prolonged drought, for example, the supply of water to the groundwater system in the canal belt is assured.

The greatest threat to the foundations of the buildings in the 17th-century canal belt is a lowering of the groundwater level as a result of drainage for construction work. Damage may also occur due to the construction of underground structures. This is more likely to produce a high groundwater level, however, where due to the construction of retaining walls, for example, water is unable to drain away. In the past, piezometers were placed along the main sewers to indicate any fall in groundwater level as a result of drainage, and enable the prevention of any damage to wooden foundations.

For the drainage of groundwater for construction work, exemption from the water board statute (*Keur AGV*) is required. For the drainage of deep groundwater, a permit is required from provincial government; under the new Water Act this authority will be transferred to the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board (with Waternet as implementing organisation). The new Water Act was passed by the Lower House of Parliament in 2006, and is expected to come into force in 2009.

Water assessment procedure and basis in law and urban planning

For urban planning (the construction of new buildings and necessary underground structures) the City of Amsterdam operates a water assessment procedure, whereby the same steps are followed as for the Planning and Decision-making Process for Spatial Measures (*Plan- en Besluitvormingsproces Ruimtelijke Maatregelen - Plaberum*). The inclusion of a section on groundwater in plans is compulsory.

In addition, the City of Amsterdam is investigating the possibility to give a firmer legal basis to groundwater-related aspects and criteria currently applied to recommendations on construction plans, alterations and renovations, either by including them in the building regulations and zoning plans or by means of groundwater regulations for Amsterdam. Because of the nomination of the 17th-century canal belt for the UNESCO World Heritage List, the District of Central Amsterdam will handle this as a matter of priority.

Sources:

J.1 Policy Document on Groundwater for Amsterdam 2007-2011 (*Nota Grondwater Amsterdam 2007-2011*), approved by the Municipal Executive on 26 June 2007 and acknowledged by the Council Committee for Spatial Planning, Ground Affairs, Water Management and ICT (*Raadscommissie voor Ruimtelijke Ordening, Grondzaken, Waterbeheer en ICT*) on 26 September 2007.

J.2 Waternet Policy Document of 19 August 2008 on Groundwater management for the 17th-century canal belt in relation to the UNESCO Management Plan.

Key issue K: Scaffolding Wrap Advertisements

Introduction

Since 2003, scaffolding wrap advertisements are only allowed in Amsterdam city centre under strict conditions (see reference K 1). To be able to regulate this form of advertisement, the city centre has entered into a (private law) contract with advertisement firms. The agreements pertain to the appearance of the public space (see reference K 3). With this in mind, article 5 contains stipulations pertaining to the size of the wrap (maximum width 16m) the framework around the advertisement display, the location on the façade where the display is allowed (between ground level and gutter height) and the period during which the advertising campaign may be carried out. Moving images and/or three dimensional objects attached to the advertisements are not allowed and neither is the use of fluorescent colours. Also specified are conditions when investigation by the Committee for Built Heritage (Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten) is deemed necessary. Alcohol advertisement is not permitted. Furthermore, advertisement displays that run contrary to legislation, jurisprudence, and/or the guidelines and insights of the Advertising Code Commission are not permitted. Lighting up the advertisements at night is not permitted.

Specific requirements are included in the agreement for the ring of canals and Dam Square (the Dam). In these locations, only 10% of the scaffolding wrap surface may consist of advertisement displays. The advertisement may only be applied between the 1^o and 2^o storey of the building.

The scaffolding wraps are only permitted during the necessary maintenance activities of a building. Usually, a building does not need painting or other maintenance on a yearly basis. It is therefore not permitted to place a new advertisement on the same building within three years of the completion of maintenance activities.

In the preceding period (2003 – 2008 up to the present), scaffolding wrap advertisements have been placed on 11, 30, 37, 36, 32 and 28 locations respectively. A review of the locations shows that, during this period, one case involved the application of advertisements twice on the same building, to wit Koningsplein 11 (in 2003 and in 2008), but yet conformed to the rule of more than a three-year interval. For a review of the scaffolding wrap advertisements applied during the period 2003-2008, see reference K 4.

The proceeds of the advertisements are divided between the owner of the building around which the scaffolding has been placed, the District of Central Amsterdam and the advertisement firm. The idea is that in this way owners are motivated to spruce up their buildings, and that the District receives extra income to improve the quality of the centre city.



Rokin

History and managerial policy

Experiment

On July 8, 2003, the executive committee decided to conduct an experiment with scaffolding wrap advertisements (see reference K 2). Initially, the experiment ran from summer 2003 until January 1, 2004, but was later extended until January 2005. On November 25, 2004 the District council decided to make scaffolding wrap advertisements a structural part of the advertisement policy.

The results of the trial period have been evaluated (see reference K 4). Based on this evaluation the executive committee did not see a reason to adjust the policy at that time. However, promises were made to involve scaffolding wrap advertisement policy in the negotiations within the framework of the Programakkoord 2006-2010.

Discussion

From the beginning of the experiment there has been discussion over the tense relationship between the restrictive advertisement policies on the one hand and scaffolding wrap advertisements on the other. In this discussion, interested parties such as the Advertising in Public Space Workgroup (Werkgroep Buitenreclame) of the community centre d'Oude Stadt have argued that scaffolding wrap advertisements dominate the cityscape too much. Some more detail is needed here. In relationship to the protected cityscape the restrictive advertisement policy is specifically aimed at advertisement displays which are *permanent* and/or attached as an *extra component* to or on a façade. Scaffolding wrap advertisements are a temporary form of advertisement (maximum 9 weeks). Furthermore, as stated before, scaffolding wrap advertisements on the canals are very restricted. As a consequence, scaffolding wrap advertisements have never been used on the canals.

As a final point, within the framework of construction regulations (Arbo regulations) scaffolding wraps are mandatory. These scaffolding wraps are often dangling or fluttering shoddily alongside. Because of their meticulous and taut fastening, the scaffolding wrap advertisements are usually an improvement.

Objections of the Advertising in Public Space Workgroup (Werkgroep Buitenreclame) of community centre d'Oude Stadt

In relation to the UNESCO nomination, the Advertising in Public Space Workgroup of community centre d'Oude Stadt has again made its objections known to the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology. The group emphasised that scaffolding wrap advertisements, the introduction of large video screens, and other huge advertisements are purely commercial projects, an unprecedented expansion of commercial activity in the public space of the historical city centre. The group requested – also because of the UNESCO nomination – to put an end to the scaffolding wrap advertisements policy (see reference K 10).

In answer to the letter from the group (see reference K 11), the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology has pointed out that the District of Central Amsterdam will prepare a new Policy Statement regarding Façade Advertisement Regulations, which will include stricter rules for the replacement of advertisements either when the property is converted to another function or when it changes hands to a new owner. The objective is to better reconcile façade advertisement with the protected cityscape. Within a period of three to five years all advertisement displays have to comply with the new policy. The tempering of scaffolding wrap advertisements is appropriate within the framework of developing the entire façade advertisement policy for the District.

Tempering scaffolding wrap advertisement in Programakkoord 2006-2010

The executive committee of the District of Central Amsterdam attaches great importance to measures which improve the urban environment. In the Programakkoord 2006-2010 it is agreed that scaffolding wrap advertisements will be tempered in order that this temporary form of advertisement is less prominent in the street scene. For this reason the implementation of the Programakkoord requires, as well, that a tempered scaffolding wrap advertisement policy be determined in 2008 (see references K 5 and 6). To that end, the executive committee has submitted a temperance proposal to the advisory committee three times (November 14 2006, April 3 2007 and January 10 2008. For specifications see also reference K 9). This has not resulted in a consensus between council factions (see references K 7 and 8).

In the near future, the executive committee will again submit a temperance proposal and thereby take into consideration the UNESCO-nomination. This temperance proposal is based on a robust reduction of available surface for this type of temporary advertisement display. Furthermore, the intent is not to permit scaffolding wrap advertisements on the canals. A proposal will be drawn up more narrowly for corner properties in shopping streets which border on canals (like the Leidsestraat). The intent is not to allow advertisements on the side of canals. Also, use will be made of fixed rates per m2 rather than the current complicated system which includes passing on the media value. Fixed rates also have the advantage that they are transparent and easier to control. The executive committee aims to implement the temperance policy in the first quarter of 2009.



Corner of the Marnixstraat and the Rozengracht

Consequences for the UNESCO nomination

By means of the above mentioned temperance policy, the *visual impact* of scaffolding wrap advertisement will be severely limited beyond but especially within the *property*.

Sources

- K 1. Guidelines Façade advertisement (2004)
- K 2. Ordinance executive committee District of Central Amsterdam dated July 8 2003 regarding Scaffolding wrap advertisement
- K 3. Agreement Scaffolding wrap advertisement (2005)
- K 4. Evaluation Scaffolding wrap advertisement policy, included in the Evaluation Buildings Aesthetics Statement District of Central Amsterdam 2004 (decision District council January 26 2006-18)
- K 5. Paragraph Programakkoord 2006-2010 regarding temperance policy of Scaffolding wrap advertisement
- K 6. Paragraph Measurable Programakkoord 2006-2010 regarding temperance policy of Scaffolding wrap advertisement
- K 7. Proposal initiative SP dated June 19 2006
- K 8. Proposal initiative PvdA and GroenLinks dated June 28 2007

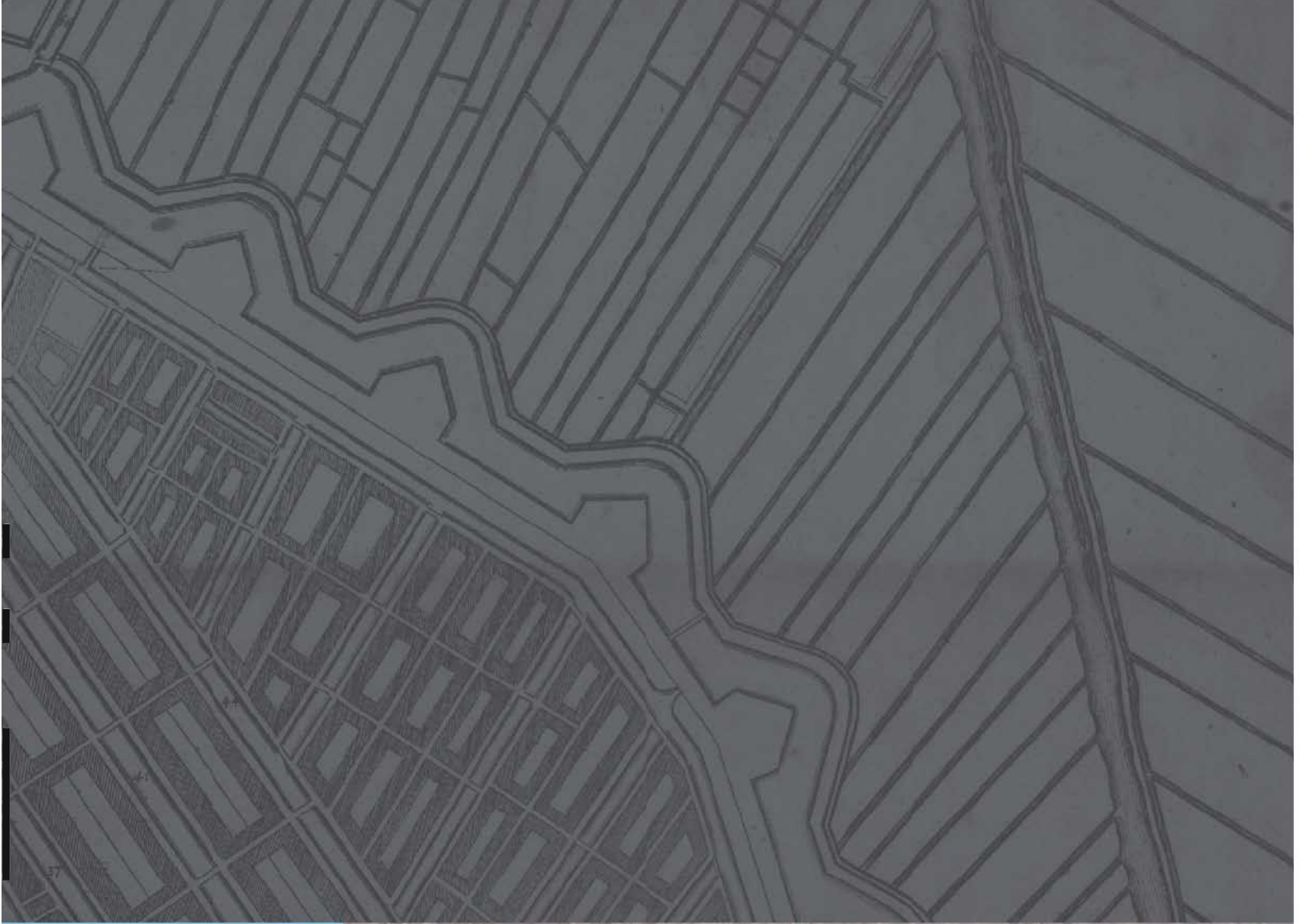
- K 9. Temperance proposals by the executive committee District of Central Amsterdam dated November 14 2006, April 3 2007, and January 10 2008
- K 10. Letter to Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology from Werkgroep Buitenreclame of community centre d' Oude dated July 16 2008
- K 11. Letter to Werkgroep Buitenreclame of community centre d'Oude Stadt from Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology dated September 10 2008

Kingdom of the Netherlands - 2009

The seventeenth-century canal ring area of **Amsterdam** within the Singelgracht

BACKGROUND TOPICS





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MAPS OF AMSTERDAM [AMSTERDAM IN KAART](#)

MAPS OF AMSTERDAM

Street maps, aerial perspective maps, maps and cityscapes of Amsterdam

Amsterdam's Municipal Archives have a major collection of maps of Amsterdam. Most of the collection consists of street maps.

It has been estimated that between 18,000 and 20,000 map sheets of Amsterdam were produced after 1544 (Marc Hameleers, *Kaarten van Amsterdam 1866/2000*). Around 400 prints were published between 1538 and 1750. They are an immensely important source of information about the geography and topography of the historical city of Amsterdam. Cartographers would often illustrate the margins of their maps with views of the city. The city might be shown from an aerial perspective, as a cityscape or as a panorama.

Cartographers and globemakers

After the Fall of Antwerp (1585), Amsterdam became a world centre of map-making in terms of both quality and quantity. Dozens of cartographers and map publishers worked there (e.g. Balthazar Floriszoon van Berckenrode (c. 1591/92-1646), surveyor, artist, draughtsman and cartographer, Willem Jansz. Blaeu (1571-1638) and his son Joan Blaeu I (1638-1673) and Joan Blaeu II (1673-1705).

Joan Blaeu published *Het toonneel der Steden van de Vereenighde Nederlanden, met hare beschrijvingen* (Amsterdam, 1649) (www.uba.uva.nl/maps_and_atlases_image_database; www.cultuurwijzer.nl/asp/page.asp?alias). Between 1662 and 1672, he also published the *Atlas Maior, de Grooten Atlas, Oft Werelt beschrijving, In Welcke 't aertrijck, De Zee, En Hemel Wordt Vertoont En Beschreven* in Dutch (nine volumes), Latin (11 volumes), French, German and Spanish (10 volumes).

Cartographers working in Amsterdam also produced pioneering manuscript maps (drawn on both paper and parchment), which were used on ships travelling around the globe and graced the walls of merchant and shipping offices. Around 1600, the city was also the worldwide centre of the terrestrial and celestial globe-making industry (Blaeu; Jodocus Hondius, 1563-1612).

It was Petrus Plancius (1552-1622), a clergyman from the southern Netherlands and the founder of the science of geography in the northern Netherlands, who was largely responsible for getting the production of charts for shipping off the ground, a task to which he devoted himself from 1585 until his death in 1622. He published a world map in 1592. He prepared studies for ships travelling to India to study the fluctuation of the magnetic needle and the southern night sky. These discoveries allowed cartographer Jodocus Hondius to produce new celestial globes. Blaeu also conducted studies so as to perfect his globes.

The first thematic maps appeared in the nineteenth century. Publisher Johan Christiaan Loman Jr. published the detailed *Gemeenteatlas van Amsterdam* (Municipal Atlas of Amsterdam) in 1876, which numbered 101 sheets.

From the middle of the nineteenth century, publishers and the City worked steadily on producing large and medium-scale maps (1:2500 to 1:4675). Today, for example, Amsterdam has the Large-Scale Standard Map (*Grootschalige Basiskaart*), a detailed digital topographical map produced by the Geographical and Real Estate Information Department (*Dienst Geo en Vastgoedinformatie*).

From the nineteenth century on, the city has had an unbroken tradition of map-making, from the Public Works Department (*Dienst der Publieke Werken*) until today's Geographical and Real Estate Information Department. The street map has changed from what was initially a representative depiction of the city to actual printed maps.

In the twentieth century, street maps were largely reduced to foldable maps that allow those using them to determine where they are.

Publications covering the historical maps of Amsterdam (listed chronologically by year of publication)

- ⌘ A.E. d'Ailly, *Catalogus van Amsterdamsche plattegronden*. Amsterdam, 1934
- ⌘ I.H. van Eeghen, 'Illustraties van de 17de-eeuwse beschrijvingen en plaatwerken van Amsterdam'. *Jaarboek Amstelodamum*, 66 (1974)
- ⌘ B. Bakker, *Amsterdam getekend: tekeningen en aquarellen uit vier eeuwen in de historisch-topografische atlas van het Gemeentearchief*. The Hague, 1978
- ⌘ *Amsterdam in kaarten. Verandering van de stad in vier eeuwen cartografie*. Ede, Antwerp, 1987
- ⌘ W.F. Heinemeyer, M. Wagenaar et al., *Amsterdam in kaarten: verandering van de stad in vier eeuwen cartografie*. Ede, Antwerp, 1987
- ⌘ Marc Hameleers, *Kaarten van Amsterdam 1866-2000*. Amsterdam, Bussum, 2002
- ⌘ Boudewijn Baker, Erik Schmitz et al., *Het aanzien van Amsterdam. Panorama's, plattegronden en profielen uit de Gouden Eeuw*. Bussum/Amsterdam, 2007

A.E. d'Ailly published *Catalogus van Amsterdamsche plattegronden* in 1934, followed in 1953 by *Repertorium van de profielen der stad Amsterdam en van de plattegronden der schutterswijken*.

Below is a list of important maps, street maps, cityscapes and paintings of the city, organised by century.

Sixteenth century

- ⌘ 1538
Cornelis Anthonisz. (c. 1499-c. 1556), *Amstelredam* (Panel, dated, signed, 116x159 cm, approx. 1:1500) (Amsterdam Historical Museum) (commissioned by municipal government, painted aerial/geometrical perspective, intended for Holy Roman Emperor Charles V). The first street map of Amsterdam of documentary value.
- ⌘ 1544 (010094007921. Copyright Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*)
Cornelis Anthonisz. (c. 1499-c. 1556), *De vermaerde koopstadt van Amstelredam, geconterfeyt met alle sijn Wateren.....* (Woodcut in 12 blocks, hand-coloured, 107.5x109cm, approx. 1:1700). (Royal Antiquarian Society, Amsterdam) (Map shows 3147 houses) (It was published five times)
- ⌘ undated (c. 1556/61)
Antoon van den Wyngaerde (active around 1550-1571), 'Amsterdam in vogelvlucht vanuit het noorden' (Pen drawing; 44x117cm). (Amsterdam Municipal Archives)
- ⌘ c. 1560
Jacob Roelofsz. van Deventer (c. 1505-1575), *Aemsterdam* (Manuscript drawing, 43x35cm, approx. 1: 8000) (North-Holland Archives (Haarlem)). (The 'original' of the second copy, the 'cartoon', now in Madrid) (Originally a military map)
- ⌘ 1572
'Amstelredamum, nobile Inferioris Germaniae oppidum ad recipiendos ex omnibus mundi partibus'. *Civitates Orbis Terrarum* (G. Braun, Frans Hogenberg (before 1540-after 1590), Antwerp/Coloniae, 1572, 1618) (Etching, 34x48.5cm)

- ⌘ 1575
Joost-Janszn. Beeldsnijder/Bilhamer (c.1521-1590), *Caerte Van Noorthollant* (Engraving, 91x69cm) (republished in 1608)
- ⌘ 1582
'Amstelredamum'. Louis Guicciardini (1521-1589), *Description de tous les Pais-Bas*. Plantin, Antwerp, 1582 (Woodcut, 23x32cm)
- ⌘ 1597
Pieter Bast (1575(?)-1605), *Amstelodamum Urbs Hollandiae Primaria Emporium Totius Europae Celeberrimum* (Copperplate engraving, four plates, 93x82cm) (Amsterdam Municipal Archives) (Map revised several times) (Illustrates the situation after the *Second Expansion* of 1592/96, with Rapenburg, Uilenburg, Marken/Valckenburg and Vlooienburg; the Singel Canal shown as the city's main canal). Bast was a surveyor, cartographer and print-maker.

Seventeenth century

- ⌘ 1604
'Gezicht op het IJ en Amsterdam met Oost-Indiëvaarders', unknown artist (Oil, 66x186cm) (Old Church, Amsterdam)
- ⌘ 1606
'Gezicht ('cityscape') op Amsterdam aan het IJ'. Published by Willem Jansz. Blaeu (1571-1638); engraving by Johannes Rem (1567-1620); engraving, 39x214.5cm, four sheets) (Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam)
- ⌘ 1611
Claes Jansz. Visscher (1587-1652), 'Stadsprofiel vanaf het IJ' (Etching, 26x112cm, four sheets). (Adapted from an earlier plate by Pieter Bast)
- ⌘ 1611
Hendrick Jacobz. Staets (1558-1631), map with fortifications plan (In: J.I. Pontanus, *Rerum et urbis Amstelodamensium historia.....*, Amsterdam, 1611 (Historical-Topographical Atlas, Amsterdam Municipal Archives)
- ⌘ 1611
Amstelodami Emporium. In: *Rerum et urbis Amstelodamensium historia*, Pontanus, published by Jud. Hondius (1563-1612) (Etching, 27.5x38.5cm)
- ⌘ 1612 010094008032 (Copyright Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*))
Amsteldam ten vijffde mael vergroot soo veel als sich verthoont westwaerts buyten de Heeregraft, Anno 1612 (Copperplate engraving, 24.5x28.5cm, approx. 1: 14000). (Published by Nicolaas Visscher (1618-1679) in Amsterdam, most likely c. 1660)
- ⌘ 1613
Christoffel van Hartoghvelt, 'Amsterdam omtrent 't jaer 1220'. (Engraving) (In: *Handvesten.....*, 1613 (Historical-Topographical Atlas, Amsterdam Municipal Archives)
- ⌘ 1613
Hendrick Jacobz. Staets (1558-1631), second version of 'Kaart met fortificatieplan' (In: *Handvesten.....*, 1613 (Historical-Topographical Atlas, Amsterdam Municipal Archives)
- ⌘ 1614
Hendrick Jacobz. Staets (1558-1631), final version of the fortifications plan (In: J.I. Pontanus, *Rerum et urbis Amstelodamensium historia.....*, Amsterdam, 1614 (Historical-Topographical Atlas, Amsterdam Municipal Archives)
- ⌘ 1614/18 010097017213 (Copyright Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*))
Pieter van der Keere (Petrus Kaerius, c. 1591-1646), cityscape (*Amstelodami Emporii Totius Orbis Celeberrimi Hollandiaeque Urbis Primariae.....*) (Etching, 57.5x263cm) (Amsterdam Municipal Archives) (This also shows the *Third Expansion* of Amsterdam)

- ⌘ c. 1620
Giovanni Femini, Giorgio Salmisio, 'Profiel van Amsterdam, vanaf het IJ'. (Engraving, made in Venice) (Netherlands Maritime Museum, Amsterdam)
- ⌘ 1623
Dirck Cornelisz. Swart, *Amstelredam* (Etching, 44.5x57.1cm) (Amsterdam Municipal Archives) (the dotted line indicates the line of defences from after 1658)
- ⌘ c. 1625
Claes Jansz. Visscher (Nicolaes Visscher, 'Piscator') (c. 1550-c. 1612), *Amstelodamum Celebre Emporium Forma Plana* (Etching, engraving, 46.6x56.2cm) (Historical-Topographical Atlas, Amsterdam Municipal Archives)
- ⌘ 1625
Balthasar Florisz. van Berckenrode (1591/2-1643/45), Amstelredamum emporium Hollandiae primaria totiusq Europae celeberrimum. (Aerial perspective map, etching and copperplate engraving, nine sheets, scale 1:approx. 1920; 140x160cm). (Amsterdam Municipal Archives). (This map shows the first part of the construction of the canal belt, the Third Expansion (1610) up to Leidsegracht. Reprinted in amended form in 1647, 1657; Latin texts and allegorical decoration, assisted by humanist Petrus Scriverius). Van Berckenrode was a surveyor, map draughtsman, engraver
- ⌘ undated (c. 1652)
Jan Christiaensz. Micker (1598-1664) aerial perspective (freehand copy on canvas, 100x137cm based on aerial perspective painted by Cornelis Anthonisz. in 1538 or his woodcut of 1544) (Amsterdam Historical Museum)
- ⌘ c. 1657/60
Joan Bleau (1638-1673), *Amstelodami Celeberrimi Hollandiae Emporii Delineatio Nova* (Etching, engraving, 42.5x53.9cm) (Amsterdam Municipal Archives)
- ⌘ 1661
Platte gront van d'oude en nieuwe royinge der stadt Amsterdam waer van d'oude en volboude royinge in 't bruin, en de nieuwe in 't bleek is gearseert, de nieuwe roying begint daer d'oude walle met gestipte linien worden aangewezen. Getekent en op papier gebrocht door Daniel Stalpaert, Stadts Architect (Etching, 50x70cm) (Amsterdam Municipal Archives)
- ⌘ 1662
Daniël Stalpaert (1615-1676), *Amstelodami Veteris en Novissimae Urbis Accuratissima Delineatio* (Copperplate engraving, 49.1x58cm, approx. 1:8000) (Amsterdam Municipal Archives) (showing the Fourth Expansion, 1662)
- ⌘ 1662
Daniël Stalpaert (1615-1676), *Veteris Novaeque Urbis Amstelodamensis Ichnographia* (Engraving, 137x161cm, nine sheets; street plan with *Fourth Expansion*) (Historical-Topographical Atlas, Amsterdam Municipal Archives). (This map shows the as-yet unbuilt area of the Fourth Expansion)
- ⌘ 1663
Olfert Dapper (1636-1689), *Historische beschryving der Stadt.....* (including the map 'Nette Aftekening van d'Oude en Nieuwe Roojningh der Stadt Amsterdam', the urban expansion after 1660)
- ⌘ c. 1665 010035000047 (copyright Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*))
Daniël Stalpaert (1615-1676), *Plattegront van de Oude en Nieuwe Royinge der Steede Amsterdam waer van d'oude en volboude royinge in 't bruin, en de nieuwe in 't bleek is gearseert, de nieuwe roying begint daer d'oude walle met gestipte linien worden aangewezen* (Etching, pen, 50.6x70.8cm) (Amsterdam Municipal Archives) (Shows demarcation of as-yet empty plots; red indicates where land has been raised and green where it had already been raised)
- ⌘ c. 1670

- Pier Maria Baldi, 'Gezicht op Amsterdam vanaf het IJ'. (Pen, brush, 62x320cm) (Bibliotheca Medicea Laurenziana, Florence) (Commissioned by Cosimo de Medici to commemorate his lengthy stays in Amsterdam, 1667/68)
- ⌘ c. 1671/74
Lambert Doomer (1622/23-1700), 'Gezicht op Amsterdam van over het IJ' (Chalk, pen, brush, 21.7x80.8cm) (Amsterdam Municipal Archives)
 - ⌘ 1673010035000048(copyright Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*))
Nicolaes van der Heyden, *Amstelodami Veteris en Novissimae Urbis Accuratissima Delineatio* (Etching, engraving, coloured, 51.2x58cm) (Amsterdam Municipal Archives) (Shows plan for constructing the defence works, in the winter of 1672/73. The neighbourhoods and their regiments are shown in colour)
 - ⌘ 1675/1680
Romeyn de Hooghe (1645-1708), 'Plattegrond van Amsterdam' (Etching, 46.3x55.7cm) (Amsterdam Municipal Archives) (Shows the development/buildings of the Fourth Expansion)
 - ⌘ 1676
Johannes Leupenius (1643-1693), aerial perspective (Amsterdam Municipal Archives)
 - ⌘ 1681 010095000075) (copyright Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*))
Jacob Bosch (c. 1660-1705), 'Deelontwerp voor een plattegrond van Amsterdam' (Pen, brush, 44.9x55.1cm, 53x35cm) (Map shows how far along the *Fourth Expansion* was in 1681)
 - ⌘ 1682
Jacob Bosch (c. 1660-1705) (municipal engineer, surveyor), *Caarte waar in vertoont werd de platte grond van de Nieuwe Plantage, tussen de Heeregragt en de Muider Poort zoo als de zelve by den Ed. Achtbaren Raad der Stad Amsterdam is gearresteert, den 16 Januarius A°1682*. (Engraving, 33.9x40.3cm, 1:4400) (Part of the City Fathers' Decree of 1682 concerning the design of the Plantage area. The map also shows a sketch for the planting along the main avenues). (Amsterdam Municipal Archives)
 - ⌘ 1682010035000166(copyright Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*))
Johannes Kip (1653-1722), *Nieuwe Afbeeldinge der Stadt Amsteldam met de nieuwe Plantagien* (Etching, 47.5x58.5cm) (Amsterdam Municipal Archives) (Shows the gardens in the Plantage area planned by the City)
 - ⌘ c. 1685
Justus Danckerts (1635-1701), 'Profiel van Amsterdam' (*Amstelodamum Totius Europae Emporium Celeberrimum Hollandiaequae Primaria Urb Delineata*) (Engraving, woodcut, 64x224cm) (Amsterdam Municipal Archives)
 - ⌘ final quarter of seventeenth century
Jacobus de la Fueille (1668-1719), *Amstelodami veteris et novissimi delineatio* (coloured, 52.5x99.5cm). Published by Gerard van Keulen in Amsterdam ('Prins Hendrik' Maritime Museum, Rotterdam)
 - ⌘ c. 1685-1690
Pieter van den Berge/Justus Danckerts (1635-1701), 'Profiel van Amsterdam' (Coloured, etching/engraving, 79.6x107cm) (Amsterdam Municipal Archives)
 - ⌘ c. 1700
Carel Allard (1648-1709), 'Plattegrond en profiel van Amsterdam' (Etching/engraving, 49.3x58cm) (Amsterdam Municipal Archives)
 - ⌘ c. 1700
Jacobus de la Feuille (1668-1719), *Amstelodami Veteris et Novissimi Delineatio....* (Copperplate engraving, 52.5x99.5cm, approx. 1:9000). ('Prins Hendrik' Maritime Museum, Rotterdam)

- ⌘ 1700
Pieter van den Berge (c. 1660-1737), 'Profiel van Amsterdam' with the ship 'Peter en Paul' and Tsar Peter the Great on the IJ (Engraving, 50.5x81cm) (Amsterdam Municipal Archives) (The 'Peter en Paul' was built in honour of Peter the Great's visit to Amsterdam in 1697. The Tsar helped build the ship)

'Lot issue plans' (Uitgiftekaarten)

Lot issue plans indicating the allocation of lots during the various municipal expansion programmes, both hand-drawn (especially the First to the Third Expansion) and printed (after 1663 and concerning the Fourth Expansion), scale usually between 1:500 and 1:1000, a total of 52).

Those that have survived (total of 144 from between 1586-1769, 318 in all consisting of updated versions and duplicates) are related mainly to the Third and Fourth Expansion.

Almost all of the 'lot issue plans' for the Fourth Expansion have survived (Historical-Topographical Atlas, Amsterdam Municipal Archives; Royal Antiquarian Society, Amsterdam; Bodel-Nijenhuis Collection, Leiden University Library, Leiden, 18 items).

The blocks sketched in on the maps are labelled 'park'. Each block bears a letter and each lot within the block a number.

In addition to the 'lot issue plans', there are large-scale maps from the late sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries showing the existing situation and how the lots of land may be issued. They therefore constitute spatial planning maps *avant la lettre*.

Eighteenth century

- ⌘ 1708
Novissima Amstelodami Tabula (Engraving, hand coloured, 47x58cm, 1:8000). Published by Pieter Mortier (1661-1711), Amsterdam. Originally published in the late seventeenth century by Jochum Bormeester
- ⌘ 1724
Gerred de Broen (1700-1774), *Amsterdam* (Etching, engraving, 95.1x115.8cm) (Amsterdam Municipal Archives) (revised five times, most recently between 1788 and 1794)
- ⌘ c. 1730
Gerred de Broen (1700-1774), street plan, showing the 15 'parks' of the Plantage
- ⌘ c. 1730
Andries and Hendrik de Leth (1703-1766), 'Profiel van Amsterdam vanaf de IJ-zijde' (Etching, 62.5x97cm) (Amsterdam Municipal Archives)
- ⌘ 1730
Reinier (1698-1750) and Josua Ottens (1704-1765), *Amstelaedami emporii totius Europae celeberrimi nova et accuratissima delineatio.....*(Engraving, 47.5x57cm) (Amsterdam Municipal Archives) (Map shows the 60 districts of the city as they existed then).
- ⌘ c. 1730
Hendrik de Leth (1703-1766), *Plan très exact de la fameuse ville marchande d'Amsterdam* (Etching, engraving, hand coloured, 56.5x87cm) (Royal Antiquarian Society, Amsterdam Municipal Archives)
- ⌘ c. 1750
J. Covens (1697-1774) and Son, *Nieuwe Kaart van de Wydberoemde Koopstat Amsteldam*. (National Archives in Noord-Holland) (Map shows a portion of Noord-Holland with Amsterdam).
- ⌘ 1759 B 00000001997 (copyright Amsterdam Municipal Archives (*Stadsarchief Amsterdam*))
Anthonij Grave (died 1764), *Amstelaedami Novissima Delineatio per Petrum Schenk* (Etching, pen, 40.9x102.1cm) (Amsterdam Municipal Archives) (Shows a plan for freshening the water in the canals, including by building four watermills)
- ⌘ 1760

- Isaak Tirion (1705-1765), *Amsterdams Oudste Staat en byzondere Vergrootingen door Zevenderlei Stippen en Streepen afgebeeld* (Engraving, 28x39.5cm)
- ⌘ 1766
Caspar Philips Jacobsz. (1732-1789), *Amsterdam* (Engraving, hand coloured, 43.5x64cm). (Amsterdam Municipal Archives) (Printed several times, each print serving as a thematic map)
 - ⌘ 1768/71
Caspar Philips Jacobsz. (1732-1789), *Verzaameling van alle de huizen en prachtige gebouwen langs de Keizers en Heere-grachten der Stadt Amsteldam.....*, (Republished by Minerva, Amsterdam, 1967)
 - ⌘ 1770
Pieter Mol (c. 1721-1790), *Nieuwe kaart van de Wydberoemde Koopstat Amsteldam met deszelfs gebied; beneevens alle plaisante weegen en paden buiten de stat, als naa Diemen.....den Overtoom'*. (Engraving, hand coloured, 57.5x68cm, scale 1:12.500) (Amsterdam University Library)
 - ⌘ 1772
Pieter Mol (c. 1721-1790), *Nieuwe Kaart van de Plantagie gelegen binnen de Statsmuuren van Amsterdam* (Amsterdam Municipal Archives)
 - ⌘ after 1772
Jan Punt (1711-1779), *Wijkkarten* (Amsterdam Municipal Archives)
 - ⌘ 1775
Caspar Philipsz. Jacobsz. (1732-1789), *Wijkkarten* (Amsterdam Municipal Archives)
 - ⌘ 1783
Pierre Fouquet Junior (1729-1800), *Nieuwe Atlas van de voornaamste gebouwen en gezigten der stad Amsterdam, met derzelver beknopte beschryvingen*. (Reissued 1805).
 - ⌘ c. 1800
P. Mortier (1661-1711), *Novissima Amstelodami Tabula* (Engraving, 47x58cm) (Amsterdam Municipal Archives)
- Nineteenth century*
- ⌘ 1812
Mortier, Corvens and son, *Nieuwe Plattegrond der Stad Amsterdam* (Engraving, 54.5x93.7cm). Corrected 1820
 - ⌘ 1829
Daniël Veelwaard Jr., *Nieuwe kaart der stad Amsterdam, waarop zijn gebragt alle de voorgevallen veranderingen; beneevens de uitgevoerd wordende kapitale werken van afsluiting der Haven door een Dijk met sluizen voorzien.....* (Engraving, hand coloured, 60x88cm, 1:5600) (Amsterdam University Library)
 - ⌘ 1832
'Land registry original plans'
 - ⌘ 1842
H.P. Eskes, *Platte grond der stad Amsterdam*, Engraving 51x74cm
 - ⌘ 1850,1853, 1876
Neighbourhood atlases with house numbers
 - ⌘ 1866
J.C. van Niftrik (1833-1910), *Plan tot uitbreiding van Amsterdam* (scale 1:1250). (Van Niftrik was Amsterdam's municipal engineer, 1864-1901)
 - ⌘ 1866
Jacob Kuyper (1821-1908), 'Amsterdam'. *Gemeente-atlas van Nederland. Vierde Deel/Noord-Holland*. (No. 2, de Stad, 1:50,000) (shows 30 important buildings)

- ⌘ 1867
A. Braakensiek (1811-1883), 'Amsterdam'. 1:10,500 (map shows 51 of the most important buildings). Published between 1867 and 1876
- ⌘ 1875
J. Kalff (1831-1913), *Plan voor de Uitbreiding van Amsterdam opgemaakt in 1875*. (scale 1:3750). (J. Kalff, became director of Municipal Works in 1873) (Second edition, 1881)
- ⌘ 1875
A. Braakensiek (1811-1883), *Platte Grond van Amsterdam*. Second edition, 1:10,500. (Contains a separate small map of the North Sea Canal; shows the three islands created in the IJ for Amsterdam Central Station)
- ⌘ 1876
J.C. Loman (1825-1897), *Atlas van de gemeente Amsterdam, bevattende de grondteekening van alle gebouwen met de tegenwoordige nummering, in onderscheiding van gemeente-eigendommen, publieke en bijzondere gebouwen, woon- en pakhuizen. In 101 kaarten (naar officieele bronnen bewerkt)*. Amsterdam, 1876. (1:1250)
- ⌘ 1876
Platte grond van Amsterdam in 1876 benevens nieuw ontworpen straten enz. door A. Braakensiek. Amsterdam, G.L. Funke, Lithograph, 37x48cm (1: 10,500)
- ⌘ c. 1876
P. Otten, *Het nieuwe zee-kanaal van Amsterdam*. (Lithograph, 46x74cm, 1: 60,000). (Amsterdam University)
- ⌘ 1878
Jan ter Gouw (1814-1894), *Historische Kaart van Amsterdam*. 1:10,500 (Appendix to *Geschiedenis van Amsterdam*. Scheltema&Holkema, 1879-1893, 8 volumes)
- ⌘ 1882
Tjomme van Holkema (born 1844), *Amsterdam bij vogelvlucht*. approx. 1:7800. Shows some seventy buildings
- ⌘ 1882
A. Braakensiek (1811-1883), *Amsterdam in 1882* (Lithograph, 41x53cm, updated and revised by A.J. van der Stok Jr.) (Amsterdam University Library)
- ⌘ 1883 (-1889)
Joh. G. Stemler , *Geïllustreerd plan van Amsterdam. Met alle Publike Gebouwen, voorname Inrichtingen, Monumenten en Hoofdwegen, tot een duidelijke gids voor iederen Vreemdeling*. 3 publications
- ⌘ 1894
Amsterdam en de Stads en Godshuispolder. Enschede, Haarlem, 1894. approx. 1:14,500. (This shows the water management situation of Amsterdam at the time)
- ⌘ 1899 and beyond
Topographical maps, scale 1:10,000, 1:25,000, 1:50,000.....

- Twentieth century*
- ⌘ 1902
Gemeente Amsterdam. '1:1000-kaarten'. Building and Housing Department. (Map sheets for each of the 515 regions into which the city had been divided in order to implement the 1901 Housing Act) (Map sheet series commencing in 1902)
- ⌘ 1905
Gemeente Amsterdam. Plan van uitbreiding Zuidzijde der Gemeente. H.P. Berlage (1856-1934), lithograph, 65x100cm, 1:5000

- ⌘ 1909
Kaart van Amsterdam. 1:1000-kaarten. Public Works Department, 1909-1989 (Maps are rich in detail, right down to house numbers and street furniture)
- ⌘ 1915
H.P. Berlage (1856-1934), *Amsterdam Zuid gezien boven de Zuiderbrug*. (Drawing, 129x148 cm). Amsterdam Municipal Archives
- ⌘ 1916
J. van Eck, 'Amsterdam 1915 in kaart gebracht door den Dienst van Publiek Werken in kleuren en streepen aangegeven de uitbreiding van de stad, hare havenwerken en spoorwegen van de tweede helft der 19de eeuw tot heden'. (1:5000) (Sixth edition)
- ⌘ 1916
Uitbreidingsplan Zuid der Gemeente Amsterdam. H.P. Berlage, pencil, pen, brush, 58x91cm
- ⌘ 1935
Cornelis van Eesteren (1897-1988), *Algemeen Uitbreidingsplan van Amsterdam*. Colour print, 83x107cm. (:25,000)
- ⌘ c. 1940
Public Works Department, 'Amsterdam Ao 1544 waarin de bebouwing van 1342 en de uitbreidingen van 1367, 1381, 1425 en 1450 zijn aangegeven'. (approx. 1:5000). (16 sheets (including 'Amsterdam Ao. 1618 naar de kaart van Balthasar Florisz. van Berckenrode/uitbreiding A.o. 1612'; 'Amsterdam Ao. 1665 naar de kaart van Daniel Stalpaert uitbreiding Ao. 1658')
- ⌘ 1945
L.J.B. Wiessner (1880-1960), [Aerial perspective map of Amsterdam]. (approx. 1:13,000).
- ⌘ 1956
Hermann Bollman (born 1911), *Amsterdam. Getekend door Hermann Bollmann. MCMLVI*. (Colour print, 67x85cm, 1:3600). Amsterdam University Library
- ⌘ 1985
'Thematische kaart van de Binnenstad van Amsterdam' (showing the housing structure and building blocks). (Colour print, 32.2x27.9 cm, 1:5000). Drawn by Han Vermeij (Amsterdam Physical Planning Department, April 1985) (Amsterdam Municipal Archives)
- ⌘ 1991
Coosje Merkelbach, Chris Gordon, Maarten Kloos (Ed.), [Map showing architectural highlights of Amsterdam] 1:25,000. Arcam Foundation, Stadsuitgeverij (municipal publisher)
- ⌘ 1995
Indira van 't Klooster, [ARCAM map]. 1:10,000. Arcam Foundation. Shows slated building and spatial projects in and around Amsterdam
- ⌘ 1997-2000
Geo-Information Amsterdam, 'Topografische Kaart van Amsterdam'. 1:25,000.

HISTORIANS OF AMSTERDAM GESCHIEDSCHRIJVERS VAN AMSTERDAM

HISTORIANS OF AMSTERDAM / AMSTERDAM IN ACCOUNTS (BESCHRYVINGHEN) AND GUIDEBOOKS

Historians of Amsterdam/Amsterdam in Guidebooks

From the seventeenth century on, several accounts (*beschryvinghen*) and illustrated guidebooks to Amsterdam of the city and its history were published (either as separate volumes or as part of more general books about the Netherlands or the province of Holland). They gave details of its location, growth, buildings, fortifications etc. Some also gave an etymological explanation of its name and many discussed matters like trade and industry and included biographies of major citizens.

The first such account, by Pontanus, was in the humanist tradition of the 'chorography'. Later ones moved away from this tradition. All of them sang the praises of the city, its history, appearance and place in the world.

A number of these historical accounts (such as Melchior Fokkens' 1662 text, see below) went through several editions in quick succession and some were translated into Dutch from the original Latin, or from other languages in the case of books by foreigners.

Secondary literature about the seventeenth-century accounts of Amsterdam exists in the form of publications like E.O.G. Haitsma Muller, 'De zeventiende-eeuwse stadsbeschrijvingen van Amsterdam'. *Maandblad Amstelodamum*, vol. 85, (1998), no. 4, pp. 107-115 or (on accounts in English) K. van Strien, *Touring the Low Countries. Accounts of British Travellers 1660-1720*. Amsterdam, 1998.

Accounts of Amsterdam/books of engravings

- ⋮ Johannes Isacius Pontanus (1571-1639), *Rerum et Urbis Amstelodamensium historia*, 1611 (The Dutch-language edition, *Historische beschryvinghe der seer wijt beroemde coopstadt Amsterdam*, was published in 1614)
- ⋮ Lodovico Guicciardini (1521-1589), *Beschrijvinghe van alle de Nederlanden.....* (Amsterdam, 1612) (*Descrittione di tutti i Paesi Bassi*. Antwerp, 1567)
- ⋮ *Corte beschrijvinghe, Een, van Amsterdam, ghedaen over hondert jaer* (Included in J.I. Pontanus, *Historische beschrijvinghe der seer wijt beroemde coopstadt Amsterdam*, Amsterdam, 1614)
- ⋮ Marcus Zerius Boxhorn(ius) (1612-1653), *Theatrum sive Hollandiae comitatus et urbium nova descriptio.....* Amsterdam, 1632 (Translated into Dutch as *Toneel ofte beschryvinge der steden van Hollandt.....* Amsterdam, 1634)
- ⋮ Philips Vingboons (1607/08-1678), *Afbeeldsels der vornameste Gebouwen uyt alle die Philips Vingboons geordineert heeft*. Amsterdam, 1648
- ⋮ Joan Willemszoon Blaeu (1596-1673), *Toonneel der steden van de Vereenigde Nederlanden.....* Amsterdam, 1649
- ⋮ Jacob van Campen (1596-1657), *Afbeelding van 't Stadhuijs van Amsterdam, in dartigh coopere plaaten, geteekent door Jacob Vennekool*. Amsterdam, 1661
- ⋮ Melchior Fokkens, *Beschrijvinge der wijdt-vermaarde koopstadt Amstelredam (.....)*, Amsterdam, 1662
- ⋮ *Vranckryck..en zijn steeden, behelsende een algemeene en besondere beschryvinge desselfs en aangrensende landen....*Amsterdam, 1662 (with preface by Casparus Commelin)
- ⋮ Jan Vos (circa 1610-1667), *Vergrooting van Amsterdam door Jan Vos. Op de Amsterdamsche schouwburg, door meer dan tachtig personen uitgesproken en vertoont*. Amsterdam, 1662
- ⋮ Olefert Dapper (1636-1689), *Historische beschryving der Stadt Amsterdam*. Amsterdam, 1663. (72 double plates, also used for Von Zesen, *Beschreibung der Stadt Amsterdam* (1664). The plates were used well into the eighteenth century as the basis for new engravings in subsequent accounts of the city.)

- ⌘ Philipp von Zesen (1619-1689), *Beschreibung der Stadt Amsterdam*..... Amsterdam, 1664
- ⌘ Tobias van Domselaer (1611-1685), *Beschryvinge van Amsterdam: Haar eerste oorspronk uyt den Huyze der Heeren van Amstel en Amstellant; met een verhaal van haar Leven en dappere Krijgsdaden*. Amsterdam, 1665 (Isaac Commelin (1598-1676) wrote two chapters in this account.)
- ⌘ Jan ten Hoorn, *Reysboek door de Vereenigde Nederlande en derselver aengrensende landtschappen en koninckrijcken*..... 1673 (second edition, 1689; third edition, 1700)
- ⌘ Philips Vingboons (1607/08-1678), *Tweede deel van d Afbeeldsels der voornaemste Gebouwen uyt alle die Philips Vingboons geordineert heeft*. Amsterdam, 1674
- ⌘ *Alle de voornaemste gebouwen der wijtvermaarde koopstad Amsterdam/description de tous les principaux edifices de la fameuse ville d'Amsterdam* 1682 (bilingual publication)
- ⌘ Casparus Commelin (1636-1693), *Beschrijvinge der stad Amsterdam*. Amsterdam, 1694 of 1693 (?) (2 vols.)
- ⌘ C. Plantius, *Beschrijvinge der loflike ende wijt vermaerder coopstede Aemstelredame*. Amsterdam, 1697
- ⌘ Pieter van der Aa (1659-1733), *De Heerlijkheid der wijd vermaerde stad Amsterdam*. Leiden, circa 1708
- ⌘ *Wegwijzer of korte beschrijving van Amsterdam....benevens beschrijving van het heerlijk Stadhuis*. 1737
- ⌘ Jan Wagenaar (1709-1773), *Amsterdam in zijne Opkomst, Aanwas, Geschiedenissen, Voorregten, Koophandel, Gebouwen, Kerkenstaat, Schoolen, Schutterijen, Gilden en Regeeringe, beschreeven*. Amsterdam, 1760 and 1768, (1767?) (3 vols.). (In 1758, Wagenaar was appointed official historian of Amsterdam. A fourth volume appeared posthumously in 1788)
- ⌘ Jan Wagenaar (1709-1773), *'t Verheugd Amsterdam*. [Amsterdam], 1768
- ⌘ Caspar Philips (1732-1789), *Verzameling van alle de huizen en prachtige gebouwen langs de Keizers en Heere-grachten der stad Amsteldam, beginnende van den Binnen Amstel en eindigende aan de Brouwers-gracht*..... Amsterdam, 1768
- ⌘ Bartholomeus Ruloffs (1741-1801), *Amsterdam hervormd, in drie zangen....en afbeeldingen*. 1778
- ⌘ Jacobus Kok (1734-1788), *Amsterdamse Jaarboeken*....., 1781
- ⌘ J. Fokke, *Amsteldam in zijn geschiedenissen in 't kort*.1788
- ⌘ Cornelis van der Vijver, *Wandelingen in en om Amsterdam*. Amsterdam, 1829
- ⌘ *New Guide through Amsterdam*. Amsterdam, 1829
- ⌘ Cornelis van der Vijver, *Geschiedkundige beschrijving der stad, sedert hare wording tot den tegenwoordigen tijd*. Amsterdam, 1844-1848 (4 vols.)
- ⌘ *Geïllustreerde gids van Amsterdam*. Amsterdam, 1892 [revised, 1902]
- ⌘ Jan ter Gouw (1814-1894), *Geschiedenis van Amsterdam*. Amsterdam, 1879-1893 (8 vols.)
- ⌘ Hajo Brugmans (1868-1939), *Geschiedenis van Amsterdam van den oorsprong af tot heden*. Amsterdam, 1930-1933 (6 vols.)
- ⌘ A.A. Kok (1881-1951), *Gids voor Amsterdam*. Amsterdam, 1947
- ⌘ Antoine Everhard d'Ailly (1875-1959) (ed.), *Zeven eeuwen Amsterdam*. Amsterdam, 1943-1950 (6 vols.)
- ⌘ H.F. Wijnman et al., *Historische gids van Amsterdam*. Amsterdam, 1963-1971 (2 vols.)
- ⌘ R.B. Evenhuis, *Ook dat was Amsterdam*. Amsterdam, 1965-1978 (5 vols.)
- ⌘ I.J. Brugmans, *Geschiedenis van Amsterdam*. Utrecht/Antwerp, 1972-1973 (updated edition of Hajo Brugmans' *Geschiedenis van Amsterdam*. Expanded by R. Roegholt's *Amsterdam in de 20e eeuw*. Utrecht/Antwerp, 1976-1979, 2 vols.)
- ⌘ Gerrit Vermeer, Ben Rebel (ed.), *d'Ailly's Historische gids van Amsterdam*. The Hague, 1992
- ⌘ Marijke Carasso-Kok (Ed.), *Geschiedenis van Amsterdam*. Amsterdam, 2004-2007 (5 vols.)

Some accounts by foreign authors

- ⌘ Lodovico Guicciardini (1521-1589). *Beschryvinghe van alle de Nederlanden*.....Amsterdam, 1612 (The Dutch-language edition of his *Descrittione di tutti i Paesi Bassi*....., Antwerp, 1567)

- ⌘ J.W. Neumayer von Ramzla, *Des durchlauchtigen hochgebornen Fürsten und Herrn, Herrn Johann Ernsten des Jüngern, herzogen zu Sachsen, Gülich, Cleve und Bergh.....Reise in Frankreich, Engelland und Niederland*. Leipzig, 1620
- ⌘ Philipp von Zesen (1619-1689), *Beschreybung der Stadt Amsterdam*. Amsterdam, 1664
- ⌘ Sir William Temple (1628-1699), *Observations upon the United Provinces of the Netherlands* (1673). Cambridge, 1932 (G.N. Clark ed.)
- ⌘ William Car, *The Travellours Guide*. 1691
- ⌘ *Le guide d'Amsterdam, enseignant aux voyageurs et aux negociants sa splendeur, son commerce etc.....* 1701
- ⌘ Zacharias Conrad von Uffenbach (1683-1734), *Merkwürdige Reisen durch Niedersachsen, Holland und Engelland*. Frankfurt, 1753/54 (3 vols.)
- ⌘ *Le Guide d'Amsterdam, ou description de ce qu'il y a de plus intéressant*. Amsterdam, 1772 [second edition, 1793; third edition, 1802]
- ⌘ *New Guide through Amsterdam*. Amsterdam, 1829
- ⌘ Henry James (1843-1916), 'Holland', *Transatlantic Sketches*. Boston, 1875
- ⌘ *About Holland, a practical guide for visitors*. London, 1893
- ⌘ *Baedeker Belgien und Holland*. Leipzig, 1914

AMSTERDAM ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD AMSTERDAM ELDERS IN DE WERELD

The name Amsterdam elsewhere in the world

The name Amsterdam has been and is used in various other places around the world, as a place name (past or present), and as the name of historical forts and trading posts, islands, and plantations.

- ⌘ The name Amsterdam can be found in various locations in the world: in Canada just southeast of Saskatoon (a few miles north of the Whitesand River); in the USA north of Albany and Schenectady and in Texas just south of Kansas City along the Kansas City Southern Railway (between Kansas City, MO and Port Arthur, TX, to commemorate the construction of the Dutch American Railroad (1897), financed with Dutch capital); in South Africa near the Randberge (East Transvaal), some distance from Johannesburg, not far from the Swaziland border.
- ⌘ There was a neighbourhood known as 'Klein Amsterdam' (Little Amsterdam) located in Elseneur (Denmark's Helsingor) near Kronborg in about the third quarter of the 16th century, most of whose residents came from the Low Countries. Kronborg suffered a bombardment by Sweden in 1685, and Klein Amsterdam sustained the heaviest damage, spelling the end of this area.
- ⌘ 'Little Amsterdam' is the nickname of a district in Copenhagen, Denmark, located on Christianshavn Island with its canals. It was founded to house Dutch merchants. Christianshavn was designed by Johann Semp.
- ⌘ 'Nieuw Amsterdam' (around 1770), now New Amsterdam, downstream along the river Berbice (Guyana).
- ⌘ 'Nieuw Amsterdam' (New Amsterdam), founded by the West India Company (WIC) in 1625 and known since 1664 as New York. In 1625, the WIC moved its headquarters to Nieuw Amsterdam. In 1626 it began to build a fort there (now gone) that was given the name Amsterdam. The settlement that grew up around the fort was called Nieuw Amsterdam.
- ⌘ Nieuw Amsterdam, capital of the Commewijne district, Surinam.

Forts and trading posts called Amsterdam

- ⌘ Philipsburg, the capital of the island of St Maarten, was the site of Fort Amsterdam, built in 1631 by the WIC, which intended it to protect the saltpan that was so important to trade. The fort was captured by the Spanish in 1633, and only traces remain. The Peace of Munster (1648) returned it to the Republic's control.
- ⌘ A fort built after 1665 on the Gold Coast. Now known as Kormantijn.

Fort Nieuw-Amsterdam, located on the confluence of the Commewijne and the river Surinam (Surinam), built 1734/46, restored 1968. The fort is now an Open Air Museum. The City of Amsterdam is financing an interim manager. The star-shaped fort is being restored thanks to the efforts of the Dutch Restoration Foundation (*Stichting Herstelling*). Surinamese and Dutch parties are cooperating.
- ⌘ Fort Amsterdam on Curaçao (Punda district), located on the east bank of St Anna Baai, the oldest section of Willemstad, built 1635-1641. In 1997, the 'Historical Area of Willemstad, Inner City and Harbour' (C 819) was placed on the World Heritage List.

- ⌘ There were forts and trading posts at other locations that bore the name Amsterdam or Nieuw Amsterdam, such as in Hila (restored 1992) on the northern Hitu peninsula of Ambon (Indonesia) and Manado (Sulawesi).
- ⌘ 'Amsterdam' trading post was located south of Bangkok, on the banks of the river Chao Praya.
- ⌘ One of the bastions around Batavia (Jakarta, Indonesia) bore the name Amsterdam.
- ⌘ On Sri Lanka at Batticaloa, built after 1638 by the United East India Company (*Verenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie*, VOC). In Colombo (Sri Lanka), the bastion (since demolished) of the fort there. There was a Portuguese fort built in 1639 in the port of Trincomalee (Sri Lanka), then known as Pagoda (now Frederick). The bastion, which was known Sao Jago, was renamed Amsterdam.
- ⌘ The fort located in Cormantijn, now Abanze (Ghana), fell into the hands of the WIC after 1665 and renamed Fort Amsterdam.
- ⌘ Luanda (Sao Paolo de Luanda), Angola, fell into the hands of the WIC after 1641. The Portuguese fort (Sao Paolo) was renamed Amsterdam.
- ⌘ Along the Coromandel coast (coastline of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, India), there was a fort at Negapatnam (Negatipatinam), south of Madras, that had a bastion named Amsterdam.

Plantation colony

- ⌘ The settlement (plantation colony) founded along the river Berbice in Guyana, near Fort Nassau, was called Nieuw-Amsterdam.

Islands named Amsterdam

- ⌘ Amsterdam Island (1633) (*Île Amsterdam, Terres australes et antarctiques françaises*), discovered in 1522 in the southern area of the Indian Ocean.
- ⌘ Amsterdam Island in the Su group of islands, northwest of Doberai (Papua).
- ⌘ Amsterdam Island (now Tongatapu) in Tonga, discovered in 1642 by Abel Tasman.
- ⌘ There is an island group located between India and the northernmost point of Sri Lanka known as the Kattekoppen during the VOC period. Each of the islands had a Dutch name, including Amsterdam (now Karaitivu/Carredive).
- ⌘ One of the islands of the Pulau Seribu island group (Indonesia), off the coast of Java, was called Amsterdam.
- ⌘ The toponym Amsterdam can be found on the island of Leguan, river Essequibo (Guyana).
- ⌘ Amsterdamøa (Amsterdam Island), located about 79° north latitude, northeast of Spitsbergen (Svalbard archipelago), where the Dutch Smeerenburg whaling station was once located.

VOC AND WIC VOC EN WIC

THE DUTCH EAST INDIA COMPANY (*Verenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie*) (VOC) AND DUTCH WEST INDIA COMPANY (*Verenigde West-Indische Compagnie*) (WIC)

For much of the seventeenth century, the Republic of the Seven United Provinces was a global power. It dominated the oceans and trade routes of the world, outstripping its main competitors, Spain, Portugal and England. Neither the *English East India Company* nor the French *Compagnie des Indes* could rival the Dutch East India and West India Companies – the *Verenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie* (VOC) and *Verenigde West-Indische Compagnie* (WIC) in the sphere of international trade.

Until around the end of the sixteenth century, the main focus in the Republic's trade, and that of Amsterdam in particular, was on the carriage of bulk goods within Europe. The principal trade was between the Baltic and the Mediterranean region (the Iberian Peninsula and Italy) in goods like grain and salt. Amsterdam was the leading staple market for these commodities.

The fall of Antwerp (1585) and the emigration of traders from that city to Amsterdam, bringing with them their mercantile experience in relation to spices, sugar and other tropical wares, broadened Amsterdam's business outlook to include trade outside Europe: in sugar (from places like the Canary Islands, Madeira and Brazil), salt (from the Cape Verde Islands and Venezuela), spices and ivory (from West Africa) and fur (from North America, via the 'New Netherland Company' or *Compagnie van Nieuw-Nederland*, 1614-1621).

Accounts by foreign visitors to the Republic in the seventeenth century show that they were struck by the wide range of curious objects ('*rariteiten*') available there – not just exotic artefacts like lacquer ware, porcelain, clothing and jewellery, but also natural objects like shells, coral and minerals. Most of these 'curiosities' came from the East or West Indies.

In the late sixteenth century, Dutch vessels made attempts to reach 'the East Indies' (today's Indonesia) by sailing north over the Arctic Ocean. They failed to find a north-east passage but discovered Spitsbergen (1597/8).

Voyages to the Indies via the 'traditional' route were more successful. In 1595/96 a number of Amsterdam merchants set up the 'Long-Distance Company' (*Compagnie van Verre*) as a way of financing voyages to the Indies. The move was partly at the instigation of cartographer-clergyman Petrus Plancius (1552-1622), who was later to be the driving force behind the establishment of the Dutch East India Company (VOC) and immediately entered its service. The first Long-Distance Company voyage was undertaken by three vessels (including the 'Amsterdam', a reconstruction of which now lies at anchor beside the National Maritime Museum in Amsterdam) ¹. It incurred heavy losses. The financiers included two men – Reynier Adriaenszoon Pauw (1564-1636) and Dirck van Os (1557-?) – who were also involved in financing the reclamation of the Beemster ('*Beemster Polder*', on the World Heritage List since 1998, C 899).

The second expedition, in 1598/99, led by Jacob Corneliszoon van Neck (1564-1638), was far more successful.

The 'First United East India - Amsterdam Company' (*Eerste Verenigde Compagnie op Oost-Indië tot Amsterdam*) was set up in 1601 but undertook only one expedition.



The Dutch East India Company (VOC)

(www.voc-kenniscentrum.nl) (www.vocsite.nl) (www.nationaalarchief.nl)

(Atlas Mutual Heritage) (www.nationaalarchief.nl/amh/main.aspx?lang=nl) (www.tokencoins.com/capeland.htm)

Jonathan Israel writes that the

'first step in the establishment of the Dutch Empire of trade in the Indies was the setting up of the private Compagnie van Verre (Long-Distance Company) at Amsterdam 1594.....A consortium of nine élite merchants.....'
(*The Dutch Republic. Its Rise, Greatness, and Fall 1477-1806. (1995), p. 319.*)

In 1602 the Dutch East India Company (*Verenigde-Oostindische Compagnie* or VOC) was created by amalgamating six different 'Long-Distance Companies'. The official title of the VOC was the '*Generale Vereenichde Geocroyeerde Oost-Indische Compagnie in de Geünieerde Nederlanden*': the 'General United Chartered East India Company in the United Provinces'.

The States General granted the VOC a charter to trade in the area east of the Cape of Good Hope (*Kaap de Goede Hoop*) (South Africa) – where a permanent revictualling station was established in 1652 – and west of Cape Horn (Chile). In the eyes of the Republic, the company had a legal monopoly on trade in that vast area, together with powers to take military action, sign treaties and open trading posts.

The Amsterdam 'Chamber' was the major force in both the VOC and the WIC. The city's ships were identified by their own flag, bearing the letters A for Amsterdam, O for *Oost-Indische* (East India) and C for *Compagnie* (Company).

The shareholders were private citizens who invested their capital for a set period of ten years. The oldest surviving share certificate in the world is a VOC share dating from 1606 (private collection) and the VOC's Amsterdam headquarters, with its trade in shares, was in effect the world's first stock market.

The VOC was an alliance between the chambers of trade in six of the Republic's ports (Hoorn, Enkhuizen, Amsterdam, Delft, Rotterdam and Zeeland/Middelburg). These were the ports from which the fleets had set sail to Asia at the end of the sixteenth century. The management of the Company was in the hands of seventeen directors (the *Heren XVII*). They instructed the Dutch authorities in Batavia (present-day Jakarta), charged with running the VOC's activities in Asia.

The first fleet equipped by the VOC set sail in 1603. From 1609, a Governor-General was appointed to lead the Company in Asia. In the Oude Kerk in Amsterdam there is an anonymous 1604 painting showing, according to the title, a 'view of the IJ and Amsterdam with ships setting sail for the East Indies' (oil, 66 x 186 cm).

The VOC was economically important to the whole seventeenth-century Dutch Republic, but particularly to Amsterdam. It drove the development of the city into a world trading centre. In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, the VOC was the Republic's largest employer. With its extensive network of trading posts and military forts, it was also the biggest shipping and trading company in the world. It was even a considerable presence in the shipbuilding industry. It was this aspect of its activities that attracted the interest of the Russian Tsar Peter the Great (1672-1725), who worked for

some months in 1697/98 at the Company's shipyard in Amsterdam. Finally, the VOC also forged cultural ties between the Dutch Republic and the Far East.

At the peak of its activity, the VOC sent out more than 300 vessels and some 80,000 people in a year. Between 1602 and 1795, 4,721 ships set sail from the Republic for Asia. Competition with the Danish and Swedish Companies and with the *English East India Company* or the French *Compagnie des Indes* was sometimes fierce.

The VOC survived until 1799, when its final charter expired, and in 1800 Java ceased to be a trading post and became a colony.

VOC trading posts or 'factories' were set up from Ambon (Indonesia) to Iran and from Ceylon (Sri Lanka) to Japan. They appeared first in the Indonesian Archipelago and later in places like Arabia, Persia, Malacca, Ceylon, India and Bengal.

Malacca was a VOC trading post from 1641 and was also used as a military base to control the Malacca Straits; it is the location of the oldest surviving VOC building in South-East Asia, the so-called 'Stadthuys' ('town hall') – in fact the official residence of the VOC Governor – completed in 1650 and modelled on the contemporary town hall in the Dutch town of Hoorn. Trading stations were even established as far away as Siam (now Thailand), Indo-China and Japan, to which the Netherlands (in the shape of the VOC) was the only country apart from China to be accorded trading access. From 1641, there was a VOC 'factory' on Dejima (a fan-shaped artificial island measuring 80 x 100 metres and created between 1634 and 1636 in the bay of Nagasaki, originally as a way of controlling Portuguese traders). Initially, silver, gold and copper were the main commodities traded there; after 1688, only copper plus Japanese lacquer ware and porcelain.

The VOC imported spices from the Moluccas, India and Siam (where the Republic had a trade monopoly in 1688), cotton fabrics from India, cinnamon from Ceylon, sugar and coffee (in the eighteenth century) from Java, and tea and porcelain from China, and they were traded onward from the Republic around Europe. VOC ships also carried exotic materials like ebony, mother-of-pearl and tortoiseshell. Porcelain and lacquer ware were also shipped to Europe from the Far East, as were indigenous plants and animals. Chinese motifs on imported earthenware and porcelain began to be imitated on European faience and wall tiles (e.g. Blue Delft).

Cartography

One consequence of the activities of the VOC was a rapid advance in cartography, as newly discovered countries were recorded on maps and interest in navigational techniques boomed. Ever better maps became available. Some were published in book form and even translated for international use (French and Italian translations of the *Nieuwe Grootte Lichtende Zee-fackel* by Johannes van Keulen (1654-1715) were published from 1680 onwards in various, ever more elaborate, editions). Isaac de Graaff (1668-1743), cartographer to the Amsterdam Chamber of the VOC, produced a map of the East Indies archipelago and the 'South-Land'. In 1691 the Amsterdam Chamber commissioned an atlas from him showing all the parts of Africa and Asia with which the VOC was involved (from the Cape of Good Hope to Japan, New Guinea and Australia). The atlas was completed in 1704 and comprised 187 overlapping maps (in a standard 53 x 73 cm format), in two bound volumes.

In 2006, an international cooperation project was launched to publish a seven-volume *Comprehensive Atlas of the Dutch United East India Company*. The first volume to appear was a facsimile edition of the *Atlas Isaak de Graaf* or *Atlas Amsterdam* (2006). The second, in 2007, contained maps of Java and Madura, the third in 2008, contained maps of the Indonesian archipelago and Oceania/Atlas Maior.

Apart from Isaac de Graaff, other important mapmakers were Petrus Plancius (1552-1622), Willem Janszoon Blaeu (1571-1638), who was official cartographer to the VOC between 1633 and 1638, and his son Joan Blaeu (1599-1673), who succeeded him as the VOC's chief cartographer between 1638 and 1673.

The latter's publications included his *Atlas Maior* (11 vols., 1662, editions in Dutch, Latin, French and Spanish) and a 1646 map of the world showing 'Hollandia Nova' (Australia: in the course of the seventeenth century, the VOC mapped large parts of the west and south coasts of the continent.) Blaeu's offices, first on Bloemgracht and later on the Damrak in Amsterdam, were the largest printing works in the contemporary world. In 2003 *The Atlas Blaeu-Van der Hem* was inscribed in *The Memory of the World Register* after being nominated by Austria ('it offers a pictorial encyclopaedia of seventeenth-century knowledge ranging from geography and topography to warfare and politics'). The fifty-volume atlas was once owned by Amsterdammer Laurens van der Hem (1621-1678) and is now held at the Austrian National Library in Vienna. It contains over 2,400 maps, drawings, etc. and one of its most interesting sections is a group of four volumes containing manuscript maps and topographical drawings originally made for the VOC.

Another mapmaker worthy of mention is Johannes Vingboons (1616/17-1670), who lived in a house at the corner of St Antoniesbreestraat (now 64) and Salamandersteeg and is buried in the Oude Kerk in Amsterdam. A cartographer and watercolourist, he worked from 1648 onward for the Blaeu family. It was he who produced the engravings of the architectural work of his brothers, Philips Vingboons (c. 1607-1678) and Justus Vingboons (1620-1698). Johannes turned the rough drawings, sketches and maps made on the spot by VOC and WIC staff during trading trips or voyages of exploration into proper maps drawn on parchment. He also painted panoramas and views of overseas trading posts, offices and settlements. 130 of his watercolours were included in three atlases purchased in 1654 by Queen Christina of Sweden (1626-1689). These are now in the Vatican library, having passed after her death into the possession of Pope Alexander VIII (1610-1691). Over 100 of Vingboons' works are preserved in the Dutch National Archives in The Hague and the National Maritime Museum in Amsterdam has a set of four of his maps which together show the whole of the then known world. Johannes Vingboons' watercolours can be seen on-line in the *Atlas of Mutual Heritage* (www.nationaalarchief.nl/amh).

In the seventeenth century, cartography was more advanced in the Republic than anywhere else in the world and it was in Amsterdam that most maps and atlases were printed. The VOC is estimated to have owned 20,000 maps at that period. An important collection of VOC maps is now held at the Maritime Museum in Rotterdam: this *Corpus Christi collection* (named after Corpus Christi College, Oxford) contains thirty maritime charts relating to an area around Sumatra and includes eight made by Joan Blaeu.

Flora and fauna in the Far East

Georg Everhard Rumphius (1627-1702), born in Germany but brought up in Amsterdam, worked for more than fifty years in the Moluccas. He studied the flora and fauna of the islands and published geological and paleontological works on the area (*Het Amboinsche kruidboek* (1741) and *Amboinsche Rariteiten*, 1705). The same kind of work was done by Baron Hendrik Adriaan van Rheedee tot Drakenstein (1636-1691), Governor of Cochin (now Kochi), on the west coast of India. With the help of many other scholars, he produced the *Hortus Malabaricus*, Amsterdam, 1678-1703: a treatise

comprising 12 volumes of about 500 pages each, with 794 copperplate engravings. This is believed to be the earliest comprehensive printed work on the flora of Asia. It contains information on 742 different plants, recording not only their Latin names, but also their names in Sanskrit, Arabic and Malayalam.

Asia

Trading posts in Asia far outnumbered those in Africa or on the coasts of America.

In *Japan* the Dutch had a trading post on the island of Hirado before Dejima (1641-1895) was allocated to them. And it was on Hirado, in 1639, that the VOC erected the first Western-style building in the Japanese empire (a warehouse).

Japan was a link in the VOC's trading network. Every year, the VOC was obliged to offer gifts, such as maps, books and scientific instruments, to the Shōgun in Edo (Tokyo) and to local rulers. In the eighteenth century, these books became particularly important to Japan because of the knowledge of the West that it derived from them.

The Japanese artist Shiba Kōkan (1738/47-1818) did much to give Japanese society an idea of the West. He visited Nagasaki (1788), produced paintings and drawings, and was interested in Western sciences like astronomy and geography. He made a particular study of the laws of perspective. Kōkan published three books on his visit to Nagasaki: *Saiyū Ryodan* (1794) (Account of a Western Journey), *Gazu Saiyūdan* (1803) (Illustrated Account of a Western Journey) and *Saiyū Nikki* (1815) (Diary of a Western Journey).

Kobe City Museum possesses an eighteenth-century perspective print (a print made for use with a special viewing machine) showing the Oude Schans and the Montelbaenstoren in Amsterdam. Exponents of the *Rangaku* (study of Holland), who were interested in Western arts and sciences, did much to disseminate knowledge of the Western world in Japan. The *Groot Schilderboek* of Gerard de Lairesse (1640-1711) served as a particular example. Several prints from it were used in the *Kōmō Zatsuwa*, a series of little books about the Netherlands by artist Morishima Chōryō, telling 'everything about the red-haired ones'. Shiba Kōkan took prints from *Het Menselyk Bedryf* (1694), a book by Dutch artist Jan Luyken (1649-1712) showing various trades, and translated them to the Japanese context, as he also did with Dutch landscape prints.

In 1605 the VOC seized the *Indonesian* 'Spice Islands' of Ternate, Tidore and Ambon (cloves) from the Portuguese (arms of Amsterdam on the gateway of Fort Victoria (Nossa Senhora da Anunciada)). From this point on, the Indonesian archipelago became the main focus of VOC trade in Asia. The Company's headquarters was initially at Bantam, in the west of Java, but in 1619 – following a successful military action – Jan Pieterszoon Coen (1587-1629; Governor-General 1617-1623) moved it to Batavia. The city had been founded in 1527 by Fatahillah Khan and was at this time known to the Dutch as Jaccatra, a corruption of the local name Jayakarta. The VOC had had a trading post there since 1610. From that base, the Company was to expand its network all over Asia.

Between 1632 and 1650, Batavia (as it was now called) became a Dutch-style town with canals, bridges, brick-built houses and warehouses, and a fort. To satisfy the fashionable principles of order, beauty and monumentality in town planning, the Ciliwung river was canalised to form a central axis in the street plan (the Kali Besar). Seventeenth-century Batavia with its gridded rectangular pattern of streets and canals lies at the core of present-day Jakarta and is known as Kota.

Batavia was not only an administrative centre; it was also a gathering point for vessels, a transshipment place and a staple port. For centuries it was the hub of an Asian trade network that stretched from the island of Dejima (Nagasaki) to Cape Town, and from Ternate (in the Moluccas) to

Suratte on the north-west coast of India (in the present-day state of Gujarat).

On Java, as on Sri Lanka, the VOC planted small coffee plantations. However, the VOC's first major agricultural colony in Asia was (from 1623 to 1662) on Formosa (now *Taiwan*), where the Company built Fort Zeelandia in 1624 on the small island of Tái Huan. From Formosa it conducted a certain amount of trade with Japan and China. A later VOC fort, Fort Anthonio, dating from the middle of the century, stands on the mouth of the Tamsui River and has an earthwork still known as '*Hong Mao Cheng*' (meaning 'Red-Beard Fort').

India occupied a major place in the VOC's Asian trade (conducted, for example, from 1637 onward from a fortified trading post called Wingurla (now Vengurla, in western India).

Between 1668 and 1682, the VOC modified the forts it had seized from the Portuguese on the coast of Ceylon (*Sri Lanka*). The Company was to remain on the island for some 140 years. The Fort of Matara was first built in the second half of the eighteenth century. Many of these fortifications have vanished (like Arippe) or are now in ruins (like Fort Jaffna on the island of Manaar). Others are still in good condition, like Trincomalee, Fort Batticaloa (where the first Dutchman – Joris van Spilbergen, 1568-1620 – set foot on Ceylon in 1602), Galle, Katuwana, Matara, Colombo (held by the VOC from 1656 and later its headquarters on the island) and Negombo (a fort designed by Pieter Vingboons (c. 1605-1644) – brother of Philips (1607-1678), Justus (1620/21-1698) and Johannes Vingboons (1616/1617-1670) – and several times restored).

Ceylon was important to the VOC for trade reasons rather than territorial advantage. The forts were merely intended to fend off European competitors. Small-scale coffee plantations were created (which the English replaced by tea in the late nineteenth century, after they had acquired the island under the Peace of Amiens in 1802).

The main VOC port was Galle, where a Dutch fort had been built in 1663, and this became the VOC's second most important trading hub in Asia (after Batavia). VOC goods from India, Persia and Yemen were brought to Galle before being shipped on to Europe. In 1988, Galle ('*Old town of Galle and its Fortifications*', C 451) was included in the World Heritage List.

Africa

In Africa, Fort Nassau (now Mourée) on the Gold Coast (established by the States General in 1612 and twice enlarged between 1623 and 1634) was important as a refuge and rendezvous for Dutch vessels. The Company also had around thirty other trading posts scattered along the traditional trading routes with Asia.

Cape Town (Cabo de Bona Esperance or Cape of Good Hope) was a fortified revictualling station for VOC ships on their way to or from Asia. In the seventeenth century, the VOC had gardens there, producing fruit and vegetables to supply passing VOC vessels. The settlement was established in 1652 by Jan van Riebeeck (1619-1677), on behalf of the Amsterdam Chamber of the VOC. The VOC can therefore be regarded as the founder of South Africa.

The Pacific

The VOC's activities sometimes led to voyages of discovery and – sometimes unintentionally – to the discovery of lands and regions previously unknown to Europeans (e.g. the voyage made by Abel Tasman (1603-1659) around present-day Australia (*Hollandia Nova*) (1642/44)).

In 1606 Willem Janszoon (c. 1570 - c. 1630), captain of the 'Duyfken', became the first European ever to set foot in Australia. Ten years later, Dirk Hartog (1580-1621), captain of the Amsterdam Chamber's vessel the 'Eendracht', landed on the island west of the coast of Australia that has borne his name ever since. The main 'opening up' of the west, north and east coasts of Australia by Dutch seafarers took place between 1617 and 1644. The last great voyage of discovery took place in 1696/97, under the leadership of Willem de Vlamingh (1640 - c. 1698), on board the frigate 'Geelvink'. It was he who mapped the west coast of Australia (originals now in the National Library of Australia).

VOC and WIC settlements

In the course of the seventeenth century, the Dutch East and West India Companies founded a number of towns around the world.

In New Netherland (in North America between the Connecticut and Delaware rivers), New Amsterdam (*Nieuw Amsterdam*) and Manhattan were founded in 1625 at the mouth of the Hudson river, which had been found by Henry Hudson (c. 1560-1611) sixteen years earlier. In 1636, the Lenape people sold the Dutch a piece of land there and the contract was signed on the 'Island of Manhattan'; from 1664 the settlement was called *New York*.

In present-day Indonesia, Batavia (since 1949 *Jakarta*) was founded in 1619. The initial street plan may have been influenced by drawings made by Simon Stevin (1548-1620) and sent out from the Netherlands. Willemstad on Curaçao was founded in 1634 (*'Historical Area of Willemstad, Inner City and Harbour'*, World Heritage List, 1997, C 819), *Mauritsstad* in Brazil in 1637 (now part of Recife/Olinda, *'Historic Centre of the Town of Olinda'*, World Heritage List, 1982, C 189), and Kaapstad (now Cape Town) in South Africa in 1666.

The form of the settlements was determined in part by the local topography but their ground plans did have a number of common features. However irregular the plan, the main streets always ran more or less parallel to each other and, wherever possible, their importance was underlined by canals. The main streets/canals usually included a Herengracht or Herenstraat (in New Amsterdam, both) and often a Prinsengracht or Prinsenstraat (in Batavia there was a Herenstraat on one side of the Kali Besar river and a Prinsenstraat on the other).

The early street plan of New Amsterdam is carefully recorded in a map dating from 1660 and entitled 'Depiction of the Town of Amsterdam in New Netherland' (Biblioteca Laurenziana, Florence, 'Castello Plan'). The map of down-town Manhattan still reflects it.

There was a clear similarity between the original ground plan of New Amsterdam and that of Willemstad (Curaçao). Both had a pentagonal Fort Amsterdam and both settlements were enclosed by water on three sides and on the fourth by a wall (where Wall Street now runs in New York and on the line of present-day Columbusstraat in Willemstad; the name Broadway derives from Dutch *Breedewegh*: the broad way that led to the fort).

Malacca (1641) and Colombo (1656) were seized from the Portuguese and rebuilt. Malacca had a Herenstraat and Colombo a Prinsenstraat.

Like Paramaribo (Suriname, 1667; inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2002 as C 940rev., *'Historic Inner City of Paramaribo'*), Cape Town was not walled but was defended by a pentagonal fort (Castle of Good Hope, Cape Town). Cape Town still has a Herengracht and Paramaribo a Gravenstraat and a Herenstraat. Amsterdam had a trading station in Paramaribo as early as 1613.

The Memory of the World Register/Archives of the Dutch East India Company

The archives of the Dutch East India Company (VOC) occupy more than four kilometres of shelves and are divided between The Hague (Netherlands), Jakarta (Indonesia), Colombo (Sri Lanka), Chennai (India) and Cape Town (South Africa). They comprise some 30 million pages.

After joint nomination by the Netherlands, India, Indonesia, South Africa and Sri Lanka in 2002, the archives were included in the Memory of the World Register in 2003:

'Stretching more than four shelf kilometres, the archives of the VOC contain data relevant to the history of hundreds of Asia's and Africa's former local political and trade regions. The VOC archives not only richly supplement valuable regional sources, they also contain general information on Monsoon Asia and Southern Africa as a whole, providing us with the data necessary to draw a broad comparative picture from region to region, and from village to village. The VOC archives offer a wealth of new and valuable knowledge on Asian and African societies in the 17th and 18th centuries. The study of VOC archives will lead to a new blend of historical narratives that place both national and regional histories into a new multi-regional and even global setting'.

www.tanap.net/content/about/heritage.cfm

(● located within the *property*; ≡ located within the *buffer zone*)

VOC buildings in Amsterdam

A number of VOC buildings still survive in Amsterdam:

≡ *Oostindisch Huis (East India House)*, Oude Hoogstraat (24), on the corner of Kloveniersburgwal
The original complex (a sixteenth-century gunpowder and weapon store demolished in 1890/91) was used by the VOC as a warehouse from 1603. It was expanded in 1606 (administrative wing with cellars), 1633/1634 (west and north wings) and 1658/61 (extension on the west side). The 1606 expansion is especially notable for the Mannerist façade on the inner courtyard (attributed to Hendrick de Keyser, 1565-1621) ¹. The meeting room used by the VOC board (the *Heren XVII*) and the board of the *Amsterdam Chamber* was on the first floor. Parts of a series of seven views of VOC settlements painted by Justus Vingboons (c. 1620 - c. 1698) for this room are preserved in the Rijksmuseum (Amsterdam) and the National Archives (The Hague).

The building is now used by the University of Amsterdam (UvA). The former cross-casement windows were reconstructed in 1978 during building work by Bart van Kasteel (1921-1988) and J. Schipper.

≡ *VOC warehouse "d'Oude Werf"*, Prins Hendrikkade 176
Two early seventeenth-century 'double' warehouses. Classicist portal, c. 1650

≡ *VOC rope yard*, Oostenburgergracht 77 ²
Evidence of the rope yard survives at Oostenburgergracht 77 in the form of a building dating from 1660 and bearing the monogram of the VOC, once the rope yard's warehouse and offices. At the rear in Compagniestraat stands the Nieuwe Magazijn (1720), which has been altered.

≡ *Former Admiralty rope yard*, Oostenburgergracht 79-81 ³
The front building of the rope yard dates from 1660. It was originally 500 metres long, but has been truncated. The trapezoidal front elevation is decorated with a garland bearing the crossed anchors emblem of the Admiralty (predecessor of today's Royal Dutch Navy). The VOC and the Admiralty had their rope yards, warehouses and wharves in this area. Behind the former rope yard once lay the



VOC shipyard where Tsar Peter the Great (1672-1725) stayed and learned about shipbuilding between 30 August 1697 and 15 January 1698.

Excavations on Oostenburg

In recent years, archaeological excavations have been conducted on the island of Oostenburg, reclaimed in the seventeenth century. In the vicinity of today's Czaar Peterstraat, archaeologists have discovered remains of the walls of the seventeenth-century VOC Zeemagazijn (which collapsed in 1822 but was for a long time, at 215 x 25 metres, the largest industrial building in Western Europe) and of three contemporary slipways. Between 1660 and 1800, 500 wooden vessels were built on Oostenburg, which is part of the archaeological heritage of the VOC. Factory buildings (architect A.L. van Gendt 1835-1901) were erected on the site in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and these have recently become State-listed historic buildings.

Atlas of Mutual Heritage

The Atlas of Mutual Heritage is a database containing not only visual images (maps, paintings, drawings, prints etc.), but also a complete overview of VOC settlements in the past. It is the result of cooperation between the Dutch National Archives in The Hague, the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam and the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscapes and Monuments (*Rijksdienst voor Archeologie, Cultuurlandschap en Monumenten* or RACM). The database includes records kept both in the Netherlands and elsewhere and embraces the Dutch West India Company (WIC) as well as the VOC.

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The Dutch West India Company (WIC)

In the late sixteenth century, increasing numbers of Dutch ships sailed to the Caribbean and the northern coasts of South America in search of salt, tobacco, sugar and other goods. Under the Treaty of Tordesillas (1494), the Pope had allocated both the Americas (with the exception of Brazil) to Spain, while Brazil and parts of Asia fell within the Portuguese sphere of influence.

The Dutch West India Company – in Dutch the *Verenigde West-Indische Compagnie (WIC)*, or more officially the *Geoctrooieerde West Indische Compagnie* – was founded in 1621. The States General awarded it a 24-year charter authorising it to privateer, colonise and trade wherever other Dutch companies (such as the VOC and the Northern Company) were not chartered to do so. In practice, this meant the west coast of Africa, the east coast of North and South America, and the Pacific region. China and Japan did not fall within its remit since the VOC was active there.

In 1641, WIC activity in the South Atlantic reached its peak. Between 1635 and 1645, much of the wealth of the Republic came from the sugar trade (H. Wätjen, *Das holländische Kolonialreich in Brasilien. Ein Kapitel aus der Kolonialgeschichte des 17-Jahrhundert*. Gotha, The Hague, 1921). In 1647, the WIC's charter was renewed (*Tweede Geoctroyeerde West-Indische Compagnie*). When this charter expired in 1674, the company was liquidated. Shortly afterwards, a new WIC was set up (1675). At this point, Amsterdam acquired almost 60% of the share capital. The new charter was mainly for the management of colonies in Africa and America and the protection of Atlantic trade and shipping. It was not renewed after 1791.

As with the VOC, Amsterdam had the majority of seats on the board (eight of the 19). Amsterdam was one of the five Chambers of the WIC, occupied by 20 directors from the city, giving it the biggest share in the company. In 1628 the city was given the right to supervise Curaçao.

Initially, the WIC focused mainly on salt, gold and the slave trade. During its first charter, it was forced to focus on privateering (principally seizing rival Spanish and Portuguese vessels in the Atlantic) but in 1648 had to cease harrying Spanish ships after the Treaty of Münster prohibited the practice.

The 1621 charter gave the WIC the monopoly of trade with Africa from the Tropic of Cancer to the Cape of Good Hope, with America from Newfoundland (Terra Nova) to the Strait of Magellan, and with the islands in the Atlantic Ocean, between the two meridians running over the Cape of Good Hope and the east of New Guinea. Soon, however, the WIC managed to extend its hold to large parts of the West African coast, Brazil and parts of the Caribbean.

The Company concentrated initially on *Africa* (Gold Coast; Angola), *America* (New Netherland) and, because of the valuable sugar trade, *Brazil* (largely controlled by the WIC between 1624 and 1654, when it was known as 'Dutch Brazil' or 'New Holland' – '*Hollantsch Brasil*' or '*Nieuw-Holland*' – and the Company built 39 forts there). Later, it turned its attention to *Guyana* (Berbice and Essequibo, Swedish colonies which passed into British hands in 1667 and then became known as British Guyana and Demerara), where the Dutch Republic acquired claims to the Wild Coast (*Suriname* (1667), the '*Historic Inner City of Paramaribo*' inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2002, C 940rev). It was also active in the islands of the *Antilles*: St Maarten (1630; 1631 construction of Fort Amsterdam; 1648 finally in the hands of the WIC; St Maarten was initially important for its saltpans but from 1740 onward mainly for its sugar plantations), Curaçao (1634; important as a maritime support and supply station, supervised by Amsterdam (1628), whence a number of Jews emigrated to the island; in the seventeenth century a pentagonal fort – Fort Amsterdam – was built, later in the century modified to an irregular rectangle; Curaçao has the oldest surviving synagogue in the New World, c. 1730; '*Historical Area of Willemstad, Inner City and Harbour*', World Heritage List, 1997, C 819), Aruba, Bonaire (both in the hands of the WIC from 1636), and the Leeward islands of St Eustatius and Saba. Ships trading with North America sailed from St Eustatius.

Count Johan Maurits van Nassau-Siegen (1604-1679), nicknamed 'the Brazilian', was appointed Captain General of Brazil in 1636 and Governor of New Holland between 1637 and 1644. His seat of government was in Recife, which he had rebuilt in Dutch style and with a gridded street plan. The first synagogue in the New World was built there and he introduced the Amsterdam system of weights and measures.

Johan Maurits also played a major role in the study of Brazil's flora and fauna (natural history studies and land surveying by Georg Marcgraf (1610-1644) (*Historia Naturalis Brasiliae*, 1648); topographical paintings by Frans Post (1612-1680) and Albert Eeckhout (c. 1610-1650), as well as drawings and paintings by the latter showing the country's people, fauna and flora, published in seven albums, the *Libei Picturatie*, Bibliotheka Jagiellonska, Cracow, Poland).

Demerara (*Demerary*) was a Dutch colony, the administrative centre of which was the then Stabroek, today's *Georgetown* (now capital of Guyana). The key economic feature was the sugar plantations. In the early nineteenth century, Berbice, Demerara and Essequibo were to be amalgamated to form British Guyana. Guyana now wishes to nominate Georgetown (Stabroek) for inclusion in the World Heritage List.

In 1626, the WIC bought the island of *Manhattan*, on which it established New Amsterdam (*Nieuw-Amsterdam*) with the fort of the same name. Manhattan had been opened up in 1609 by Henry Hudson (c. 1560-1611), when he was searching for a shorter passage to Asia in the service of the VOC. In 1623 a Dutch expedition landed there (at the spot which is now Battery Park in New York). The States General planned to develop a colony, peopled by Dutch citizens and to be called 'New Netherland'. Manhattan was bought for this purpose.

In 1625 New Amsterdam was founded on Manhattan, after the WIC had taken over Fort Nassau (built there in 1615). A small trading post was established under the leadership of Peter Stuyvesant (1611/12-1672) and several semi-permanent trading stations or 'factories' were built elsewhere in New Netherland on behalf of Amsterdam merchants. In 1667, however, the area passed into British hands, severing the ties between Amsterdam and the future New York, in which the city had invested so heavily.

In 1614, the Amsterdam-based New Netherland Company (*Compagnie van Nieuw Nederland*) took possession of New Netherland. In 1621 the area came under the control of the WIC, and more particularly of Amsterdam. In 1652, New Amsterdam received its charter and the governance of the new town was based on that of Amsterdam. In 1645 Pieter Stuyvesant (1611/12-1672) was appointed governor-general of New Netherland, having previously (from 1642) governed other territories, including the island of Curaçao.

In 1656 the city of Amsterdam bought Fort Casimir, in New Netherland, beside the Delaware River, with the intention of establishing a new colony under the name of Newer Amstel (Nieuwer-Amstel). The venture was to be unsuccessful.

Eastern New York and New Jersey still retain a pre-industrial agricultural heritage recalling this history: several hundred typical wooden 'Dutch barns' built between 1630 and 1825 are to be found in the rural parts of the Hudson, Mohawk and Schoharie valleys and in northern and central New Jersey.

In *Africa*, the WIC established numerous forts and trading posts and in 1624 the States General awarded the Republic's African possessions to the Company. This meant West Africa with, at its heart, the Gold Coast (now partly in *Ghana*), where there were a large number of forts (12) and trading posts. The WIC's administrative centre in the area was at Fort Elmina, in the Gulf of Guinea (Ghana). The WIC took possession of Elmina from the Portuguese – who called it fort 'São Jorge de Mina' – in 1637 and it was to remain in Dutch hands until 1872, when it became British. It was used as a depot in the slave trade between Africa and the Caribbean (Curaçao and Guyana). Of the more than twelve million slaves estimated to have been shipped by European countries from Africa, over 550,000 were exported by the Dutch.

The WIC's rivals in the slave trade were the *English Company of Adventurers* trading to Gynney and Bynney and two Scandinavian companies, one Swedish and the other Danish (but both largely financed from Amsterdam). In 1667 the English company's fort in Cormantin (Ghana) fell into the hands of the Republic and was quickly renamed Fort Amsterdam. In 1979, eleven historic forts and castles in Ghana (including Fort Goedehoop, Fort Leysaemhyt, Fort Conraadsburg, Fort Amsterdam, Fort Batenstein, Fort Vredenburg and Elmina Castle) were inscribed in the World Heritage List under the title of '*Forts and Castles, Volta, Greater Accra, Central and Western Regions*' (C 34).



The capture of Recife in the north of Brazil (1630) gave the WIC an important base in *Latin America*. In 1654, however, Brazil had to be abandoned again.

Suriname became a Dutch possession in 1667 and was given to the Second WIC to run in 1682. With its sugarcane plantations, the country was of great economic importance to the WIC and Amsterdam (in the mid-eighteenth century, Amsterdam had about 90 sugar refineries). Later, the Second WIC sold a third of Suriname to the city of Amsterdam (which gained possession of another third in 1770). A fort called Fort New Amsterdam was built at the confluence of the Suriname and Commewijne rivers.

The Second WIC had a series of gold and slave-trading forts and trading posts on the west coast of Africa. In 1734 the WIC had to surrender its trade monopoly but continued to function until 1791 as an organisation for the administration of the Dutch colonies in Africa and the Americas. At the end of that period, its assets passed to the State.

Unlike those of the VOC, the WIC archives have not survived. They were dispersed and lost by fire in the nineteenth century.

WIC buildings in Amsterdam

- *Westindisch Huis (West India House)*, Herenmarkt (formerly Varkensmarkt)/ Haarlemmerstraat

[1](#) previous page

In 1623, the city of Amsterdam gave the WIC a former meat market (built in 1617) to use as its headquarters. The Company added two wings, on the west and south sides of the existing edifice. In 1654, however, following the loss of Brazil, the Company moved to its 1647 waterfront warehouse on the IJ, 'het 's-Gravenhekje' (see *Warehouses*). In the nineteenth century, West India House became a Lutheran orphanage and old people's home. The surviving complex, grouped around a central courtyard, dates from 1617, 1623, 1825 and 1873.

This is where the decision was taken to establish a settlement on Manhattan (New Amsterdam/New York, 1625). Inside the building, there is now a modern reconstruction of the boardroom of the Amsterdam Chamber of the WIC and the central courtyard has a fountain with a statue of Peter Stuyvesant (1592-1672), Director-General of Curaçao and Governor of New Netherland [2](#) previous page. These features are due to action taken by Stichting Diogenes to restore the complex and find a new use for it following a disastrous fire in 1975. The restoration was carried out by the Stichting West-Indisch Huis in 1978-1981. The building is now used as a venue for weddings etc..

- ⋮ *WIC warehouse (Het 's-Gravenhekje)*, Prins Hendrikkade/Peperstraat [3](#) previous page

Built in 1641/42 and restored in 1986, the edifice originally also housed the WIC slaughterhouse. It bears a cartouche enclosing the monogram GWC (for *Geoctroyeerde West-Indische Compagnie*). The building was used by the WIC until 1791. The Company's Amsterdam Chamber was based in it from 1647 to 1674. In Peperstraat, there is also an office for clerks (*commieshuis*) (1690).

BUILDINGS BOUWWERKEN

BUILDINGS ALONG SINGEL, HERENGRACHT, KEIZERSGRACHT AND PRINSENGRACHT

A selection within the property of interesting private houses and other buildings along Singel, Herengracht, Keizersgracht and Prinsengracht, Leliegracht, Leidsegracht and Reguliersgracht, the even-numbered side of the river Amstel and Nieuwe Herengracht

The 'seventeenth-century canal ring area' (the *property*)

The *seventeenth-century canal ring area* is defined as the *property* within the urban conservation area of Amsterdam within Singelgracht, that is demarcated to the west of the river Amstel by Brouwersgracht ¹, Korte Prinsengracht ², Buiten Brouwersstraat, Herenmarkt, Binnen Wieringerstraat and the course of Singel ³, Herengracht ⁴, Keizersgracht ⁵ and Prinsengracht ⁶. The canal ring is crossed here by the transverse canals Blauwburgwal, Leliegracht, Leidsegracht ⁷, Reguliersgracht ⁸ and Beulingsloot ⁹. In the area built in the *Third Expansion*, from Brouwersgracht to Blauwburgwal, between and parallel to Singel and Herengracht, runs Langestraat, which contains many former coach houses. From Leidsegracht, Kerkstraat ¹⁰ runs parallel to Keizersgracht and Prinsengracht, continuing east of the Amstel as Nieuwe Kerkstraat. The *seventeenth-century canal ring area* extends east of the Amstel to Plantage Muidergracht with Nieuwe Herengracht ¹¹, Nieuwe Keizersgracht ¹², Nieuwe Prinsengracht and Nieuwe Achtergracht.

The canal ring has frequently been described, extolled and depicted over the centuries. One early example was the *Grachtenboek* by Caspar Philips (1732-1789), published by the bookseller Bernardus Mourik in 1768/71.

Singel

After the city wall along Singel was demolished between 1601 and 1603, this canal was used mainly as a kind of inner harbour. For a long time, starting in the early seventeenth century (1611), this was where the regular services to London and Rouen arrived and departed. Some parts of Singel were therefore given names like Engelsche Kaai, Londensche Kaai or Rouaensche Kaai (English, London or Rouen Quay).

Singel has had numerous markets over the centuries, most of which have since vanished, including an apple market from 1616 onwards, and a fish market at Haarlemmersluis. Their memory is preserved by the flower market between Koningsplein and Vijzelstraat, which still exists today.

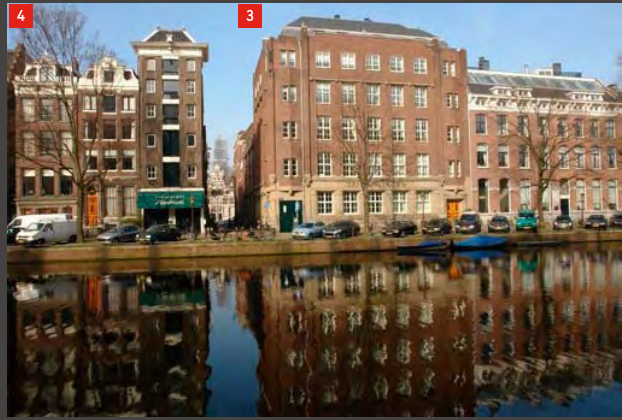
- Singel 2 ¹³
Warehouse/private house *De Kruiwagen* with the café *De Spaanse Gevel*, wooden lower façade, crow-step gable, built 1606-1620, originally outside the city gate (once on the site of the present Haarlemmersluis, 1681) on land outside the dyke at the IJ bay. One of its owners was Hendrick Janszoon Cruywagen, a ship's chandler. He was a successful businessman, whose family portrait hangs in Amsterdam's Rijksmuseum (attributed to Jacob van Loo (1614-1670), 'Meebeeck Cruywagen Family' on their country estate on Uitweg/Hoge Dijk, outside Haarlemmerpoort)
- Singel 11/Kattengat ¹⁴
Ronde Lutherse Kerk, 1668/71, designed by Adriaan Dortsman (1635-1682).
See *Churches and chapels*
- Singel 19-21 ¹⁵
Dwarshuis (house with barn/workshop etc. perpendicular to the main building), seventeenth century, with later bell gable (c. 1760) for warehouse.





- Singel 24, *Vriesland*
C. 1761. In the cornice a sculpted allusion to shipping. Rococo stucco work in the passageway, stairwell and front room, with images of shipping, commissioned by the shipping magnate Volkert de Vries.
- Singel 36, *Zeevrugt* (Harvest of the sea) ¹
Cornice with attic and sculpted crest (style of Louis XV) (with allusion to shipping), 1763.
Main salon, with rococo decoration, 1736. Passageway with ornamental stucco work on walls and ceilings.
- Singel 45/Korte Korsjespoortsteeg ²
Dated, 1725. Sandstone cornice, surmounted by the imperial crown
- Singel 56, 58, 60
May be dated to c. 1740 (gable top no. 58 altered c. 1800). Gable tops of nos. 56 and 60 after designs by Jan van Logteren (1709-1745). Stucco in interior (impaled arms of married couple above the entrance to the salon) also by Jan van Logteren.
Passageway of house no. 60, eighteenth-century stucco work (Louis XV), symmetrical construction, with imitation doors on one side. Representation of Demeter, goddess of the earth and agriculture. The cornice gable of no. 58 was raised somewhat later to conceal the roof (a common practice here in the eighteenth century when point, crow-step or bell gables in the city were 'modernised').
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Singel 62 ³
Brick crow-step gable, neo-Renaissance
- Singel 64
Crow-step gable, 1638, beneath it the eighteenth-century façade
- Singel 83-85/Lijnbaanssteeg, Ferryman's house *De Swaen* ⁴
'Double' house, 1654 (date-stone). Side façade facing Singel with pilasters, front façade on Lijnbaanssteeg. Stone tablet or 'gable-stone' with swan in the front façade. Was called *De Lontse Cay* in the seventeenth century. Wooden lower façade. Restoration 1941
- Singel 94 ⁵
House with gable dating from 1876, lower section older
- Singel 104-106 ⁶
Two bell gables, 'twins', 1743
- Singel 116, *Huis met de Neuzen* ('House with the noses')
1752, neck gable with stone scrolls displaying three heads, each sporting a large nose. Main house and rear annex. Passageway with imitation doors, above the doors reliefs in stucco.
- Singel 118
Former clandestine Mennonite church 'De Zon'. See *Churches and chapels*
- Singel 120
Ceiling painting with Virtue and the Passions, Jan van Neck, 1644.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Singel 132, 134 ⁷
132: sandstone façade, c. 1730, double perron; 134: sandstone façade, with attic and carved crest, c. 1740
- Singel 140-142, *De Dolphijn* ⁸
'Double' house, built between 1599 and 1602. Design by Hendrick de Keyser (1565-1621). Was once the home of Frans Banning Cock (seigneur of Purmerland and IJpendam) (1605-1655), the central figure in Rembrandt's *Night Watch* ('The Company of Captain Frans Banning Cocq and Lieutenant Willem van Ruytenburch'), made in 1642 (Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam). After 1678 the building was divided into two houses. The crow-step gable of no. 140 was reconstructed during the restoration of 1967.

- Singel 145
House with bell gable, late eighteenth century (1790), Louis XVI
- Singel 166 ¹
House (1634) with very narrow façade (eighteenth century), 1.80 metres wide. Triangular floor plan, 16 metres deep; the rear façade is 5 metres wide. Until 1634 there was an alley here.
- Singel 167-185
P.C. Hoofhuis and *Het Witte Huis*, corner of Singel and Raadhuisstraat. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*
- Singel 192
Merchant's house, renovated and raised in 1739; façade with neck gable (date beneath stone scrolls), framed in stone, dated 1739, design by Jan van Logteren (1709-1745), who also decorated the passageway (symmetrical design, with imitation doors on one side) and stairwell.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Singel 194-198 ²
Bank. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*
- Singel 202-208/Driekoningenstraat, *Drie Koningen* ³
See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*
- Singel 210/Driekoningenstraat ⁴
Warehouse, late eighteenth century. See *Warehouses*
- Singel 213
Office building, 1908, extended in 1932. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*
- Singel 239/Paleisstraat/Spuistraat 211, *Bunghuis*
See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*
- Singel 250/256/Raadhuisstraat ⁵
Office building. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*
- Singel 258 ⁶
Painted stone neck gable, second half of seventeenth century
- Singel 282-286 ⁷
Group of three houses, designed by Philips Vingboons (1607-1678), 1639. Façade articulated with pilaster strips; pediments above the windows. Gable-tops have been altered.
- Singel 288 ⁸
Sandstone façade, bell-shaped, sculpted cornice, c. 1755.
- Singel 292 ⁹
House with cornice gable, attic with crest, c. 1740
- Singel 294 ¹⁰
House rebuilt in 1974, neck gable
- Singel 300-308 ¹¹
300, eighteenth-century warehouse. Treeftsteeg between nos. 304 and 306. The buildings at nos. 304 to 308 are all detached.
- Singel 314/Romeinsarmsteeg
Corner building, designed by Marius Göbel, 1975. Contemporary canal-side building, designed to harmonise with the surrounding historical buildings
- Singel 316-322 ¹²
Four houses with original eighteenth-century façades, each one three bays wide
- Singel 342 ¹³





- Art nouveau façade, c. 1910
- Singel 377/379
Two neck gables, 1730; restoration 1976
- Singel 390, *Bouwkonst* ¹
Early eighteenth-century façade, *Bouwkonst*, with elevated cornice
- Singel 410/Wijde Heisteeg ²
Raised neck gable, 1647
- Singel 412/Wijde Heisteeg ³
Seventeenth-century neck gable
- Singel 411, *Oude Lutherse Kerk* ⁴
See *Churches and chapels*
- Singel 421 ⁵
Formerly a lodging house, façade dates from 1733. Cornice with Amsterdam's coat of arms. Today in use by the University of Amsterdam
- Singel 423 ⁶
Once the town armoury, built in 1605/06. Façade, early seventeenth-century architecture. Since 1957 in use by the library of the University of Amsterdam. Restoration 1972
See *Warehouses*
- Singel 428 ⁷
Apartments, designed in 1963/68, built in 1968/70, after designs by A. Cahen, J.P. Girod and J. Koning, with the use of standardised, prefabricated cement blocks.
- Singel 434-436/Beulingstraat ⁸
Originally two seventeenth-century bell gables
- Singel 446, Catholic church of St Francis Xavier ('*De Krijtberg*') ⁹
See *Churches and chapels*
- Singel 450 ¹⁰
Nos. 450 (crow-step gable, 1642) and 454 (neck gable, c. 1725) have small archways leading to the Mennonite church '*Bij 't Lam*' (no. 452), which is not visible from the road.
See *Churches and chapels*
- Singel 460 ¹¹
House with neck gable (originally called *Nuerenburg* (Nuremberg)) (1662), designed by Philips Vingboons (1607-1678), formerly (from 1838 to 1912) *Odeon* concert hall (for which purpose it was renovated by M.G. Tétar van Elven) (1803-1882)
- Singel 468
Art nouveau building, 1914
- Singel 480/Koningsplein
Shop and office building. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*

Herengracht

The buildings at the beginning of Herengracht near the east side of Brouwersgracht date from 1585. The water in the canal here, which was much narrower then, was originally the innermost moat from 1585. The plots of land on this east side are narrower and more irregular than those on the west side, where buildings were erected after the canal was widened in 1613.

- Herengracht 7
Originally seventeenth-century house, 3.12 metres wide, now with bell gable (c. 1760)

- Herengracht 33/Roomolenstraat
House, three bays wide, with bell gable, late seventeenth century. Windows, Louis XVI. Kitchen annex, side façade Roomoolenstraat (see *Kitchen annexes*)
- Herengracht 35/Roomolenstraat
House with neck gable, 1735, with cantilevered façade and kitchen annex. Restoration by N.V. Stadsherstel, acquired 1961, restoration 1964
- Herengracht 37, warehouse *Baltimore* ¹
See *Warehouses*
- Herengracht 38 ²
Early seventeenth-century crow-step gable, 1614
- Herengracht 39, warehouse *Gouda* ³
See *Warehouses*
- Herengracht 40 ⁴
House dating from 1790 in the style of Louis XVI, created by renovating two seventeenth-century houses. Probably designed by Jacob Otten Husley (1738-1796). Striking elements include the deep, horizontal pointing in the sandstone neo-classicist façade with straight cornice. Steps with bluestone slabs, separated from the road by chains. Empire windows, opening inwards, then a French innovation. Once the residence of the French governor-general C.F. Lebrun (1739-1824), appointed by Napoleon, 1810. After the Netherlands regained its independence in 1813, the house became the property of the State. It acquired the offices of the Netherlands Trading Company, thereby becoming the first house on Herengracht to be used as an office building
- Herengracht 43-45, warehouses *'t Fortuyn* and *D'Arke Noach* ⁵
See *Warehouses*
- Herengracht 48
House with sandstone façade, balustrade and ornamental vases, 1759-1762. The crest is decorated with three hills, alluding to a former owner's last name.
- Herengracht 52
'Double' house, Empire entrance with steps in the central bay, cornice gable early nineteenth century
- Herengracht 54 ⁶
'Double' house, with cornice gable, renovated in 1868
- Herengracht 59, *De Hond* ⁷
House with neck gable, overlaid with pilasters, dated 1659. Door and windows altered in the nineteenth century. Property of the Hendrick de Keyser Association. Restoration 1964
- Herengracht 61-63 ⁸
'Twin' buildings, with neck gables, 1665/66. Decorated *oeils-de-boeuf*, sculpted festoons
- Herengracht 70-72 ⁹
'Double' house, façade articulated by pilasters, pediment, including four *oeils-de-boeuf*. There are two houses behind the façade.
- Herengracht 77/Korstjespoortsteeg ¹⁰
House with crow-step gable and kitchen annex, brick with sandstone decoration, 1632. Kitchen annex, side façade on Korstjespoortsteeg. Restoration 1966, Hendrick de Keyser Association. See *Kitchen annexes*
- Herengracht 80
In 1975 an early eighteenth-century neck gable was reconstructed here.
- Herengracht 81 ¹¹
Early seventeenth-century crow-step gable (dating to 1590 is uncertain). Reconstructive restoration 1965-1975





- Herengracht 84
Dutch Renaissance. In the first quarter of the seventeenth century (1615), this house and no. 86 both acquired crow-step gables.
- Herengracht 89
Reconstructed façade after a print in the *Grachtenboek* produced by Caspar Philips (1732-1789), 1768
- Herengracht 91
Raised neck gable, 1657
- Herengracht 100 1
Crow-step gable (reconstructed), c. 1620, Dutch Renaissance
- Herengracht next to no. 103/Blauwburgwal 2
Corner house, 1669. Property of the Hendrick de Keyser Association. Restoration 1947. Kitchen annex on front and side façades. See *Kitchen annexes*
- Herengracht 109 3
'Double' house, eighteenth century, beneath cornice gable, with double perron. To the right, no. 109a, a narrow warehouse just one bay wide, built in the last quarter of the nineteenth century where there was once an alley.
- Herengracht 115
Brick façade with cornice and crow-step gable above bay with entrance, designed by Dr H.P. Berlage (1856-1934), 1889/90
- Herengracht 120, *De Coningh van Denemarken* 4
House, three bays wide, with crow-step gable, 1615. Door with fan light, Louis XVI
- Herengracht 141-145, *De Koophandel* building
See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*
- Herengracht 164 5
Sandstone cornice gable (Louis XV), dating from after renovation (1743)
- Herengracht 166
Sandstone façade, with inscription *Soli Deo Gloria*, sculpted gable-top with woman's head as decoration of the hoist beam, attributed to Jan Baptist Nijs. Restoration 1960
- Herengracht 168, *Witte Huijs* (now Theatre Institute/Museum, since 1960, until end of 2008) 6
Built in 1638 for Michael Pauw (knight and seigneur of Achttienhoven). One of the founding members of the West India Company (WIC), he founded a settlement on Staten Island on the Hudson river.
House with sandstone early classicist façade is known as possessing the first neck gable in Amsterdam, designed by Philips Vingboons (1607-1678), surmounted by a pediment and with scrolls on either side; depicted in *Afbeeldings der voornaemste gebouwen uyt alle die Philips Vingboons geordineert heeft* (Amsterdam, 1648).
Both interior and exterior were completely renovated from 1728 onwards; the façade was given extended windows and the pediments above them were removed. Ceiling and wall paintings by Jacob de Wit (1696-1754) (1728/30) and Isaac de Moucheron (1667-1744) ('The Three Fates') (under the eighteenth-century paintings in the back room is a painting dating from 1638, when the house was built, with the Four Elements in the corners; stucco work by Ignatius (1685-1732) and Jan van Logteren (1732-1785); banister by Ignatius van Logteren. House has front and rear parts. Restoration 1954/58.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Herengracht 170-172, *Bartolotti House* 7
'Double' house, 1618/22, built for Willem (Gulielmo) Bartolotti van den Heuvel, merchant trading with Italy and the Baltic. Design possibly by Hendrick de Keyser (1565-1621). Striking angled façade

built to follow the bend in the canal at this point. Front red brick façade, behind which there are two houses.

Cartouches in the façade show how Bartolotti amassed his wealth: 'Ingenio et assiduo labore' (through ingenuity and assiduous labour) and 'Religione et Probitate' (through religion and virtue). Bartolotti shipped grain from the Baltic and Russia to Italy. He also sold weapons and provided credit.

The left part, no. 172, was for regular household use, while the right-hand building was used for entertaining. No. 170 contains a ceiling painting by J. Buttner, c. 1750.

Reconstructed gable-top. Property of the Hendrick de Keyser Association. Restoration 1971 and 1997, respectively.

See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*

- Herengracht 179-189 ¹
Office building. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*
- Herengracht 182, *De Zonnewijser/Van Brienenhuis* ²
'Double' house built 1772/81 for Arnout Jan van Brienen (seigneur of Groote Lindt and Dortsmond, (1735-1804), father of Willem Joseph van Brienen, who was the city's mayor under Napoleon), after a design by the German architect Ludwig Friedrich Druck. Sandstone façade in the style of Louis XVI, the first such façade in Amsterdam. Double perron, restored as part of the restoration in 1972. Van Brienen founded an almshouse or *hofje* named after him at Prinsengracht 85-133.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Herengracht 199-201/Driekoningenstraat ³
Former bank. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*
- Herengracht 203, *Het Koopmanshuis* ⁴
Crow-step gable dating from 1618. The pediment was reconstructed in 1920. Once bore an inscription 'De Thoorn van Straetsburgh'
- Herengracht 206-214
Bank. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*
- Herengracht 218-220
Two identical houses sporting different neck gables, early seventeenth century, Dutch Renaissance. Restoration by the restoration architect A.A. Kok (1881-1951)
- Herengracht 237
Design by Cornelis Muysken (1843-1922), 1881. Façade neo-Renaissance, central section accentuated with pilasters and festoons
- Herengracht 241
Built 1731. Property of the Hendrick de Keyser Association. Restoration 2006/07. In the interior, an eighteenth-century ceiling painting on stucco (Louis XIV), including representations of the Four Seasons.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Herengracht 243a ⁵
Corner house built as a shop, designed by G.A. van Arkel (1858-1918), decorated with a statuette of a South African *boer*, to commemorate the Boer War, 1899-1902. Restoration 2001
- Herengracht 244-246, *Bothnia*
Modified new buildings (architect T.F. Felderhof), 1920s. The attic is from no. 246
- Herengracht 249
Neck gable with pilasters, seventeenth century. Property of N.V. Stadsherstel since 1958

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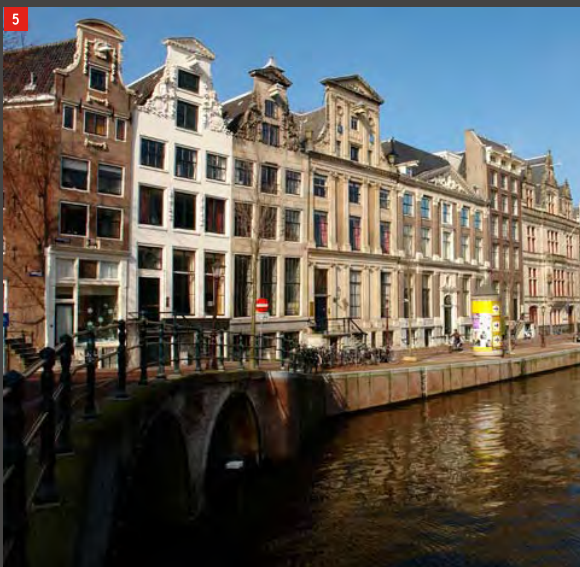




- Herengracht 255-255a ¹
Built 1896, after a design by W.J.M. Poggenbeek, extended with two bays on the left in 1933, designed by the Van Gendt brothers.
- Herengracht 257 ²
Stone neck gable, third quarter of the seventeenth century, basement with bossage work on façade, above which are Doric pilasters on the main floor and colossal Ionic order on the second and third floors
- Herengracht 260-266
Office building. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*
- Herengracht 263
Late seventeenth-century neck gable
- Herengracht 267
Warehouse. See *Warehouses*
- Herengracht 269
Crow-step gable, 1656
- Herengracht 270
Wide house with cornice gable, c. 1740, extended on the right in the fourth quarter of the eighteenth century
- Herengracht 274, *D'Witte Leli*
House with sculpted attic (Louis XV), Jan van Logteren (1709-1745), 1737/38 or 1739
- Herengracht 280
Stone façade dating from 1709, attic with family coat of arms. Changes to the interior and front door, designed by K.P.C. de Bazel (1869-1923), 1909
- Herengracht 281, 283
Raised neck gables designed in 1659/60 by the fortifications expert Hendrik Ruse (1624-1679). There was once a narrow alley next to no. 283 (Groene Kaarssteegje)
- Herengracht 284, *Van Brienen House*
A house built in c. 1620 formerly stood here. It was renovated after 1728 with a sandstone cornice gable (see also *interiors*). In the rear annex (*achterhuis*) ceiling painting by A. Elliger, 1733. Painted wall hangings by Dirk Dalens III (1668-1753).
House once possessed a 'floating cellar'. Apparent symmetry in the front façade, three bays wide, achieved by not accentuating the entrance.
Headquarters of the Hendrick de Keyser Association and its property since 1932. Restorations 1961, 1978, 1997
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Herengracht 286
Office building. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*
- Herengracht 293-305
Telephone exchange. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*
- Herengracht 300/Wolvenstraat
Property of N.V. Stadsherstel since 1984, restored in 1987
- Herengracht 307 ³
House in the style of the Amsterdam School, 1920, fairly uncommon in the canal ring area
- Herengracht 308
House with bell gable, Louis XIV, c. 1745

- Herengracht 309-311
A 'Van Houten building'. E. van Houten was a municipal building inspector from the 1920s onwards. Both these front façades are apparently eighteenth century; Van Houten used them with older sections to fill up gaps in the wall of buildings lining the canal
- Herengracht 319
Funnel-shaped or 'spout' gable, former stable, designed by J.F. van Hamersveld, 1889. The little tower was built over a former alley
- Herengracht 320-324
Office building. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*
- Herengracht 325
Front façade with cornice, nineteenth century. Property of N.V. Stadsherstel, 1975, restoration in 1989
- Herengracht 329, *De Vogelstruys*
House with neck gable, 1662. Was the rear annex of the house at Singel 370 that bore the same name. No. 327 was also the rear annex of a building on Singel
- Herengracht 334
Narrow building with crow-step gable, c. 1625, Dutch Renaissance. Restoration by Bart van Kasteel, 1954, who also designed the new buildings in neo-historical style at nos. 330-332
- Herengracht 336
Front façade, c. 1745. Gable-top with sandstone cornice
- Herengracht 342
Sandstone cornice gable, 1719/20, the central bay accentuated with pilaster strips to preserve the symmetry of the façade; stone attic with balusters and family coat of arms
- Herengracht 346 ¹
'Double' house, 1614, Dutch Renaissance, built after the expansion of 1613, with black tarred brick façade, five bays in width, enlivened with stone bands and blocks, above which is a crow-step gable. Door and windows are Empire style.
This is one of the few houses to have been preserved from the expansion of 1612/1613
- Herengracht 354
Originally had a 'floating cellar'
- Herengracht 361, *Sonnenberg* ²
Brick reconstructed crow-step gable, mid-seventeenth century. Gable-stone alluding to the former owner Sonnenberg. Property of N.V. Stadsherstel, 1959. Restoration and reconstruction, J. Prins, 1962.
- Herengracht 363
Result of the restoration and reconstruction carried out in 1963 to plans by J. Prins
- Herengracht 364-370, *Cromhout Houses* ³
The *Cromhout Houses*, originally three houses, increased to four through later purchase (with a smaller inserted house). Striking details include the four identical classicist façades in stone (neck gables), while the floor plans of the houses behind them are different. They are named after Jacob Cromhout (1608-1669), for whom they were built in 1660-1662. Each one is three bays wide, with sandstone classicist neck gables, accentuated by a central ressault that extends into the neck of the gable, design by Philips Vingboons (1607-1678), sculptural work by Jan Gijsseling the Elder (see also *interiors*); inside a remarkable oval stairwell added during renovation in 1717. The rear annex of no. 366 has stucco work by Ignatius van Logteren (1732-1785) and sculptural work on the rear façade, such as the impaled arms of a newly married couple inserted there. Ceiling paintings by Jacob de Wit (1695-1754) (1717), main salon (1718, Olympian gods) and in the rear room (1750, Apollo and





the Four Seasons, from Herengracht 440; restoration before 1999). Restoration completed in 2000. Now the premises of the Bible Museum.

See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*

- Herengracht 380-382 ¹
Designed by A. Salm (1875-1915), 1889, built for the tobacco plantation owner Jacob Nienhuis (1836-1926). It displays certain similarities to the house of W.K. Vanderbilt, Fifth Avenue (New York), built 1879/81. Entrance and main façade after French sixteenth-century Renaissance (François I) style of châteaux along the river Loire; bathroom in Moresque style, besides which the interiors of other rooms display a variety of neo-historical styles. Restoration 1978. Now the premises of the Netherlands Institute for War Documentation.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*

In 1614 the buildings on this side of Herengracht ended at this point. After no. 382 came a transverse canal, Dwarsherengracht. After 1663, the following lots along Herengracht were made available.

- Herengracht 386 ²
Designed by Philips Vingboons (1607-1678), 1663/65, 'double' house with pilaster façade (Doric/composite) in brick with stone sections and pediment, five bays in width. In the eighteenth century the interior was modernised; c. 1795 painted wall hangings were added to the room overlooking the garden, with idealised Dutch landscapes (Jurriaan Andriessen, 1742-1819). Entrance door neo-Louis XVI (c. 1875)
- Herengracht 388, *De Son* ³
House 1665 (dated), sandstone neck gable with wide neck, three bays in width. The structure of the façade, with its Ionic, composite and Corinthian pilasters, recalls the façades of Italian baroque churches
- Herengracht 390-392 ⁴
Two houses, with 'double' façades, sandstone, neck gables flanked by stone scrolls depicting a man and a woman, 1665
- Herengracht 394/Leidsegracht, *De Vier Heemskinderen* ⁵
Corner house with bell gable, named the *Vier Heemskinderen* after the gable-stone, c. 1671, originally high wooden lower façade. In the side façade, entrance to the dwellings on the upper floors. Property of Hendrick de Keyser Association. Restoration in 1922 and 1970
- Herengracht 395/Beulingsloot
A crow-step gable designed in neo-Renaissance style with cantilevered little tower where the canal is crossed by Beulingsloot, designed by J.P.F. van Rossum (1854-1918), W. J. Vuyk
- Herengracht 402 ⁶
Was once part of the row of identical façades at nos. 400-408. The neck gable dates from 1665. Ceiling painting by J. Buttner, c. 1750
- Herengracht 403a/Beulingstraat

This is where the *Fourth Expansion* of the *seventeenth-century canal ring area* began.

- Herengracht 408 ⁷
Dated (1665) sandstone neck gable; the pediments above the windows were reconstructed during restoration (1975)
- Herengracht 409-411
Two neck gables, c. 1670. Restoration 1954

- Herengracht 410-412 ¹
The lots were sold here in 1664. No. 412, 'double' house, designed by Philips Vingboons (1607-1678), 1664/67. No. 410, neo-historical façade dates from 1938. Stone façade, with slightly projecting central section, surmounted by a pediment and articulated with pilasters. Here, in contrast to the seventeenth-century building tradition, the entrance is at street level. Attic, early nineteenth century
- Herengracht 415
Neo-Renaissance crow-step gable, designed by W.G. Welsing (1859-1942), 1891. Connected with the Catholic church, the *Krijtberg*, on Singel. See *Churches and chapels*
- Herengracht 416 ²
Neck gable, dated 1667. Inscription on the pediment *Soli Deo Gloria*. Façade almost entirely original. Windows and door altered later.
- Herengracht 426-430/Leidsestraat
Corner-shop building. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*
- Herengracht 427-429 ³
'Twin' neck gables, c. 1700/25. Major restoration 1966
- Herengracht 431 ⁴
Clandestine Mennonite church *Bij 't Lam*. See *Churches and chapels*
- Herengracht 433 ⁵
Façade design, 'double' house, five bays wide, execution by the carpenter-designer Jan van der Streng (1695-1762) and Ignatius van Logteren (1732-1785), after 1716. Double perron.
- Herengracht 436 ⁶
House, three bays wide (1668/72), renovated and modified between 1719 and 1736, with further renovations in 1895. In the interior, stucco work by Ignatius van Logteren (1732-1785), as in the former entrance hall. Salon after a design by Isaac de Moucheron (1667-1744), originally with paintings by Jacob de Wit (1695-1754).
In the attic impaled arms of a married couple. The original architecture of the house is in the austere or classicist style.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Herengracht 442 ⁷
Designed by J.A. van Straaten (1862-1920), 1905, façade with the arms of Friesland, Amsterdam and Groningen.
Ceiling painting, probably by Gerard de Lairese (1640-1711)
- Herengracht 446, *De Graeff* ⁸
'Double' house, 1669/72, altered in the eighteenth century, decoration of outside and inside (including passageway) by Jan Logteren (1709-1745), 1734-1735; sculptural work in the salon, B. and T. de Wilde, 1740. Front room on the right with coffered ceiling displaying seventeenth-century quartered arms, carved in wood and painted, reconstructed 1959. Double perron, c. 1800, entrance flanked by double pilasters. Above the entrance door a carved fan light. Attic, with De Graeff family coat of arms
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Herengracht 450 ⁹
'Double' house, designed by Philips Vingboons (1607-1678) for the banker Joseph Deutz (1624-1684), 1669/71. Stone façade with horizontal fluting, accentuated by double perron and projecting balcony. In the mid-eighteenth century the home of Jacob Boreel Janszoon (1768-1821), who also owned the historic country estate Beeckesteyn near Velsen.
An extra floor was added to the house in 1922.





- Herengracht 456
The original 'double' house was built in 1671 after a design by Adriaan Dortsman (1635-1682), for the merchant and regent Joan Corver (1628-1716). Now possesses nineteenth-century façade. The house's original architecture is in the austere or classicist style.
- Herengracht 458 ¹
'Double' house, five bays wide; façade, 1875, designed by W. Hamer. In the stairwell three seventeenth-century tapestries as wall hangings which come from Keizersgracht
- Herengracht 460, *Staetshuys* ²
'Double' house, five bays wide, double perron leading up to the first floor, originally seventeenth century. Renovated c. 1803 (stucco ceilings in salon and right-hand rear room, mantelpiece in the salon; rear annex added)
See Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property
- Herengracht 462, *Sweedenryck* ³
'Double' house, 1665/71 with sandstone front façade, decorated with horizontal grooves, probably after a design by Adriaan Dortsman (1635-1682), built for Guiliam Sweedenrijck. Renovated in 1759. Sculptures above the entrance depicting Faith and Charity. In the attic, Prosperity and Commerce (Mercury). Steps in front with balcony. With coach house in Nieuwe Spiegelstraat
- Herengracht 466/Nieuwe Spiegelstraat
Originally the house *De Arend*, 1669, designed by Philips Vingboons (1607-1678), built for Jeronimus Haase. Pediment with sculpted eagle and hares, Jan Gijseling the Younger. Reproduced in *Afbeeldings der voornaemste gebouwen uyt alle die Philips Vingboons geordineert heeft* (Amsterdam, 1648). Once the premises of the Netherlands Trading Company, which carried out thorough renovation (1894, renovation 1904)
- Herengracht 468
Front façade, 1874. Ceiling painting (Zephyr and Flora) and mantel painting (Jupiter and Juno), grisailles, paintings above the doors (Four Seasons), Jacob de Wit (1695-1754), 1746.
See Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property
- Herengracht 472
Brick cornice gable, 1673, 'double' house. Stone door-frame, double perron and lower façade, eighteenth century. Attic accentuating the central section
- Herengracht 474, *Erfgoedhuis*
Narrow house, three bays wide, 1669, with eighteenth-century sandstone front façade, renovation in 1890 of both outside and inside. Now known as the 'Erfgoedhuis' (Heritage House). Offices of organisations including ICOMOS Netherlands and the Netherlands Institute for Heritage. Built 1669; interior renovated after 1890 in the style of Louis XV, at which time the entrance was moved to the basement to make space for a wide living-room on the first floor. Interesting garden.
See Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property
- Herengracht 475, house *De Neufville/Huis aan de Bocht* ⁴
1670, renovated after 1733. Façade (Louis XIV) in sandstone, five bays wide, 'Double' house with cornice gable (sculptures and a celestial globe on the attic) (Louis XIV). Jan Gildemeester (1744-1799) once had his art gallery here (he lived in the house from 1792 to 1799). Slightly projecting central resault with double perron, all in the style of Louis XVI. Renovated in the eighteenth century 1732/36 (stairwell) and after 1792. Renovated in 1907 after a design by C.B. Posthumus Meyjes (1858-1922).
In the interior (front room on the right), decorations by the sculptor Jan Ignatiuszoon van Logteren (1732-1785) and four wall paintings by Isaac De Moucheron (1667-1744), 1732/36, with an additional, fifth, painting, a pastoral landscape by Jurriaan Andriessen (1742-1819) (1792). Ceiling painting (Four Elements, the Cosmos) by Jacob de Wit (1695-1754), 1731. Hall with rich stucco



work on ceilings and walls, c. 1736, Jan Ignatiuszoon van Logteren. Stucco work in the passageway, with busts in medallions above the doors, Jan Ignatiuszoon van Logteren, who also decorated the stairwell, with images of Apollo and 16 musicians.

In 1907 a ceiling painting from Herengracht 507, by Anthonie Elliger (1701-1781) and J. Buttner, was placed here in a stucco ceiling modelled on the eighteenth-century stucco work in the passageway.

In the back of the garden, there is a richly decorated eighteenth-century symmetrical garden house/coach house, façade with Ionic columns, busts and relief of the god Jupiter.

Restoration 1964/66.

See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*

- Herengracht 476, house *De Vicq*

House dating from 1670, front façade 'double' house by Jan van der Streng (1695-1762), five bays wide with attic (1729), Corinthian pilasters, designed by Jan Ignatiuszoon van Logteren (1732-1785), with twentieth-century (1904, neo-historical restoration) renewed double perron and entrance to the first floor (where the vestibule and side room were reconstructed at that time), after the eighteenth-century situation as familiar from the *Grachtenboek* by Caspar Philips. Interior, early eighteenth century, Louis XIV. Interior with ceiling paintings possibly by Gerard de Lairesse (1641-1711). Ceiling of back room painted (*Dawn drives the Night away*) by Jacob de Wit (1695-1754), added in 1904 (De Wit's original ceiling painting depicting Apollo and Artemis was removed in c. 1800). The restoration architect A.A. Kok (1881-1951) designed a fireplace for the small salon, based on the period around 1730. For the main salon, Kok installed a seventeenth-century fireplace from elsewhere. In this room there are paintings in between the tie-beams and secondary beams, c. 1715.

House was presented as a gift to the Hendrick de Keyser Association. Restoration in 1939 and 2000. Restorers, A.A. Kok, who worked here 1928/39, and C.W. Royaards 1939/42.

At the back of the deep garden an eighteenth-century garden house with sculpted mythological figures (Apollo, Diana, Mercury).

Extensive restoration in 1940/42. Now the premises of the Prince Bernhard Cultural Fund.

See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*

- Herengracht 479 1

Originally dating from 1665. Five bays wide, with cornice gable (c. 1725), and later double perron to the central bay.

Passageway with stucco work, stairwell with skylight, c. 1725. In front left room, ceiling painting (*Diana, Olympian gods*), Jacob de Wit (1695-1754). Rear left in room, seventeenth-century painting of the ceiling and beams with birds, and another ceiling painting, 1761, by G. van der Mijn.

See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*

- Herengracht 480

Originally dating from 1670, built for the widow of the shipbuilder Jan Witheyn; Wittenburg island is assumed to have been named after him. The steps are Louis XV, c. 1750. The arrangement of the windows and the door is Empire style, early nineteenth century. Above the entrance door is a carved fanlight.

Stucco work in the passageway (Louis XIV), allegorical scenes. Ceiling painting of the Four Seasons, Gerard de Lairesse (1640-1711).

See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*

- Herengracht 481

Building five bays wide, with cornice gable. Central section accentuated by hanging festoons. In the rear right room, with eighteenth-century interior, ceiling painting with the apotheosis of Hercules, in stucco ceiling, c. 1750.

- See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Herengracht 493 ¹
 'Double' house (1673) renovated in 1766/67 with stone, symmetrical stone façade, in the style of Louis XV. Striking chimneys complete the composition of the façade. Double perron.
Inter alia passageway and stairwell with stucco work, Louis XV. Room overlooking garden with stucco work, 1766/67.
 See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
 - Herengracht 495 ²
 Built in 1673; renovated in 1739 for Jan Six (1668-1750) to plans by Jean Coulon (1678-1760), an assistant of Daniël Marot (1661-1752) from Versailles. Sandstone façade (Louis XIV), three bays wide (probably after a design by the stonemason François Absil). This house too is one of the few with a balcony at the front above the entrance. See also Herengracht 502 and 539.
 - Herengracht 497, *Kattenkabinet*
 1667, 'double' house, six bays wide, projecting central section with pediment (renovated 1837), complete room in the style of Louis XVI (after 1869). Façade altered in the nineteenth century (T-shaped windows). Floor plan mirror image of Herengracht 499.
 In the third and fourth quarters of the nineteenth century, several changes were made to the interior (salon, dining room). In the late 1990s, the seventeenth-century painting of the Maid of Amsterdam on the ceiling, which dates from 1667, was revealed.
 See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
 - Herengracht 499
 Austere symmetrical building (1667), three bays wide. Façade, cornice gable dating from mid-eighteenth century, ending in pilaster strips with square pattern. Central section with double perron (like Keizersgracht 604). Floor plan mirror image of no. 497.
 - Herengracht 500
 'Double' house, altered in eighteenth century. On the first floor, ceiling painting in neo-Louis XVI style, by Witkamp and Van der Waaij, depicting Cupid and Psyche, c. 1900, in addition to other paintings in the house.
 In 1975 the fence in front of the house was reconstructed on the basis of eighteenth-century examples.
 See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
 - Herengracht 502, *Deutz House/official residence of the mayor* ³
 'Double' building, the 'Huis met de Kolommen', originally seventeenth century (1671/72), since 1927 the official residence of the mayor. Possibly built after a design by Adriaan Dortsman (1636-1672); renovated in 1791 on the basis of plans by the architect Abraham van der Hart (1747-1820) (including the front façade). Renovated by Herman M.J. Walenkamp in 1907/08.
 See also Herengracht 495 and 539. Interior of the burgomaster's room, at the front of the first floor, designed by Van der Hart. Chimney-pieces on the first floor, banisters in the stairwell, 1791. In the Ladies' Salon, a chimneypiece with Etruscan decorations. Interior of ballroom and dining room altered in c. 1870. Restoration 2000-2002.
 See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
 - Herengracht 504-510 ⁴
 Originally there were four identical seventeenth-century façades (no. 504, c. 1670; no. 506, 1685; no. 508, 1688; no. 510, 1688), with sculptures besides the neck gables (no. 504, has stone scrolls in the form of two dogs rampant; no. 508, tritons blowing horns; no. 510, with sea-gods on dolphins).
 See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
 - Herengracht 505
 Bell gable, 1683, striking on account of its location between two adjoining sandstone cornice gables nos. 503 and 507





- Herengracht 507 ¹
‘Double’ house with classicist stone façade sporting the colossal order of Corinthian pilasters, surmounted by a pediment, c. 1675. Double perron and door section, Louis XIV, 1730/40
- Herengracht 514, *Huis met de Moriaantjes* ²
‘Double’ house, known as the ‘House with the Moors’ after the two sculpted heads of black slaves. Façade from c. third quarter of the seventeenth century, while the stone central section probably dates from c. 1770.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Herengracht 518, *Geelvinck Hinlopen House* ³
‘Double house’ with straight cornice, c. 1725. Its coach house is on Keizersgracht. The front ‘Red Room’ has an early nineteenth-century interior. Painted wall hangings (Egbert van Driest, 1745-1818) in the Blue Room. In the library, a ceiling decorated by the Adam brothers. Double perron.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Herengracht 520
‘Double’ house, renovated in c. 1725. Façade with decorations in the style of Louis XIV (lambrequins under the windows). Design of the door section attributed to Jan Ignatius van Logteren (1732-1785), and stucco work in the interior (overdoor, passageway, stairwell), also by Ignatius van Logteren (1732-1785), with stucco sculptures in the hall by Jan van Logteren (1709-1745). Unusual double perron. Impaled arms of married couple in the attic.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Herengracht 524 ⁴
Neck gable, 1648, eighteenth-century fenestration. Property of Hendrick de Keyser Association. Restoration 1985.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Herengracht 527, *Vergulde Turk* ⁵
‘Double’ house, after 1664, at that time given the name *Vergulde Turk* (‘Gilded Turk’), with stone façade sporting fluted Ionic pilasters, in the pediment a sculpture of an eagle with wings outstretched. The façade in the style of Louis XVI is dated c. 1759. Frontal perron. Windows dating from c. 1800.
In the early eighteenth century the house was rented to the Russian envoy, Dimitri Soloyov. During his second visit to Amsterdam, Czar Peter the Great (1672-1725) stayed here for some time (1716). Purchased in 1808 by King Louis Napoleon for the marshal of Holland, Philippus Julius van Zuylen van Nijeveld, at which time certain alterations were made (entrance, windows).
- Herengracht 531-537 ⁶
Wide art nouveau façade, architect J.P. de Man, 1904, with accentuated entrance, extended on the left, after a design by H.A.J. Baanders (1876-1953), 1909 and 1916
- Herengracht 539 ⁷
‘Double’ house, monumental classicist sandstone façade, three bays wide, 1718, for the house of Gerrit Corver (1690-1756), later an influential burgomaster of Amsterdam.
The attic derives from Sebastien LeClerc’s *Traité d’Architecture avec des remarques et des observations très-utile pour les jeunes gens, qui veulent s’appliquer à ce bel art* (Paris, 1714, pl. 164; first translated into Dutch in 1781); the crowning gable-top by Jan Ignatius van Logteren (1732-1785); façade design is attributed to the carpenter-designer Jan van der Streng (1695-1762) and to Jean Coulon (1678-1760), assistants of Daniël Marot (1661-1752) from Versailles. Balcony, see also Herengracht 495 and 502.
Restoration in the early 1960s, in which the windows shown in the *Grachtenboek* by Caspar Philips, dating from c. 1766, were replaced.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*

- Herengracht 541 ¹
Front façade, neo-historical cornice gable, 1964/65
- Herengracht 542-544 ²
New buildings in neo-historical style, architect P.J.S. Pieters, 1930
- Herengracht 543 ³
Building six bays wide with sandstone front façade, 1743, designed by François Absiel (1698-1754). Crest, Louis XVI, with impaled arms of married couple. Central section accentuated by projecting balcony and double perron
- Herengracht 545-549 ⁴
Office building. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century office and other buildings within the property*
- Herengracht 548
'Double' house, renovated in c. 1724, stairwell with skylight, design attributed to Daniël Marot (c. 1663-1752), designs for stucco work by Ignatius van Logteren (1732-1785); carved banister in the style of Louis XIV. Double perron.
Inside, paintings dating from c. 1665 when the house was built, with vines and flowers.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Herengracht 550-552
New building designed in neo-historical style for a bank. Design by J. Trapman, 1968, in which older elements were re-used.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Herengracht 554 ⁵
Stone cornice gable without pilasters, later whitewashed, 1665, late Dutch classicism. Festoons under the windows. Double perron (added during the restoration in 1966). Slightly projecting central ressault. Attic dates from 1716
- Herengracht 556 ⁶
Wide house, five bays wide, brick cornice gable with Louis XIV decorations. Perron and fenestration are the result of restoration by A.A. Kok (1881-1951), 1930
- Herengracht 564
Sandstone façade, early eighteenth century, façade arched at top, surmounted by two female figures
- Herengracht 567 ⁷
Eighteenth-century house, with built-in warehouse on third and fourth floors. Façade, 'raised' cornice gable, 1721, with Louis XIV elements. Restoration 1965
- Herengracht 571
It was decided in 1665 that the houses at nos. 571-577 would be surmounted by a continuous cornice gable. Lower façade, altered in the late eighteenth century
- Herengracht 572
1666, gable-top decorated with two dogs; house renovated in 1790. Façade altered in the nineteenth century. Painted wall hangings in the salon by Jurriaan Andriessen (1742-1819)
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Herengracht 573, *Hendrikje museum of bags* ⁸
Built after 1665, commissioned by Cornelis de Graeff (1599-1664) as part of a series of six virtually identical buildings (see above).
In the interior, ceiling paintings, probably by Gerard de Lairesse (1641-1711), after 1664.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Herengracht 579-581 ⁹
Classical cornice gable, 1667, extending across both houses. The façade of no. 579 is decorated





- with hanging festoons. Where the two houses meet is the figure of St Michael slaying the dragon.
- Herengracht 598-600
Three neck gables, renovated 1962, interpreted freely (architects P. Zandstra, K. Geerts) after the *Grachtenboek* by Caspar Philips (1770)
 - Herengracht 605, *Museum Willet-Holthuysen* ¹
'Double' house, c. 1687, five bays wide, hipped roof, with double perron in the middle, style of Louis XIV. Modernised (including windows) after 1736 without altering the original internal structure, except for the addition of a double perron and inside a monumental stairwell (sculpture of the Judgment of Paris, carved in Italy), to add an air of distinction.
Renovated again in the nineteenth century by the Willet-Holthuysens.
Since 1896 the building has been open to the public as a museum as stipulated in the will of the last resident (Sandrina Louise Geertruida Holthuysen (1824-1895), who married Abraham Willet, 1825-1888) in 1861. It was presented to the city of Amsterdam by Mrs Willet-Holthuysen with its contents and art collection.
Eighteenth-century fenestration added in twentieth-century restoration (1978/80, Bart van Kasteel). Restoration of dining-room in 1971/74. Behind the house a garden laid out in 1972, based on eighteenth-century models. In the latter half of the twentieth century, a number of period rooms were created, modelled on eighteenth-century examples. On the first floor, the Louis XVI salon is still as it was in the time of the last residents (c. 1865). In the Blue Room a painting by Jacob de Wit (1695-1754), 1744, from Herengracht 250.
See Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property
 - Herengracht 607 ²
In contrast to no. 605, here there is a bell gable dating from 1670, three bays wide. Windows modernised in the nineteenth century
 - Herengracht 609-611 ³
'Double' house, 1741, brick façade with stone attic and impaled arms of married couple
 - Herengracht 613 ⁴
House built in neo-historical style, with elements borrowed from the Amsterdam School, 1922/23
 - Herengracht 615-617 ⁵
Largely brick façade, Louis XVI, bluestone lower façade, cornice
 - Herengracht 619 ⁶
'Double' house, designed by Adriaan Dortsman (1635-1682), 1667, built for Jan Six (1618-1700) and Margaretha Tulp (1634-1709). Renovated at the beginning of the nineteenth century and raised in height.
 - Herengracht 623
There was a block of houses here (nos. 621-629) designed by Adriaan Dortsman (1635-1682), of which no. 623 has been preserved, 1673

Nieuwe Herengracht

- Nieuwe Herengracht 103
1751
See Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property
- Nieuwe Herengracht 143
Wide sandstone façade, 1750

Leliegracht

In the *Third Expansion*, a radial street was initially planned here, between present-day Oude Leliestraat and Nieuwe Leliestraat. But the buyers of the land here persuaded the city to dig a canal instead. In the

canal lies the wall of the former Leliesluis, part of the system of locks and sluices between the older city centre and Prinsengracht and the Jordaan, which had a different drainage outlet.

- Leliengracht 25
This was once the residence of the poet E.J. Potgieter (1808-1875) (designed by J.W. Meyer, 1881).

Keizersgracht

At the end of 1615, the city council decided to dig this canal as part of the *Third Expansion*. In 1615/1616 the surveyors measured out the plots between Keizersgracht and Prinsengracht. Just as in the case of Herengracht, the most expensive houses here were those built in the western part of the canal.

- Keizersgracht 16
Neck gable, 1743
- Keizersgracht 18-18a
Two houses, neo-Renaissance, 1886
- Keizersgracht 22, Catholic church of St Ignatius ('*De Zaayer*') ¹
See *Churches and chapels*
- Keizersgracht 24, *De Torenwachter*
Warehouse *De Torenwachter*, seventeenth century. See *Warehouses*
- Keizersgracht 31
Façade changed at the end of the eighteenth century to make a cornice gable; extra floor added in 1911. In the salon, there are late seventeenth-century symbolic paintings between the beams (Victory of Trade in the East), possibly by Gerard de Lairesse (1641-1711).
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Keizersgracht 40-44, '*Groenlandsche Pakhuizen*' ²
See *Warehouses*
- Keizersgracht 62
Neck gable, c. 1660. Property of N.V. Stadsherstel, 1962, restoration 1973 (with no. 64)
- Keizersgracht 64
High neck gable with pediment and sculptures (depicting Mercury and Ceres) along the gable-top of the neck gable, Jan van Logteren (1709-1745), 1737. Restoration 1971.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Keizersgracht 71
In the house a painting with acanthus leaves, c. 1630, on the beams and the underside of the floor of the upper storey.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Keizersgracht 77
House with cornice, attic with decorated crest, c. 1755
- Keizersgracht 82
Early twentieth-century new building, in neo-historical style (1907), with crow-step gable
- Keizersgracht 84
Building, re-built (1934) using elements originating from a house on Zeedijk
- Keizersgracht 95b/Herenstraat 35-41
Property of N.V. Stadsherstel, 1959, restoration 1967
- Keizersgracht 97, 99
Property of N.V. Stadsherstel, 1964 and 1966, respectively, restoration in 1970 and 1971





- Keizersgracht 101
House with sandstone façade, decorated cornice with two sculpted busts, c. 1715
- Keizersgracht 102, former Remonstrant church, now the *Rode Hoed* 1
See *Churches and chapels*
- Keizersgracht 105
This wide façade was built in 1940 in neo-historical style, after a design by D.A. Warners, for which an adjacent neck gable was demolished
- Keizersgracht 117
'Double' house, c. 1620
- Keizersgracht 118-120 2
Once the residence of the architect Dr H.P. Berlage (1856-1934)
- Keizersgracht 119
Modernised and given an additional storey in 1719, above which a sculpted attic was added by Jan Ignatius van Logteren (1732-1785)
- Keizersgracht 123, *Huis met de Hoofden* 3
'Double' house with cellar, crow-step gable, 1622. Against the brick façade with stone decorative elements in Dutch Renaissance style, furnished with Doric, Ionic and Tuscan pilasters, there are six portrait busts (Apollo, Ceres, Mars, Minerva, Bacchus and Diana). Hall with Renaissance architecture/panelling. In the hall, portrait bust (1634) of King Gustav II Adolf of Sweden (1594-1632) (original, Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam) because of the relations between the king and Louis de Geer (1587-1652), who purchased the house in 1634. On the right a gateway for carriages, with a dwelling above it. The floor plan consists of the main house parallel to the canal, behind which are two wings, perpendicular to the canal, each with its own rear façade.
The Czech educationalist and philosopher Jan Amos Comenius (1592-1670) lodged here in 1656/70. From 1635 to 1779, the house was the residence of the De Geer family. Its architecture displays a similarity to the Bartolotti House (Herengracht 170-172). The men who commissioned these houses were related. The designs for both houses are attributed to Hendrick de Keyser (1565-1621).
Restoration 1909.
From 1984 to 2007, this building was the headquarters of the Amsterdam municipal Historic Buildings and Archaeology Bureau (BMA). In a few years' time, it will house the Bibliotheca Philosophica Hermetica of the collector Joost Ritman. The library has been open to the public since 1984 (www.ritmanlibrary.nl).
A collection that was once housed in the 'Huis met de Hoofden' was recently rediscovered in the municipal library of Norrköping (Sweden), since Louis de Geer, who owned and occupied the house in the seventeenth century, had close relations with the Swedish royal family. When De Geer moved to the castle he built in Finspong, Sweden, he took the library from the Huis met de Hoofden with him.
- Keizersgracht 124-128
'Double' house, five bays wide; an exception in the *Third Expansion* of 1613. Its width was extended by two bays in the early twentieth century.
In the rear annex of no. 128 there is an eighteenth-century ceiling painting
- Keizersgracht 127
'Double' house, about 14 metres in width, 1720, furnished with cornice gable. Small gate on the left-hand passageway leads to an internal coach house
- Keizersgracht 133, *Coat of arms of Benschop* (and Enkhuizen)
Wide crow-step gable as façade, c. 1620; interior in style of Louis XIV, c. 1723, stucco work in stairwell with skylight, by Ignatius or Jan van Logteren
- Keizersgracht 135

Façade after a design by Jan van Logteren (1709-1745), 1741. In the renovation of 1741, it was given the same height as nos. 137 and 139 and almost exactly the same fenestration. Decorated interior (passageway, salon, stairwell), also by Van Logteren

- Keizersgracht 137,139, *Sonnenbloem* and *Goudsbloem*
Two cornice gables, the houses *Sonnenbloem* and *Goudsbloem*, with sculpted cornices, Jan van Logteren 1709-1745, 1737
No. 139 has a passageway with stucco work by Jan van Logteren
- Keizersgracht 141, *De Dubbele Arend*
Wide crow-step gable, 1623, *De Dubbele Arend* (named after a brewer), now known as the Van Riebeeck or South Africa House, and is the premises of the Zuid-Afrikaanse Stichting Moederland (ZASM).
Façade is four bays wide, neo-Renaissance (1877; reconstructed top), painted brick and stone, but with eighteenth-century door, while the fenestration is nineteenth century
- Keizersgracht 158, *De Stad Rijssel*
Renovated and raised in height in 1720/21; sculpted gable-top, Ignatius van Logteren (1732-1785)
- Keizersgracht 162
Nineteenth-century façade, formerly the main building (from 1883/84 onwards) of the Free University in Amsterdam. Painted ceilings.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Keizersgracht 170
Early, originally seventeenth-century crow-step gable, the top of which with steps was reconstructed in 1947. Shop front, 1899
- Keizersgracht 171
Façade with six windows, 1735. Not often seen along Amsterdam's canals
- Keizersgracht 172/Leliegracht
Property of N.V. Stadsherstel (1959, restoration 1964), which restored the front façade. Side façade with kitchen annex, mid-eighteenth century. See *Kitchen annexes*
- Keizersgracht 174-176 ¹
Office building. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century office and other buildings within the property*
- Keizersgracht 177, *Coymanshuis* ²
Once the headquarters of the trading company of Balthasar Coymans & Broeders, 'double' house, 1625, commissioned by the brothers Balthasar and Joan Coymans, designed by Jacob van Campen (1596-1657). Façade with eight bays, separated by pilasters. House raised by an additional storey in the nineteenth century. There were originally two houses behind the façade. It is believed that the London Banqueting Hall (Inigo Jones, 1619/22) may have served as the example for this building. It is regarded as the first classicist façade to have been built in the Republic of the United Provinces. From 1868 onwards it was used as a school
- Keizersgracht 185/Raadhuisstraat
Corner building, designed by G.A. van Arkel (1858-1918), after canal-side buildings had been demolished to make way for Raadhuisstraat
- Keizersgracht 197-199/Raadhuisstraat
Corner building, designed by the Van Gendt brothers, 1898, after canal-side buildings had been demolished to make way for Raadhuisstraat
- Keizersgracht 198/Westermarkt
Office building. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century office and other buildings within the property*



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- Keizersgracht 207
House built in 1755, windows with purple manganese glass (1793) from Bohemia
- Keizersgracht 209-213, *De Hoop, De Liefde*
Three originally eighteenth-century houses, called *De Hoop, De Liefde* (=Hope, Charity), the third (no. 213, a new building, 1910) in all probability *Het Geloof* (=Faith). No. 209, 1734, stucco work in stairwell with skylight.
- Keizersgracht 210
Neck gable, eighteenth century. The residence of the physician Dr Nicolaes Pieterszoon once stood here, c. 1618; it had a signboard hanging outside with a picture of a tulip, and the doctor adopted the name 'Tulp' (or 'Tulip') as his last name.
The anatomy lesson of Dr Nicolaes Tulp, Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn (1606-1669), 1632 (Mauritshuis, The Hague)
- Keizersgracht 214
Neck gable with pilasters, cartouche with date 1656
- Keizersgracht 218
Nineteenth-century presbytery
- Keizersgracht 220, Catholic church of the *Onbevlekt Hart van Maria / Redemptorist church* ¹
See *Churches and chapels*
- Keizersgracht 221
House, four bays wide, something that is fairly uncommon along the canals (see also Keizersgracht 209, 224)
- Keizersgracht 224, *Saxenborgh* ²
Sandstone wide façade, four bays wide, now part of the Pulitzer Hotel. House is originally early seventeenth century, but was extensively renovated in the eighteenth century (c. 1765) (passageway with rococo stucco work; stairwell; panelling in Saxenburg salon). Various uses since early twentieth century, from chocolate factory to part of a hotel (together with Keizersgracht 234, Prinsengracht 315-331 and Reestraat 2-6, converted into a hotel by Bart van Kasteel, also the architect of the Amsterdams Historisch Museum). Restoration 1986/87.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Keizersgracht 225, *De Koopermoole*
House, surmounted by a raised sandstone cornice with balustrade and crest, 1746
- Keizersgracht 240
In 1968 some painted wall hangings were rediscovered in the front room ('Maid of Amsterdam, with Justitia and Fides'), late eighteenth century, artist unknown. The house dates from c. 1750.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Keizersgracht 244-246
'Twin' buildings with sculpted gable-tops, Jan van Logteren (1709-1745), 1738. Attic in the form of a balustrade. Restoration 1984
- Keizersgracht 248
Sandstone cornice gable, closed attic, 1710
- Keizersgracht 260
House, three bays wide, mid-eighteenth century, with decorated, raised wooden cornice
- Keizersgracht 265
In the interior an eighteenth-century ceiling painting on stucco (restoration 1958).
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Keizersgracht 269
Once had a 'floating cellar'. Two rooms with painted hangings by Willem Uppink (1757-1849), 1812.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*

- Keizersgracht 284
Dates from c. 1765, cornice, raised attic
- Keizersgracht 292-294
'Twin' buildings, with neck gables, c. 1730
- Keizersgracht 316/Berenstraat
New corner building in neo-historical style known as 'William Koch', designed by A.A. Kok (1851-1951), 1935
- Keizersgracht 317 **1**
Brick façade with straight cornice, c. 1713 (architect possibly Steven Vennecool, 1657-1719), was the home of Christoffel van Brants (1664-1732), a friend of Czar Peter the Great (1672-1725) (who also stayed here, in 1716). The design of the garden house that stands here is attributed to Simon Schijnvoet (1652-1727) – the garden house at Herengracht 476 is also attributed to him. He also designed the Petersburg country house on the Vecht, which was visited by Czar Peter the Great (1716/17).
Brants bequeathed his fortune to the Van Brants Rus *hofje* (Nieuwe Keizersgracht 28-44), an almshouse which was being built at the time.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Keizersgracht 319 **2**
Raised sandstone neck gable, three bays wide, on first floor with Tuscan pilasters, on the upper storeys colossal Doric pilasters, accentuated by three pediments, 1639, designed by Philips Vingboons (1607-1678), built for Daniel Soyhier. The door was moved to the right-hand bay at some point.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Keizersgracht 323
Cornice gable with crest, second quarter of eighteenth century. Property of N.V. Stadsherstel, 1970. Restoration 1972
- Keizersgracht 324, *Felix Meritis* **3**
The neo-classicist building (Louis XVI) after a design by Jacob Otten Husly (1738-1796) was built between 1787 and 1792 (officially inaugurated in 1788) for Felix Meritis (meaning 'happy through merit'), a society of the arts, sciences and economics with about 400 members.
Tympanum above Bremen sandstone façade with rustic work in the lower section, above which, as the front of a temple, four three-quarters columns with Corinthian capitals. Above the windows on the first floor, five sculpted reliefs by Jan Swart, relating to the arts (literature and draughtsmanship), commerce, physics and music, the society's five 'departments'.
Inside, an oval-shaped concert hall with a capacity of 600 seats, where Johannes Brahms, Edvard Grieg and Camille Saint-Saëns once gave recitals. On the roof, the oldest observatory in Europe
Restoration 1984/88; stairwell, 2007
- Keizersgracht 328
New buildings in neo-historical style, 1914, surmounted by funnel-shaped gable
- Keizersgracht 332, *Claes Reynierzoonhofje* (almshouse *Liefde is 't fundament*)
Façade, 1913; entrance to the *Claes Reynierzoonhofje* (almshouse *Liefde is 't fundament*) (1618).
See *Hofjes (Almshouses)*
- Keizersgracht 383-385
These two houses with neck gables, c. 1700, stand on the last plots involved in the *Third Expansion*
- Keizersgracht 384 **4**
Entrance to the theatre that once stood here (burnt down in 1772)
- Keizersgracht 387, *De vergulde ster*
Raised neck gable, covered with sandstone, dated 1668, named *De vergulde ster*, probably designed

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- by Justus Vingboons (c. 1620-c. 1698). Carved fanlight above the door. Property of Hendrick de Keyser Association. Restoration 1967
- Keizersgracht 393-399
There were originally four identical neck gables here, 1665, at the beginning of the *Fourth Expansion* of Keizersgracht.
 - Keizersgracht 396
House with wooden gable, 1897
 - Keizersgracht 401, *Marseille* ¹
Marseille House, classicist sandstone, raised neck gable with pilasters (see stone tablet in façade with the harbour of Marseille), 1665, sculptural work possibly by Jan Gijsseling the Elder. Stucco work in the style of Louis XIV, c. 1730. Reconstructed garden house. Traditional arrangement with main house, courtyard and rear annex (with ceiling painting by Jacob de Wit, 1695-1754). Used as an office and exhibition space by the Huis Marseille Museum of Photography. Inside, the division into main house, courtyard and rear annex has been preserved. Early building from the *Fourth Expansion* of 1663. Restoration 1998/99 (firm of Benthem Crouwel and Laurens Vis)
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
 - Keizersgracht 407
House dated 1665, with pilaster façade
 - Keizersgracht 412
The flat ceiling is painted with beams and scenes, third quarter of seventeenth century
 - Keizersgracht 418-424
Wide new building in neo-historical style beneath cornice, designed by A. Ingwesen, 1930
 - Keizersgracht 438
On the site of two houses, a building with a glazed façade was erected in 1897.
 - Keizersgracht 444-446
Sandstone classicist façade, five bays wide, c. 1725. The adjacent house, no. 444, was used as a coach house. The building was converted into a mansion for Thomas Hope (1704-1779) (banker and a director of the Dutch East India Company or VOC), after 1758. The conversion included no. 444 and the warehouses on Prinsengracht, nos. 659 and 661, and Keizersgracht 448. The perron was demolished in 1881
 - Keizersgracht 452/Molenpad, *Elias Fuld House* ²
Unusual nineteenth-century canal house, on the corner of Keizersgracht and Molenpad, renovated after a design by Cornelis Outshoorn (1810-1875), commissioned by the banker Elias Fuld, 1860/61, with later interiors (also designed by Outshoorn; c. 1900, after a design by Ed. Cuypers, 1858-1927). Earlier office wing on Molenpad.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
 - Keizersgracht 454/Molenpad
One of the few warehouses along Keizersgracht, c. 1680. Warehouse with hoist-hatches and ending in a spout. See *Warehouses*
 - Keizersgracht 455/Leidsestraat ³
Shop warehouse. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*
 - Keizersgracht 464/Leidsegracht (29)
Corner building, renovated 1936, with the use of materials taken from elsewhere
 - Keizersgracht 480
Late nineteenth-century house, with crow-step gable-like top of front façade
 - Keizersgracht 483
Warehouse with funnel-shaped gable, c. 1680. See *Warehouses*

- Keizersgracht 486-488
'Twin' neck gables, dated 1686. *Oeils-de-boeuf*, no. 488 decorated with festoons
- Keizersgracht 493, *Indië* ¹
'Double' warehouse, third quarter of nineteenth century. See *Warehouses*
- Keizersgracht 494
Painted ceiling with large central section and four smaller ones in the side-room
- Keizersgracht 508/Leidsestraat ²
Here as in the buildings at the corners of Herengracht and Leidsestraat, a shop building (1811), with a corner tower that adds a spatial, architectural accent
- Keizersgracht 517 ³
Office building. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*
- Keizersgracht 527
Façade dates from 1875. Property of N.V. Stadsherstel, 1963, restoration 1978
- Keizersgracht 539-543/Nieuwe Spiegelstraat 22
Property of N.V. Stadsherstel, 1974, restoration 1984
- Keizersgracht 546 ⁴
Striking on account of its bell gable (Louis XV), c. 1760, flanked by houses with neck gables (nos. 544 (c. 1675) and 548, necks seventeenth century)
- Keizersgracht 555/Nieuwe Spiegelstraat 17 ⁵
Office building. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*
- Keizersgracht 566, Calvinist church (*Keizersgrachtkerk/Dolerende kerk*) ⁶
See *Churches and chapels*
- Keizersgracht 569-571 ⁷
Office building. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*
- Keizersgracht 573-575 ⁸
Office building. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*
- Keizersgracht 577
Originally a design by Philips Vingboons (1607-1678), 1664/65. Façade was altered at some point.
- Keizersgracht 604
'Double' house, 15 metres wide, 1670, with brick attic, above which the inscription *Int derde vredejaer* ('in the third year of peace'). This building is unusual, in that it is three bays wide but has its perron leading up to the central bay (see also Herengracht 499)
- Keizersgracht 606-608
1731/32, neck gables as 'triplets' (together with no. 610), built after a design by the master-carpenter Jan van der Streng (1695-1762), with coach houses on Kerkstraat.
- Keizersgracht 607 ⁹
Originally a 15-metre-wide coach house, 1672, belonging to Herengracht 502. There were a good many coach houses in this stretch of Keizersgracht, belonging to houses along Herengracht. See *Coach houses*
- Keizersgracht 609, *Museum Fodor* ¹⁰
1861, before which the stables/warehouse *Het Spook* stood here. Converted into a museum (1863) for the coal merchant and art collector Carel Joseph Fodor (1801-1860), design by Cornelis Outshoorn (1810-1875), sandstone front façade.
Fodor bequeathed 161 paintings to the city of Amsterdam, most of which were nineteenth-century



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works in the style of seventeenth-century Dutch painting. He also left the city a collection of 877 drawings and 302 prints. The collection now belongs to the Amsterdams Historisch Museum.

- Keizersgracht 611-613 ¹
Neck gables, 'twins', 1716
- Keizersgracht 615
Neck gable, 1715, stone scrolls with dolphins on which are seated figures. Striking hoist beam.
- Keizersgracht 634-646
Series of five neck gables, c. 1700
- Keizersgracht 635 ²
Originally a coach house, 15 metres wide, 1684, for Herengracht 520. See *Coach houses*
- Keizersgracht 639 ³
Originally a stable, belonging to Herengracht (524), converted into apartments in 1883. See *Coach houses*
- Keizersgracht 651
Was once the coach house, 1686, of the house in front of it on Herengracht. See *Coach houses*
- Keizersgracht 666-668
Office building. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*
- Keizersgracht 670
'Double' house, built c. 1675 to a design by Adriaen Dortsman (1625-1682). Almost 15 metres wide. Renovated and embellished in the eighteenth century. Renovated in 1875 on the basis of plans by J.L. Springer (1850-1915), at which time it acquired a new sandstone façade. Restoration 1980/81
- Keizersgracht 672/674, *Museum van Loon (Van Raey houses)*
Museum van Loon (no. 672), two identical 'double' houses (Van Raey houses), here with balconies, 1671/72, designed by Adriaan Dortsman (1625-1682), for an iron merchant and arms dealer (Jeremias van Raey, regent of the Walloon Orphanage). On the balustrade, statues of Vulcan, Ceres, Minerva and Mars, alluding to the source of Van Raey's income as an arms dealer. Façade in sandstone, five bays wide. Central bay accentuated by door section with balcony and attic on the cornice. The house's original architecture is in the austere or classicist style. There was originally a 'floating cellar' under no. 672.
Rear façade renovated in 1771/76, at which point a room overlooking the garden was added. Double eighteenth-century perrons; above the double entrance-doors, a semi-circular fanlight; eighteenth-century interiors. In 1672 the artist Ferdinand Bol (1606-1680) lived at no. 674. Garden house late eighteenth century, as are the room overlooking the garden and the powdering-rooms in the rear of the house. Stables on Kerkstraat.
Property of the Van Loon family since 1884. Restored 1964/73, since which time it has been a museum. On the eve of the Second World War, an entire new house was built behind the façade of no. 674. Garden house, with sandstone façade on the garden side (Apollo).
Restoration 1964-1973, primarily based on the eighteenth-century situation, since then in use as a museum.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Keizersgracht 676, former New Walloon Church/*Adventkerk*
See *Churches and chapels*
- Keizersgracht 677
House, two bays wide, late seventeenth century. Property of N.V. Stadsherstel, 1960, restoration 1963
- Keizersgracht 695
Neck gable, three bays wide, late seventeenth century. Property of N.V. Stadsherstel, 1981, restoration 1988

- Keizersgracht 697
Property of N.V. Stadsherstel since 1984, restoration 1988
- Keizersgracht 703
House, three bays wide, with cornice, late nineteenth century. Property of N.V. Stadsherstel, 1961, restoration 1970
- Keizersgracht 710
One of the few warehouses on Keizersgracht, after 1683, when Hendrik Staets acquired the properties at no. 708 (*De Wolf*) and (710) (Warehouse *Het Lam*). See *Warehouses*
- Keizersgracht 713-715 (*)
New building in neo-historical style with crow-step gables, 1905, by C.B. Posthumus Meyes (1858-1922)
- Keizersgracht 716/Reguliersgracht
Shop and house, 1671, with early bell gable, kitchen annex built against the façade along Reguliersgracht. See *Kitchen annexes*
- Keizersgracht 743
'Double' house, 1672, renovated in first quarter of nineteenth century. Double perron. Property of the Hendrick de Keyser Association. Restorations 1982, 2004
- Keizersgracht 755
Originally a coach house, c. 1700, converted in 1906. See *Coach houses*
- Keizersgracht 756
Built 1734-1736, three bays wide, stone decorations on the façade (such as the door section with perron and the gable-top with alternating balusters) by Jan van Logteren (1709-1745); also in the interior (passageway (depicting wounded cupid), front room, salon). Restoration 2000.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Keizersgracht 758 (*)
Building dating from 1912, to harmonise with the architectural style along the canal there.
- Keizersgracht 766
Narrow, nineteenth-century house, 1894
- Keizersgracht 778-786
Series of five houses with neck gables, 1688
- Keizersgracht, after 1047/Amstelveld, *Amstelkerk* [4](#) previous page
See *Churches and chapels*.

Korte Prinsengracht

Dug during the *Third Expansion* to provide a navigation route between Prinsengracht and the IJ

- Korte Prinsengracht 5
Dates from 1653
- Korte Prinsengracht 9
Dates from 1653

Prinsengracht

At the beginning of 1614, the city council decided to dig Prinsengracht. Originally there were wooden drawbridges here, so that ships could reach the warehouses – and houses with lofts for loading and unloading – with their goods.

- Prinsengracht 1a/Brouwersgracht
Result of restoration by N.V. Stadsherstel (which acquired it in 1971), together with Brouwersgracht nos. 97 and 99. Restoration 1986





- Prinsengracht 2-4 ¹
Dates from 1641; reconstruction of crow-step gables, 1955; property of Hendrick de Keyser Association. Restorations 1929, 1956
- Prinsengracht 3-5
Property of N.V. Stadsherstel, 1971, restoration 1986
- Prinsengracht 8
Neck gable, c. 1660 (gable-stone). Property of N.V. Stadsherstel, 1961, restoration 1967
- Prinsengracht 10
Neck gable, c. 1660
- Prinsengracht/Noordermarkt, *Noorderkerk* ²
See *Churches and chapels*.
- Prinsengracht 25
Neck gable, mid-eighteenth century. Property of N.V. Stadsherstel, 1963, restoration 1969
- Prinsengracht 36, *De Veersack*
Neck gable with pilasters, dated 1650, with gable-stone *De Veersack*. Property of Hendrick de Keyser Association. Restorations 1959, 1968
- Prinsengracht 55
Warehouse. See *Warehouses*
- Prinsengracht 84
House with bell gable, dated 1658. 1997, Stichting Aristoteles
- Prinsengracht 89-113, *Starhofje (Van Brienem)* ³
See *Hofjes (Almshouses)*
- Prinsengracht 126
Cornice gable, c. 1755. Sculpted crest, style of Louis XV
- Prinsengracht 175
Crow-step gable, 1661 (gable-stone)
- Prinsengracht 181
1903, art nouveau architecture
- Prinsengracht 187-195, 197, 203-217
Series of warehouses. See *Warehouses*
- Prinsengracht 206
Property of N.V. Stadsherstel, 1985, restoration 1987 and 2003
- Prinsengracht 263, *Anne Frank House*
Façade, c. 1740. The adjacent house, no. 265, is now part of the Anne Frank House (no. 263, with its main house and rear annex.
- Prinsengracht, adjacent to no. 277/Westermarkt, *Westerkerk* ⁴
See *Churches and chapels*
- Prinsengracht 299, *'t Casteel van Beveren*
House known as *'t Casteel van Beveren*, decorated arched cornice, c. 1720.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Prinsengracht 300, *'t Vosje*
Mid-eighteenth-century bell gable, wooden lower façade. Property of N.V. Stadsherstel, 1957, restoration 1962
- Prinsengracht 323-325
Converted into a hotel in 1970, together with four buildings on Keizersgracht, by the architect Bart van Kasteel.
- Prinsengracht 333-337
Restored by N.V. Stadsherstel, 1967, acquired in 1961

- Prinsengracht 349
Warehouse with bell gable. See *Warehouses*
- Prinsengracht 369
Leads to the former almshouse Nieuwe Suyckerhofje behind it, at nos. 365-371. See *Hofjes (Almshouses)*
- Prinsengracht 421
Modern building, designed in the same rhythm as the surrounding architecture, 1975
- Prinsengracht 436, *Paleis van Justitie/Court of Appeal* ¹
- Prinsengracht 451
Narrow house with point-gable, eighteenth century, wooden lower façade. Property of N.V. Stadsherstel, 1969, restoration 1974
- Prinsengracht 457, 459
Property of N.V. Stadsherstel, 1974, restoration 1986
- Prinsengracht 504-506
The house on the left was once the residence of the Italian composer Pietro Locatelli (1695-1764). In the nineteenth century (1863-1871), the painter Jozef Israëls (1824-1911) lived here
- Prinsengracht 540-542
'Double' house with shops on the ground floor, 1918, style of the Amsterdam School
- Prinsengracht 600/Weteringstraat
Late nineteenth-century corner building. Property of N.V. Stadsherstel, 1974, restoration 1977
- Prinsengracht 602
Property of N.V. Stadsherstel, 1971, restoration 1978
- Prinsengracht 612
Built after 1917
- Prinsengracht 644/Nijzelstraat, *Walloon Orphanage*
- Prinsengracht 650
House with neck gable, 1725. Louis XVI stucco work in vestibule and passageway
- Prinsengracht 659
Double warehouse, c. 1640. See *Warehouses*
- Prinsengracht 680
Renovation, raised by one storey, design by Z. Deenik & Zoon, 1867
- Prinsengracht 681-693
Seven virtually identical raised neck gables (named after the seven provinces of the Dutch Republic: 'Overijssel', 'Utrecht', 'Holland', 'Gelderland' (in the centre, with somewhat richer architecture, e.g. with double perron), 'Zeeland', 'Vriesland', 'Groningen'), early eighteenth century (1711-1715)
- Prinsengracht 684
Renovation designed by Z. Deenik & Zoon, 1874
- Prinsengracht 715
Converted warehouse. See *Warehouses*
- Prinsengracht 730-736
Built for the wallpaper manufacturers Rath & Doodeheefver, 1991, in the 'American style'
- Prinsengracht 739-741
Building dating from c. 1880, with neo-Renaissance elements
- Prinsengracht 747-755
Five houses with identical neck gables, 1701, known as *De Vijf Werelddelen* ('the five continents' (nos. 747, 749, 751 renovated as façades in 1961)
- Prinsengracht 754-756, Catholic church of St Willibrord 'within the moat' (*'De Duif'*) ².
See also *Churches and chapels*





- Prinsengracht 771-773
Two warehouses. See *Warehouses*
- Prinsengracht 808/Utrechtsestraat ¹
Office building. See *Examples of nineteenth and twentieth-century offices and other buildings within the property*
- Prinsengracht 849
Neck gable, 1701
- Prinsengracht 855-899, *Deutzen Hofje* ²
See *Hofjes (Almshouses)*
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Prinsengracht 911-915
Designed by D. van Oort, 1910. Ceilings with papier-maché on the ground and second floors
- Prinsengracht 997-1001
Built in 1680, renovated 1986, 1680 and 1695. Property of Hendrick de Keyser Association. Restorations 1978, 2003
- Prinsengracht 1003-1009
Houses with originally five virtually identical neck gables, c. 1680, later altered, especially no. 1003.
- Prinsengracht 1011-1017
This was once the site of the Mennonite Orphanage (1676), replaced by the present houses in 1867 to a design by G.B. Salm.

Leidsegracht

The moat of 1613 (*Third Expansion*) once lay here. ³ The houses were built in the course of the *Fourth Expansion*.

- Leidsegracht 10
House dating from 1665, in the *Fourth Expansion*

Westermarkt

One of the few open spaces within the area of the *Third Expansion*. It was here that the Westerkerk, a church commissioned by the city council, was built. There was once a graveyard beside it.

- Westermarkt 6
René Descartes (1596-1650) lived here in 1634.

Amstel

- Amstel 172-174
'Double' house, brick front façade, articulated by Ionic and Corinthian pilasters, c. 1665.
See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*
- Amstel 216 ⁴
Built for Gijsbert Dommer, 'the House with the bloodstains', designed by Adriaan Dortsman (1635-1682), 1672/75. Stone façade. Balcony above two Tuscan columns
- Amstel 218 ⁵
Brick façade (c. 1740), five bays wide, with straight cornice, sculpted stone entrance with a perron and a carved fanlight. Double entrance-door, as at Herengracht 520. Stucco sculptural work in the hall and stucco ceilings beside overdoor paintings, stucco reliefs in stairwell, Jan van Logteren (1709-1745), 1727.
This is where the Six collection of paintings is preserved. The collection, which includes

Rembrandt's portrait of burgomaster Jan Six (1618-1700), 1654, was formerly housed at Herengracht 509-511 (demolished 1917). It contains 100,000 objects in total, including 230 historical portraits.

See *Historic houses, outside and inside / period interiors or period elements within the property*

- Amstel 220

At the front, statues of Jupiter and Juno by Anthonie Turck, 1717

- Amstel 224

1672, designed by the city architect Elias Bouwman (1636-1686), together with the adjacent house, no. 226. Some of the painted sections in the ceiling have been preserved.

HISTORIC HOUSES IN AMSTERDAM HISTORISCHE HUIZEN IN AMSTERDAM

HISTORIC HOUSES IN AMSTERDAM WITHIN SINGELGRACHT

Historic houses, outside and inside

The earliest houses were built on the dykes erected along the River Amstel. They combined to form a 'ribbon development'. Archaeological research under Kalverstraat and Nieuwendijk has shown that these houses were about 7.4 to 9 metres deep and 3.6 to 4 metres wide. In the thirteenth century they were built somewhat deeper. Behind them, a second row of houses was built later on, right on the banks of the Amstel. Around 1300 the first brick houses were built (Warmoesstraat 103-109). Zeedijk 2 has a wooden façade, mid-sixteenth century (wooden structure of the cantilevered façade still largely original) ¹.

Bye-laws promulgated in 1413 provided that a house with a hearth must have a minimum width of 3.10 metres (11 feet), besides which a space of 15 cm must be left on each side to allow water to drain from the roof. If a house had brick side-walls, it was permissible to build right up to the edge of the plot.

Plots measuring 3.40 to 3.60 metres in width can be found in the mediaeval part of the city centre (including Begijnhof 6) ². The width later increased to 4.50 to 4.80 metres (16/17 feet). In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, it was common to find plots measuring 5.66 metres (20 feet) in width.

The first plots sold by the city as part of the *Third Expansion* were 8.50 metres wide (30 feet). This was probably to accommodate side-rooms in the front section of the house. But between Keizersgracht and Prinsengracht, the plots were reduced to 20 feet (5.66 metres) again. In the *Fourth Expansion*, 'double' houses were built along Herengracht and Keizersgracht, their width varying from 12.45 to 14.72 metres (44 to 52 feet), most of them on the even-numbered side of Herengracht (between Leidsegracht and the River Amstel, as can be seen in the *Grachtenboek* by Caspar Philips (1732-1789) published c. 1767. This book and the somewhat later *Kleine Grachtenboekje* (1700) also show that in several places narrow houses were combined behind a continuous façade (e.g. Herengracht 482-488, no longer standing). In addition, the façades of adjacent buildings – which had originally formed a unified architectural whole – were sometimes treated differently in the course of time.

Within the canal ring, most plots ranged from 5.6 to 7.4 metres in width (20-26 feet). Extension of the existing buildings started towards the end of the eighteenth century. The oldest houses sometimes had front yards, behind walls or fences, used to store wood (as can be seen on the bird's-eye view map by Cornelis Anthoniszoon, 1544). These areas were later used to make the houses deeper.

Wooden houses

As in cities elsewhere, wooden houses were built in medieval Amsterdam, with a combination of wooden trusses (consisting of two struts connected by a wooden beam, reinforced by linked braces; walls of vertical planks). They were vulnerable to fire (in 1452, two-thirds of the city's houses went up in flames).

Mediaeval houses with wooden façades still standing today are found at Zeedijk 2 ³ and Begijnhof 34 ⁴. The use of these wooden skeletal structures continued until about 1630. Many are found in the area known as the *Blauwlabenblok* (in the old part or 'Oude Zijde' of the medieval town), between Warmoesstraat, St Annenstraat, St Jansstraat and Oudezijds Voorburgwal, once the centre of the *laben* or cloth industry.

Some parts of the earlier wooden structure were re-used later on: notably the oversailing façades and





wooden lower façades on the street side. The heavy wooden tie-beams are anchored to the outside of the brick walls with wall-clamps so as to prevent buckling and such that the beams and walls were firmly connected. The roof structure consists of rafters placed at regular intervals, connected by a roof-beam.

The advent of brick

Most buildings, especially ordinary houses, were narrow and deep, with high saddle-roofs. Upper storeys were not added until around the mid-sixteenth century; after that they were the norm.

After the two fires that swept through the city in 1421 and 1452, the authorities promulgated bye-laws making brick side-walls mandatory; wooden front and rear façades were still allowed (examples include Begijnhof 34, the 'wooden house', restoration 1954 ¹). Excavation has revealed the existence of brick houses with simple floor plans. Houses dating from the third quarter of the sixteenth century can be seen in the Begijnhof (such as nos. 2 and 3 ²; these mark the transition from wooden to brick façades, with the attic floor still projecting slightly). Wooden façades were not banned until 1669.

After this, until about 1630, the traditional construction of wooden houses ('wooden skeleton structure') was simply translated, as it were, into structures for brick houses. The brick side-walls served as fire-walls. They were given a function in the construction by being covered with brick. Later on, the brick side-walls became load-bearing walls. Front façades too started being built in brick, though their lower sections were still made of wood. Many houses in Amsterdam's city centre were stabilised by the shared walls between adjacent buildings.

In the area into which the city expanded in the early seventeenth century, the *Third Expansion*, houses could be built with a shared dividing wall, dispensing with the wooden skeleton. Around the mid-seventeenth century, this mode of construction became the norm.

The streets

Façades constituted the architecture of the street 'wall' ³. In the fifteenth century, a house-owner still owned half of the section of street in front of his house. At the end of the sixteenth century, the city took over the maintenance of the wider thoroughfares.

Streets had gutters for the drainage of rainwater, which drained away between the houses. The space between this gutter and the front façade of the house was for private use, for flights of steps ⁴, cellarshops ⁵, benches and porches.

Blocks of buildings

Between the canals lie enclosed blocks of buildings ⁶, creating a clear separation between public space and the enclosed interior grounds. These enclosed blocks of houses are a characteristic feature of the 'seventeenth-century canal ring area' (referred to as 'the *property*'), distinguishing it from the medieval and sixteenth-century parts of the city, in which the interior grounds were accessible between buildings in many places.

Regulations were adopted as early as the seventeenth century to forbid people from building on the grounds inside the blocks (*keurblokken*) ⁷, aside from garden houses/summer houses ⁸ *next page*, which could be built at the outer edge of the plot. The use of these grounds was laid down in bye-laws promulgated in 1663, which were also declared applicable to the land within the blocks that had been sold in the *Third Expansion*, between Herengracht and Keizersgracht (the section between

Brouwersgracht and Leidsegracht).

The gradual changes in building patterns can be seen along Herengracht (dug earlier, in the expansion of 1585, as a new moat), from the side of the IJ (from Haarlemmerdijk to Koningsplein), which still displays the older streetscape on the side of the mediaeval city centre (expansion of 1585) as opposed to the more homogeneous pattern on the opposite side of the canal, built during the *Third Expansion* ¹ ².

Each block is a combination of adjacent houses with individual or shared side-walls. The plots are narrow and deep. The architectural details frequently vary from one house to the next. The alignment of plots meant that the roof was generally perpendicular to the façade. 'Double' houses ³, built cross-wise, with their roofs parallel to the road, are the exception rather than the rule on the canals. Some may be seen along Herengracht; they were built for the more affluent. The *Grachtenboek* (c. 1767) by Caspar Philips (1732-1789) contains illustrations of over 1500 buildings, 149 of which are 'double' canal-side houses – that is, generally five bays wide.

Bye-laws

Civic bye-laws (*keuren*) were adopted at an early stage to regulate the building of houses, including rules on building alignment or 'set-back'. Amsterdam's oldest book of bye-laws, dating from 1413, includes references to regulations adopted earlier still (*keur* of 1391). One such bye-law long made it mandatory to leave a small space in between the walls of houses, to allow rainwater to drain away.

Houses, floor plans and arrangement of the interior

The oldest type of town house had a floor space measuring 3 x 12 metres. There were no internal walls. The oldest type of dwellings, 'hall houses', wooden houses built between 1180 and 1350, consisted of a single large, undivided interior.

Many houses, especially in the old part of the city centre or Oude Zijde, still have wooden skeletons behind their façades. These continued to be used until around 1600; the first load-bearing walls were built after the expansion of 1585.

At some point, a separate section was constructed around the fireplace in hall houses, which evolved into a room for private use. This front section of the house or *voorhuis*, which led straight to the street, might be used as a shop or office, or a workspace or living area. The shutters and door opened outwards onto the street. Later on, the ceiling was lowered in the separate area, creating an entresol that retained the warmth from the fire (and where a box bed would be installed). The space below this was used as a kitchen, and the space above was a living-room. If there was no entresol, the kitchen would be built against the rear façade.

Around the mid-seventeenth century, houses were usually 20 to 30 Amsterdam feet in width. They had one or two upper storeys above the ground floor, and usually cellars (those on the street side were used for storing goods, and were often rented out for that purpose) and an attic. The ground and first floor contained living-rooms and working areas. On the ground floor at the front was a working area, consisting of the front section of the house and a side room or office; behind this was the living area, sometimes a large salon, overlooking a courtyard serving as an atrium between the main house and the rear annex or *achterhuis*; the latter contained kitchens, bedrooms, sometimes a large salon, above which were other living-rooms. The attic space above this was used for storage and for drying the laundry. Higher still was the loft, which was used for storing fuel.





Upper warehouse spaces or storage attics were not very high; the large doors or hoist hatches in the middle of the façade made them accessible for moving goods in and out ¹. In the seventeenth century, it was quite common to have a living area in the basement, a ground floor with an entresol, and other rooms above this, as still reflected today in the façades.

The living and working areas in the houses were often connected, especially in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Goods were stored upstairs: they were hoisted up from the barges or vessels in the canals using special hoist beams that protruded from the façades, some of which were splendidly carved. The stairs inside were steep to save space. In the first half of the seventeenth century there were spiral staircases, generally built behind the *voorhuis*. Later on, the staircase was built beside the door leading to the *rear annex*.

Well into the sixteenth century, over 60% of houses were low, without upper storeys, as can be seen in the bird's-eye view map by Cornelis Anthoniszoon (1538, 1544). Houses with an upper storey, which was used for storage and as an attic, were built in the mid-sixteenth century along Rokin and Damrak, on the IJ, and along streets elsewhere (e.g. Grimburgwal). Hatches providing access to these attics started to appear in the façade. From around 1600 onwards the houses were higher, with upper storeys and an attic in which to store goods, as can be seen in the map of the city produced by Balthazar Floriszoon in 1625. In this period, the combination was introduced of a living area with upper floors used as warehouses and for other storage purposes, especially along Prinsengracht ². These upper storeys, as well as the cellars, were often rented out, especially in the seventeenth century.

Building a corner house called for a specific approach. Corner houses generally had the front façade on the short side and the side façade on the longer side, and they generally had no windows in the first few metres from the corner (see corner of Herengracht/ Korsjespoortsteeg, Singel/Korte Kolksteeg) ³. This was also the case if the situation was reversed. In certain buildings, this difference in appearance and architecture is masked (see Prinsengracht 2 on the corner with Brouwersgracht) ⁴. In nineteenth-century corner buildings, the distinction between front and side façade is generally not visible ⁵.

Along the radial streets ⁶, the houses are smaller – often both lower and narrower, with smaller rooms, and the combination of living and working areas is more pronounced still. The main floor is at street level. These houses often have two doors, one leading to the business space and the other leading upstairs to the living area. The ground floor has a higher ceiling than the other storeys. There are wooden shopfronts here, accentuated at the top by a horizontal beam.

Foundations

Amsterdam's subsoil is waterlogged; the groundwater level is very high. The city is built on peat, above a substratum of sand. Building here relied – and still relies today – on firm foundations. This was initially done by using wooden or brick supports, later (late fourteenth century) by building on a brick foundation wall (sometimes up to 2 or 3 metres high), resting the structure on trunks, branches, or bundles of cane or peat. Then buildings were erected on a wooden grid, a system later replaced by one in which wooden piles were driven through the peat layer, initially to a depth of 1.5 to 5 metres, in the course of which the pile would become wedged in the peat. Starting in the latter half of the sixteenth century, the piles were driven right down to the sand layer (on average, about 11.5 to 17 metres beneath the surface). This made it possible to build foundations that could withstand a heavier load.

Depending on the kind of building, hundreds or even thousands of piles might be needed (the palace on

Dam Square, the former town hall, rests on 13,659 piles). If the wooden piles have decayed and a historic house is threatened by subsidence, piles are now introduced in pieces; they are driven into the ground hydraulically, inside the house.

Building materials

The most common building material was brick ¹, in a variety of sizes and colours. The local authorities decreed that the quality and the size of all bricks must pass inspection before they could be used. Pointing was used to enliven brick façades, which were generally laid in Dutch cross-bond courses.

Sandstone was used as decoration. Bentheim sandstone façades first appeared along the canals in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Unpolished Namur stone was also used. In the seventeenth century, white Italian marble (Carrara), Belgian marble and Swedish or German floor tiles were also used in the interior. Belgian marble was used for mantelpieces, for instance in the House with the Heads (Keizersgracht 123) ², the Trippenhuis on Kloveniersburgwal, and the town hall (now Royal Palace) on Dam Square.

Lower structure

It was essential to take account of the groundwater level. The wooden piles had to be totally immersed in the groundwater to prevent them from rotting. So the brick walls, resting on the foundations, began below groundwater level, above which a floor was laid. The second floor was laid 1.40 metres above ground level, as a result of which the houses acquired basement floors. Some of the historic houses along the canals still have so-called 'floating cellars', large, tank-shaped brick cellars that could move up and down with the groundwater. They were mainly used for storing provisions, and sometimes to collect drinking water, and were not found before the seventeenth century. They were built because a simple basement floor might crack and burst under the pressure of the groundwater.

It is assumed that these floating cellars were no longer needed after the water of the IJ was kept out of the canals by the building of sluices (the *Oranjesluizen*) in 1871. So they were fixed, by wedging posts between the top edges and the layer of beams in the basement above them (e.g. in Van Brienen House, Herengracht 284).

The lower structure described above was a feature associated in Amsterdam with private homes, even within the *property*. It was not found in buildings that had workshops or shops at street level. Coach-houses and shops at the corners of the transverse streets did not in general have any such lower structures.

Steps and doors

With the advent of these lower structures and their basements, the entrance to the house was higher, and as a result, flights of steps were introduced, leading up to the entrance ³. These striking steps, in wood or stone, were built against the front of the houses (either perpendicular or parallel to the façade ⁴; these were often 'double' flights of steps) ⁵. In the *Fourth Expansion*, higher flights of steps were permitted (7 instead of 5 feet) ⁶, leaving space for an entrance to the lower structure under the steps.

This transitional area between public and private space was regulated by local bye-laws: it was permitted to project 1.13 metres (4 feet) along the canals, and 0.85 m (3 feet) in the radial streets in between. Over the centuries, the steps moved from the middle of the façade to the left or right, in response to trends in the front section of the house or *voorhuis* ⁷.

As early as the seventeenth century, there was a trend, especially in the wider houses, towards having





the lower structure of the house at street level. In such cases there were no steps at all, and one entered the house through the lower structure. In the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, many steps were demolished and doors inserted to provide access to the lower structure ¹. This was an expensive intervention, and within the canal ring it was therefore largely confined to the most opulent houses.

In the eighteenth century, relates Caspar Philips' *Grachtenboek*, the doors on the street side mainly consisted of a single panel. In the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, these were replaced by doors with two panels. Many of the front doors from the periods of Louis XIV and XVI have been preserved. There is often an ornamental fanlight above the front door, of glass with carved decorations, generally dating from the eighteenth or nineteenth century.

Lower façade

Wooden lower façades ² persisted for a very long time in Amsterdam's canal houses. From the latter half of the seventeenth century onwards, these lower façades ceased to be used for private homes. They were reintroduced in the nineteenth century, mainly for shops, executed in bluestone or stucco.

Cellarshops

The *cellarshops* ³, which were sometimes built against the façades of corner houses, are striking additional structures. Once intended as extensions to basement kitchens, they were later frequently used by craftsmen. These annexes projected beyond the building line.

Traditional features of the historic town houses within the property

Especially along the canals, the features are immediately visible from the arrangement of the main façades of the historic town houses: narrow façades (three bays wide) ⁴ or 'double' houses (five or seven bays wide) ⁵, a basement accessible by a separate entrance from the street, one main entrance to each building (some with bluestone flights of steps) ⁶ the gradually diminishing height of the ceilings on each successive floor that persisted into the nineteenth century (reflected by the decreasing height of the windows). In addition, the main floor is generally above street level, the front façade is on the building line, the façades are generally flat (after the mid-nineteenth century, balconies and projecting bay windows were introduced) ⁷ the front façade is generally made of brick (with wood in the lower section or enlivened and accentuated with horizontal bands in stone), occasional façades in stone; there are 'oversailing' façades, with vertically articulated windows (divided differently over the centuries, from late-mediaeval cross-casement windows to the T-shaped window introduced in the nineteenth century); the upper storeys had one or more hatches with projecting hoist beams, the roof was tiled and built perpendicular to the façade. The width of 'single' houses was between 5.60 and 8.50 metres (20/30 feet), while 'double' houses were 14.70 metres (52 feet) wide. Most houses had two upper storeys.

The front façade is traditionally divided into a plinth or base, above which the vertically articulated façade (with or without hatches for hoisting) ends in a stepped, pointed, clock, neck or cornice gable, or in a straight, sometimes decorated, cornice. In the early seventeenth century the accent was on ornamentation, on the sculpted decorations in stone on façades, porches or chimneypieces. Many canal houses acquired new façades in the eighteenth or nineteenth century, and in some cases, one or more additional storeys were added. Door surrounds, gable-tops and crowning features were all modified to reflect changing tastes and fashions.

Within the *property*, there was a clearly discernible distinction between the heights of houses with one, two or three upper storeys in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Along Herengracht and

Keizersgracht, most houses had two upper storeys in the eighteenth century; very few had three.

Types of façades

In civil architecture, the emphasis was on the front façade and its design. Scholarly treatises played an important role in the architectural theory of the day. The writings and illustrations of Sebastiano Serlio (1475 - c. 1554), Andrea Palladio (1508-1580) and Vincenzo Scamozzi (1548-1616) greatly influenced architecture in the United Provinces, especially in Amsterdam, The Hague and Leiden.

Dutch Renaissance architecture in the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries used a rich diversity of orders of columns and sculptural ornamentation in the decorations of the front façades with their opulent gables (e.g. Bartolotti House, Herengracht 170-172, 1617) ¹.

Order, proportion, modulation, regularity, harmony, symmetry, mathematics (geometrical and arithmetical proportions were seen as the keys to the divine order of the universe) came to govern the architectural designs of civil architecture in Amsterdam and its decoration ². Façades were increasingly mapped out in austere harmonious proportions, emphasised by the placing of pilasters based on classical orders ³. Variation in the treatment of façades gave way to the meticulous application of the conceptualisations in Italian treatises on architecture, exploring the design principles of antiquity.

In the first complete edition of Vitruvius in Holland, edited by Johannes de Laet (1582-1649) and published in Amsterdam by Louis Elzevier, De Laet included his Latin translation of *The Elements of Architecture* by Henry Wotton (1568-1639). In this treatise, Wotton emphasised the significance of a universally applicable divine system of proportions as an architectural principle combining the rules of mathematics, musical harmony and architecture. De Laet also included in this edition the comments of Nicolaus Goldmann (1611-1665) in his system of design, on how to calculate the curve of an Ionic scroll so as to express universally applicable proportions. Classicism had a relatively brief heyday of a few decades in the seventeenth-century province of Holland, following the 1648 Treaty of Münster.

The painter and architect Jacob van Campen (1595-1657), a familiar figure at the court in The Hague but also the architect of Amsterdam's town hall, is sometimes seen as the founder of what is known in the history of architecture as Dutch Classicism. His work was also disseminated in Amsterdam by his assistants Philips Vingboons (1607-1678) and Daniël Stalpaert (1615-1676). Vingboons was known as the architect of private houses for merchants and regents, who gravitated to the principal canals. Stalpaert, appointed as the city's chief architect in 1648, figured more prominently in designs for public buildings such as the naval storage depot (*'s-Landszeemagazijn*) (1655) ⁴ Municipal Archives of Amsterdam); he also supervised the building of the town hall at Dam Square.

Other architects who helped to determine the appearance of the principal canals were Steven Vennecool (1657-1719) and Adriaan Dortsman (c. 1635-1682) (active in Amsterdam from 1666 onwards). Their designs are characterised by austere monumental façades with the accentuation of the central bay. On the other hand, the interiors were more richly furnished.

Jacob van Campen took his inspiration for the design of the Coymans House (Keizersgracht 177, 1625) ⁵ from the ideas expounded by Scamozzi in his *L'idea della architettura*, as can be seen from the arrangement of the pilasters on the façade – Ionic on the first and Composite on the second floor. It was Book VI of Scamozzi's work, on the five orders of columns, that proved so influential on the development of classicism in the United Provinces. The Ionic order was used most in architecture, with





a preference for pilasters. It is often noted in the literature of architecture that a direct relationship is discernible between the architecture of the façade of Inigo Jones' Banqueting Hall (1619/22) and that of the Coymans House.

The situation was very different in the eighteenth century, as further historical research has shown. Then it was the client as art lover or 'amateur', with an interest in the theory of architecture, and the craftsmen, who, certainly in Amsterdam, translated foreign examples in images and writings and incorporated them into their own architectural designs. The design would then be supplied by construction companies and the craftsmen working for them (carpenters and masons), as well as by artists – painters, draughtsmen (*dessinateurs*) and sculptors.

The French-born Daniël Marot (1661-1752) produced prints that disseminated the ornamental world of the style of Louis XIV in both the internal and external features of buildings. In the course of the eighteenth century, many of the houses along Amsterdam's canals acquired new façades, full of ornamental work inspired by French examples. This completely transformed the townscape along the canals (Caspar Philips, *Verzameling van alle de huizen en prachtige gebouwen langs de Keizers en Heere-grachten ...*, c. 1766).

It was craftsmen such as Jan van der Streng, Jean Coulon, Sibout Bollard, Jan Smit, Coenraad Hoemaker and Cornelis Spruytenberg who headed construction companies and provided designs for the façades.

These façades lean forward slightly (they are 'oversailing'), making it easier to hoist goods into the upper storeys, besides facilitating the drainage of rainwater and increasing the amount of light that can penetrate the houses. Aesthetic considerations (perspectival effects) may also have played a role. This intervention meant that the upper floors were slightly deeper than those below. Until the late eighteenth century, the building of oversailing façades was *de rigueur*.

Where the height of the buildings was concerned, the skyline is quite erratic, especially in the area of the first wave of expansion in the seventeenth century (the *Third Expansion*). Many houses were increased in height at some time, this alteration often coinciding with the building of a new front façade. In the eighteenth century, many architectural features were altered, especially façades and interiors, based on French examples.

The brick façades were thin, making it impossible to carve decorations into them. The woodwork of the door and window frames and the decorative work of stonemasons could give a façade an air of distinction. For over a hundred years (chiefly the sixteenth century) it was common to enliven the front façade with stone blocks or bands ¹. As far as gables were concerned, initially (in the sixteenth century), the crow-step gable was the most common type.

The *stepped gable* ² with cross-casement windows is the oldest type of brick façade, followed by the *neck gable* ³, which was sometimes flanked by decorative scrolls or other kinds of ornamentation. The brick *bell gable* is also common, accentuated by a narrow stone frame, sometimes with a striking decorated 'crest'. The funnel-shaped *spout gable* ⁴ is seen most frequently on warehouses.

From about 1650 to 1700 – the period of architectural classicism (with architects such as Jacob van Campen (1595-1657) and Philips Vingboons, 1607-1678) – some 'double' buildings along the canals started sporting *cornice gables*, sometimes with a balustrade. These were now the residences of regents and bankers; they were no longer used for storing merchandise.

The earliest example is at Keizersgracht 177 ¹, the house built for the Coymans brothers (Balthasar and

Joan), designed by Jacob van Campen, 1625; it has a cornice gable and is decorated with pilasters. The four central bays project forwards slightly. There is an attic (raised in height in the nineteenth century, sash windows, after 1780). Other examples: Herengracht 70-72 ², pilaster façade with pediment, c. 1640; Herengracht 386 ³, from 1665, designed by Philips Vingboons, pilaster façade, above which a pediment; Herengracht 388 ⁴ dated 1655, sandstone façade with neck gable, articulated by pilasters, above which a pediment, decorated with four pilasters; Herengracht 412, 1667, designed by Philips Vingboons, pilaster façade with pediment, entrance at street level from the outset.

The classicist façade, articulated by pilasters and surmounted by a pediment with a house that is three bays wide, has been preserved for example at Keizersgracht 319 ⁵, dating from 1639. There are also a number of narrow houses with classicist façades but without pilasters (Herengracht 168, 1638, known as 'the house with the first neck- gable' ⁶ in Amsterdam, designed by Philips Vingboons, altered c. 1730, at which time the pediments above the windows were removed; Herengracht 364-370 ⁷, from 1660/62, with sandstone neck-gables, also designed by Philips Vingboons).

A cornice gable with pilasters in the colossal order may be seen at Herengracht 507. A variant of this type exists, in which the pilasters extend on either side of the neck-gable, as at Prinsengracht 36, 'De Veersack', dated 1650, or Korte Prinsengracht 9, 1653. Stepped-gables with continuous pilasters also occurred (Herengracht 269 ⁸, 1656. An example of a neck-gable with classicist architecture is Keizersgracht 319, 1639, designed by Philips Vingboons.

In the eighteenth century we find false storeys ⁹ beneath the cornice gable. In this period, the townscape along the canals was transformed by the large-scale replacement of older gables by cornice gables or attics. Examples of cornice gables with central sections that have been increased in height or accentuated include Herengracht 475 ¹⁰, De Neufville House, 1731/33, Louis XIV; Herengracht 164 ¹¹, c. 1750, sandstone façade, four bays wide (rare); Herengracht 446; Herengracht 495, early eighteenth century. An exception is the stone façade of Herengracht 527 ¹², a 'double' house with Ionic pilasters, 1700, in the style of Louis XVI.

Where a cornice gable was installed on a narrow house, three bays wide, to conceal the saddle roof, the gable either had an open balustrade with a closed central section or a closed attic; alternatively, the attic itself is treated as a gable. The raised cornice gable also conceals the roof from view, as was fashionable in the eighteenth century. Another model was that of a cornice gable with the flat surface of a hipped roof (Herengracht 146, 1780; Prinsengracht 124, c. 1790, restored in 1969).

The façade architecture of 'double' houses, in the period of the *Fourth Expansion* in the latter half of the seventeenth century, displayed a restrained, austere classicism, without decorative forms on the surface of the façade, which was kept without relief. The central bay was sometimes accentuated by the placing of the entrance, or by adding an accent to the cornice. Examples include Keizersgracht 672-674, the Van Raey Houses, 1672, designed by Adriaan Dortsman (1636-1682); Amstel 216 ¹³, 1671, also by Dortsman; the three houses behind a sandstone façade, Keizersgracht 730-734, 1672, architect Dortsman; Herengracht 462, Sweedenrijk House, 1672, architect Dortsman.

Narrow houses built in that period, with neck-gables without relief but flanked by richly sculpted decorative scrolls, depicting animals or human figures, include Herengracht 390-392 ¹⁴, with sandstone façades, c. 1665; Herengracht 504, 508, 510 ¹⁵, late seventeenth century.

Windows



1



2



3



Windows were the last elements to be added to a building. They were divided differently over the centuries, from the cross-casement windows at Singel 85 ¹, which had cross-bars with wooden rods, to the so-called 'T-shaped windows'. Until 1700, cross-casement windows were the most common type.

The main change came when cross-casement windows, which were opened with shutters, were replaced by sash windows, in which part of the frame is fixed and the lower window can be opened (from the mid-seventeenth century onwards). Slowly but surely, it became possible to produce larger panes of glass. Before the mid-eighteenth century, windows were divided by bars into small sections, but by the nineteenth century advances in glass technology had made it possible to install one large pane of glass at the top with two windows beneath it, which could open either inwards or outwards.

Roofs

Various types of roofs are seen, from the saddle type (covered with tiles) to the mansard type (generally covered with slates, zinc or mastic), and a hipped roof in the case of a wide 'double' house. From the nineteenth century onwards, flat roofs were built.

Garden houses and coach houses

Canal-side houses often had *garden houses* (summer houses) or *coach houses* at the back (see e.g. in Langestraat, Kerkstraat and Reguliersdwarsstraat) ².

There are some 150 garden houses (summer houses) ³ copyright BMA along Herengracht and Keizersgracht. These structures are closed at the back and have side-walls. The front façade facing the garden may or may not exhibit special architectural features. Sometimes it echoes the architecture of the rear façade of the house itself.

Garden houses (summer houses) were permitted to be no larger than 3.40 metres high and 4.25 metres deep. The maximum height of fences between gardens was 2.7 metres. The authorities also decreed that gardens must not be laid higher than street level.

Elements of the interior

Dolls' houses: seventeenth-century replicas to scale

Amsterdam's Rijksmuseum possesses a collection of historical dolls' houses, including those of Petronella Oortman (1656-1716), made in 1686/90. They show that there were several attics under the roof, some of which were used to dry linen. There was a peat attic, with a space below used to store provisions. Then there was a nursery, a room used for childbirth and for mother and infant, the most important room, the salon or *sael*, which had tapestry hangings, a splendid 'display' kitchen and a simpler kitchen for cooking, as well as cellars.

Passageway, hall and stairwell

The front door marks the boundary between the street and the private enclosed space of the home. The door is sometimes carved, and may be divided into an upper and lower section. Through the door one passed into a vestibule, which was sometimes decorated with the owner's coat of arms or his sculpted bust. From there one entered a large reception room. In this part of the house is the passageway or hall, the stairwell, which is placed on one side, in a manner that is characteristic of Dutch architecture (possibly with a skylight), and at the back, possibly in the rear annex or *achterhuis*, the salon or *sael*. All this was endowed in the eighteenth century with real or imitation marble, stucco work, sculptures, paintings on surfaces or overdoor paintings (such as the *grisailles* executed by Jacob de Wit (1695-

1754), which are painted imitations of sculpted reliefs).

Floors

Floors in the basement (from the latter half of the sixteenth century onwards) and on the ground floor were often paved with square baked floor-tiles, sometimes glazed or decorated. Occasionally one finds floors made of bricks laid on their sides to form patterns.

Hard floors in stone (marble) are frequently found in the front section of the house, especially in the former residences of the well-to-do. The other living spaces had wooden floors (in the first half of the seventeenth century these were often pinewood, while in the latter half of the century one finds parquet floors with exotic woods).


Painted beams

Interiors have been furnished and decorated over the centuries. The walls in the front section of the house were whitewashed, with a tiled plinth (sometimes decorated) below. In the homes of the wealthy, the walls were covered with tapestries or gilded leather.

Well into the seventeenth century, the heavy tie-beams, lighter secondary beams and wooden sections in between were sometimes painted. Later on these paintings made way for stucco ceilings decorated with geometrical patterns and floral decorations, applied beneath the beams. There are a number of remarkable houses with painted ceilings, sunk within the stucco work (Keizersgracht 162 and 265; Herengracht 192 and 241) or on canvas.

Stucco work

The eighteenth-century interior was especially luxurious. Ideally, it constituted a single architectural and decorative entity. The rafters were concealed behind stucco ceilings. Passageways and stairwells were designed with perspective in mind.

Ornamental stucco was widely used on the walls and ceiling in the vestibule, passageways and stairwells (sometimes illuminated by a skylight)  copyright BMA and in the principal apartments. Stucco – sometimes in the form of allegorical or secular scenes – also features over doors and on mantelpieces. In the eighteenth century, passageways and stairwells were, wherever possible, arranged symmetrically, if necessary using false doorways to create a mirror image. The passageway would have a light-coloured marble floor and wall-panelling, above which the stucco work was divided into panels or articulated by blind niches.

Passageways and stairwells embellished with stucco work are found mainly in the houses on Singel, Herengracht and Keizersgracht. Plaster statues with iconographical significance are often incorporated into these decorations. On the ground and first floors, there are also rooms with stucco work (for instance on ceilings and mantelpieces).

In the first half of the eighteenth century, Ignatius van Logteren (1685-1732) ('Cromhout Houses' (now Bible Museum, Herengracht 366-368) and Jan van Logteren (1709-1745) were the most prominent stucco artists (Singel 32, passageway with stucco work by Jan van Logteren). Jacob de Wit must be mentioned in connection with his ceiling paintings ('Cromhout Houses' (now Bible Museum, Herengracht 366-368).

The first stucco work in Amsterdam was produced in the seventeenth century (town hall/palace in Dam Square: former Council Chamber ('Moses Room'), former lay magistrates' court ('Throne Room')). Passageways with rich stucco work can be seen at Herengracht 168, 475 and 520.



Painted wall hangings

A separate element of the interior in the late seventeenth and eighteenth centuries (most notably in the period 1750-1775) is that of painted wall hangings ² previous page copyright BMA, executed on canvas or paper. They were sometimes referred to as 'painted mats'. These hangings are no longer found after the first quarter of the nineteenth century. They generally depicted floral motifs and allegorical and literary scenes, or landscapes – frequently Italianate, later romanticised. Village, town and pastoral scenes are also found. Artists who painted wall hangings included Isaac de Moucheron (1667-1744), Dirk Dalens III (1688-1753), Jurriaan Andriessen (1742-1819) and Wybrand Hendriks (1744-1831).

In wall hangings produced in the early eighteenth century, Italian and idealised landscapes were particularly popular. In the mid-eighteenth century, tastes inclined to landscapes with mountains or rivers, after which Dutch landscapes started to predominate in the latter half of the century.

Jan Smit was a manufacturer of painted wall hangings, with scenes painted or printed on linen. Later came manufacturers who sold scenes printed on cotton or paper.

A selection of houses with period interiors or period elements within the *property*:

The following features are included: entrance hall/stairwell, stucco work, sculptures, ceiling paintings, painted wall hangings, and the mantelpiece/chimney breast

Singel

- Singel 24, rococo stucco work in passageway, stairwell and front room with shipping scenes (commissioned by Volkert de Vries, who made his fortune in shipping), c. 1761
- Singel 30, passageway and front room (Minerva in stucco relief) with stucco work (1730/40), probably by Jan van Logteren (1709-1745), depicting the Four Seasons and allegorical scenes
- Singel 32, passageway with stucco work, c. 1725, Jan van Logteren (1709-1745), depicting the Four Elements, the Four Seasons and allegorical scenes
- Singel 36, main salon, rococo, 1736, with stucco ceiling. Passageway with ornamental stucco work on walls and ceilings
- Singel 56/58/60, no. 60, symmetrical passageway, with stucco work and false doors, including a scene featuring Demeter, oval stairwell, Louis XV, c. 1750
- Singel 68, eighteenth-century stucco work, Louis XIV, between the tie-beams
- Singel 98, walls and ceilings of passageway with richly embellished stucco work (c. 1730), Louis XIV. Ceiling with stucco work on tie-beams and secondary beams
- Singel 106, passageway, ornamental stucco work, c. 1744. On the first floor in the front section of the house, stucco work (Four Seasons) and painted scenes
- Singel 116, *House with the Noses (Huis met de Neuzen)*, passageway with stucco, front room ceiling with stucco reliefs (Minerva), 1752. In the salon on the first floor, five grisailles, painted imitations of stucco by Jacob de Wit, known as *Witjes* (here depicting the Five Senses) and five painted wall hangings depicting the Virtues, dated 1756, signed Antonie Elliger (1701-1781)
- Singel 119, passageway with stucco work and reliefs, 1763
- Singel 120, stucco work, c. 1750. Ceiling painting with Virtue and the Passions, Jan van Neck, 1644
- Singel 130, rococo stucco. Main salon, stucco work depicting the Four Continents, 1769
- Singel 138, symmetrical passageway with stucco work and false doors, eighteenth century
- Singel 192, symmetrical passageway with stucco work and false doors, 1739. The Four Seasons and the Four Elements depicted in stucco above the doors
- Singel 514, passageway with stucco work and reliefs, c. 1760

Herengracht

- Herengracht 40, *De Vergulde Lely*, left-hand front room, painted wall hangings, 1790/91, probably by Jurriaan Andriessen (1742-1819). Stucco work (1780/90), neo-classicist (with scene of a scythe with a hawk, a wild boar, garlands; stucco work in passageway and stairwell)
- Herengracht 48, interior dating from after 1759. Main salon and passageway, rococo stucco work (c. 1762)
- Herengracht 150, paintings on the beams and wooden sections in between, with floral and fruit motifs, vines and cartouches
- Herengracht 160, passageway with stucco reliefs, 1763
- Herengracht 168, passageway and stairwell with stucco work, Jan van Logteren (1709-1745), signed 1733. Two ceiling paintings in front and back room (Tribute to Flora; Allegory of Spring, 1729, signed; Virtue visiting a Bacchanal, 1730), Jacob de Wit (1695-1754). Painted wall hangings (front room, 1730; back room, 1734), Isaac de Moucheron (1677-1744) and De Wit (figures)
- Herengracht 170-172, *Bartolotti House*, renovated after 1712. Grisailles with Flora and Proserpine, 1735 (Jacob de Wit, 1695-1754); mantel painting by Jean Baptiste Xavery (1697-1742); front room, ceiling painting with scenes including Flora and Zephyr, 1735, De Wit. Painted wall hangings in front room, Isaac de Moucheron (1677-1744), originating from elsewhere. Passageway of no. 170 with régence-style stucco work, Euterpe with flute
- Herengracht 178, ceiling painting, seventeenth century, with cartouches, angels and garlands
- Herengracht 180, stucco work in the passageway with reliefs, 1763
- Herengracht 182, *De Zonnewijser*, stucco work by Ludwig Friederick Druck (active in Amsterdam from 1771). Rear annex with neo-Louis XVI wainscoting
- Herengracht 241, ceiling painting depicting Flora, surrounded by the Four Seasons, eighteenth century. Stucco work, Louis XIV
- Herengracht 284, *Van Brienens House*, formerly 'de Stadt Praegh', in the dining-room, painted wall hangings by Dirk Dalens III (1688-1753), dated 1733 and signed. The mantelpiece is embellished with a painting of the Vestal Virgins signed and dated 1733 by Antoine Elliger, 1701-1781, who is also assumed to have produced the allegorical scene (Trade and Prosperity) on the ceiling of the salon. The original front section of the house was modernised in the nineteenth century (c. 1830). The back room of this part of the house has a Louis XVI interior with original wall-lining and a 26-piece suite of furniture, installed when Willem Joseph van Brienens acquired the house in 1781.
- Herengracht 310, in the salon by Jacob Cats (1741-1799) painted wall hangings, c. 1763. Stucco work in the passageway by Jacob and Hendrik Husley, 1751
- Herengracht 366-368, *Cromhout Houses/Bible Museum*, two rooms with ceiling paintings, Jacob de Wit (1695-1754) (1718, Olympian gods, commissioned by Cromhout, in the front room; Apollo and the Four Seasons (1750) originally from Herengracht 440, placed in the back room in 2000). In the main salon coffered ceiling with ten paintings on canvas depicting mythological scenes and the Zodiac, 1718, dated and signed by De Wit. Stucco work by Jan van Logteren (1709-1745). Marble hall, grand staircase, oval-shaped stairwell (1717/18), rooms overlooking garden with stucco work by Ignatius van Logteren (1685-1732). Two seventeenth-century kitchens; stairwell
- Herengracht 380-382, nineteenth-century interior, A. Salm (1857-1915), son of G.B. Salm, various work including a Moresque bathroom
- Herengracht 386, painted, signed hangings, 'Dutch Arcadia', in the room overlooking the garden, 1776, Jurriaan Andriessen (1742-1819)
- Herengracht 390, in the main salon six painted wall hangings, Johan Bolderer, c. 1760, discovered in 1960. Stucco work depicting the Four Seasons in the main salon
- Herengracht 402, ceiling painting by J. Buttner, c. 1750, with rococo interior
- Herengracht 436, passageway with stucco work, Louis XIV, 1738, Jan van Logteren (1709-1745),

depicting the Four Elements, represented as herm caryatids in the form of Mercury, Vesta, Neptune and Cybele, and the Four Seasons

- Herengracht 440, stucco work in the salon, on the ceiling a painting by Jacob de Wit (1695-1754), 1750
- Herengracht 442, ceiling painting, probably by Gerard de Lairese (1640-1711)
- Herengracht 446, stucco ceiling depicting Minerva in the passageway, style of Louis XIV, c. 1740. Room overlooking garden with rococo stucco ceiling. House built for Andries de Graeff (1611-1678), 1672; in the right-hand front room there are sixteen sculpted, polychrome family coats of arms
- Herengracht 460, *Staetshuys*, eighteenth-century stairwell. Rooms in neo-Louis XVI style, c. 1860/70
- Herengracht 468, house dating from 1669; raised in height and endowed with new front façade in 1875. Eighteen paintings, including two on the ceilings (garden side), with scenes of Flora and Zephyr (1746) and Bacchus and Ceres (dated 1747, signed), Jacob de Wit (1695-1754). Eighteenth-century stairwell, stucco reliefs. Restoration 1950. Room overlooking garden with eighteenth-century stucco work
- Herengracht 474, above stairwell, ceiling painting with putti originating from one of the rooms, 1721, Jacob de Wit (1695-1754). Stucco work depicts the Four Elements. Interior largely nineteenth century
- Herengracht 475, *De Neufville House/Huis aan de Bocht*, vestibule with stucco work and marble floor, Louis XIV. In right-hand front room four wall hangings with painted landscapes, 1731, Isaac de Moucheron (1677-1744); left-hand front room, painted wall hangings, Jurriaan Andriessen (1742-1819), 1792; passageway (Four Elements; ceiling: Prudentia and Minerva; in the niches Venus and Adonis) and stairwell (1736) with stucco work depicting Apollo, Venus and Adonis, Euterpe and Thalia, 1733, Jan van Logteren (1709-1745); left-hand back room, ceiling painting (The reception of Callisto/Diana returns from the hunt), signed, dated 1731, Jacob de Wit (1695-1754). In 1907 the ceiling painting by Antonie Elliger (1701-1781) from Herengracht 507 was transferred here.
- Herengracht 476, *De Vicq*, stucco work by Ignatius van Logteren (1685-1732). In right-hand back room ceiling painting (Aurora and Diana; Dawn drives the Night away), with grisailles in the corners (Four Seasons), and two medallions (Diana, Apollo), 1730, Jacob de Wit (1695-1754). Placed here in 1904. Restoration 2000
- Herengracht 479, passageway with stucco work, stairwell with skylight, c. 1725. In left-hand front room, ceiling painting (Callisto placed in the sky), signed, dated 1731, Jacob de Wit (1695-1754). Left-hand back room, seventeenth-century painting of the ceiling and beams with birds, and other ceiling paintings, 1761, G. van der Mijl
- Herengracht 480, stucco work in the passageway (Louis XIV), allegorical scenes. Ceiling painting with the Four Seasons, Gerard de Lairese (1640-1711)
- Herengracht 481, right-hand back room with eighteenth-century interior, ceiling painting of the apotheosis of Hercules, stucco work on ceiling, c. 1750
- Herengracht 493, in places including the passageway and stairwell, stucco work, Louis XV. Room overlooking garden with stucco work, 1766/67
- Herengracht 497, *Kattenkabinet*, seventeenth-century ceiling painting on the first floor, Allegory of the fame and greatness of Amsterdam, artist unknown
- Herengracht 500, 'double' house, altered in the eighteenth century. On the first floor, ceiling painting in neo-Louis XVI style, by Witkamp and Van der Waaij, depicting Cupid and Psyche, c. 1900, in addition to other paintings in the house. Right-hand front room with wainscoting, neo-Louis XVI, designed by Isaac Gosschalk (1838-1907)
- Herengracht 502, *Deutz House/official residence of the mayor*, part late seventeenth-century, part nineteenth-century interior. In the former 'gentlemen's room' stucco work dating from c. 1790
- Herengracht 510, front section of the house with period room, 1760, with stucco ceiling; rococo

- stucco ceiling in right-hand front room with animal figures
- Herengracht 512, interior, altered 1763; passageway and stairwell with stucco work, including attributes of shipping
 - Herengracht 514, room at the back, stucco ceiling, Empire style
 - Herengracht 518, *Museum Geelvinck Hinlopen House*, right-hand front room and left-hand back room, Empire style. Right-hand back room with painted wall hangings, originating from elsewhere, some by Egbert van Driest (1746-1818). In addition rooms in neo-rococo, including a room on the left; room on the right, the library, painted nineteenth-century stucco ceiling
 - Herengracht 520, passageway with stucco work, Louis XIV, 1726/27 and statues in stucco work (representing Licentiousness and Moderation), c. 1727. Stairwell with skylight, stucco work. Left-hand front room with neo-classicist stucco work, c. 1781, the Four Seasons
 - Herengracht 524, *Het Geloof*, painted wall hangings in the salon, signed, dated, 1771, Jurriaan Andriessen (1742-1819)
 - Herengracht 539, stairwell with stucco work and stucco figures of Venus and Minerva. Ceiling painting, Gianantonio Pellegrini (b. 1675), 1717/18, depicting Ariadne and Bacchus
 - Herengracht 548, skylight with stucco work, c. 1724, Louis XIV
 - Herengracht 550, painted wall hangings, Jacob Maurer and Abraham van Beesten, c. 1768, in right-hand front room
 - Herengracht 572, in the salon, six painted wall hangings, c. 1790, probably by Jurriaan Andriessen (1742-1819)
 - Herengracht 573, *Tassenmuseum Hendrikje*, six-part ceiling painting depicting the Maid of Amsterdam, Minerva, Reason and the Four Continents, c. 1665, ceiling painting with Allegory of Peace, 1741, Louis Fabritius Dubourg (1693-1775)
 - Herengracht 605, *Museum Willet-Holthuysen*, stairwell with stucco work, added during the eighteenth-century renovation with sculptures made in Italy (Judgment of Paris). In right-hand front room ceiling painting, 1744, Jacob de Wit (1695-1754), originally from Herengracht 250. Plush wall hangings in first-floor front room. The main salon or rear salon, 1865, Louis XVI, containing tapestries from Paris (Braquenié & Cie). The wall linings here are by Eugène Adan. Eighteenth-century kitchen in the lower section of the house, furnished in 1960/61, on the basis of a design by the architect Bart van Kasteel; at the same time, the first-floor front room was furnished in eighteenth-century style (now called the Blue Room). This room has a ceiling painting depicting Dawn by Jacob de Wit (1695-1754), painted in 1744, originally from Herengracht 250, and a mantelpiece from Prins Hendrikkade 142, with chimney breast designed by Bart van Kasteel and a mantel painting by De Wit.

Nieuwe Herengracht

- Nieuwe Herengracht 103, passageway with stucco work, Louis XV, oval stairwell with skylight, 1751. Various stucco ceilings, before 1785

Keizersgracht

- Keizersgracht 31, in the salon ceiling paintings, divided into three sections, eighteenth century, possibly from the circle of Gerard de Lairese (1641-1711). Central section, Victory of Trade in the East
- Keizersgracht 64, stucco work in passageway, with false doors, Louis XIV, 1738. Various ceiling paintings in the first-floor front room (Prudentia) and back room (Ceres) and in the salon (Time and Geometry). Ceiling paintings restored 1997
- Keizersgracht 71, passageway with stucco work and reliefs, depicting the Judgment of Paris; the four blind niches in the ceiling contain images of the Four Continents. Also images of Mercury, Minerva, Aurora and Neptune, c. 1730, Louis XIV, c. 1730, Ignatius van Logteren (1685-1732)

- Keizersgracht 133, *Benscop Arms (Wapen van Benscop)*, passageway, stairwell, stucco work (allegorical scenes: Mother Earth, two putti, Flora), skylight, c. 1725
- Keizersgracht 160, passageway and rooms on the first floor contain stucco work (Four Seasons in the passageway; ceiling of main salon, musical and measuring instruments, and books in stucco) (latter half of the eighteenth century). Musical instruments depicted in stucco
- Keizersgracht 162, ceiling painting with Flora and the Four Seasons, 1769
- Keizersgracht 192, stucco work, c. 1745
- Keizersgracht 224, *Saxenburg House (Huis Saxenburg)*, stucco work in passageway, Louis XV, 1765. On the first floor, seventeenth-century painted beams. In the salon, a marble mantelpiece with a scene of Hercules and Deianira (put back in situ, 1987)
- Keizersgracht 240, painted wall hangings, rediscovered in 1968, with images including the Maid of Amsterdam, the Four Continents, c. 1750
- Keizersgracht 265, painted recessed ceiling, first floor of the rear annex, first half of the eighteenth century, Solomon meets the Queen of Sheba
- Keizersgracht 269, painted wall hangings in the salon by Antonie Elliger (1701-1781), 1736; in the front and rear rooms of the front section of the house and in the room overlooking the garden, painted wall hangings by W. Uppink (1757-1849), 1812/13
- Keizersgracht 317, features include painted hangings, Isaac de Moucheron (1667-1744), after 1760. Louis XVI stucco work between the tie-beams
- Keizersgracht 319, in the front room painted wall hangings originating from elsewhere
- Keizersgracht 399, room overlooking garden, 1720, wooden ceiling, Louis XIV, with painting by Johannes Voorhout (1647-1723)
- Keizersgracht 401, *Marseille*, passageway with stucco work, Louis XIV, after 1729, depicting Mercury and other images. Ceiling painting in the salon, Apollo enthroned in the clouds with Minerva and the Nine Muses, c. 1730, Jacob de Wit (1695-1754). The ceiling painting was moved back here from the Rijksmuseum in 2004 (property of the Royal Society of Antiquaries, Amsterdam). Restoration of the interior 1998/99
- Keizersgracht 409, ceiling painting with human figures and birds, 1671. Rediscovered in 1976
- Keizersgracht 452, *Elias Fuld House (Huis Elias Fuld)*, painted wall hangings, c. 1740. Stairwell has dome with stained glass supported by caryatids. Designed by the architect Cornelis Outshoorn (1812-1875)
- Keizersgracht 536, rococo stucco work in passageway (cartouches above the doors in the passageway) and front room, (Four Seasons, and in the central section Minerva and Medusa in stucco), c. 1750
- Keizersgracht 565-567, stairwell, eighteenth century; rooms in neo-Louis XVI style
- Keizersgracht 584, painted wall hangings in the study, Jurriaan Andriessen (1742-1819). At the rear the salon, which overlooks the garden, with adjacent study. Arent van Hasselt (1732-1812), who acquired the house in 1781, refurbished these rooms with wainscoting in Louis-XVI style. Above two doors, two painted scenes of sacrifices by Johannes van Dreght (1737-1807), 1789. The scenes are depicted *en camäieu*
- Keizersgracht 587, painted wall hangings
- Keizersgracht 604, ceiling painting, Apollo and the Muses playing musical instruments, c. 1730, Jacob de Wit (1695-1754)
- Keizersgracht 608, passageway with stucco work and false doors, 1732. In the salon, ceiling painting, 1898, Piet Mondrian (1872-1944)
- Keizersgracht 670, noteworthy conservatory with stained-glass panes, c. 1900; 'double' house, c. 1675, altered in the late nineteenth century

- Keizersgracht 672, *Museum van Loon*, interior, 1752, stucco work and stairwell, Louis XV. Restoration 1964-1973
- Keizersgracht 688, passageway with stucco work, c. 1760
- Keizersgracht 690, stucco work in passageway and stairwell, Louis XV, c. 1760. Allegorical scene on an overdoor painting in the passageway; in rear annex a rococo room, c. 1760
- Keizersgracht 704, in the salon painted wall hangings, signed and dated, 1768, Jurriaan Andriessen (1742-1819)
- Keizersgracht 756, stucco work with reliefs in the hall and passageway with false doors, Louis XIV, 1738

Prinsengracht

- Prinsengracht 299, in the salon a ceiling painting by Antonie Elliger (1701-1781), dated and signed 1764
- Prinsengracht 855-897, *Deutzenhofje* (charitable institution) governors' room above the original entrance of 1695, interior with furniture from the founder's house. Of particular interest here are the chairs upholstered with floral tapestries, with accompanying tablecover

Amstel

- Amstel 172-174, ceiling painting with birds, c. mid-seventeenth century
- Amstel 218, 'double' house, 1662/68, renovated latter half of eighteenth century. Stucco work passageway, stairwell, from the period of the renovation. An interior, transferred to this house from Herengracht 509
- Amstel (268), ceiling painting with birds, 1671. Discovered in 1967

EXAMPLES OF OFFICES VOORBEELDEN KANTOREN

EXAMPLES OF NINETEENTH AND TWENTIETH-CENTURY OFFICE AND OTHER BUILDINGS WITHIN THE 'SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY RING OF CANALS'

Singel Canal

- Singel/Haarlemmerstraat 2
1900, designed by E.M. Rooi, built for Levensverzekering Noord-Brabant Waalwijk (life insurance company)
- Singel 167-185, *P.C. Hoofthuis*
1984, houses part of Amsterdam University. Designed by Aldo van Eyck and Theo Bosch (Bureau Van Eyck en Bosch). The new building is linked to an Art Nouveau building, known as *Het Witte Huis*, corner of Singel/Raadhuisstraat, designed by J. Verheul Dzn (1860-1948) and C. Verheul Dzn, 1899
- Singel 194-198
1878, former Rente-Cassa bank building, neo-Classicistic, designed by A.N. Godefroy (1822-1899), brick cornice gable ¹
- Singel 202-208, *Drie Koningen Building*
1921, *Drie Koningen* (Three Kings) Building, architecture influenced by Classicism and by the twentieth-century Amsterdam School ²
- Singel 213/Spuistraat 172
1908, former Labouchère, Oyens&Co. bank building, designed by F.W.M. Poggenbeek (1860-1922). Facades clad in sandstone above stone rustication; extension built in 1932
- Singel 236
c. 1890; Dutch Renaissance style
- Singel 239, Paleisstraat, Spuistraat 210-212, *Bungehuis Building*
Former commercial offices, designed by Gebr. van Gendt (J.G. van Gendt (1866-1925), A.D.N. van Gendt (1879-1932)), 1932/34, with simply articulated facades (limestone and granite facing). Occupied by Amsterdam University since 1973.
- Singel 250/256/Raadhuisstraat
1910/12, former Nederlandsch-Indische Handelsbank bank building, designed by J.P.F. van Rossum, W.J. Vuyk, in Dutch Classicism style; extension on left, 1927, by A.D.N. van Gendt (1870-1932) ³
- Singel 340
1916/19, former head office of municipal telephone services, designed by Gerrit Jan Rutgers (born 1877; 1914-1919, municipal architect), P.L. Marnette (1888-1948)
- Singel 429-435/Heiligeweg
1904, designed by D. van Oort
- Singel 468/Koningsplein
1899, Nieuw Engeland shop, designed by A. Jacot (1864-1927), Willem Oldewelt (1865-1906)
- Singel 480/Koningsplein
1891, shop and office building. Originally an insurance bank (*Kosmos*, in Zeist) with shop on ground floor and offices above. Striking building with round corner tower and dome, designed by D.H. Haverkamp (1850-1920) and T.G. Schill (1852-1914). Renovated in 1925
- Singel 512
1856, former Vaudeville Theatre, designed by I. Gosschalk (1938-1907)





Herengracht Canal

- Herengracht 124-128
1920, cornice gable, designed by B.J. Ouëndag (born 1899), stone facade; lower section of facade altered in 1960, designed by W.B. Ouëndag (born 1899) and Arthur Staal (1907-1993)
- Herengracht 141-145, *De Koophandel Building*
1906, architect A.J. Joling. Ornamental tablet depicting the Beurs (Exchange) Building designed by Dr. H.P. Berlage 1856-1934, the West Church and the attributes of Mercury
- Herengracht 179-189
1900/02, designed by C.B. Posthumus Meyjes Sr. (1858-1922), former Associatie Cassa bank building. Sandstone facade above rusticated plinth. Later, 1920, extended to Driekoningenstraat **1**
- Herengracht 196-200
1874/75, two stone facades, c. 1615, incorporated into former Kas-Vereeniging building, designed by J.L. Springer (1850-1915), extended c. 1902, designed by A.L. van Gendt (1835-1901)
- Herengracht 199-201/Driekoningenstraat
1917/18, office, designed by F.W.M. Poggenbeek (1860-1922)
- Herengracht 206-214
1917/18, designed by J.G. van Gendt (1866-1925) and A.D.N. van Gendt (1870-1932). Original Pierson&Co bank building, broad historically oriented façade, neo-Classicistic, with rusticated base, eight columns with Ionic capitals, cornice topped by an attic with vases, coats of arms and statuary (sculptor J. Schröder)
- Herengracht 237
1881/82, former A. Boissevain & Co. bank building, designed by Corn. Muysken (1843-1922), neo-Renaissance; adjoining no. (239), 1889, designed by Corn. Muysken
- Herengracht 244-246
1929, historicizing Bothnia Building, designed by T.F. Felderhof. The attic incorporates elements taken from *De Blauwe Duyff* and *De Witte Beer*, two houses that once occupied this spot
- Herengracht 255-255a
1933, right half, six window axes, designed by W.J.M. Poggenbeek, extending left along the width of two window axes, Gebr. van Gendt (J.G. van Gendt (1866-1925) and A.D.N. van Gendt, 1870-1932)), 1933 **2**
- Herengracht 260-266
1917/19, designed by Gebr. van Gendt (J.G. van Gendt (1866-1925) and A.D.N. van Gendt, 1870-1932)), Nederlandsche Lloyd office (on the site of four canal-side houses). Modified new building in neo-Louis XVI style
- Herengracht 278, Hermes Building
1905. Art Nouveau facade
- Herengracht 286-290
1920/22, designed by Gebr. van Gendt (J.G. van Gendt (1866-1925) and A.D.N. van Gendt (1870-1932)). Formerly the head office of N.V. Deli-Batavia Maatschappij, now Amsterdam University's Art History Institute. Amsterdam School
- Herengracht 293-305
Third Telephone Exchange, on the site of six houses. Designed by G.J. Rutgers (1877-1962). Replaced by another building in 1955 (designed by C. van der Wilk)
- Herengracht 320-324
1912/22, Lutkie en Smit office building, designed by Jacques Düncker, sandstone facade **3**
- Herengracht 415
1891, Geloof en Wetenschap Association building, designed by W.G. Welsing

- Herengracht 426-430/Leidsestraat
1904/05, formerly Kreymborg & Co. garment warehouse, designed by P.A. Weeldenburg (1849-1912)
- Herengracht 442
1905/06, former Fries-Groningse Hypotheekbank (mortgage bank), J.A. van Straaten Jr. (1862-1920). Facade with enamelled tiles ¹
- Herengracht 466/Nieuwe Spiegelstraat
1894, head office of Nederlandsche Handel-Maatschappij from 1858, a double canal-side house designed by Philips Vingboons (1607-1678), renovated by A.N. Godefroy (1822-1899); 1903, new facade, designed by A.D.N. van Gendt (1870-1932)
- Herengracht 482, Vijzelstraat (32), Keizersgracht, formerly *Nederlandsche Handel-Maatschappij* office (since 2007, the *De Bazel* Building) ² copyright BMA
- 1920/26, built as office building for the former Nederlandsche Handel-Maatschappij (founded 1824) at the top of the Herengracht and Keizersgracht canals and on the west side of Vijzelstraat. Designed by K.P.C. de Bazel (1869-1923); concrete skeleton, designed by A.D.N. van Gendt (1879-1932). In 2007, became the new premises of Amsterdam's Municipal Archives and the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology (BMA), in accordance with plans drawn up by Claus en Kaan Architecten. Now referred to as the De Bazel Building. Expressionist brickwork wall, vertically articulated (Amsterdam School), with stone sections alongside figurative ornamentation. Symmetrical floorplan based on a rectangle of 360x320 cm, with two lightwells. The design is based on a consistent proportional scheme (3.60x3.20m rectangle; dimensioned heights, based on a 90 cm module; 90 cm facade breadth, 80 cm for side walls along canals). Floorplan based on the Larkin Building in Buffalo, New York, by Frank Lloyd Wright (1867-1959). Two uppermost storeys gradually recessed, making them sympathetic to surrounding building height. Exterior sculptures, for example Europa and Asia, the figures of the three governors-general of India, and the depiction of Shipping (corner of Herengracht Canal) and Trade (corner of Keizersgracht Canal). Grand staircase with leaded-glass windows by artist A.J. Derkinderen (1859-1925); Old Meeting Room, moved from the original premises along the Herengracht Canal, with eighteenth-century panelling, painted wall-papering (J. Augustini, 1772); Grand Meeting Room with leaded-glass windows by Derkinderen, 1924. The Netherlands Architecture Institute (NAi) in Rotterdam has a large scale-model of this building dating from 1921 (225x75cm, 69cm tall)
- Herengracht 531-537
1902/03, former Incassobank building, designed by J.P.H. de Man, right half in Jugendstil; left half designed by H.A.J. Baanders (1876-1953), 1906 and 1916 respectively ³
- Herengracht 542-544
modified new building, 1930s ⁴
- Herengracht 545-549
1913/14, former Amsterdamse Handelsbank building, J.F. Staal (1879-1940), granite lower front, design influenced by rational brick architecture of Dr. H.P. Berlage (1856-1934) ⁵
- Herengracht 550-552
historicizing new building for Mees & Hope bank, using older building materials and elements
- Herengracht 589-595
1926/32, former head office of the Amsterdamsche Bank, designed by B.J. Ouëndag (born 1899, Expressionist style; facades designed by Dr. H.P. Berlage (1856-1934), with sculpture reliefs (L. Zijl, 1866-1947)

1



2



3



4



5





Keizersgracht Canal

- Keizersgracht 105
1942, designed by F.A. Warners (1888-1952), with eighteenth-century ornamentation
- Keizersgracht 129
1880, former hospital, designed by P.F. Laarman
- Keizersgracht 162
1884, student hospice, VU Amsterdam, designed by J.W. Meyer. Facade renewed
- Keizersgracht 174-176/Leliegracht
1904/06, former head office of Eerste Hollandsche Levensverzekerings Bank, designed by G.A. van Arkel (1858-1918) and H.H. Baanders (1848-1905); extended in 1969 along the Keizersgracht and Leliegracht canals, designed by C. Wegener Sleswijk. Seven-storey office building in Art Nouveau style **1**
- Keizersgracht 198/Westermarkt
After 1919, designed by G.A. van Arkel (1858-1918), completed by H.J. Breman. There were two seventeenth-century houses with step gables on this spot, designed by Hendrick de Keyser. Their demolition led to the founding of the Hendrick de Keyser Society
- Keizersgracht 213
1918, designed by P.H. van Niftrik, stone facade. Built for N.V. Globe insurance company
- Keizersgracht 271-287
1955/1956/1967/1983/1974/1980, designed by A.J. Westerman (1884-1966), modified new building for Nederlandse Crediet Maatschappij
- Keizersgracht 300
1955, designed by J.B. Ingwersen (1921-1996), C. de Geus (1889-1957)
- Keizersgracht 305-309
1912, designed by P.H. van Niftrik, inspired by the work of Dr. H.P. Berlage
- Keizersgracht 313
1914, designed by F.A. Warners (1888-1952)
- Keizersgracht 314-316/Berenstraat
1935/36, Koch building, historicizing design by A.A. Kok (1851-1951). Built for the firm of William Koch&Co
- Keizersgracht 359-361
1980, designed by Marinus Oostenbrink (Bureau De Klerk), new building for Providentia insurance company
- Keizersgracht 369-381
1939/1941, designed by G.H. Kleinhout (1881-1951), W.J. van der Steur, built for ANIEM (Algemeene Nederlandsch-Indische Electriciteit Mij.). Traditionalistic Delft School style
- Keizersgracht 418-424
1929/1932, formerly Gereformeerd Gymnasium (secondary school), designed by A.U. Ingwersen (1882-1959), historicizing new building
- Keizersgracht 440
1897/98, garment factory, architect W. Hamer
- Keizersgracht 455/Leidsestraat, *Showroom, Metz&Co shop premises*
1891, originally the New York Building, a high-profile shop warehouse, similar building to those on the corners of the Herengracht Canal and Leidsestraat, now the Metz Building. Designed by J. van Looy for the New York Life Insurance Company, virtually a copy of the company's office building in Vienna, designed a century earlier by Schumann & Krimmel (1880). Renovated in 1918 for Metz. Glass cylindrical pavilion on roof, designed by Gerrit Rietveld (1888-1964), 1933 (restored by Ces Dam, 1986).

- Keizersgracht 449, designed by Gerrit Rietveld, formerly Metz's furniture department, now a restaurant. The opposite corner (Leidsestraat/Keizersgracht Canal) is emphasised by the oriel crowned by a helm roof, 1910 **1**
- Keizersgracht 508/Leidsestraat
1881, cigar shop, designed by A.C. Bleijs (1842-1912), the small tower accentuates the corner, neo-Renaissance elements
- Keizersgracht 517
1909/1866, designed by Gebr. van Gendt (J.G. van Gendt (1925-1870) and A.D.N. van Gendt (1870-1932) **2**
- Keizersgracht 555/Nieuwe Spiegelstraat
1917/19, Amsterdamsche Maatschappij van Levensverzekering office building, designed by C.B. Posthumus Meyes Sr. (1858-1922) **3**
- Keizersgracht 569-571
1894, J.A.C. van Leeuwen office building, designed by K.J. Muller (1857-1942), with Gothic Venetian elements along facade/entrance **4**
- Keizersgracht 573-575
1909/10, designed by J.A. van Straaten (1781-1858), offices of the former Nederlandsch-Indische Escompto Maatschappij, facade inspired by Classicism, articulated by colossal columns and a triangular pediment **5**
- Keizersgracht 617-629
a nineteenth-century Roman Catholic institution for elderly men, 'Brentano's Steun des Ouderdoms'. 1924, designed by P.J.S. Pieters **6**
- Keizersgracht 666/668
1937/39, designed by C.B. Posthumus Meyjes Jr. (1893-1974) and J. van der Linden, historicizing brick office building for the former Javasche Bank, with double front steps. Brick facade inspired by eighteenth-century architecture, partitioning with projecting middle section, cornice gable. No. (664), eighteenth-century canal-side house, connected to new office building
- Keizersgracht 713-715
building with two step gables, re-use of older elements, designed by C.B. Posthumus Meyes

Prinsengracht Canal

- Prinsengracht 55
1930, warehouse, designed by H.H. Baanders (1849-1955)
- Prinsengracht 237
former main fire station, designed by municipal architect Willem Springer (1815-1907)
- Prinsengracht 400
1925, Amsterdam School
- Prinsengracht 414-416/Raamstraat
constructed in 1925
- Prinsengracht 442/Leidsestraat
1926, shop
- Prinsengracht 540-542
1918, shop premises, Amsterdam School
- Prinsengracht 579
1895, formerly De Nederlander cake-makers, designed by Tjeerd Kuipers (1857-1942), adjoining two warehouses, nos. (581), (583), built 1901
- Prinsengracht 587
1975, modified new building, brick facade, De Klerk





- Prinsengracht 612
constructed in 1920
- Prinsengracht 709-713
facade, reminiscent of the Amsterdam School, 1920s
- Prinsengracht 739-741
c. 1890, former milk factory, designed by Ed. Cuypers (1859-1927)
- Prinsengracht 769
1854/57, Prinsengracht Hospital, designed by J.H. Leliman (1828-1910), extended in 1872, 1890 and 1902/03 (designed by C.B. Posthumus Meyes)
- Prinsengracht 808/Utrechtsestraat
1906/07, designed by A.D.N. van Gendt (1870-1932) and J.C. van Gendt (1925), office of the former Onderlinge Levensverzekeringsmaatschappij insurance company, with shop and apartments on upper storeys ¹
- Prinsengracht 955, 1905, designed by H.A.J. Baanders (1876-1954), succession of various style periods (Renaissance, Dutch Classicism)
- Prinsengracht 1011-1017
residential complex, mid-nineteenth century.

STOOP, STEPS AND KITCHEN ANNEXES (CELLARSHOPS) **STOEPEN EN POTHUIZEN**

STOOP, STEPS AND KITCHEN ANNEXES (CELLARSHOPS)

Stoop

A unique element of the historical spatial structure of Amsterdam within Singelgracht, and more specifically of the 'seventeenth-century canal ring area', is the transitional area between the private property of a building on a canalside or on one of the radial streets and the public space, the road. This area in front of the house is referred to in Dutch as the *stoep*, a word that has passed into American English as 'stoop'. The platform before the front door, reached by ascending a few steps or a flight of steps (sometimes with a bench to sit on) is known as the *perron* in English and is also part of the *stoep*. ¹

The stoop is distinguished by being somewhat higher than street level and paved or covered with stone slabs ². To accentuate the distinction between private and public space, there are frequently stone posts in a variety of shapes such as octagonal or conical, sometimes fluted etc. (from the nineteenth century onwards the posts were made of cast iron), besides which there might be decorative railings ³ balustrades or chains ⁴ demarcating the small private area. There is also frequently a separate entrance to the basement here; alternatively, this entrance may be beneath the *perron*. ⁵

The *perron* – a raised platform reached by ascending some steps (ranging from a small number to a longer flight of steps, in some cases as much as two metres high) – may be parallel to the façade, facing either left or right, or perpendicular to it ⁶. 'Double houses' generally have a double flight of steps or *perron* ⁷. The steps are almost always made of stone. Wrought-iron or wooden banisters, resting on balusters, provide support. The side of a flight of steps is generally concealed by a stone slab ⁸.

In one variant, a separate door beneath the *perron* provided access to the basement rooms for domestic staff. Decorative railings are sometimes found beside a flight of steps leading down to the basement, partly to prevent passers-by from falling down the steps. ⁹

The steps were regulated by civic bye-laws or *keuren*. One sixteenth-century by-law (1565) stated that a flight of steps must be at most 6 Amsterdam feet high (1.70 m) and 4 feet wide (1.15 m). By the seventeenth century (1614), the regulations merely stated that neither steps nor kitchen annexes might be more than 4 feet wide, and in 1663 the permissible height had grown to 7 feet, almost 2 metres.

Steps continued to be regulated in the eighteenth century. Those along the principal canals of the 'seventeenth-century canal ring area' were permitted to be 7 feet high, while elsewhere the maximum height was 5 feet (roughly 1.40 m). At the end of the eighteenth century, houses were generally built without steps, with the front door at street level. In the same period, when houses were renovated, the former entrance was sometimes lowered to street level, with the front door opening directly onto the road. ¹⁰

Kitchen annexes (cellarshops)

Adjoining the public space but constituting part of the property, one sometimes finds a kitchen annex (*pothuis*), a basement extension that could be reached from the kitchen, and that was once used to store pots and pans ¹¹. Kitchen annexes were almost always roofed with a slab of stone, and are a relatively common feature of corner houses.



Examples of perrons and kitchen annexes within the seventeenth-century canal ring area

Steps

- Herengracht 20 (railings)
- Herengracht 284 (perron dating from 1728)
- Herengracht 316 (with railings around the basement entrance)
- Herengracht 402 (single perron, perpendicular to façade, with richly decorated sculptural work and railings)
- Herengracht 436 (restored perron)
- Herengracht 462 (perron perpendicular to the façade; designed by Adriaan Dortsman, c. 1635-1682)
- Herengracht 480 (eighteenth-century stone perron)
- Herengracht 756 (entrance to basement at the front of the raised stoop)
- Keizersgracht 123 (low perron, seventeenth-century)
- Keizersgracht 224 (balusters)
- Keizersgracht 618 (single perron perpendicular to façade, with entrance for domestic staff)
- Keizersgracht 690
- Keizersgracht 743 (perron)
- Nieuwe Herengracht 103 (railings)
- Nieuwe Keizersgracht 28-44, Brants Rushofje (perron, with entrance for domestic staff)
- Eerste Weteringdwarsstraat (wooden steps, wooden stoop benches)

Kitchen annexes

- Herengracht 275, Romeinsarmsteeg
- Keizersgracht 421, Leidsegracht 27
- Reguliersgracht 39, Keizersgracht

In restorations, it has now become standard to devote especial attention to these elements.

GABLE-STONES AND STATUES GEVELSTEEN EN STANDBEELD

GABLE-STONES AND STATUES

Gable-stones

Many of the private houses, warehouses and public buildings in the area designated as Amsterdam within Singelgracht derive their names and an added decorative distinction from gable-stones set into their façade. Over 600 of these old gable-stones can still be seen in various parts of the city, some of which have been moved from their original location.

The city first introduced bye-laws governing the use of gable-stones and other signs on the façade in the early sixteenth century, and it is from that century that the oldest gable-stones originate. House numbers were not introduced until the Netherlands came under French rule, starting in 1795, at which time signs were also put up displaying each street's name. In 1875 it was decided to introduce a system for each street with even numbers on one side and odd on the other.

The custom of installing expressive, narrative gable-stones has endured to the present day in many places, such as Recht Boomssloot 42 (gable-stone *Lastage*, dated 1971, carved by Hans 't Mannetje) ¹ and Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal 97, which has a stone commemorating the twenty-fifth anniversary of NV Stadsherstel, presented by the municipal executive of Amsterdam (dated 1981, carved by Hans 't Mannetje).

In addition, especially in the first half of the twentieth century, some houses acquired names carved in stone or gable-stones recalling their old names, such as Singel 266, a stone with a tomcat, recalling the house's seventeenth-century name, or one with a simple inscription of the old name (e.g. *De Rouaanse Boeijer* at Singel 135).

Many gable-stones contain allusions to Amsterdam's trade with the Baltic, such as the inscriptions *Sweedan* and *Ao [=anno] Sweeden 1716* on the former warehouse on Nieuwe Uilenburgerstraat, and the gable-stone on Nieuwe Prinsengracht that is inscribed *Wijsselmunde Anno 1735*. *Wijsselmunde* or *Weichselmünde*, now known as *Wisłoujście*, ² is a fortress in the mouth of the Vistula that was modernised in 1586 by the Dutchman Anthonie van Obbergen (1543-1611).

The gable-stone of Keizersgracht 145 bears the name of *Breslaw*, while the one at Oudezijds Voorburgwal 14 is inscribed *Het Wapen van Riga* ('The arms of Riga'). At Kerkstraat 322 there is an allusion to Poland in the gable-stone *De Pool* ('the Pole', dated 1688) ³. This stone was installed in 1688 when one Ambrosius Pool took over the brewery De Dubbele Arend on these premises. Another gable-stone with an allusion to a Pole can be found in the façade of a school built at Poolstraat 2 in the Wittenburg district in 1986. The gable of Singel 45, a building dating from 1725, is surmounted by a Polish imperial crown ⁴.

Other gable-stones refer to foreign cities, such as the one at Keizersgracht 401, with a view of Marseille, or foreign countries, such as China, at Buiten Brouwersstraat 22 ⁵. Some warehouses bear names with Biblical references. These include gable-stones at Herengracht 43-45, *'t Fortuyn* and *d'Arke Noach* ('Fortune and Noah's Ark', circa 1550) ⁶, Noorderkerkstraat 14, *Het Geloof Hoop en Liefde* ('Faith, Hope and Charity', early eighteenth century), and Keizersgracht 211, *De Liefde* ('Charity').

A variety of other images may be found on gable-stones, from images of saints to symbolic or mythological scenes, animals, or family coats of arms. The façade of Singel 2 ⁷ has a gable-stone





depicting a wheelbarrow, alluding to the name of a former owner ('Kruiwagen'). One remarkable stone was taken from an eighteenth-century house at Zwanenburgerstraat 28 in 1963 and later bricked into the entrance to Stopera parking garage. It is inscribed 'De Blaeuw Brugh over den Amstel' and shows the bridging of the River Amstel in the seventeenth century ¹.

Some warehouses bear painted names, such as those on Groenburgwal and a number on Brouwersgracht or at Keizersgracht 40-42 (*De Groenland pakhuizen*, 'the Greenland warehouses') ². Other buildings have gable-stones commemorating individuals, such as one at Westermarkt 4-6, installed in 1634 as a tribute to René Descartes (1596-1650). Many plaques preserve the memory of the former owner or user of a building ³.

A number of writers have documented and published on the city's surviving gable-stones since the nineteenth century. They include Jacob van Lennep (1802-1868), Jan ter Gouw (1814-1894), *De Uithangtekens, in verband met Geschiedenis en Volksleven beschouwd*. Amsterdam, 1868; H.W. Alings, *Amsterdamsche gevelstenen*. Amsterdam, 1943-1949; and Onno W. Boers, *De gevelstenen van Amsterdam*. Hilversum, 2007.

The 1920s witnessed a range of initiatives in Amsterdam to boost public interest in historic gable-stones. In 1924, the Society for the Preservation of Gable-Stones placed several of them in a wall on St Luciënsteeg (now one of the outer walls of Amsterdams Historisch Museum) ⁴. Others have been collected and bricked into walls in other parts of Amsterdam too. Examples include St Olofssteeg, near Oudezijds Kolk ⁵, which displays a collection of gable-stones supplied by the Royal Dutch Society of Antiquaries (*Koninklijk Oudheidkundig Genootschap, KOG*); the wall of the Drucker annex of the Rijksmuseum, which includes a stone of the Polish cavalry resembling a mirror-image of the painting 'The Polish Rider' attributed to Rembrandt; and a wall beside the 'Wooden House' in the Begijnhof complex.

Gable-stones relating to navigation have been moved and bricked into the walls of the National Maritime Museum (formerly the national naval storage depot, 's *Lands Zeemagazijn*). Six historical gable-stones with Hebrew texts and two with images (Abraham's Sacrifice and Jacob's Dream) have been bricked into the walls flanking the entrance to the Portuguese Synagogue.

The Friends of Amsterdam Gable-Stones, founded in 1991, is a society that exerts itself actively to recover and restore the city's historic gable-stones.

Statues

Amsterdam's city centre contains relatively few statues, and these few date from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Just a few artists, monarchs and statesmen are honoured by tributes of this kind: at Rembrandtplein there is a cast iron statue of Rembrandt van Rijn, made by L. Royer in 1852, which is a state-listed structure; Thorbeckeplein has a bronze statue of the statesman J.R. Thorbecke (1830-1872), made by F.K.A.C. Leenhoff (1874/76), likewise a state-listed structure; and on Rokin stands an equestrian statue of Queen Wilhelmina by T.R. van der Pant, made in 1972.

GARDEN HOUSES **TUINHUIZEN**

GARDEN HOUSES

Many of the canal-houses in the area designated as the 'seventeenth-century canal ring area' (the *property*) once had garden houses or pleasure houses (also called summer houses) in their back gardens ¹. Their side and rear façades were completely closed. They stood at the end of the deep, narrow plots, against the fence dividing the plot from the garden belonging to the house on the next canal. The same building sometimes doubled as garden house and coach house. Some structures were largely decorative but many were not.

Ensnconced in the private world of the gardens within the enclosed blocks between the canals, these buildings were sometimes used for relaxation (*otium*) or for a practical purpose such as an office (*negotium*).

Right down to the present day, the tradition of garden houses and preserving historical structures of this kind is frequently upheld, as a characteristic feature of the listed interior gardens within the designated blocks in the *property* ² copyright BMA. In total there are 27 blocks with listed interior gardens, most of them between Herengracht and Keizersgracht, which have been governed by bye-laws or *keuren* since 1615. One interesting block in this category is 'no. 8', bounded by Herengracht, Leidsegracht, Keizersgracht and Leidsestraat (which can be seen from the 'Metz dome' on Leidsestraat).

The largest number of garden houses, some 150 in total, is on Herengracht and Keizersgracht.

In 2003 Amsterdam's Historic Buildings and Archaeology Bureau (BMA) embarked on the project 'Listed garden houses in the canal ring area', the aim being to compile an inventory of all the garden houses within the 'seventeenth-century canal ring area'.

Bye-laws or 'keuren'

In the allocation of building plots in the seventeenth century, strict bye-laws governed the amount of land that could be used for building. The plots were about 54 metres deep (and at most 8.5 metres wide in the case of a 'single' plot) and the bye-laws stipulated that buildings could not extend beyond about 30 metres of that depth. This meant that the gardens were some 25 metres deep.

According to a bye-law adopted for Herengracht in 1612, at the time of the *Third Expansion*, garden houses on that canal could not be more than 12 Amsterdam feet (3 metres) high and 15 feet (4.24 metres) deep. The permissible width depended on the width of the plot (which ranged from 3.5 to 15 metres). Fences between the gardens were to be no more than 2.7 metres high.

Bye-laws also regulated garden houses belonging to the buildings erected in the *Fourth Expansion* (1663), between Leidsegracht and the River Amstel. Garden houses were not allowed to be more than one storey high, besides which they could not be more than 3.5 metres high or 4.25 metres deep. Fences between gardens were allowed to be at most 2.7 metres high. It was forbidden to build anything between the house's rear façade and the front of the garden house, but the structure itself was allowed to extend the full width of the plot. The regulations introduced to cover the buildings erected around this time were also declared binding for blocks dating from the period of the *Third Expansion*.





The architecture of the garden house in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries

In the early seventeenth century these buildings were simple in form and architecture. But as time went on, especially in the eighteenth century, they acquired a more elegant and imposing classicist exterior, adorned with more and richer decorations. For instance, the front façades on the garden side were decorated with elaborately ornamented pediments, busts and vases, with pilasters or columns placed in front of them, or sometimes with niches for sculptures. Popular statues here included Mercury ¹ copyright BMA, Diana and Apollo – often on either side of a pediment – as well as Neptune and Hercules ² copyright BMA.

In the seventeenth century most garden houses consisted of a single storey with a flat roof, the interior divided into three bays by piers. In the eighteenth century, the symmetry of garden houses was accentuated in monumental style by the addition of a dome-shaped extension between two wings ³ copyright BMA. In this period, garden houses may be divided typologically into those with a high central window flanked by two doors and those with a door in the central section flanked by windows.

The interior walls frequently bore paintings, which depicted pastoral scenes or imaginary landscapes (e.g. Keizersgracht 148). The architecture of the front façade of the garden house would frequently correspond to that of the main house's rear façade.

A selection of garden houses with features of architectural interest

Herengracht

- Herengracht 46.
- Herengracht 68, modern garden house, designed by Thijmen Ploeg, 1998.
- Herengracht 134-136.
- Herengracht 160, municipal listed building.
- Herengracht 220, brick garden house, with projecting central section, five bays wide, Empire windows. Municipal listed building.
- Herengracht 250, State-listed building.
- Herengracht 258, late eighteenth-century garden house (c. 1780/90), Louis XVI, restored in 2001. Central section of the front façade surmounted by a wooden pediment, sandstone, flanked by brick façades. Municipal listed building.
- Herengracht 266, garden house in the form of a temple.
- Herengracht 284, Van Brienens House, eighteenth-century garden house, projecting central section flanked by doors with fanlights.
- Herengracht 286, garden house with sculpted crown (c. 1770), with balusters and sculptures (including impaled arms of married couple), moved here from the house that stood here in 1921.
- Herengracht 314, municipal listed building.
- Herengracht 326, State-listed building.
- Herengracht 342, State-listed building.
- Herengracht 344, simple garden house, window in the central bay, flanked by doors with fanlights.
- Herengracht 346, State-listed building.
- Herengracht 380, garden house and coach house.
- Herengracht 384, classicist garden house, sandstone front façade with two vases, central section surmounted by impaled arms of married couple. State-listed building.
- Herengracht 386, nineteenth-century summer-house.
- Herengracht 408, modern garden house.

- Herengracht 412, garden house, 14.8 metres wide, dating from c. 1718/20, Louis XIV, with sandstone central section of the façade, belonged to the house of Guillaume Belin de la Garde (1664). This structure stands back to back with the garden house of Keizersgracht 449.
- Herengracht 416, three-bay classicist garden house, central section with two casement doors, surmounted by a pediment.
- Herengracht 418.
- Herengracht 434-440, eighteenth-century garden house with projecting central section of three bays, flanked by two doors with fanlights, hipped roof, on the garden side two vases and portrait busts on the gutter.
- Herengracht 444.
- Herengracht 452-454.
- Herengracht 469-491, eighteenth-century garden house with central *ressault*, resting on two columns with Ionic capitals.
- Herengracht 475, Huis de Neufville, garden house and coach house, Louis XIV.
- Herengracht 476, Huis de Vicq, eighteenth-century garden house, 15 metres wide, c. 1730, Louis XIV, image of Mercury in the pediment, Diana and Apollo depicted in the façades of the wings. State-listed building.
- Herengracht 493, false façade with relief and cornice, 1776, belonging to coach house/ garden house.
- Herengracht 500.
- Herengracht 502, wooden summer-house with openwork pediment flanked by two vases.
- Herengracht 542, eighteenth-century garden house.
- Herengracht 546.
- Herengracht 568.
- Herengracht 582-584, seventeenth-century garden house.

Keizersgracht

- Keizersgracht 135, with gallery between the house and the garden house.
- Keizersgracht 138, State-listed building.
- Keizersgracht 147.
- Keizersgracht 148, State-listed building.
- Keizersgracht 156.
- Keizersgracht 160, two-storey garden house with central entrance. The height and depth of this building exceeded the maximum allowed by law: it is over 3.40 metres high and over 4.25 metres deep.
- Keizersgracht 164, modern garden house with pediment.
- Keizersgracht 173, State-listed building.
- Keizersgracht 317, the original house dates from 1634 (renovated in 1673, 1712/13 and 1760), brick garden house, faced with sandstone (1713), Louis XIV style, stone front façade; in the centre an octagonal projecting reception-room, sculpted images of emperors alongside Mercury and Neptune, with Diana and Apollo on either side and in front of the garden house. It was built for Christoffel [van] Brants, a friend of Czar Peter the Great, who stayed here several times.
- Keizersgracht 374, State-listed building.
- Keizersgracht 416.
- Keizersgracht 439.
- Keizersgracht 441, eighteenth-century garden house, with a window in the central bay flanked by two doors with fanlights.
- Keizersgracht 443, three-bay nineteenth-century garden house.

- Keizersgracht 449.
- Keizersgracht 501-503-505.
- Keizersgracht 524-526, garden house with eighteenth-century façade, on the rear façade the sculpted figures of Diana and Hercules from the eighteenth-century coach house with stable at Kerkstraat 61 (dating from 1758). See also the painting by Hendrik Keun (1772, Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam) showing the garden and this structure's garden façade. State-listed building.
- Keizersgracht 568.
- Keizersgracht 570.
- Keizersgracht 586.
- Keizersgracht 616, State-listed building.
- Keizersgracht 620.
- Keizersgracht 638, neo-Renaissance summer-house, c. 1895.
- Keizersgracht 640.
- Keizersgracht 641-643-645, wide garden house with arched central section.
- Keizersgracht 670, combined garden house and coach house.
- Keizersgracht 672, front façade c. 1770 with sculptures and temple-front, garden house/coach house.
- Keizersgracht 674, garden house and coach house.
- Keizersgracht 731, early twentieth-century garden house, with older elements (eighteenth-century)?
- Keizersgracht 736, nineteenth-century garden house.
- Keizersgracht 744, c. 1880, symmetrical wooden front façade. State-listed building.
- Keizersgracht 794.
- Keizersgracht 814, early twentieth century.

Nieuwe Keizersgracht

- Nieuwe Keizersgracht 20.
- Nieuwe Keizersgracht 22.

Prinsengracht

- Prinsengracht 103.
- Prinsengracht 299, garden house in Empire style.
- Prinsengracht 721, modern garden house designed by Peter Sas, 1998.
- Prinsengracht 851, garden house beneath cornice gable, with door on the left.
- Prinsengracht 1009, classicist garden house beneath cornice gable.
- Prinsengracht 1021, State-listed building.
- Prinsengracht 1023, State-listed building.

COACH HOUSES AND STABLES KOETSHUIZEN EN STALGEBOUWEN

COACH HOUSES AND STABLES

Coach houses and stables

'Amsterdam within Singelgracht' still contains 200 historical coach houses with their characteristic wide double doors for the accommodation of horses and carriages and for the storage of hay, some of which are within the area designated as the *property* of the seventeenth-century canal ring area. Two types can be distinguished: the *dwarshuis*, an annex perpendicular to the house, often with its own dwelling (for the coachman) and storage space for hay and straw, and coach houses built on a narrow, deep plot of land perpendicular to the building line. Today, most are used for residential or business purposes.

Numerous canal-houses, especially those built in the *Fourth Expansion*, originally had coach houses. Most of them were on Reguliersdwarstraat ¹, a street parallel to Herengracht with its 'double' canal-houses. Traces of former coach houses can also be seen in several sections of Keizersgracht ² and the odd-numbered side of Kerkstraat ³.

Separate streets or 'mews' with coach houses originated in England, most notably in London (Covent Garden, Inigo Jones, later in Great Queen Street, in the 1630s). Jacob Bosch's map of Amsterdam (1660) shows a row of coach houses on Kerkstraat, between Leidsegracht and Spiegelstraat.

Gables

Narrow, deep coach houses generally had spout gables. Two have bell gables: Kerkstraat 61, dating from 1758, belonging to the house at Keizersgracht 524, and Huidenstraat 19, built around 1750, property of the Hendrick de Keyser Association. In some cases, the coach house was an annex beside the house (Keizersgracht 123, 'Huis met de Hoofden', 1622 ⁴, and Keizersgracht 127, c. 1720).

A selection of coach houses and stables

Herengracht

A few warehouses on Herengracht, such as Herengracht 37 and 39 (dating from c. 1750), were sold to the owner of Herengracht 60 as coach houses and stables in the eighteenth century.

- Herengracht 97, is a coach house from the end of the nineteenth century, at which time the former alley next to the plot was incorporated into it.
- Herengracht 155, the warehouse known as *Engeland*, had an area that accommodated carriages on the ground floor, as did Herengracht 157.
- Herengracht 319, designed by J.F. van Hamersveld, was a stable with private apartments above it (1889). An alley, Vlasbloemsteeg, once ran beside it beneath the place where the little tower stands today.

Keizersgracht

- Keizersgracht 102, its façade dates from 1881. Behind it is a clandestine church dating from 1630.
- Keizersgracht 432, with modified neck gable.
- Keizersgracht 492, once belonged to Herengracht 450.
- Keizersgracht 607, was originally a 15-metre-wide coach house dating from 1672, belonging to Herengracht 502.



- Keizersgracht 635, was originally a 15-metre-wide coach house dating from 1684, belonging to Herengracht 520.
- Keizersgracht 639, was originally a stable belonging to Herengracht 524; it was converted into apartments in 1883.
- Keizersgracht 651, was the coach house, dating from 1686, of the house in front of it on Herengracht.
- Keizersgracht 755, originally a coach house, dates from c. 1700; it was renovated in 1906.

Langestraat

There are 34 other former coach houses on Langestraat. They include:

- Langestraat 19, narrow coach house with bell-gable on the street side.
- Langestraat 33, belonging to Singel 66-68.
- Langestraat 35-37, for Singel 70-72, late seventeenth-century coach houses, placed perpendicular to these houses.
- Langestraat 43, dates from around 1830.
- Langestraat 45, wide eighteenth-century coach house with spout gable.
- Langestraat 51-53 date from the eighteenth century.
- Langestraat 55, dates from the late seventeenth century; the roof was altered in the nineteenth century.
- Langestraat 56, dates from 1711.
- Langestraat 57, early eighteenth century, with transverse roof.
- Langestraat 59, with bell gable, dates from c. 1680.
- Langestraat 64, 1657, with crow-step gable.
- Langestraat 68, early eighteenth century, spout gable.

Kerkstraat

There are another 45 on Kerkstraat, including the following:

- Kerkstraat 23, in the early eighteenth century this was the coach house belonging to Keizersgracht 484.
- Kerkstraat 61, dates from 1758; used as a coach house for Keizersgracht 524. The façade on the garden side has statues of Ceres and Hercules.
- Kerkstraat 183-187, *dwarshuis* type, 1731, belonged to Keizersgracht 606, 608, 610.
- Kerkstraat 189, a coach house conspicuous for its neck gable, c. 1720.
- Kerkstraat 259, dates from 1671, belonged to Keizersgracht 672.
- Kerkstraat 261, the coach house dates from 1671 (rebuilt around 1930) and belonged to Keizersgracht 674.

Reguliersdwarsstraat

There are 19 historical coach houses on Reguliersdwarsstraat.

PUBLIC SPACE OPENBARE RUIMTE

PUBLIC SPACE

Public space/spatial design

As indicated in the Amsterdam Inner City Trend Report 2006-2007, public space can play an important role in determining the quality of life in the inner city. A survey on this subject, entitled 'Quality of Public Space, Central Amsterdam', is conducted every other year among 400 residents and 400 business owners.

Redesigning public space

The City works continuously on the redesign of public space, its aim being to achieve simplicity in design and unity in the use of materials (for example using red-brown bricks as paving and bluestone for kerbs; the first pavements in the city were laid in Kalverstraat in 1861). The idea is to recapture the 'small-scale feel' of public space in the historical inner city within the Singelgracht Canal. More exclusive materials are used in certain special places, and the surfeit of objects that have accumulated over time is being reduced.

The guidelines are laid down in the Manual for the Layout of Public Spaces. Strategic Agenda, Conditions (*Handboek Inrichting Openbare Ruimte. Visie, Voorwaarden*) (City of Amsterdam Inner City, July 2000, see appendices). The City decided to publish the Manual in part after the area within the Singelgracht Canal was designated a conservation area (1999). The city council adopted the New Standard Canal Profile (*Nieuw Standaard Grachtenprofiel*) in 1998. The profile has been incorporated into the aforementioned Manual, which was published in 2000.

The purpose is to make the public spaces around the city more uniform in appearance by redeveloping and managing them properly. The Strategic Agenda (*Visie*) provides guidelines for the design, construction and management of public space. The Manual also indicates various 'Conditions' for the applicable street profiles ('standard solutions'), paving materials, and details. The scale and dimensions, functions and materials used should be tailored to the particular place, according to the Manual. Bricks are used as paving material along the canals and in the streets and alleys of the seventeenth-century section of the inner city. The design of the streets and alleys is also uniform and consists of one type of paving stone and kerbstone.

Damrak and Rokin were redeveloped a number of years ago (1991). The design was by A. Schabracq and T. Postma. Not everyone was pleased with the results. After the North/South Metro Line is completed, the street furniture that they designed will not be returned or will be removed. Once the North/South Metro Line is completed, the City is planning to redevelop the route that runs from the Station forecourt via Damrak, Rokin and Muntplein Square to the Weteringcircuit roundabout as a spatially unified entity, with precedence being given to pedestrians (the Red Carpet project).

Nieuwmarkt Square was also redeveloped (1990), once again based on a design by Schabracq and Postma; the fences that formed part of their design were removed in 2005. Other areas of the inner city that have recently been redeveloped are Leidse Square (in part, 1997), Spuistraat (2003) and Haarlemmerdijk. Dam Square was repaved with small cobblestones in 2001 (designed by Simon Sprietsma) ¹, a project that cost EUR 14.8 million.

The Central Borough decided in late 2004 to apply an area-specific approach to the northern stretch of Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal. A major redevelopment programme commenced in 2006 encompassing Oudezijds Voorburgwal from St. Agnietenstraat to Vredenburgsteeg, and from





Nieuwebrugsteeg to Oudekerksplein Square. The retaining walls on the odd-numbered side were renewed, three bridges restored, and a number of adjoining alleys redeveloped (Vredenburgsteeg, Wijngaardstraatje, Heintje Hoekssteeg). This was preceded in 2003 and beyond by the redevelopment of Oudezijds Voorburgwal from Oude Doelenstraat to Vredenburgsteeg, and from Molensteeg to Korte Stormsteeg, along with the adjoining Stoofsteeg, Oude Kennissteeg, Kreupelsteeg, Korte Niezel and Korte Stormsteeg.

The redevelopment programme for the medieval inner city also encompassed Oude and Nieuwe Hoogstraat. Other alleys located in this area between Oudezijds Achterburgwal and Nieuwmarkt Square (e.g. Barndesteeg, Bloedstraat, and Bethaniënstraat) had their profiles upgraded (2008), in accordance with the Manual.

The northern section of Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal was redeveloped in late 2008. The footpaths were replaced, with red bricks replacing the paving stones. The even-numbered side of the Keizersgracht Canal was repaved in 2008 between Leidsestraat and the Leidsegracht Canal.

In the Jordaan area, the redevelopment programme encompassed the retaining walls and paving along the Bloemgracht Canal between the Lijnbaansgracht Canal and Derde Leliedwarsstraat. In early 2009, part of the Lauriergracht Canal will be redeveloped between Hazenstraat and the Prinsengracht Canal on the odd-numbered side. The existing front 'pavement gardens' will be modified.

A Jordaan Public Space Action Plan (*Plan van aanpak openbare ruimte Jordaan*) was drawn up for the Jordaan area in 2005. The plan covers the the Palmgracht and Lindengracht canals, Elandsgracht, Westerstraat, and a number of squares and public gardens. Various meetings were held with local residents to discuss the plan. The plan must comply with the *Manual for the Layout of Public Spaces* with respect to the use of materials, street furniture and 'greenspace'.

Elsewhere within the 'seventeenth-century ring of canals', the retaining walls were renewed and the paving redesigned and relaid along the Singel Canal (odd-numbered side) ¹ between Torensteeg and Lijnbaanssteeg (2006/07). The retaining walls and paving along the Herengracht Canal between Huidenstraat and the Leidsegracht Canal were recently repaired. The even-numbered side of the Nieuwe Herengracht Canal was redeveloped in 2008. The retaining walls on the odd-numbered side of the Prinsengracht Canal underwent maintenance in 2008. The intention is to repair the retaining walls on both sides of the Korte Prinsengracht Canal between Eenhoornsluis and the railway viaduct (2009). Amstelveld Square, which surrounds Amstel Church, will be repaved and redeveloped. A master plan has been adopted for east bank of the Amstel (between Waterloo Square and Sarphatistraat), part of which is located within the 'core site'. The plan provides for a clearer view of the Amstel. Execution of the master plan commenced in 2006 between the Nieuwe Prinsengracht Canal and Korte Amstelstraat.

The borough released a policy document in 2008 for public consultation purposes, entitled Draft policy document on the basic principles for public space in the Leidse area (*concept Nota van Uitgangspunten voor de openbare ruimte van de Leidsebuurt*). The Central and Oud-West Amsterdam boroughs and Amsterdam's city council finalised the document in late 2008. It will then be possible to commence execution of the plan in early 2009. The project will take an estimated five years to complete. The emphasis will be on redevelopment, with pedestrians being given priority where possible. Large sections of the area will be pedestrianised (Leidsebrug, Marnixstraat, Leidse Square, Kleine Gartman Public Garden). Once again, the *Manual for the Layout of Public Spaces* will be adhered to, for example with respect to the use of brick paving. The plan includes the construction of underground bicycle racks beneath Kleine Gartman Public Garden with room for 3000 bicycles. Rembrandt Square will also be redeveloped following a decision by Amsterdam Central Borough; once again, brown paving bricks and stone will be used.

Street lighting, wall-mounted lanterns

Jan van der Heyden (1637-1712), the artist who specialised in Amsterdam cityscapes, was also the person who brought street lighting (2550 lanterns) to the city in the seventeenth century (the lanterns were retained until 1840). He published an account of his deed in 1679 (*'t Licht der Lantaarens ontsteken door Jan vander Heijde Inventeur der Selve en opzichter de Stads Lantaarens van Amsterdam*). His street lighting system was adopted by many other towns in the Republic and beyond (for example Berlin).

There are many historical wall-mounted lanterns within the 'seventeenth-century ring of canals', placed there by previous residents. There were 300 of such lanterns in all in 1766 (Caspar David Philips' *Grachtenboek*, published around 1766, shows 124 along the Herengracht Canal and 103 along the Keizersgracht Canal). Lighting was also sometimes placed in the fanlight above the front door.

The current public space redevelopment programme also includes *street lighting*. The lighting along the canals is to be replaced. In the inner city, some 3,500 lanterns along the canals and 450 wall-mounted fittings will be replaced in the years ahead. Once again, the Manual for the Layout of Public Spaces will provide the necessary guidelines. There will be two models of lantern used, both based on historical designs. One is patterned on a lantern dating from 1883 (the 'Crown lantern', topped by the Imperial Crown of Amsterdam) ¹; the other on a lantern dating from 1898 (the 'Ritter lantern', with the three Saint Andrew's Crosses from the Amsterdam coat of arms). The lanterns will be placed on the existing cast-iron lampposts dating from 1883 ². A trial version of the 1883 model (the 'Crown lantern') has been installed on the Prinsengracht and Leidsegracht canals. Twenty lanterns of this kind were installed in Westermarkt Square in 1998; several more were then installed along Herenmarkt and Falckstraat. The aim is to place the 'Crown lanterns' at special locations in the inner city (e.g. Spui, Rembrandt Square, Leidse Square, Nieuwmarkt Square), along the main canals (Singel, Herengracht, Keizersgracht, Prinsengracht canals) and a few of the radial canals (Leidsegracht, Spiegelgracht and Reguliersgracht canals). A total of about 1400 'Crown lanterns' will be installed Crown lantern on Keizersgracht Canal).

The wall-mounted fittings are made of cast iron and topped by the 'Ritter model' lantern.

Exceptional lanterns

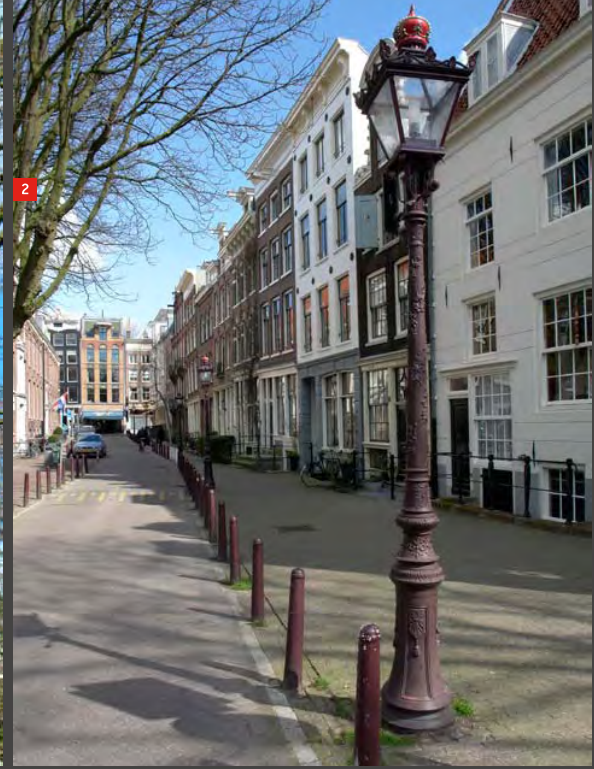
Four exceptional cast-iron lanterns (1844) can be found near the Royal Palace on Dam Square and at the back of the Palace on Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal. They were designed by M.G. Tétar van Elven (1803-1882) ³. Dr. H.P. Berlage (1856-1934) not only designed the two stone fountains in Beurs Square, but also six cast-iron lanterns (national monuments).

Removal of excess signage in public spaces (Nota Bereikbaarheid Binnenstad 2004-2009, 24 mei 2004)

The policy of the Central Borough's executive committee is to remove obstacles, unnecessary bollards, no-parking signs and superfluous street furniture Policy Document on Accessibility of the Inner City 2004-2009, 24 May 2004.

String of squares (Nota Bereikbaarheid Binnenstad 2004-2009, 24 mei 2004)

The executive committee of the Central Borough intends to develop a string of squares intended mainly for pedestrians, starting from the Station forecourt and continuing via the Beurs, Dam, Rokin, Munt, Spui and Postzegelmarkt squares Policy Document on Accessibility of the Inner City 2004-2009, 24 May 2004.



Transitional area between historical inner city, Singelgracht Canal and nineteenth-century expansion areas

Plans are being discussed to redevelop the transitional area between Amsterdam's historical inner city (within the Singelgracht Canal) and the nineteenth-century belt. The idea is to construct underground car parks in several places, with pedestrian promenades above them. The area concerned is the 'inner ring' (Marnixstraat, Weteringschans and Sarphatistraat), and the 'outer ring' (Nassaukade, Stadshouderskade and Mauritskade).

GREENSPACE IN THE CITY GROEN IN DE STAD

GREENSPACE IN THE CITY

Trees lining the canals

Amsterdam's canals and the ancient 'ramparts' of the medieval inner city are both lined with regularly spaced trees ¹. It appears that lime trees were planted starting in the fifteenth century, later switching mainly to elm trees (from the late seventeenth/early eighteenth century until the present, numbering in their thousands). According to various sources, the city walls were planted with limes in the seventeenth century. The planting of trees along the Singel Canal began after 1585 and continued thereafter on the Oostelijke Eilanden.

Pieter Bast's street map (1597) shows a plantation with trees on the site of the present Herengracht Canal.

The City issued a regulation (*keur*) prohibiting damage to trees as early as 1454.

Seventeenth-century maps (such as that by Balthasar Florisz. Van Berckenrode, 1625) show that trees had been planted along the canals constructed in that period (there are no trees shown along canals that had yet to be built up). The trees were intended for 'ornament (*cieraet*) and pleasure (*plaisantie*)', according to the municipal government of the time (1612).

In the seventeenth century, the municipal government introduced various measures to protect the trees that had been planted.

By planting trees along the canals, the city was following the advice of theoreticians (such as Andrea Palladio) concerning the design of the 'ideal city'.

A print found in Petrus Schenk's *100 Afbeeldinge der voornaamste Gebouwen van Amsterdam* (c. 1700) of the Herengracht Canal between Utrechtsestraat and the Amstel shows that young trees had evidently been replanted on the odd-numbered side of the canal. The cityscapes painted in the seventeenth century by such artists as Jan van der Heyden (1637-1712) show that trees were spaced at regular intervals along the canals, such as in 'View of the West Church' (National Gallery, London); 'View of the West Church' (Wallace Collection, London); 'View of Oudezijds Voorburgwal with Old Church' (Mauritshuis, The Hague).

Public greenspace inside the Singelgracht Canal today

'Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht Canal' currently has more than 9,000 trees, 5,000 of them elms. Some 350 trees are protected (within the 'seventeenth-century ring of canals', there are seven such trees located in the gardens of houses along the Prinsengracht Canal, thirty-seven along the Keizersgracht Canal, and thirty-two along the Herengracht Canal). There is a special list of protected trees located in public areas. 2008 Survey of Protected Trees (*Inventarisatie 2008 monumentale bomen*) (see appendix).

A tree that satisfies two of the following criteria is placed on the List of Protected Trees:

- ⌘ age
- ⌘ aesthetic and experiential value
- ⌘ heritage value
- ⌘ for example if the tree is intrinsic to the history of the surroundings
- ⌘ scientific and ecological value
- ⌘ dendrological value

Agreements governing the upkeep of trees in the Central Borough are included in the Management and Maintenance Manual for the borough (*Handboek Beheer en Onderhoud*). The Manual provides for the

1





following with respect to tree maintenance:

- ⌘ annual inspection of larger and older trees
- ⌘ expert pruning and directing of the growth of young and protected trees
- ⌘ if trees must be felled, replacements will be provided
- ⌘ soil improvement and weeding around trees
- ⌘ in the event of building and other work, the Central Borough will take steps to prevent damage to trees.

Limes can be found along the Lijnbaansgracht Canal, between the Brouwersgracht and Leidsegracht canals, along the Passeerdersgracht Canal and along a section of the Keizersgracht Canal (from the Amstel to the Leidsegracht Canal).

Amsterdam passed a Trees Regulation (*Bomenverordening*) in 2008. Boroughs may adapt or supplement the regulation to suit local 'greenspace' circumstances. An associated Trees Policy Plan (*Bomenbeleidsplan*) will be issued in early 2009, and the Central Borough will issue its own trees regulation in mid-2009, based on the City's Trees Regulation.

Regulated blocks

There are 27 areas with private gardens located within the building blocks of the 'seventeenth-century ring of canals' which are known as 'regulated blocks' (*keurblokken*), lying between the Herengracht and Keizersgracht canals, and the Keizersgracht Canal and Kerkstraat (see appendix, map 'regulated blocks' (*keurblokken*) [1](#) [2](#)).

Legal provisions first issued in the seventeenth century prohibited any building without a permit in these regulated blocks, with the exception of a summerhouse. Seventeen of the regulated blocks are located at the back of houses along the Herengracht Canal between the Brouwersgracht Canal and the Amstel; six are located on the even-numbered side of the Keizersgracht Canal between the Leidsegracht Canal and the Amstel.

If a tree-felling permit is requested for exceptional trees or for trees located in the gardens of the 27 regulated blocks (subject to a regulation passed in 1615), the procedure is more stringent than normal. The permit may be subject to certain conditions, for example the obligation to plant a replacement tree.

The Plantage area

The Plantage area, constructed in the seventeenth century as part of the *Fourth Expansion* and intended for promenading and for gardens (efforts to turn it into a residential area had ground to a halt) is the site of the *Botanical/Medicinal Garden (Hortus Medicus (Botanicus)*, 1682, bounded by Plantage Middenlaan, Plantage Parklaan and a section of Plantage Muidergracht), *Artis Zoo (Natura Magistra)* and *A.C. Wertheim Park* (Plantage Middenlaan/Plantage Parklaan).

At the time, limes, chestnuts and elms were planted here.

Botanical Garden (Hortus Botanicus), Plantage Middenlaan (2) [3](#) Stadsarchief Amsterdam The Botanical Garden, which now contains 4000 plant varieties, was created in 1682 as a medicinal garden (*Hortus Medicus*), used in the training of apothecaries and barber-surgeons. The first botanical gardens, created in 1638, were located elsewhere in the city, on the corner of the Keizersgracht Canal/Utrechtsestraat, in a former monastery complex, the Reguliershof. Plants were collected from around the world and brought to Amsterdam on the ships of the East India and West India companies (the VOC and the WIC). The garden's first plant catalogue, listing 2200 items, was published as early as 1689 (*Catalogus plantarum Horti Medici Amstelodamensis*).

In the seventeenth century, Amsterdam's intensive trade contacts made it the global centre of the trade in medicinal products.

The Botanical Garden was the first to perform a systematic study of the flora of Ceylon (Sri Lanka) and South Africa (Johannes Burman, 1706-1779). It is where Jan and Maria Moninckx produced their *Moninckx Atlas* (1686-1709), containing 420 watercolours of plants in the garden's collection (Amsterdam University Library).

Between 1878-1987, the Botanical Garden was part of Amsterdam University. It is now a private, subsidised institution. Renovation plan, 1986, by Bureau Bakker en Bleeker B.V.

Entry gate with the two coats of arms of Amsterdam (Cargo Vessel; three Saint Andrew's Crosses), 1715 ¹. Residence of the head gardener, seventeenth century. Octagonal summer house, originally dating from 1683, current structure 1877, used at the time as a 'playhouse' and for drying seeds (now used by the IUCN National Committee of the Netherlands). Orangery (1875), designed by Amsterdam's municipal architect Bastiaan de Greef Jr. (1818-1899), initially as a lecture hall; used as an orangery in around 1920 (restored 2003); excavations carried out in 2002 revealed the remains of tropical greenhouses dating from the late seventeenth and early eighteenth century. Palm greenhouse constructed in 1912. 'Three-climate' greenhouse, designed by Zwarts en Jansma architects, 1993.

There are plans to reconstruct the Reguliershof botanical garden as it was in 1646, based on the catalogue of plants compiled by Johannes Snippendaal between 1646-1656 (the *Praefectus Horti*).

Charles de Montesquieu (1689-1755) considered the Botanical Garden the loveliest that he had ever seen, mainly owing to the endless varieties of plants there (a result of the trade with the East). Tsar Peter the Great (1672-1725) also visited the Botanical Garden and made copious notes. It was in the Botanical Garden that Carolus Linnaeus (1707-1778), who lived in the Republic between 1735 and 1738, laid the foundations for his binary nomenclature system.

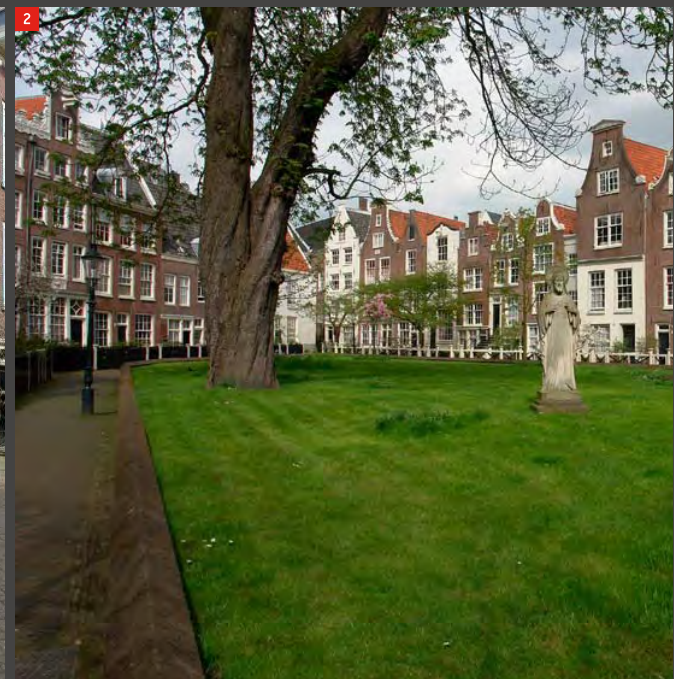
Adjoining is the former Hugo de Vries Laboratory (Plantage Middenlaan (2c-g), 1912/14, designed by Johan Melchior van der Mey (1878-1949).

Wertheim Park Plantage Middenlaan/Plantage Parklaan

Wertheim Park, approx. 1 ha, was laid out in 1812 as a promenading area. Designed by Abraham van der Hart (1747-1820), it was known then as the Park Garden (*Parktuin*) and was the site of the Park Municipal Theatre (*Parkschouwburg*), built in 1883 and demolished in 1911. Located opposite the Botanical Garden, it had been the site of a tree plantation (1682). In 1898, the park was renamed after the banker, patron of the arts and philanthropist A.C. Wertheim (1832-1897). It is the site of the 'Never Again Auschwitz' monument (1992) designed by Jan Wolkers (1925-2007), a memorial for the Jews deported from Amsterdam during the Second World War.

Between 1932-1970, the park was part of the Botanical Garden. It was redeveloped in the 1950s (design by G.A.M. Pisart, head gardener). Entry gate with sphinxes (replicas, 1982) ² that once belonged to the Park Municipal Theatre ; Wertheim Fountain, 1898, by J. Ingenohl, listed monument ³.





'Pavement gardens'

One special feature are the 'pavement gardens' ¹ that the residents of Amsterdam's streets, alleys and canals plant in narrow strips in front of or against the facades of their homes (bushes, flowers, and even trees). Such gardens can be seen in Violettenstraat, Ververstraat, Buiten Bantammerstraat, Binnen Vissersstraat ², Langestraat or in the Jordaan area.

The City has introduced various rules concerning these 'gardens'. For example, there must be at least 1.50 metres of pavement left clear. The 'gardens' tend to be small strips of no more than 30cm width, measured from the facade wall.

Beguinage

The fourteenth-century Beguinage (*Begijnhof*) ³ and two bleaching fields, divided by the English Presbyterian Church and with the front gardens of the homes located in the courtyard. The Oudemanhuispoort (now belonging to Amsterdam University) also has a garden with a majestic elm and a red beech (both planted in 1890).

Municipal parks/Public greenspace in Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal

Except for *Wertheim Park* (1898) and *Oosterburger Park* (1987, designed by Rudy Uytenhaak), Amsterdam does not have any parks in the actual sense of the word within the Singelgracht Canal, but it does have a number of public gardens. They are located on the former seventeenth-century ramparts (*1st and 2nd Marnix Public Garden* – the 1st Marnix Public Garden is located on the site of the Haerlem rampart – and the 1st and 2nd Wetering Public Garden). There are green medians along the nineteenth-century Sarphatistraat.

Amsterdam has about 40 ha. of 'greenspace' within the Singelgracht Canal. Planting can be found in Rembrandt Square, the Leidse Square area and its direct surroundings (*Kleine Gartman Public Garden*), *Prins Hendrik Public Garden* (1883), *Frederiks Square and Weteringcircuit/Public Garden*. The *Karthuizer Public Garden* was laid out in the Jordaan area in the 1960s on the site of the former Karthuizer Cemetery (between 1390 and 1612 the garden of the Cathusian monastery).

Parks just outside the Singelgracht Canal area

Amsterdam has a ring of nineteenth-century parks outside the Singelgracht Canal area: *Vondel Park* (1865), designed by J.D. (1791-1870) and L.P. Zocher (1820-1915), 48 ha.; *Sarphati Park* (after 1885), designed by J.G. van Niftrik, +4 ha.; *Wester Park* (1891), designed by J.G. van Niftrik; and *Ooster Park*, located on the site of the former Ooster Cemetery (1886), redeveloped after 1890 to a design by Leonard A. Springer (1855-1940), 14 ha.

ALLEYS STEGEN

ALLEYS

Alleys ¹

Though an interesting and mysterious element of the medieval city's spatial structure, Amsterdam's alleys are rather neglected and indeed largely unknown. The area designated as Amsterdam within Singelgracht contains an estimated 300 alleys, a hundred of which are in the medieval heart of the city. There, on either side of the River Amstel (the districts once known as the Oude Zijde and Nieuwe Zijde) the alleys once led away from the dykes built along the river (Warmoesstraat and Nieuwendijk). Indeed, there are eight alleys between Nieuwendijk and Damrak that still exist to this day. Many of these little side streets follow the course of a former ditch.

More were constructed when the city was expanded towards Singel (e.g. Gasthuismolensteeg and Dubbeleworststeeg ², leading to Herengracht), as well as Geldersekaade and Kloveniersburgwal (e.g. Dwars Spinhuissteeg) in the first half of the fifteenth century.

No new alleys were envisaged in the *Third Expansion*, but a few were added here and there nonetheless. In 1616 a bye-law was promulgated forbidding the creation of any more alleys when buildings were being erected along Keizersgracht.

Many alleys have been endowed with colourful names over the centuries, alluding to people who once lived there, or to former buildings or gable-stones. For instance, the alley Gebed zonder End ('Prayer without end') ³ near Langebrugsteeg recalls the medieval convents that once stood there. Some alleys once led to monasteries or churches and are named after them, such as St Luciënsteeg and Wijde Kerksteeg ('Wide Church Alley'). Alleys often provided access to a *hofje* behind the street façade (e.g. Prinsengracht, 'Hofje van Van Brienen'; Prinsengracht, 'Suikerhofje', between nos. 383 and 397. In some cases, the space above the alley has been built over (e.g. Prinsengracht 363-371). Occasionally an alley connected two streets (e.g. Dubbeleworststeeg, named after the Worst family that once lived here) or two canals (e.g. Treeftsteeg between Singel – to the left of no. 304 – and Herengracht) ⁴.

In some cases an alley was eventually used as the site for a house. One example is Singel 166 ⁵, the front façade of which is only 1.85 metres wide, though the house is 16 metres deep. To the left of Singel 192 ran Hametersgang, which was closed off in 1871 with a little archway containing a gable-stone ⁶. There is a similar passageway with a closed archway between Singel 111/113 and 115. An alley to the left of Singel 306 is now closed off by a narrow warehouse, as is the one between Singel 310 and Singel 312.

Between Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal, in the medieval heart of the city, there are almost 50 passageways of this kind. Most have been closed off from the road with doors, gates and railings in the course of time.

For reasons of safety, most are no longer accessible to the public. As a result, those living there have come to use them as outside space for their property; these once public spaces have acquired a 'private' function. Some new building projects have preserved the old function of existing alleys as part of the city's public space by including them as passageways.



TOWERS TORENS

TOWERS

The skyline of 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht' was and is punctuated by towers, as is clear from any number of historical images. Seventeenth-century drawings and engravings (, copyright Stadsarchief Amsterdam) show that these towers gave Amsterdam a lively silhouette, so that the city made a strong, enduring impression on those who caught sight of it when approaching from overseas across the water of the IJ.

In the nineteenth century, Amsterdam was enriched with a new cluster of towers surmounting the Catholic churches that were built in that period. After the 1853 restoration of the episcopal hierarchy in the Netherlands, Catholics were once more permitted to build their churches on streets or canals in full public view. Since the 1578 Alteration, they had been obliged to hold their services in clandestine churches. These earliest Catholic churches were built in neo-Gothic style, to echo the style of their churches before the Reformation.

The city's main towers, with their sixteenth and seventeenth-century spires, are Oudekerkstoren (1565) **1**, Montelbaanstoren (1606) **2**, Zuiderkerkstoren (1614) **3**, Munttoren (1620) **4** and Westertoren (1638) **5**. Aside from those of Oudekerkstoren and Westertoren, these spires were all designed by Hendrick de Keyser (1565-1621), who worked as Amsterdam's city architect from 1584 until his death. The Munttoren and Westertoren are located within the *property*.

The spires are in wood with lead facing painted the colour of sandstone. Their clocks and carillons have all been preserved. Hendrick de Keyser also designed the towers Jan Roodenpoortstoren (Singel/Torensteeg, 1616) and Haringpakkerstoren (Singel/Prins Hendrikkade, 1606), which were demolished in 1829. The contours of the Jan Roodenpoortstoren are indicated by colour variations in the cobblestone paving of the bridge known as Torenluis **6**. De Keyser also designed the spire of the former Beurstoren (1611) and that of the tower of the former Haarlemmerpoort (1618) (no longer standing) and the roof-turret with dome atop the Noorderkerk (1622) **7**.

Plans were made for a tower for the Nieuwe Kerk, on which work commenced in 1647. But the construction work was halted in 1652 when only the lower section was complete. This lower structure was pulled down in 1783. It is generally assumed that the local authorities decided against building a church tower that might 'compete' with the new town hall right next to it.

A unique historical feature of several of the city's towers are their seventeenth-century carillons and public clocks.

(● = within the *property*; ⚡ = within the buffer zone)

⚡ *Schreierstoren*, Prins Hendrikkade **8**

This tower once stood on the quayside of the open harbour in the east of the city, outside Zeedijk, where Veste (now Geldersekaade) came together with Oudezijds Kolk and the open waters of the IJ, as part of the city walls on which work had started in 1482. The lower section of the tower was built in 1486 and the upper storey in 1532, with an eighteenth-century extension on the Geldersekaade side. The tower's name is believed to derive from the word *schrayhouck*, meaning 'sharp corner'.

Together with the old city gates St Anthoniespoort (now De Waag [=weighing-house]) **9** and Munttoren (once Regulierspoort), the tower was part of the city's fortifications, built in 1482-1494. It bears a sandstone tablet with the inscription 'Scrayer Houck', installed in 1569. A bronze plaque





commemorates Henry Hudson (1565-1611?), who sailed to the New World in his ship *De Halve Maen* in the service of the Dutch East India Company (VOC), discovered the river that would be named after him and set foot on the soil of Manhattan Island in 1609. The tower was used by the harbour-master from the mid-seventeenth century until 1960. It underwent restoration in 1966/68 and 2005.

⌘ *Montelbaanstoren*, Oude Schans **1**

This tower at the beginning of Oude Schans (a canal dug to improve access for ships) was built in 1512 to improve the defence of the Lastage harbour area that was built to the east of the city in this period. An octagonal wooden superstructure was added to the tower in 1606, probably based on a design by Hendrick de Keyser (1565-1621). Recently restored.

• *Munttoren*, Muntplein **2**

Part of the former Regulierspoort (built circa 1485), which was destroyed by fire in 1619. Its octagonal wooden open spire was designed by Hendrick de Keyser (1565-1621) and dates from 1620. The tower has a carillon with 18 bells cast by François Hemony (circa 1606-1669), appointed the city's founder of bells and artillery in 1655, and his brother Pieter Hemony (1619-1680), and dates from 1651/58.

⌘ *Oudekerkstoren*, Oudekerksplein **3**

The tower consists of four sections with an octagonal lantern and open-work spire. The three lower sections date from the fourteenth century. The fourth part of the superstructure was added in 1565 and surmounted by the wooden lantern, which was probably based on a design by Joost Janszoon Bilhamer (1541-1590), who worked *inter alia* as a surveyor. The tower was pulled down at the beginning of the eighteenth century because of subsidence.

The carillon has 38 bells, 14 of which were cast by François Hemony in 1656; also tolling bells, the oldest of which dates from 1505, in addition to two bells cast by Hemony in 1659, one cast by Claude Fremy (1646-1699), dating from 1689, and another cast by Pieter Seest (1716-1780) in 1771. The clock was made by Wouter Geurtszoon in 1619. The tower underwent restoration in 2001.

⌘ *English-speaking Presbyterian Church*, Begijnhof **4**

Simple medieval tower with four sections and constricted spire. The plaster was removed from the tower in 1937.

⌘ *St Olaf's Chapel/Oudezijdskapel*, Zeedijk (*)

The roof-turret was reconstructed in 1992.

⌘ *Zuiderkerkstoren*, Zandstraat **5**

The tower was built in three sections and completed in 1614. It stands on the southwest side and is incorporated into the church (Zuiderkerk). It has an octagonal lantern decorated with Ionic columns, and a clock built into niches. The carillon was made by François Hemony (circa 1606-1669) in 1656. Bells originating from the Oude Kerk also hang here, one of which was cast in 1511 by Wilhelmus and Jasper Moer, and two by François Hemony himself in 1659.

• *Noorderkerk*, Noordermarkt **6**

On the roof a square roof-turret with an small octagonal dome, containing a clock dating from 1621 (Johannes Meurs) and another from 1778 that was cast by Pieter Seest (1716-1780), who served as

director of Amsterdam's municipal foundry from 1756 to 1780.

- *Westerkerk, Prinsengracht* **1**
The Westerkerk's tower, known as Westertoren (dated, 1637), is 85 metres in height and is built in three sections, above which are first a transitional square sandstone section, decorated at the corners with Doric pilasters, and then two lead-faced storeys with Ionic and Corinthian columns at the corners. The lowest four sections are based on a design by Hendrick de Keyser (1565-1621), while the fifth and sixth are designed in a more classical style. The tower is surmounted by Amsterdam's 'imperial crown', based on the crown that the Antwerp silversmith Hans Vermeyen made for Emperor Rudolf II in 1602. The carillon in the tower was made in 1658 by François Hemony (circa 1606-1669); it was expanded (and some parts were replaced) in 1959. There are also two tolling-bells made in 1636 by Assuerus Koster (1604-1661), who was appointed as the city's founder of bells and artillery in 1626, two cast by François Hemony in 1658, and one cast in 1686 by Claude Fremy (1646-1699). The tower underwent restoration in 2006/07.

- *Nieuwe Lutherse Kerk (Ronde Lutherse Kerk), Singel* **2**
This church's dome is surmounted by an open-work lantern, with a wind-vane in the shape of a swan, a Lutheran emblem. The church was designed in the seventeenth century (1668, design by Adriaan Dortsman, 1635-1682); it was rebuilt after a fire in 1822 after plans by T.F. Suys (1783-1861) and the city architect Jan de Greef (born in 1784).

- ⋮ *Oosterkerk, Kleine Wittenburgerstraat* **3**
The church was built after a design by Daniël Stalpaert (1615-1676) in 1669/71, and is shaped like a Greek cross. On its roof is a small octagonal dome containing a bell cast in 1671 by Pieter Hemony (1619-1680).

- ⋮ *Church of St Anthony of Padua (Mozes- en Aaronkerk), Waterlooplein* **4**
Two towers with open wooden sections on the Waterlooplein side. The church was designed by T.F. Suys (1783-1861) and built by J. van Straaten (1781-1858), 1837/41.

- *Church of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception (De Posthoorn), Haarlemmerstraat* **5**
On the street side stand two four-storey towers with octagonal spires. Neo-Gothic church, designed by Dr P.J.H. Cuypers (1827-1921), 1860/89.

- *Church of St Francis Xavier (De Krijtberg), Singel* **6**
On the west façade two flanking octagonal towers, 50 metres in height. This neo-Gothic church was designed by Alfred Tepe (1840-1920) and dates from 1881/83.

- ⋮ *Church of St Nicholas (St Nicolaaskerk), Prins Hendrikkade* **7**
The west façade has two projecting flanking towers, each consisting of three sections. The church has a remarkable octagonal crossing-tower with a domed roof designed by A.C. Bleijs (1842-1912), dating from 1885/87.



BRIDGES, SLICES AND LOCKS BRUGGEN EN SLUIZEN

BRIDGES, SLUICES AND LOCKS

Bridges, sluices and locks (located within the property (•) and in the buffer zone (:::))

Even today, Amsterdam's numerous bridges play an important visual role in the cityscape within Singelgracht and sometimes an architectural or spatial role, and in all cases they are functional. Within the canal ring, bridges punctuate the linear course of each canal at regular intervals.

They have only increased in number over the centuries. An analysis of historical maps shows that there were some 35 wooden bridges in the sixteenth century (map by Cornelis Anthoniszoon, 1544; at that time there were five bridges over Damrak and Rokin; the others, all of which were drawbridges, were over the water on either side of the fortifications). By about 1600, this number had increased to 110 (map by Pieter Bast, 1597).

With the city's major expansions in the seventeenth century (*Third and Fourth Expansion*) the number rose to about 300 (map by Gerred de Broen, c. 1732). By 1662 the city had 219 bridges, 130 of which were of wood and 89 of brick. Some bridges have a stone with the date inscribed, such as the one over Leidsegracht/Herengracht, inscribed 1722. ¹

Bridges were initially made of wood, some as drawbridges, and from the seventeenth century there were arched bridges in brick with stone blocks. Wooden bridges had iron railings after the mid-seventeenth century. From the latter half of the nineteenth century onwards, the materials used most frequently were cast iron and steel, ² after the city council had agreed in 1873 to implement a plan to widen and lower bridges to accommodate the changing demands of traffic. ³ ⁴

At this time most bridges were designed by engineers. But the new bridges that were built over the River Amstel in that period were designed by architects, who based themselves on foreign examples: Blauwbrug, no. 236 *IMG_0960*, over the Amstel at Waterlooplein and Amstelstraat, designed by the city architects Willem Springer (1815-1907) and B. de Greef (1818-1899), 1883, State-listed structure; Hoge Sluis, no. 246, over the Amstel at Sarphatistraat, 1883/84, also based on a design by Willem Springer and possibly also B. de Greef; State-listed structure ⁵ two bastions, the Oosterblokhuis and Westerblokhuis, flanked the bridge from 1662 onwards.

From the early twentieth century onwards, Amsterdam's Public Works Department, which was responsible for bridges, emphasised architectural quality, not only in new bridges but also in those being renovated or widened. It hired architects, such as initially Johan Melchior van der Mey (1878-1949; appointed in 1911 as the Department's aesthetic advisor), and most notably Pieter Lodewijk Kramer (1881-1961), both of whom were of the Amsterdam School.

Kramer worked as aesthetic advisor from 1916 to 1952, besides which he also designed numerous bridges himself (totalling some 220 in different parts of Amsterdam). Examples of such bridges from the Amsterdam School period include the bridge over Waalseilandsgracht/Buiten Bantammerstraat (no. 283), designed by J.M. van der Mey (1913/14, State-listed structure) *IMG_1023*; no. 22, Herengracht, State-listed structure; Bridge 29, Koningssluis, Herengracht, State-listed structure; Bridge 30, Herengracht/Vijzelstraat, 1915, State-listed structure.

A striking element of early twentieth-century bridges is their sculptural work in stone ⁶ (by sculptors such as Johan Polet (1894-1971), and most notably Hildo Krop (1884-1970), whose work is seen for instance on bridge no. 106 over Keizersgracht/Westermarkt, 1925; State-listed structure). There is





also eye-catching work in wrought iron (e.g. bridge no. 283 over Waalseilandsgracht). The new materials concrete and steel started to be used in this period, concrete being faced with brick.

Today the city as a whole has some 1,500 bridges, 252 of which are in the city centre, defined as 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht'. Some are made of wood ¹. Of the historical bridges, about forty were built as arched bridges in brick in the eighteenth century.

In the course of time, dozens of bridges in the city centre have been listed (of these, 72 are listed by the municipality and 20 by the State). Almost all the city's bridges are managed by the municipal authorities. Each one is numbered, as indicated in this overview. After 1939, many were given nameplates.

The bridges over the canals that lead to the Amstel bear the names of Hendrick Jacobszoon Staets (1558-1631) (Herengracht), Lucas Janszoon Sinck (Keizersgracht), Frans Hendrikszoon Oetgens (1559-1625) (Prinsengracht) and Hendrick de Keyser (1565-1621) (Nieuwe Achtergracht) ². All these men were involved in the construction of the seventeenth-century canal ring area.

Near Herengracht/Reguliersgracht there is an impressive view, in the round, of 16 bridges. The three bridges where Reguliersgracht crosses Keizersgracht were rebuilt in their earlier form as early as 1908 ³.

It is curious that the term *sluis* (sluice/lock) is used alongside *brug* (bridge) for some of Amsterdam's bridges. Stone or brick bridges were traditionally known as *sluizen*. The first four stone bridges, built across the waterways alongside the fortifications (*burgwallen*), were all called *sluizen*, which may indicate that it had already become customary in the sixteenth century to use the term *sluis* for a stone bridge and *brug* for a wooden one. A bridge's appearance may also have contributed to the difference in naming (e.g. Magere Brug, no. 242) ⁴, over the Amstel, at Kerkstraat, State-listed structure; Torensluis, bridge no. 9 ⁵, over Singel at Oude Leliestraat, municipal listed structure).

In the *Third Expansion*, Prinsengracht was furnished with drawbridges, enabling ships coming from the IJ to reach the warehouses lining its banks *20 april 2006 20_edited-2*). This is in marked contrast to Herengracht and Keizersgracht with their stone arched bridges, where the accent was on creating an elegant residential district. Those wanting to store goods there had to put them on barges, which were low enough to pass under these bridges.

In the *Fourth Expansion*, only brick bridges were built over Herengracht, Keizersgracht and Prinsengracht between Leidsestraat and the River Amstel.

In the latter half of the nineteenth century, arched bridges were replaced by lower, wider structures. There was a sharp fall in the number of wooden and stone bridges from this point onwards. Between 1945 and 1982, dozens of bridges that had previously been lowered and widened were converted back into arched bridges.

A selection of interesting bridges/sluices/locks in the area 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht'

- Torensluis (no. 9) ⁶.
Wide stone arched bridge (42 metres wide) over Singel, built in 1648, connecting Torensteeg to Oude Leliestraat, based on a design by Jan Adriaenzoon Leeghwater (1575-1650), who was also involved in the reclamation of De Beemster polder (placed on the World Heritage List in 1999). On the east side of this bridge, in front of the odd-numbered side of Singel, stood a tower, Jan

Roodenpoortstoren (c. 1480), which served as a gate in the city walls which were demolished in 1601/1602. One section (which served as a prison until 1815) can still be seen. The tower itself was pulled down in 1829. The bridge underwent restoration in 1960/1962 and 2007; the contours of the former gate are mapped out in the cobblestone paving; the base of this gate was incorporated into the eastern land abutment of the bridge when it was built in 1648 Municipal listed structure

- Magere Brug (no. 242) (formerly known as Kerkstraatbrug) ¹
This bridge crosses the River Amstel. The original seventeenth-century wooden pedestrian bridge that connected the two parts of Kerkstraat, to the east and west of the Amstel, was demolished in the early twentieth century. The present bridge was built in 1934, designed by P. Kramer (1881-1961) on the basis of a seventeenth-century model, and restored in 1969. State-listed structure
- Walter Süskindbrug (no. 237) ²
This bridge over Nieuwe Herengracht at the River Amstel was named after Walter Süskind, who saved the lives of hundreds of Jews in the Second World War. The bridge dates from 1971/72.
- ≡ Wipbrug (no. 227) ³
Over Groenburgwal, at Staalstraat. Dates from 1886, renovated in 1964. Municipal listed structure
- Blauwbrug (no. 236)
Over the Amstel, at Binnen Amstel/Amstelstraat, 1883, designed by B. de Greef (1818-1899) and W.H. Springer (1815-1907), inspired by bridges elsewhere in Europe (such as in Paris and London). Widened in 1939. State-listed structure
- Hogesluis (no. 246) ⁴
Over the Amstel, at Sarphatistraat, 1883/84, designed by W.H. Springer (1815-1907), inspired by bridges over the Seine in Paris. State-listed structure
- ≡ Makelaarsbruggetje (no. 105) *IMG_0846*
Over Oudezijds Voorburgwal (between St Agnes' Chapel and St Barberenstraat). Nineteenth-century iron pedestrian bridge (1893). Commissioned by the tobacco broker Olie to facilitate his daily walk from his office to Frascati in the street Nes to attend tobacco auctions. State-listed structure
- ≡ Vredenburgbrug (previously Zoutkopersteegbrug)
Over Oudezijds Achterburgwal/Vredenburgsteeg, 1893, permanent pedestrian bridge
- ≡ Lommertbrug (no. 203)
Over Oudezijds Voorburgwal/Enge Lombartsteeg; iron pedestrian bridge, 1926. Municipal listed structure
- ≡ Stoofbrug
Over Oudezijds Voorburgwal, simple pedestrian bridge
- Bridge no. 8, Singel, at Raadhuisstraat, 1925, designed by P.L. Kramer (1881-1961). State-listed structure
- Bridge no. 22, Herengracht, 1925, designed by P.L. Kramer (1881-1961). State-listed structure
- Bridge no. 29, Herengracht, at Koningsplein, 1921, designed by P.L. Kramer (1881-1961). State-listed structure
- Bridge no. 30, Herengracht, at Vijzelstraat, 1922, designed by P.L. Kramer (1881-1961). State-listed structure
- Bridge no. 41
Over Keizersgracht, at Vijzelstraat, 1923, designed by P. L. Kramer (1881-1961), 'Amsterdam School'. State-listed structure
- Bridge no. 43
Over Keizersgracht, at Leidsestraat, 1921, designed by P.L. Kramer (1881-1961), sculpture by Hildo Krop (1884-1970). State-listed structure



- Bridge no. 63 over Prinsengracht, at Westermarkt, designed by P.L. Kramer, 1925. State-listed structure
- Bridge no. 76 over Prinsengracht/Amstel, 1773. Municipal listed structure
- Bridge no. 68, Prinsengracht, at Leidsestraat, designed by P.L. Kramer (1881-1961), 1921. State-listed structure
- Bridge no. 106, Keizersgracht, at Raadhuisstraat, designed by P.L. Kramer (1881-1961), 1925
- ≡ Bridge no. 283
Over Waalseilandsgracht, links Binnen Bantammerstraat to Buiten Bantammerstraat, 1914, designed by J.M. van der Mey (1878-1949). Inspired by the proportional scheme based on the Egyptian triangle. State-listed structure
- ≡ Aluminium bridge (no. 222) 1
Over Kloveniersburgwal, between Nieuwe Doelenstraat and Staalstraat, 1897, designed by Public Works Department, lower structure dates from 1956, executed in aluminium. State-listed structure
- ≡ Sloterdijkbrug 2
Over Prinseneilandsgracht, 1881, renovated in 1952 on the basis of the original structure
- ≡ Oranjebrug (no. 146)
Over Brouwersgracht, 1899, Penn & Bauduin foundry. Municipal listed structure
- ≡ Halvemaansbrug
Connects Kloveniersburgwal to Halvemaanssteeg. Present bridge dates from 1939-1940
- Bridge 3
Over Prinsengracht, near Brouwersgracht, known as Lekkeresluis, 1754
- ≡ Varkenssluis
Over Oudezijds Voorburgwal, connects Oude Doelenstraat and Damstraat; dates from 1516

Historical sluices and locks

- ≡ Oudezijds kolk, with bridge (no. 302) 4
Between Oudezijds kolk and Oudezijds Voorburgwal, once a dam and sea-lock (part of the 'IJ front'), on Zeedijk. Originally dates from 1300. Municipal listed structure
- ≡ St Antoniessluis (no. 287) 5
Between Zwanenburgwal and Oudeschans, built as part of the city's expansion in 1585. Initially a sea-lock; nowadays a sluice, 1871. Municipal listed structure. Serves as a barrier as part of the 'IJ front' to keep out the water from the North Sea Canal outlets. On the lock stands the old lock-keeper's house (1695)
- Eenhoornsluis (no. 313) 6
Korte Prinsengracht/Haarlemmerstraat, once a sea-lock, now a lock and drainage sluice, c. 1615, built during the *Third Expansion* to allow cargo ships access to Prinsengracht from the IJ. Municipal listed structure. Serves as a dam, as part of the 'IJ front', when the water in the North Sea Canal area is too high.
- ≡ Rapenburgerschutsluis
Nieuwe Herengracht/Schippersgracht, once a sea-lock, now links the canals to the IJ. The sluice is part of a the barrier known as the 'IJ front', and in the early nineteenth century was the only access to Entrepotdok. Originally dates from 1657. Municipal listed structure
- ≡ Scharrebiërsluis (no. 278), Kadijksplein. State-listed structure *IMG_986*
- ≡ Entrepotdoksluis
Hoogte Kadijk, designed by Public Works Department, c. 1840, when the Entrepotdok was extended. There is a swing-bridge on the Entrepotdok side (no. 327), 1903, at Hoogte Kadijk, iron drawbridge (no. 80), 1906. State-listed structure
- Amstel sluices (no. 229) 7





In the River Amstel, built in 1673 to a design by the mathematician and physicist Johannes Hudde (1628-1704), to allow fresh water into the canals and to maintain the water level. With the construction of these sluices, Amsterdam became an independent hydraulic entity, separate from the drainage outlets of Amstelland.

After the *Fourth Expansion*, a new water management system had to be developed for the city. To this end, sluices were built in the principal canals of the seventeenth-century canal ring area at Utrechtsestraat. When these proved insufficient, these sluices were built in the Amstel. The Amstel sluices allow fresh water into the canals and act as a barrier when the water rises too high in the Amstelland area, as part of the 'Amstel front' defence system. The present sluices date from c. 1820, with a customs-house and two lock-keepers' houses dating from c. 1840. State-listed structure. The building of the Oranjesluizen in 1872 meant that there was no longer any immediate water management problem in Amsterdam's historic city centre.

- Haarlemmersluis (Nieuwe Haarlemmersluis) ¹
Singel, Haarlemmerdijk/Haarlemmerstraat. Once a sea-lock. The present sluice, which connects with the IJ, dates from 1681. This was where the second Haarlemmerpoort gate once stood, built in c. 1480 (demolished in 1612). The bridge dates from 1809, and was widened in 1879-1881. The sluice serves as a barrier, part of the 'IJ front', to protect the city if the water level is too high in the North Sea Canal area. Municipal listed structure
- ⌘ Grimnessesluis
Built in 1549 to separate the water in the canals in the Oude Zijde district from that of the Amstel. The lock chamber was vaulted over. A narrow jetty was constructed along Oude Turfmarkt. The present Grimnessesluis is a permanent bridge over Grimburgwal at Rokin
- ⌘ Oranjesluizen
These sluices are located on the eastern side of the city. Together with a dam between Rietlanden and Schellingwoude, they were built in 1872 to keep out the water of the IJ. As a result, there is no longer any tidal movement of the water in the port.

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS KERKEN EN KAPELLEN

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS

A chronological survey of the churches and chapels of Amsterdam within Singelgracht: those within the *property* are marked • , and those in the 'buffer zone' are marked ≡

Middle Ages and sixteenth century

≡ *Oude Kerk*, Oudekerksplein 23 **1**

Once dedicated to the saints Nicholas and John the Baptist, this church was originally a subsidiary of its mother church in Ouderkerk aan de Amstel, dedicated to St Urban. A small basilica stands in front of it. It became an independent parish church in 1334, the parish church of the 'Oude Zijde' quarter. After the 1578 Alteration (shift to Protestantism), the city's authorities assigned this church to the Reformed Protestant congregation.

Cruciform basilica with nave, two aisles and pentagonal choir. The Gothic brick church building with its wooden barrel vault and thirteen chapels was extended in four phases up to the sixteenth century, being changed from a pseudo-basilica to a hall-church (1390).

The earliest part was built around 1300, and was extended after its elevation to parish church in 1334. The pentagonal choir dates from c. 1370; the aisles were lengthened between 1350 and 1370; around 1390 the single nave became three.

The north transept and St George's chapel date from after 1380; building of the south arm of the transept, St Sebastian's chapel c. 1460. The next phase, until 1512, was the building of the side-chapels in the nave (including the Hamburg chapel, 1493). Backing onto the north side of the choir, St Mary's chapel, 1552. Baptismal chapel on the west side of the south aisle, c. 1462. Between the north transept and the nave, the chapel of the Holy Sepulchre with its Renaissance architecture, c. 1545. On the south side, between transept and nave, the room once occupied by the *kerkmeester* (lay church administrator), a sandstone structure beneath a pavilion roof (1611).

The south entrance bears the coats of arms of Emperor Maximilian I (1459-1519) and Archduke Philip the Fair (1478-1506). To their right, the former library, above which is the Iron Chapel, in which the privileges of the city were preserved until the end of the nineteenth century. At the north side is a Renaissance structure built in 1571, where the Guild of Our Lady held its meetings.

The oldest section of the tower dates from 1306; fourth section from 1565; crowning feature after a design by Joost Janszoon Bilhamer (1541-1590). Tower, 67 metres high, with a 36-metre stone base, the wooden steeple 31 metres (restored in 2001). The tower was given a brick casing in 1718 because it was leaning. Carillon (35-bell carillon and four tolling bells), 1658/59, by François Hemony (1609-1667), whose workshop was on Molenpad, between Keizersgracht and Prinsengracht. The oldest bell dates from 1505. Fourteen of the bells cast by Hemony have been preserved. This was the first tower on which clocks appeared, mounted in niches. Restoration in 2001, 2008 and subsequent years.

Two eighteenth-century organs, including one by Christian Vater (1679-1756); case, design by Jurriaan Westerman, master stonemason and sculptor in Amsterdam, 1724, adjoining the tower wall on the west side (altered and expanded in 1738 by Johan Caspar Müller) and altered in 1869 by





C.F.G. Witte ¹. In 1658, Hans Wolf Schonat made the small or transept organ (of which only the case has survived; a new instrument was installed in it in 1964/65). There is also a third organ, a cabinet organ built by the Amsterdam organ-maker Deetleef Onderhorst in 1767.

Wooden choir stalls (late fifteenth century) ². Oak pulpit with carvings, 1642. Choir screen, 1681. Two draught lobbies, moved here from the former Nieuwezijds Chapel. Stained-glass windows, some dating from 1555.

Inside the church about 2,000 historical gravestones (dating from the late fourteenth century to 1865.) Graves of the composer Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1564-1621), the architect Philips Vingboons (d. 1678) and Saskia van Uylenburgh (1612-1642) (the first wife of Rembrandt van Rijn). Here, in 1607/09, Hendrick de Keyser designed the epitaph for Admiral Jacob van Heemskerck, famous for surviving the harsh winter on Nova Zembla, the first monument to the memory of a naval hero, commissioned by the States General.

In the 1950s the paintings on the wooden barrel vaults were revealed, when later overpainting was removed.

⌘ *Nieuwe Kerk*, Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal/Dam ³

Initially dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and later, after the fire that raged through the city in 1452, also to St Catharine of Alexandria. In 1408 the bishop of Utrecht gave consent for its construction, which lasted into the sixteenth century. After the 1578 Alteration, it became a Protestant church. Since 1814 it has been used *inter alia* for the investiture of the monarch and since 1980, following the latest major restoration, it has also been used for exhibitions.

The church ceased to be used for regular worship in 1957. It has been managed since 1979 by the Nieuwe Kerk Foundation, with the aim of preserving the social and cultural significance of this protected building.

The floor plan is that of a cruciform basilica. Construction started at the end of the fourteenth century with the choir, which was completed in 1409; ambulatory, 1414-1417. The sacristy and a burial chapel for Willem Eggert (d. 1417), who donated land on which to build the church, date from the early fifteenth century. The Eggert chapel was combined with the chapel of the crossbowmen's guild.

Nave built c. 1435. The choir was raised in the latter half of the fifteenth century. Around 1500, the radial chapels around the choir were built. North transept, 1538-1544, bringing the construction work to an end.

The church was almost completely destroyed by fire in 1645, except for the choir, after which the exterior was restored in its former Gothic style. At the same time, the interior was refurbished, highlighting the profile of Amsterdam by displaying images including the coats of arms of the city's leading administrators.

The houses and graveyards on the east and south sides, facing Dam Square, were cleared to give the church more spacious surroundings. The city enlisted artists who had worked on the new Town Hall to embellish the Nieuwe Kerk too. In 1648 the church was ready for worship to resume. The foundation stone for the tower on the west side was laid in 1646/47. The tower was built up to half the height of the nave around 1652 after which construction was suspended, partly for fear of

detracting from the grandeur of the adjacent Town Hall; part of the lower structure was demolished in 1783. The house for the parish poor dating from 1642 on the north side has Ionic pilasters.

Wooden screen of the chapel of the Holy Cross on the north side of the choir, early Renaissance (dates from the early sixteenth century). Major elements of the interior dating from after the 1645 fire (brass choir screen, c. 1650, design by Johannes Lutma, 1584-1669); oak, carved pulpit with scenes of the works of mercy, dated 1649/64, by Albert Janszoon Vinckenbrinck (1604-1665), signed, with at its foot an enclosed area for baptisms; organ on the west side, with case designed by Jacob van Campen (1596-1651), 1650/55 (built by Germer van Hagerbeer and Hans Wolff Schonat (b.1614 as Johann Wolfgang Schonat, d. after 1669), enlarged in 1668/73 (Jacobus van Hagerbeer (d. 1670), Roelof Barentszoon Duyschot, 1620-1664). Painted organ shutters (Jan Gerritszoon van Bronckhorst, 1603-1661), sculptural work by Artus Quellinus (1609-1668). The sixteenth-century transept organ, which was spared in the fire of 1645, was restored to its place in 1651. It was reconstructed as part of the restoration of 1959-1980. Pews reserved for distinguished churchgoers, 1665. The oldest window with stained-glass panes dates from the mid-seventeenth century.

The monuments to naval heroes include the marble tomb of Admiral Michiel de Ruyter (1607-1676) made in 1681 by Rombout Verhulst (1624-1698), and the monument to Jan van Galen (d. 1653), design by Artus Quellinus (1609-1668), executed by Rombout Verhulst (1624-1698) and Willem de Keyser (1603-after 1674).

Amsterdams Historisch Museum possesses two different seventeenth-century models of the tower that was planned but never built for the Nieuwe Kerk.

⚙ *Presbyterian Church* (English-speaking), Begijnhof **1**

This church is believed to have been built as a chapel for the Beguines (lay sisters) in the early fifteenth century. Since 1607 it has been a Scottish Presbyterian church, serving an English-speaking congregation, the original members of which came to Amsterdam for religious reasons. Originally a one-nave church, an aisle was added on the south side in 1664/65. Restoration in 1932 (tower), comprehensive restoration in 1975.

⚙ *Oude Waalse Kerk (Old Walloon Church)*, Oudezijds Achterburgwal 157-159 **2**

Church with nave and two aisles, built in the late fifteenth century for the monastery of the friars of St Paul that stood here. First used as a Walloon church in 1597. Before and after the fall of Antwerp (1585) large numbers of French-speaking Walloon Protestants moved to Amsterdam. The revocation of the Edict of Nantes by Louis XIV in 1685 precipitated the large-scale persecution of French Protestants and prompted a mass migration of Huguenots to the United Provinces. Many settled in Amsterdam as refugees and joined this church.

In 1616 the entrance was moved to Oude Hoogstraat 22 **3**, designed by Hendrick de Keyser (1565-1621). The classicist narthex dates from 1647. In 1664 the church acquired a second aisle, on the south side. Various alterations have been made since then; restoration in 1990/92 by the architect C.O. Bouwstra. Organ 1680, by Nicolaas Langlez, renovated by Christian Müller in 1734.

⚙ *St Olof's chapel/Oudezijdskapel*, Zeedijk 2a, between Zeedijk and Nieuwebrugsteeg **4**

Hall-church with nave and two aisles, once dedicated to St Olof. First documented in 1451. Between 1500 and approximately 1640 the polygonal Jerusalem chapel (cross-section 12 metres) adjoined it.





Following the 1578 Alteration transferred to the Reformed Protestant congregation in 1602, as was the chapel of the *Heilige Stede* (Holy Place) or Nieuwezijds Kapel on Rokin. The chapel of St Olof was renamed Oudezijds Kapel at this time. Until 1615 it was also used by the merchants who traded on the Exchange. Renovation work started in 1618, and the building was eventually transformed (c. 1645) into its present form with its entrance on Zeedijk.

On the south side, Nieuwebrugsteeg, two sandstone Doric archways, dated 1620, 1671. The Zeedijk entrance is attributed to Hendrick de Keyser (1565-1621), c. 1620 ¹. The church was used by the Dutch Reformed church until 1912. It was ravaged by fire in 1966, and completely restored in the early 1990s.

Excavations have brought to light 292 gravestones, the oldest of which date from the seventeenth century. Since 1967 it has been the property of the Hendrick de Keyser Association. Restoration 1990.

⌘ *St Agnes' Chapel*, Oudezijds Voorburgwal 231 ²

Single-nave chapel with straight-ended choir of the former St Agnes' convent, one of Amsterdam's seventeen mediaeval convents, built in 1470. One of the only two remaining mediaeval chapels, the other one being the former chapel of the friars of St Paul, now the Walloon Church. Renovated in 1631/32 for use as the civic college, the *Atheneum Illustre*.

In 1632 the ground floor interior was prepared to accommodate the naval headquarters while the first floor was equipped for the Atheneum Illustre, the later University of Amsterdam. In the seventeenth-century room with ceiling paintings, a room that was once used for lectures, hang 14 portraits of humanist scholars and artists, which were arranged in schematic clusters in 1743. The municipal library was housed in the building's attic.

Major restoration in 1921 (architect A.A. Kok, 1881-1951), restored again in 2005. Entrance with Doric pilasters (1571) ³, originating from the *Stadstimmertuin* (carpenters' yard) on Nieuwe Doelenstraat, moved here in 1629. The flanking walls date from 1921.

Seventeenth century

⌘ *Zuiderkerk*, Zuidkerkhof 72/Zandstraat/Zanddwaarsstraat ⁴

This was the first church built in Amsterdam for Reformed Protestant worship after the 1578 Alteration. Its architecture reflects the transition to Dutch classicism. Construction started in 1603, to a design by Hendrick de Keyser (1565-1621), and the church was first used in 1611. The tower with its three sections dates from 1614, with a carillon made in 1656 by François Hemony (1609-1667). The tower also contains the 'Salvator bell' (1511), from the Oude Kerk, cast by Wilhelm and Japer Moer.

The central nave has six bays with two lower aisles; wooden vaults; second and fifth bay marked on the outside by trapezium-shaped end structures with balustrades.

Used for worship until 1929, after which the building served a variety of purposes. In 1988 it became an exhibition and information centre for the Spatial Planning Department of the municipality of Amsterdam. Restoration in 1976/79; exhibition rooms and offices, free-standing, based on a design by H. Hagenbeek.

The grave of Hendrick de Keyser (died in 1621) is in this building. The seventeenth-century entrance to the church's former graveyard was moved to St Antoniesbreestraat in 1985 ¹. In the nineteenth century (1827) a royal decree was passed prohibiting interment in churches; the last such interment took place in 1864.

- *Noorderkerk*, Noordermarkt 44-48 (formerly Prinsenmarkt) ²

The church is built in the shape of a Greek cross within an octagonal floor plan, surmounted by a wooden dome at the crossing. Four structures have been built on the outside in the corners. The Greek cross shape recalls the building of churches by Christian emperors.

In 1620 Amsterdam city council decided to build this church at the request of those living in the new Jordaan district. It is a free-standing building in brick, with Bentheim sandstone, built in 1620/23, probably based on a design by Hendrick de Keyser (1565-1621). After De Keyser's death in 1621, the work was continued by his son Pieter (1595-1676), the city carpenter Hendrick Jacobszoon Staets (who held this position from 1589 to 1640) and the city stonemason Cornelis Danckerts de Rij (1561-1634).

The high façades have gables with Renaissance ornaments. The building's present-day interior ³ dates from 1844: this includes the pulpit, with pews designed by P.J. Hamer; organ around one of the pillars, 1849 (Hermanus Knipscheer). Restoration 1993/98 (architect Walter Kramer).

The contours of the graveyard, which was used until 1655, are indicated in the paving of the Noordermarkt (interment in the church itself continued until 1865).

The Noorderkerk evidently served as a model for the New Church in Emden (Germany), 1643/48, the church in Maassluis (1629) and the Oosterkerk in Amsterdam (1669) (see below)

- *Westerkerk*, Prinsengracht 279, Westermarkt ⁴

Three-bay basilical floor plan with high central nave, with two transepts, surmounted on the outside by gables, consisting of triangular pediments, flanked by Ionic columns. The foundation stone was laid in 1620, and the church opened its doors for worship in 1631. The tower was completed in 1638 (restoration in 2007, architect Walter Kramer). Designed by Hendrick de Keyser (1565-1621), succeeded by his son Pieter de Keyser (1595-1676) and the city stonemason Cornelis Danckerts de Rij (1564-1634).

Tower built in three parts on a base executed in brick because of the soft soil. The first section is in stone, while the two upper sections are in wood covered with lead, painted the colour of slate. The highest point, at 85 metres, is surmounted by the imperial crown, which also appears on Amsterdam's coat of arms.

In 1493 Maximilian of Austria (1459-1519) substituted the imperial crown for the royal crown, which he had added to Amsterdam's coat of arms in 1488, in recognition of the city's loyalty to him. The church's carillon was built in 1658 by François Hemony (1609-1667). It was partly renovated and expanded in 1959.

The church has a whitewashed interior varied by the use of sandstone arches, cornices and pilasters. The aisles have stone rib vaults, while the nave and transept have wooden barrel vaults.





The wooden pulpit and draught lobbies date from 1630. The organ, made in 1678, has shutters painted by Gerard de Lairese (1640-1711) ¹. In 1906 a memorial stone was installed in memory of Rembrandt van Rijn, whose remains were interred here in 1699 ².

The church was restored after 1987/90. The Westerkerk was the largest Protestant church in Europe until it lost that position to St Paul's Cathedral in London, by Sir Christopher Wren.

Adjoining the tower is the sexton's house, designed by Abraham van der Hart (1747-1820), 1779. In addition, at Keizersgracht 277b is the entrance to the former graveyard (closed c. 1655), by Pieter de Keyser ³.

Some similarities can be traced between the Westerkerk and the Trefoldighedskirken or Heliga Trefaldighetskyrkan (on which construction began in 1617) in Kristianstad in southern Sweden.

- *Former Remonstrant church (now 'De Rode Hoed')*, Keizersgracht 102 ⁴
Concealed behind the houses overlooking the Keizersgracht was a clandestine church used for Remonstrant worship ('Templum Christianum Amsterdami'), 1630. Hall-church with nave, two aisles and galleries, named De Rode Hoed ('the red hat') after the image on its gable-stone on the street side, at the neighbouring house, no. 104. It was the largest clandestine church in the Netherlands, and may have served as the model for the Huguenots' church in Charenton. The present façade dates from 1881. It continued to be used as a church until 1957. Since its restoration in the late 1980s it has been a cultural centre.

- ⋮ *Oude Lutherse Kerk (Old Lutheran Church)*, Spui/Singel 411 ⁵
The oldest Lutheran church in the Netherlands, dating from 1632/33; major changes were made to the outside of the building around 1775. Church with nave, two aisles and galleries.

Built with the aid of financial contributions from the kings of Denmark and Sweden, in addition to German and Baltic cities. Since 1961 it has also been used as the great hall of the University of Amsterdam. The building underwent restoration in 1925 (A.A. Kok), and in 1984/86 (J.W., W.J. Kuipers).

- *Mennonite church 'Bij 't Lam'*, Herengracht 431/Singel 452 ⁶
Founded in 1607; present building is a hall-church with the main entrance on Herengracht and another on Singel, extended in 1639 (renovated in 1839-1841; façade on Herengracht based on a design by M.G. Tetar van Elven (1803-1882)). The church is about 30 metres deep and about 18 metres wide, with on three sides double galleries supported on Tuscan columns.

- ⋮ *Clandestine Catholic church 'Ons' Lieve Heer op Solder*, Oudezijds Achterburgwal 40/Heintje Hoekssteeg ⁷
This was a clandestine church (now known as 'Our Lord in the Attic') dedicated to St Nicholas 'inside the Walls' ('house church' also known as 't Haentje' or Het Hert), incorporated into the renovation of a house on Achterburgwal with two rear annexes on Heintje Hoekssteeg in 1661/63, which the owner intended for use by his son, who was studying for the priesthood.
The church space (in the main house and the two rear annexes), which was altered in the eighteenth century, continues across the second and third floors and the attic. Surrounding the space are two galleries. From 1739 onwards, churchgoers could also enter the building from Heintje Hoekssteeg. Ons' Lieve Heer op Solder served as a parish church until the consecration of St Nicholas' Church on Prins Hendrikkade (1887).

In 1888 the church and adjoining house opened as Museum Amstelkring. Because of the large number of annual visitors and the vulnerability of this listed building, it has been decided to construct an underground space with a surface area of 180m². The adjacent building is being converted into a museum space. This restoration and extension will cost an estimated 10 million euros.

⋮ *Oosterkerk*, Kleine Wittenburgerstraat 1 1

Central-plan building in the shape of a Greek cross, dating from 1669/71, design by Daniël Stalpaert (1615-1676); in 1672 the architect Adriaen Dortsman (c. 1635-1682) started working here. Structures added in the corners led to a square ground plan.

The church was constructed at a slight angle to the building line along Wittenburgergracht, so that it could be seen from the Kerkstraat, which runs between and parallel to Keizersgracht and Prinsengracht. According to the seventeenth-century plans for the *Fourth Expansion* by Daniël Stalpaert, churches were to be built on four squares. In the event, only the Oosterkerk and Amstelkerk (the latter as a temporary church, constructed of wood) would materialise. The later development of the Plantage quarter upset this intended piece of urban planning.

The building's dimensions were based on a seventeenth-century reconstruction of King Solomon's Temple. The architecture of the pilasters, which are flared towards the base, corresponds to the reconstruction of the biblical Temple by Juan Battista Villalpando (see appendix on Synagogues). The octagonal dome tower contains the great bell cast in 1671 by Pierre Hemony (1619-1680). The organ, dating from 1871, was built by P. van Oeckelen of Haren, Groningen, and comes from the Nieuwezijds Kapel, which was demolished in 1908. The church has a seventeenth-century pulpit.

The church underwent restoration in 1980/84. Both the restoration and the redesigning of the interior for its new institutional purposes were in the hands of the architect P.H. van Rhijn.

- *Former clandestine Mennonite church 'De Zon'*, Singel 118

On the site of an early seventeenth-century house dating from 1609, the Mennonites built a clandestine gallery church here after 1663. In 1823 the building became an auction-house ('De Zon', as inscribed on the wooden cornice). The foundations were restored in 1952/53, and in 1989 followed conversion into apartments, preserving the original wooden barrel vault.

- *Nieuwe Lutherse Kerk (Ronde Lutherse Kerk)*, Singel 11/Kattengat 2

Lutheran immigrants came to Amsterdam from Germany, Scandinavia and the Southern Netherlands in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

The church was designed by Adriaan Dortsman (1635-1682), 1668/71, with a circular floor plan, surmounted by a dome. It was destroyed by fire in 1822, and rebuilt in 1823/26 by the city architects Tilleman Franciscus Suys (1783-1861) and Jan de Greef (1784-1834). In 1993 another fire destroyed the dome, which was restored in 1993/95. The organ was built by Johan Bätz, 1830. The building ceased to be used as a church in 1935, and after 1975 it was renovated for use as a conference centre and concert hall.

The Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, contains a model (1823) of the roof construction, as designed by De Greef.





- *Amstelkerk*, Amstelveld ¹
Temporary wooden church, 1668/70, probably designed by Daniël Stalpaert (1615-1676). Interior renovated in 1840 by the architect Hendrik Springer (1805-1867). The organ was built by the firm of Bätz (Johan Bätz, 1843). Today, the building houses organisations including Stadsherstel Amsterdam NV.

The seventeenth-century architectural plans invoked King Solomon's Temple. This was based on the contemporary religious custom for nations to seek parallels between themselves and the chosen people of Israel as related in the Old Testament. The Reformed Protestants of the United Provinces viewed themselves in this light after casting off the yoke of Spanish rule.

Although the church on Amstelveld has no architectural features referring to the biblical Temple, its dimensions do allude to it. King Solomon's Temple was believed at the time to have measured 100 cubits square. This church and the Oosterkerk were both built with these same dimensions. In 1673, brick annexes were added, one of which housed a fireplace.

The building was restored by Bureau Prins in the late 1980s and the interior redesigned for use as office space by organisations including Stadsherstel Amsterdam NV.

- ⋮ *Catholic church 'Mirakelkapel' (St John and St Ursula)*, Begijnhof ²
Clandestine Catholic church, 1671/72, designed by the architect Philips Vingboons (1607-1678). Church with nave, two aisles, wooden columns and galleries. It was built as the successor to the Nieuwezijdskapel, the chapel of the 'Miracle of Amsterdam', the miracle of the Host that took place in 1345. The Nieuwezijdskapel was taken over by a Protestant congregation in 1590. Today, this is the church dedicated to the Miracle of Amsterdam.

Eighteenth century

- ⋮ *Armenian Church*, Kromboomssloot 22 ³
Originally a warehouse, the church was founded by Armenian merchants in 1721. In the nineteenth century it was converted into a school. In 1986 the Armenian community in the Netherlands repurchased it.
- *Former clandestine church on Balk in het Oogsteeg*, Amstel 98
This building is part of the Swigterhofje. The alley lies behind the archway at Amstel 98. The former clandestine Catholic church with gallery dates from around 1750. Its altar is still present. The building underwent restoration by the Jan Pieterszoon Huis Foundation in 1959.

- ⋮ *Church of the dissident Lutheran congregation*, Kloveniersburgwal 50 ⁴
This church of the breakaway Restored Evangelical Lutheran congregation, dates from 1793, design by the master carpenters and stonemasons Smit and Helmers, under the supervision of the city architect Abraham van der Hart (1747-1820). It subsequently underwent comprehensive renovation. An insane asylum (*Dolhuis*) once stood here.

The original structure had a nave, two aisles and two galleries. The front façade is nine bays wide. The pediment contains sculptural work by B.W.H. Ziesenis (1768-1820). The building is now used as a theatre.

Nineteenth century

- ⋮ *Anglican church (Christ Church), Groenburgwal 42* 1

On this site the city built a silk-makers' hall in 1650 as part of the clothmakers' hall. In 1771 the hall was converted into a church, which was renovated and extended starting in 1827. It was then that the neo-Gothic polished brick front façade was installed (1828/29). The interior underwent restoration in 1966.

- *Catholic church of St Ignatius ('De Zaayer'), Keizersgracht 22* 2

A clandestine Jesuit church once stood on this site (1663). The present church dates from 1835/37, with a neo-classicist front façade, which has since been simplified. It ceased to be used as a church in 1929. Designed by J. van Straaten (1781-1858)

- ⋮ *Catholic church of St Anthony of Padua ('Moses and Aaron Church'), Waterlooplein/Mr Visserplein* 3 Franciscan hall-church, neo-classicist, 1837/41, designed by T.F. Suys (1783-1861).

In the seventeenth century a clandestine church stood here, two adjacent houses, used by the Franciscans (the gable-stones of these houses, depicting Moses and Aaron, have been incorporated into the rear façade of the present building) 4.

The front has a portico and two towers. The building was originally part of a line of houses (changed to accommodate the building of the IJ Tunnel). The baroque high altar, dating from c. 1700, comes from the former clandestine church. The organ was built in 1871 by C.B. and P.J. Adema, Charles Philbert.

- ⋮ *Catholic church of St Peter and St Paul ('De Papegaai'), Kalverstraat 58*

Named after a clandestine church founded by the Jesuits in a house here in 1681. Was formerly dedicated to St Joseph. The present church is built-in, 1848, architect G. Moele (1796-1857), and stands between Kalverstraat and Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal, with nave, two aisles and a gallery, transept and choir with side-chapels. The church was extended towards Kalverstraat at the end of the nineteenth century (in the twentieth century a further extension was built on the west side, with a choir and side-chapels). Neo-Gothic interior, 1850/51

- *Catholic church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary / Redemptorist church, Keizersgracht 220* 5

Redemptorist church (Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer). Designed by T. Molkenboer (1796-1863), 1852/54. This early neo-Gothic, cruciform basilica with nave and two aisles was the first large neo-Gothic church in the Netherlands, inspired by the thirteenth-century French Gothic style. Front façade is without towers. The building underwent restoration in 1995. The interior dates from 1881 and subsequent years.

Now in use as a Syrian Orthodox church, and used by the Surinamese Catholic community as the Church of Our Lady. The adjacent monastery building, dating from 1850, was based on a design by Molkenboer.

- *Former Nieuwe Waalse Kerk/now Adventkerk, Keizersgracht 676*

Dates from 1854/56, restored in 1861 after a fire. Designed by A.N. Godefroy (1822-1899). Stone front façade.

- *Catholic church of St Willibrord inside the Walls ('De Duif'), Prinsengracht 756* 6

This church was preceded by a clandestine church on Kerkstraat. Here, in 1796, was built the first consecrated Catholic church on a public thoroughfare since the 1578 Alteration. In 1857 it was succeeded by a larger church, which still stands today, and which was designed by Theo Molkenboer





(1796-1863). It is a neo-classicist structure with a sandstone front façade. Smits organ, first phase of construction 1862/64, completed in 1882 (restored in 2006). The restoration of the church was completed in 2003.

- *Catholic church of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception* ('De Posthoorn'), Haarlemmerstraat 126-128 ¹
Neo-Gothic cruciform basilica with nave, two aisles and transepts on the east and west sides, design by Dr P.J.H. Cuypers (1827-1921), 1861/63; extended in 1887/89 and endowed with the two flanking towers on Haarlemmerstraat. Commonly known as 'De Posthoorn', after the former clandestine church (the entrance to which is at Prinsengracht 7). Has not been used as a church since 1976; interior redesigned to plans by Joop van Stigt, 1988.

- ⋮ *Former church of the 'Vrije Gemeente'* (a movement that broke away from the Dutch Reformed Church), Weteringschans
The Vrije Gemeente, which was founded in 1877, built its meeting-place here in 1879/90, based on a design (rectangular floor-plan, neo-Romanesque) by G.B. Salm (1831-1897) and A. Salm (1857-1915). The building has not been used as a church since 1967. Today it is known as Paradiso Cultural Centre.

- ⋮ *Secession church*, Bloemgracht 98
1880, architecture 'Willem II Gothic'
- *Catholic church of St Francis Xavier* ('De Krijtberg'), Singel 442-448 ²
The Jesuits starting holding services here in 1642. In the seventeenth century, a clandestine church or mission station of the same name (1654) stood at no. 448. The house church (which was then named 'De Crytbergh') continued to be used into the third quarter of the nineteenth century. In 1881-83 a neo-Gothic church was built, to a design by Alfred Tepe (1840-1920), inspired by the late German Gothic style. The church, a cruciform basilica with nave and two aisles, still has its original interior and painting, by Friedrich Wilhelm Mengelberg (1837-1919) of Utrecht, a member of the guild of St Bernulphus, whose ranks included Catholic architects, clerics and artists. The church was restored in 1979-2001.

- *Catholic church of St Dominic* ('Stadhuis van Hoorn'), Spuistraat 14 (previously Nieuwezijds Achterburgwal), Teerketelsteeg, Korte Korsjespoortsteeg ³
1884/86, consecrated in 1893, design by Dr P.J.H. Cuypers (1827-1921). A clandestine church of the Dominicans stood on this site in the seventeenth century, known as the 'Stadhuys van Hoorn' (gable-stone in Korte Korsjespoortsteeg, from the house church of the same name).

Neo-Gothic cruciform basilica with a straight-ended choir; the tower remained unfinished because no planning permission was issued for its construction. The building is noteworthy in part for its polychrome elements that have been preserved (after 1900; 1902, 1926) and the wrought-iron arches over the central nave in the interior. The church underwent restoration in 1995/96.

- ⋮ *Catholic church of St Nicholas inside the Walls*, Prins Hendrikkade 730 ⁴
St Nicholas is the patron saint of Amsterdam. This striking neo-Renaissance building (a cruciform basilica with nave and two aisles) opposite Central Station was designed by A.C. Bleijs (1842-1912) and built in 1884/87. The architecture is a mix of Dutch and baroque elements. The interior dates from 1897-1928.

One of the wall paintings depicts the Miracle of the Host, also known as the Miracle of Amsterdam, in 1345. This miracle prompted the sick Emperor Maximilian to undertake a pilgrimage to Amsterdam in the hope of a cure. His prayer was heard. In gratitude for his recovery, he allowed the city of Amsterdam to use the royal crown; this was later changed to the imperial crown (behind the altar).

The exterior was restored in 1966-1973, the interior in 1997-2001. In 2002 it was selected for the *Europa Nostra Award*. Restoration costs of 13 million guilders. It has eight stained-glass windows by Jan Dibbets, added in 1999.

- *Calvinist church ('Doleantenkerk')*, Keizersgracht 566
Dates from 1887/88-1890, designed by G.B. Salm (1831-1897) and his son A. Salm (1857-1915).
Church building with galleries. Striking front façade, partly inspired by Venetian Gothic.

Twentieth century

- ⚡ *Nieuwezijdskapel*, Rokin 80, Wijde Kapelsteeg and Enge Kapelsteeg, Kalverstraat
Once a Dutch Reformed church, designed by C.B. Posthumus Meyes (1858-1922), 1909/12. Before then, the Nieuwezijdskapel, originally the site of the Chapel of the *Heilige Stede* or Holy Place (demolished in 1908), so called after the Miracle of the Host that took place in a house here in 1345.

The chapel (1347; burnt down in 1452; new building based on the Oude Kerk) stood between Kalverstraat, Rokin, Wijde Kapelsteeg and Enge Kapelsteeg. It was a place of pilgrimage until 1590; Protestants started worshipping here in the early seventeenth century.

Heiligeweg, between Koningsplein and Kalverstraat, recalls the pilgrims' route to this former chapel. The emperors Maximilian I and Charles V came here on pilgrimage. Every March a 'Stille Omgang' (silent procession) takes place from here to the Oude Kerk.

In 1988 a 'Miracle Column' was erected on Rokin, opposite the entrance to the chapel, constructed from parts of the mediaeval chapel, to commemorate it. This column has been removed temporarily during the construction of the North-South metro line. The original floor of this chapel with gravestones (sixteenth to nineteenth century) was discovered by archaeologists in 2005.

SYNAGOGUES IN AMSTERDAM SYNAGOGEN IN AMSTERDAM

Synagogues in Amsterdam/Jewish cemeteries close to Amsterdam

From the end of the sixteenth century, Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal was home to Jewish communities from southern Europe and somewhat later (second quarter of the seventeenth century) from eastern Europe. Amsterdam is also known as “Mokum”, from the Yiddish word for “town”. Most of these Jewish communities settled in the area between Zwanenburgwal, Oude Schans and Nieuwe Herengracht. Their history at those locations ceased during the Second World War.

The neighbourhoods where the Jews had lived and worked since the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries were lost after 1945 as a result of the Second World War.

Next to the new City Hall which shares its premises with the “Stopera” Opera House, a monument marks the fate of the Jewish community in Amsterdam. Of the 70,000 Jews who lived there in 1940, some 10,000 survived the war.

Sephardic Jews

The *Sephardic* Jews were of Spanish or Portuguese origin. The word “Sephardim” derives from the Hebrew name for the Iberian Peninsula, “Sepharad”.

They were Marranos, or crypto-Jews, who came to the Dutch Republic via Emden in Germany and other places. It was mostly Portuguese Jews who came to the Republic.

Many others came to Amsterdam from Antwerp. Most of them settled on Vlooienburg, one of the reclaimed islands within Amsterdam, where the Stopera now stands.

Ashkenazic Jews

From the second quarter of the seventeenth century, Polish and German Jews, the *Ashkenazic* Jews, came to Amsterdam from the east, mainly as a result of the Thirty Years War (1618-1648), pogroms in Poland and the invasion of Lithuania by the Russians (1655-56). “Ashkenazim” is related to the Hebrew word “Ashkenaz”, which means “German”. The Ashkenazic Jews are also referred to as High-German Jews.

Until 1639, the Sephardic and Ashkenazic Jews had constituted a single community. After that, they separated.

By the end of the eighteenth century, Amsterdam was home to some 3,000 Portuguese and 20,000 High-German Jews.

Synagogues

The buildings spared during the Second World War include the *Portuguese Synagogue (Esnoga, Snoge)* on Jonas Daniël Meijerplein. ¹

And opposite, intersected by a road (Weesperstraat/Jonas Daniël Meijerplein, formerly Deventer Houtmarkt), stands the complex of buildings belonging to the High-German synagogues ² (*Great Synagogue* or *shul* (after the German “Schule” (school), the synagogue as a place of study), 1670-71, with a mikveh (the ritual bath), 1671, and the portal added in 1777; the *Obbene Shul*, 1685-86; the *Dritt Shul*, 1700, rebuilt in 1777-78, on Nieuwe Amstelstraat; the *New or Neie Shul*, 1730, rebuilt in 1750-52, originally with the mikveh, situated between this synagogue and the Great Synagogue).

This meant that, between 1670 and 1730, Amsterdam had the largest complex of synagogues in Europe. In the middle of the nineteenth century, these separate buildings were restored and combined into a single complex. Since 1987, the complex has housed the *Jewish Historical Museum* (previously opened in the Waag (the Weigh House) in 1932) (www.jhm.nl).

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On Nieuwe Uilenburgerstraat (91) stands a synagogue dating from the eighteenth century (*Uilenburger Shul*, 1766; restored 1953).

Rapenburgerstraat contains an eighteenth-century shul (Adath Jeshurun Community), Rapenburgerstraat 173, 1799, the Nederlands Israëlitisch Seminarium (Nos. 175-179) dating from the nineteenth century, the former Girls' Orphanage (Nos. 169-171) and a building originally dating from 1883, the Beth Hamedrash Ets Haim College, Rapenburgerstraat 109, designed by G.B. Salm, A. Salm G. Bz.).

The synagogue as a building

The earliest synagogues were in people's houses. Sometimes galleries were created in them, made possible by removing an intermediate floor. There are galleries in the *Obbene Shul* dating from 1685-86 and the *Uilenburger Shul* dating from 1765/66.

In the nineteenth century, what is now the Rembrandt House Museum contained the house shul, the "minyan of the Spits family".

The rule for building a synagogue is that it must be higher than the surrounding buildings. This rule was first put into practice with the construction of the *Great Shul* of the High-German Jews and the *Snoge* (the synagogue) of the Portuguese Jews. They both have three aisles. The layout of the *New Shul* and the *Uilenburger Shul* is based on the *Great Shul*. The *Snoge* served as the model for the construction of the *Mikve Israël* synagogue in Willemstad (1730-32) on Curaçao ("Willemstad, Inner City and Harbour, Netherlands Antilles", C819, on the World Heritage List since 1997).

(• located within the *Property*; ∴ located within the borough)

∴ *Portuguese Synagogue or Snoge*, Jonas Daniël Meijerplein/Mr. Visserplein 3
(until 1873 known as *Deventer* or *Joden Houtmarkt*)

Construction of the Portuguese "Esnoga" (Snoge) begun in 1671 (consecrated in 1675), to the design of the city architect Elias Bouwman (1636-1685), surrounded on three sides by service buildings ¹ (which now house inter alia the library of the Ets Haim seminary, included in UNESCO's *The Memory of the World Register*). On completion, this classical three-aisle synagogue, with wooden vaulting and ionic sandstone columns, was the largest in the world. Erected on the east side, the Ark was of Brazilian hardwood.

In the seventeenth century, Rabbi Jacob Juda Leon made models of the Temple of Solomon. His replica of the Temple was used as the model for the construction of the Portuguese Synagogue.

It is a complex packed with Jewish symbolism: the Synagogue with its forecourt and rear part, whose architecture is reminiscent of the Temple of Solomon. At the rear is an extension with inward pivoting buttresses (probably 1773-74), inspired by the model of the temple made by the Spanish Jesuits J. Prado and Juan Bautista Villalpando (1552-1608) (*In Ezechielem Explanaciones et Apparatus Urbis, ac templi Hierosolymitani Commentariis et imaginibus illustrates*. Rome, 1596-1604, three parts). In 1771 this model had been in the Republic for a long time (see also Oosterkerk, *Kerken en kapellen* (Churches and chapels)).

The Synagogue is raised two steps above street level, in accordance with the Jewish rule that a synagogue must be higher than the surrounding buildings. ²

How imposing the complex looked at the time can be seen in a painting by Gerrit Adriaensz. Berckheyde (1638-1698) (Frankfurt, Städelsches Kunstinstitut).

The gate on Muiderstraat was decorated with the sculpture of a pelican feeding its young (by Joseph Mendes da Costa, 1863-1939). ³

Inside, the Synagogue still has an almost perfect seventeenth-century interior. Four natural stone columns support the barrel vaulting. The Ladies' Gallery (*Vrouwengalerij*) is supported by twelve columns to symbolise the Twelve Tribes of Israel. The internal construction of this Synagogue with its three wooden barrel-vaulted ceilings almost equal in height, is not just to be found in Willemstad on Curaçao, but also outside the Netherlands in London (at Bevis Marks) (1701), Livorno (around 1700), Newport in the USA (1763), in New York and in Paramaribo (Surinam). This synagogue remained undamaged during the war years, 1940-1945. It was restored in the 1950s and 1990s.

In the lower buildings around the synagogue is the Ets Haim Library (*Livraria Montezinos*) (Tree of Life), founded in 1616, which is both a library and a museum and holds some 30,000 printed works (from 1484 until today) and some 500 manuscripts (from 1282 until now). This is the oldest working Jewish library in the world. It was part of the Academia e Yesiba Ets Haim (Tree of Life Theological College).

In 2003, the library, Ets Haim-Livraria Montezinos, was listed by UNESCO in the Memory of the World Register. The library has been protected by the Dutch government under the Cultural Heritage Protection Act (*Wet tot Behoud van Cultuurbezit*).

The library building was restored at a cost of approximately NLG 1,225,000 at the end of the 1990s. The book collection was restored between 1998 and 2008, which cost approximately EUR 1.5 million.

In winter, a small synagogue in the outbuildings is used – formerly the auditorium of the Ets Haim seminary – fitted out with the interior from Amsterdam's first synagogue dating from 1639 on the Houtgracht Canal (now Waterlooplein)

- *Complex of the High-German Synagogues*, Jonas Daniël Meijerplein (formerly Joden Houtmarkt/ Nieuwe Amstelstraat)

Complex **1** with a rectangular ground plan, consisting of the *Great Shul* (1670-71), *Obbene Shul* (1685-86), *Dritt Shul* (1777/78) and *Neie Shul* (1750-72). It is the largest synagogue complex in Europe. The *Great Shul* was the first synagogue in Europe which could be seen from all sides.

They were no longer used as synagogues after 1943.

Master mason Elias Bou(w)man (1636-1686) was appointed architect of the classical *Great Shul*, together with master carpenter Gillis van der Veen.

With the placing of four Tuscan columns in the centre, the ground plan (approx. 16 x 17 metres) of the *Great Shul* is based on the shape of the Greek cross. On the inside, a square, three-aisle hall with three galleries under barrel vaulting, the three-dimensional effect is directed longitudinally towards the seventeenth-century white marble Ark, placed against the south-east wall (the side facing Jerusalem). In 1823, a neoclassical extension was built in front of the building. The "mikveh", the ritual bath, is on Nieuwe Amstelstraat. **2**

The *Obbene Shul* ("Obbene" is Yiddish for "upstairs") was originally above a meat hall, which was subsequently replaced by a ritual bath, a "mikveh". This Second Synagogue was built (1685) behind the *Great Shul*, with galleries along two walls, subsequently connected by a third gallery.

Further expansion was required. And so, the *Dritt Shul*, 1777-78, nineteenth-century facade, was built in Nieuwe Amstelstraat to the right of the *Great Shul*.



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The last synagogue to be built was the *Neie Shul* (New Synagogue), 1730, rebuilt 1752, with almost square ground plan (19 x 19 metres) with three aisles, wooden barrel vaulting, the two ladies' galleries in the side aisles, domelight, with facade on Jonas Daniël Meijerplein; the names cited as designers were master land agent Arnold van Sprang (1690-1759), master mason Jan Cloppenburg and that of city architect G.F. Maybaum (died 1768). In 2006, the *mikveh* (4 x 4 metres, height 1.65 metres) for this synagogue was uncovered by archaeological investigation.

The complex was combined in the nineteenth century (1854-55). In 1955 it was purchased by the City of Amsterdam. Between 1963 and 1966 the complex of buildings, which had been completely looted during the Second World War, was restored, followed by a further period of 13 years of restoration and repair to return the buildings to their situation in 1822.

The complex has been used as the Jewish Historical Museum since 1987 ¹ (housed in the Weigh House between 1932 and 1987 (re-opened 1955)). In 1989, the museum was awarded the Council of Europe Museum Prize.

- ⌘ *Uilenburger Synagogue (Uilenburger Shul)*, Nieuwe Uilenburgerstraat 91
Rectangular building, with Louis XV detailing. Dates from 1766. Built as fifth Ashkenazic Shul. The facade is a wide brick Dutch gable. Rectangular hall with two aisles on the ground floor. The synagogue with its ladies' gallery was on the first floor. Was used as a synagogue until 1943. The original fittings have since been lost.
In 1954 it was purchased by the City of Amsterdam. Restored after 1954. Has been used as a restoration workshop (National Restoration Centre, *Nationaal Restauratiecentrum*) since the early 1990s and partly for the Jewish Beit Ha'Chidush community since 1997. Wedding ceremonies can now also be held here. In June 2007, the City of Amsterdam, the Uilenburger Shul Foundation (*Stichting Uilenburgersjoel*, SUS) and the National Restoration Centre agreed that this centre would vacate the building. The foundation is now the sole tenant of the building.
- ⌘ *Beth Hamedrash Ets Haim Synagogue*, Rapenburgerstraat 109 ²
Built in 1881/83 to the eclectic design of architects G.B. Salm and A. Salm. Until that time, this "Tree of Life" school had been based in the Dritt Shul on Nieuwe Amstelstraat. Built as a shul, seminary and synagogue (at the rear of the building).
The formerly the Tree of Life Religious School founded in 1740 by the High-German Jewish community. A synagogue stood behind it.
- ⌘ *Neie Kille Adath Jeshurun (Rapenburg Shul)*, Rapenburgerstraat 173
"Double" house, where this synagogue for the liberal Community of Israel (Neie Kille Adath Jeshurun) made its home in 1799. It was subsequently (1839) combined with Nos. 175-177 into a seminary (Dutch Jewish Seminary).
- ⌘ *Russian Shul*, Nieuwe Kerkstraat 149
Consists of a deep building, with Dutch gable (mid-eighteenth century), in which a synagogue was established in 1889 (rebuilt in 1910), originally for Jews driven out of Eastern Europe by pogroms en route to America.
- ⌘ *Chewresjoel Neir Mitswoh Wetouro Our*, Nieuwe Kerkstraat 10-14
Shul for the *Neir Mitswoh wetouro Our* association (The Commandment is a Lamp and the Teaching is Light).
Building dating from 1913, designed by Harry Elte (1880-1944).

Synagogues in "Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal", compared with those in Prague (Czech Republic), Krakow (Poland) and Venice (Italy)

When we think of Amsterdam's synagogues, it is worthwhile comparing them with the synagogues in Prague, Krakow and Venice.

Only in Amsterdam is it the case that these buildings, the Portuguese Synagogue and the complex of the High-German synagogues, are so clearly recognisable in the urban space, even today.

In Prague with its seven synagogues, the Old-New Synagogue (Státní synagoga) (1280, early Gothic) is one of the best preserved medieval synagogues in Europe ("Historic Centre of Prague", C 616, World Heritage List).

The Old Synagogue in Krakow-Kazimierz dates from the middle of the fifteenth century (restored in accordance with the plans of the Italian Matteo Gucci, 1557-1570) and is modelled on the synagogues in Worms, Regensburg and Prague. There is also Remuh's synagogue dating from 1533, rebuilt in stone after 1557, with a cemetery around it. The city contains several synagogues, including the Na Górcze synagogue (early seventeenth century), Popper's synagogue (founded in 1620; rebuilt after 1945), the baroque Isaac's Synagogue (Ajzyk's Synagogue) (1644), the early seventeenth-century Kupa Synagogue, the nineteenth-century Temple Synagogue and the mid-sixteenth-century High Synagogue (Wysoka). In Venice, the Campo del Ghetto Nuovo, which contains five synagogues (German (1528), Spanish (designed by Baldassare Longhena), Schola Levantina, Italian, Schola Canton) has been in its inconspicuous location since the early sixteenth century.

Jewish cemeteries

The history of the Jews in Amsterdam extends beyond Amsterdam's historical and modern city boundaries. Outside the city, the Sephardic and Ashkenazic Jews were given their own cemeteries. The Sephardic Jews bury their dead under horizontal stones whereas the Ashkenazic Jews bury theirs under upright stones.

In 1614 the *Jewish Cemetery* (Beth Haim, "House of Life") was created in Ouderkerk aan de Amstel, which could be reached by crossing the Amstel and Bullewijk rivers, at the confluence of the Amstel and the Holendrecht. It contains about 30,000 graves.

In 1642, the Ashkenazic Jews acquired their own cemetery in Muiderberg. The Polish Jews began using their own cemetery there in 1660. Both cemeteries were subsequently combined. About 40,000 Jews are buried there. In the early years, the dead were brought here by barge via Weesp.

Beth Haim, Ouderkerk aan de Amstel

Beth Haim, "House of Life", the cemetery which was established in 1614 for the Portuguese or Sephardic Jews in Amsterdam ¹. Research into the history of this cemetery began with David Henriques de Castro (1826-1898), who, commencing in 1865, uncovered and recorded over 6,000 gravestones. His *Keur van Grafsteenen op de Nederl.-Portug.-Israël. Begraafplaats te Ouderkerk aan den Amstel* (A Selection of Gravestones at the Dutch-Portuguese-Jewish Cemetery at Ouderkerk aan den Amstel) was published in 1883. He was followed by others who carried out systematic research there. ²

The House of Rodeamentos (on the Bullewijk) dating from 1705 (restored in the mid-1960s) and the Vega House dating from 1838 on Kerkstraat form part of the cemetery.

Bodies were transported from Amsterdam over land and over water ³.

The first burial took place in 1614. Officially, the cemetery came into use in 1616 (5376).

Until 1642 Ashkenazic Jews ("Tudescos") were also buried there (after which they had their own cemetery in Muiderberg).





The cemetery underwent a considerable expansion in 1663 when four plots of land were purchased for that purpose.

It was extensively restored in the nineteenth century under the supervision of Dr Samuel Sarphati (1813-1866).

Since 1963 the cemetery has been protected under the Dutch Monuments Act 1988 (*Monumentenwet 1988*).

Burials still take place there.

Jewish cemetery, Muiderberg ¹

In 1642, the Ashkenazic Jews in Amsterdam purchased a piece of land there.

The cemetery is still in use today. ²

Ashkenazic cemetery, Zeeburg

In 1714 the Ashkenazic Jews established a second cemetery, in Zeeburg, near Diemen.

Comparison

Near the Klau Synagogue (Klausova synagóga) (late Gothic) and the Pinkas Synagogue (fifteenth century) in Prague's Jewish Quarter is the Old Jewish cemetery (Starý židovský hřbitov) containing almost 20,000 gravestones (fifteenth to eighteenth century), established in the first half of the fifteenth century, in use until 1787.

Around the Remuh synagogue in Krakow is the Remuh's Cemetery, an 11-acre site dating from 1533, which remained in use until 1800.

Also in Krakow-Kazimierz is the so-called Jewish New Cemetery, established in 1800 outside the city limits, in use until the 1930s.

The Jewish Cemetery "Heiliger Sand" is situated in front of the former city walls of Worms. The oldest gravestone there dates from 1076 and there are some other gravestones dating from the eleventh and twelfth century. This cemetery is the oldest Jewish burial ground in Europe. It must have been first used at the time of the first synagogue on that site (1034). The modern synagogue was built in 1961, using original parts of the building which was destroyed in 1938. A peculiarity of the cemetery is that all the gravestones are facing south.

Some other buildings/structures in Amsterdam within the Singelgracht Canal from its Jewish past

⋮ *Dutch-Jewish Girls' Orphanage, Rapenburgerstraat (169-171)* ³
Opened, 1861.

⋮ *Jacob Israël de Haan memorial, Jodenbreestraat/St. Antoniesbreestraat* ⁴

The memorial marks the borderline between the redevelopment and restoration of this part of Amsterdam. Engraved on it, as well as lines of De Haan's poetry (1881-1924), are the lines:

"to mark the spot where the extensive harm caused to and negative development of the city's pattern was halted".

- *Portuguese Old Men's House, Nieuwe Herengracht 33*

Built in 1794 as an old people's home, it provided accommodation for Portuguese men. Inside, there is a small house shul on the second floor.

- ⌘ *Metaarhuis*, Nieuwe Kerkstraat 127
Formerly the Metaarhuis, the house where bodies of patients who had died in the Jewish hospital (*Nederlands Israëliſch Ziekenhuis*) were cleaned.
- *Fernandes Nunes House*, Nieuwe Kerkstraat 16
Formerly an almshouse for destitute Portuguese-Jewish women, founded by Joseph Fernandes Nunes.
- ⌘ *Plancius Building*, Plantage Kerklaan 61
A neo-classical building, founded by a Jewish choral society in 1876. The name refers to the late sixteenth century cartographer, geographer and theologian Petrus Plancius (1552-1622) (involved in projects such as the creation of the Dutch East India Company (VOC), the Westindische Compagnie (WIC) and the Noordsche Compagnie).
The Dutch Resistance Museum moved there in 1999.
- *Anne Frank House*, Prinsengracht 263
This is where the Frank family went into hiding in July 1942. Deported, August 1944.

TOWN HALL/ROYAL PALACE ON DAM SQUARE **STADHUIS/PALEIS OP DE DAM**

Town Hall/Royal Palace on Dam Square

Town halls played a prominent visual and social role in the towns and cities of the Northern and Southern Netherlands. From the end of the sixteenth century and later under the Republic of the United Provinces, they were important geographical and architectural landmarks. Older buildings were modernised to house civic administrations (as in Utrecht and Deventer) and in the seventeenth century new purpose-built town halls began to appear (Middelharnis, 1639; Maastricht, 1659/64; 's-Hertogenbosch, 1670/79; Enkhuizen, 1693/94).

'Das Stadt-Hauß zu Amsterdam ist unstreitig das herrlichste Rath-Haus in der Welt/so wohl als die St. Peters-Kirche/ die prächtigste Kirche in derselbigen ist.....' [The Town Hall of Amsterdam is indisputably the noblest town hall in the world, just as St Peter's is the most magnificent church...] (Leonhard Christoph Sturm (1669-1719), *Durch Einen grossen Theil von Teutschland und den Niederlanden biß nach Paris gemachete Architectonische Reise-Anmerckungen*, Augsburg, 1719).

'Das vornehmste der Rath-Häuser unserer Zeiten ist das Amsterdamsche' [The most distinguished Town Hall of our times] (Johann Friedrich Penther (1693-1749), *Ausführliche Anleitung zur Bürgerlichen Baukunst*, Augsburg, 1748).

'This Stadthouse, or Guild-Hall, is a most noble and magnificent Pile of Building, all after the modern Italian Architecture; 'tis the stateliest Piece we ever saw, 'tis the Wonder and Discourse of all the World, the Pride of Amsterdam.....' (William Mountague, *The Delights of Holland.....* London, 1696).

History

Amsterdam's first town hall was built around 1400. It was destroyed in the fire of 1452 but subsequently rebuilt and remained in use until the seventeenth century. In 1640 it was decided to build a new one. The size and architectural splendour of this new Town Hall on Dam Square made it a civic palace. It was the largest secular building of its time in northern Europe and the citizens of Amsterdam regarded it as the 'eighth wonder of the world'. ¹

The size and dimensions of the new town hall were the subject of lengthy debate. In 1647 the building line was decided, taking account of the need to preserve sightlines to the entrance of the Nieuwe Kerk. ² It was another year, however, before a decision was taken on the length of the front and rear elevations (280 Amsterdam feet) and the side elevations (200 Amsterdam feet) (One Amsterdam foot equals 28.3 centimetres.) The structure's proportions were intended to make it an ideal building. The final decision to commence construction was taken immediately after the Eighty Years' War with Spain came to an end with the signing of the Treaty of Münster in 1648. Now that Amsterdam had established its dominance in world trade, the regents and merchants of Amsterdam felt that the city should have an imposing and majestic civic building. There was a strong sense that Amsterdam's power and virtue entitled it to regard itself as the successor to republican Rome.

In 1806, when the Batavian Republic (1795-1806) fell to Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821), he appointed his brother Louis Napoleon (1778-1846) King of Holland. Two years later, Louis Napoleon made the Town Hall on Dam Square his royal palace and Amsterdam the national capital. The building was altered and redecorated for the purpose by the French architect Jean Thomas Thibault (1757-1826). The former *Vierschaar* (court of justice) was turned into a chapel, the *Burgerzaal* (citizens' hall) was used as a 'Grande Salle de Reception' and the *Schepenzaal* (magistrates' chamber) became the throne room.



After Louis Napoleon's abdication in 1810, Napoleon designated Amsterdam the third city of his Empire, after Paris and Rome. The former Town Hall was declared to be an imperial palace and Napoleon actually stayed there on one occasion, in 1811. Prince Willem (1772-1843) – later King Willem I of the Netherlands (1815-1840) – chose it as the place in which to proclaim his sovereignty of the Netherlands (Northern and Southern) after his return from England in 1813.

Since 1936, the former Town Hall has been State property and it is now used as a Royal Palace. In the course of the twentieth century it was twice restored (in 1936 and 1968) and most parts of the building were returned to their seventeenth-century state. In 1936, for example, Empire-style windows were replaced by a seventeenth-century type (although the Empire-style balcony dating from the time of Louis Napoleon and overlooking the Dam was preserved). The Royal Palace is currently undergoing a new round of interior and exterior restoration.

Design and construction

The plans for the Town Hall were changed seven times in eight years. Plans by a number of architects still survive. They include plans by Philips Vingboons (1607-1678) and a floor plan by Cornelis Danckerts de Rij (1564-1634). The final choice was Jacob van Campen (1595-1657), who designed a classicist building replete with philosophical and allegorical symbolism. In 1647 he presented a set of new and even more magnificent plans and these were endorsed by the city council on 18 July 1648. In 1654, Van Campen was succeeded by the city architect, Daniël Stalpaert (1615-1676), who had been supervising the building work since 1648.

Construction took place in stages, depending on the political and military situation of the Dutch Republic generally and Amsterdam in particular. The First Anglo-Dutch War (1652-1654) delayed work and led to changes in the plans in 1653, when it was decided that the building should have only one storey instead of two. That decision was reversed in 1655, after the war had come to an end with the Treaty of Westminster (1654).

Existing houses had to be acquired and demolished to make way for the building (65 properties were acquired from 1639 onward) and Dam Square was enlarged to accommodate it. The first of the 13,659 supporting piles were driven in 1648. The building was inaugurated in 1655, but was then no more than an empty shell, still in its scaffolding. Work on the interior continued for another ten years, until 1665/6, and the construction of the second floor, attic and tower took yet another decade. When the Town Hall was finally completed in 1697 it was the largest public building in Europe.

Floor plan

The building has a rectangular, symmetrical floor plan, with four wings surrounding two courtyards. It is surmounted by a tower topped by a cupola. At the corners are four projecting pavilions. The floor plan with its two courtyards corresponds to the 'forum' described by Vitruvius. The heart of the building is the *Burgerzaal* (public hall) situated in the middle of the first floor. The two courtyards are surrounded by galleries leading to what were originally the offices and meeting rooms of the main civic bodies. The Burgomasters' Chamber, 'Old Council Chamber' and the *Vroedschapszaal* (where the regents deliberated in plenary session) faced onto the Dam, whereas the *Schepenzaal* (meeting room of the town's magistrates) faced onto Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal. In 1700, the walls of the *Burgerzaal* and surrounding galleries were faced with marble, to a design by Steven Vennecool (1657-1719).

Exterior

The exterior is in a severe, classicist style with little decoration. The façades – in Bremen and Bentheim sandstone from Germany – are composed of a basement surmounted by two storeys, articulated by

pilasters and separated by decorative mouldings. The windows are arranged in a 3-5-7-5-3 disposition. The pilasters are in the 'reversed order' advocated by Vincenzo Scamozzi (1548-1616), with the Composite order ('romana') below and the Corinthian above.

The masonry work was supervised by Willem de Keyser (1603 - c. 1674), who was appointed as city mason in 1647 and succeeded by Simon Borsboom (1614-1662) in 1653. In 1662 Thomas de Keyser (c. 1596-1667) took over the work.

The central resault is surmounted by a sculpted pediment (of Carrara marble) showing symbolic scenes. On the side facing the Dam, the pediment represents Amsterdam's domination of the oceans of the world by showing the sea god Neptune and his daughters, the Nereides, paying homage to the Maid of Amsterdam, wearing a crown; on the tympanum the figures of Wisdom (Prudentia), Peace (Pax) – bearing an olive branch and caduceus, with a cornucopia at her feet – and Justice (Justitia) symbolise the prosperity resulting from the freedom to trade that is the product of peace.

On the same side, the building is topped by an octagonal tower with cupola (sometimes thought to have been inspired by the Temple of Solomon) and a wind-vane in the form of an Amsterdam 'cog' (trading ship) (1669). The tower contains a carillon of nine bells cast by François Hemony (c. 1609-1667) in 1665.

The pediment facing onto the Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal was designed by Artus Quellinus (1609-1668) and shows Amsterdam as the centre of world trade, receiving homage from the four known continents (Europe, Asia, Africa and America), surrounded by the figures of Vigilance (with torch and crowing cockerel), Continnence (with a bridle) and Atlas bearing the heavens on his shoulders.

On the Dam, the entrances to the *Vierschaar* (court of justice – the Dutch name is derived from the four '*scharen*' or benches arranged around it) were designed by Van Campen and sculpted by Artus Quellinus with scenes from the Bible and classical antiquity representing mercy, wisdom and justice. The sculpted caryatids represent guilt and remorse. In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, the *Vierschaar* was used for the ceremonial pronouncement of death sentences.

Interior

The interior decoration of the Town Hall was designed to allude both to the glory and prosperity of Amsterdam and to the virtue and wisdom of the city's governors. The scenes depicted were intended to suggest that Amsterdam was a worthy successor to the ancient Roman Republic. They related to the functions and status of the apartments in which they were located (for example, a painting of Solomon's prayer for wisdom (1658) by Govert Flinck (1615-1660) hung in the *Vroedschapszaal*, and one by Ferdinand Bol (1616-1680) showing the incorruptibility of the Roman consul Fabricius was located, together with a marble chimney breast frieze (by Quellinus) representing the triumph of the Roman consul Quintus Fabius Maximus, in the Burgomasters' Chamber).

The arches in the galleries also housed paintings. These represented the Batavian revolt against the Romans in 69 A.D., an allusion to the Dutch Republic's revolt against Spain. Rembrandt (1606-1669) painted *The Conspiracy of Claudius Civilis* (1661) to be placed here but it was quickly removed by order of the city's governors and is now in the Nationalmuseum in Stockholm). The Elements are depicted in the squinches supporting the arches above the entrances to the galleries.

At the ends of the galleries are sculptures representing the Planets (south gallery: Diana, Mercury, Jupiter and Apollo; north gallery: Mars, Venus, Saturn and Cybele), each 'guarding' the entrance to a section of the town hall. Paintings hang in the lunettes above them. The relief of Venus was carved by

Rombout Verhulst (1624-1698), Quellinus's most distinguished assistant, who was responsible for a number of sculptures in the building. Two other sculptors were involved: Artus Quellinus II (1625-1700) and Bartholomeus Eggers (d. 1702).

The most magnificent part of the Town Hall was the *Burgerzaal* (public hall), which was originally completely open to all citizens. Its architecture was inspired by the Roman basilica, with its rows of superimposed columns. Here too, ideal dimensions/proportions were employed.

The height of the hall (90 feet) is related to its length plus breadth (120 feet plus 60 feet). The iconographic scheme clings to the old Ptolemaic system, which held that the Earth was the centre of the universe and the whole system was driven by the hand of God, the *Primum Mobile*.

Visitors trod the entire known world of their day, in the shape of a *mappa mundi* (eastern and western hemispheres) in the floor, with the shipping routes of the Dutch East India Company (VOC) and Dutch West India Company (WIC) marked on it. Between the two hemispheres was a depiction of the northern sky. The whole floor was based on a design by Joan Blaeu (1596-1673). Atlas, supporting the celestial globe, looked down upon the scene. In the early eighteenth century, the ceiling was renovated (to plans by Adriaan de Jonge and Hans van Petersom) to show an allegory of the city of Amsterdam by Jan Goeree (1670-1731) and Simon Schijnvoet (1652-1727).

The decoration of the *Burgerzaal* symbolises the entire Universe, with the earth and the starry firmament as the Cosmos. On the east side, above the Corinthian doorway, is the Maid of Amsterdam with her olive branch and palm frond attributes, representing peace and prosperity, flanked by Wisdom (Pallas Athene) and Strength (Hercules). On the west side is Justice (Justitia), treading Avarice and Envy underfoot, and accompanied by Death and Punishment. This doorway led to the *Schepenzaal*, where justice was dispensed in the seventeenth century. The relief showing Amphion making stones build themselves into the walls of Thebes by playing his lyre is an allusion to the construction of the Town Hall itself.

In the seventeenth century, the 'Old Council Chamber' or Burgomasters' Chamber was regularly open to the public. It was used for meetings of the current burgomasters, as well as the eight former holders of that office. Naturally enough, its iconographic programme related to Virtue. The scenes on the frieze by the window through which the burgomasters could follow proceedings in the *Vierschaar* related to Justice and Good Governance.

The meeting room of the *Vroedschap* – an advisory council of 36 regents known as '*vroede vaderen*' (wise fathers), which was consulted by the burgomasters on matters of importance – has a decorative scheme alluding to Unity, Peace and Counsel.

The *Vierschaar* was used for the ceremonial public pronouncement of death sentences. Citizens could stand outside on Dam Square and follow proceedings through the bronze trellis-work filling the apertures in the courtroom wall. The decorative scheme involved sculpture and paintings (planned but never carried out) concerning the basic values of life, which are the stuff of justice. The Serpent (sin), for example, writhes around the post in the middle of the doorway to the courtroom, keeping both doors closed.

At one of the two shorter sides of the *Vierschaar* stands the marble seat of the town secretary, adorned with a symbolic relief of Discretion (Silentia). Above him, a shell symbolised Wisdom and a plaque commemorated the building of the Town Hall.

The judges sat along the long (west) side of the room, which is decorated with four marble caryatids symbolising Greek and Christian motifs. Between them are three sculpted scenes representing the administration of justice in the past (in the centre is Wisdom, symbolised by King Solomon; on the left, Mercy, in the person of the Greek lawmaker Zaleucus, who submitted to the loss of one of his own eyes rather than inflict blindness on another; on the right, Justice, represented by the Roman consul Brutus, who had his son beheaded for high treason). Between the windows on the east side, niches contain sculptures of Justice (blindfolded and holding a sword) and Caution (with a mirror).

Architecture and decorative programme of the Town Hall/Palace

The architecture of the Town Hall, with its vertical arrangement of pilasters against the façades, looks back to Vincenzo Scamozzi (1548-1616) and his *Idea dell'Architettura Universale* (Venice, 1615).

The design of the building satisfied the requirements set out by Vitruvius in his *De Architectura*. It was intended not just to be grandiose in its size and architecture, but to serve a higher purpose in terms of depicting the Creation (on the basis of the writings of Cesare Ripa (c. 1560 - c. 1623) in his *Iconologia* (published in Dutch, 1644) and reconstructing Solomon's Temple as described by the Spanish Jesuits Juan Bautista Villalpando (1552-1608) and Jerónimo de Prado, while at the same time referring to Greco-Roman allegories and the ordering of the universe as envisaged by Classical Antiquity.

Books containing illustrations of the Town Hall:

-Olyf-Krans der Vreede, door de doorluchtigste geesten, en geleerdste mannen, dezen tijds gevlochten. Met een Bijvoeging van de Bouw-Zang, op het Stadhuis van Joost van Vondel. En het Gekroonde Amsterdam door R. Anslø. Amsterdam, 1649

-Jacob Vennekool, Afbeelding van 't stadt huys van Amsterdam, in dartigh coopere platen, gordineert door Jacob van Campen; en geteeckent door Iacob Vennekool. Amsterdam, 1661 [reprint, probably 1701]

-Hubertus Quellinus, Van de voornaemste Statuen ende Ciraten vant konst-rijcke stadt-huys van Amstelredam, 't meeste in marmer gemaect door Artus Quellinus beelthouwer der voorseyde Stadt. Amsterdam, 1655-58 [reprint, 1665-68]

-Architecture, peinture et sculpture de la maison de ville d'Amsterdam, représentée en 109 figures en taille-douce. Amsterdam, 1719, published by David Mortier

-Bouw, schilder en beeldhouwkonst van het Stadhuis te Amsteldam, vertoont in 109 figureen. Amsterdam, 1730, published by J. Covens, C. Mortier, J. Covens jr.; republished in 1747, L. Schenk

-Beschrijvinge van 't Stadhuis van Amsterdam, met een verklaringe van de zinnebeeldige figuren, schilderwerken en beelden..... 1741

-Geschiedkundige en plaatselijke beschrijving van het Stadhuis, thans Koninklijk Paleis te Amsterdam. The Hague, 1856

The Amsterdam Historical Museum possesses an oak model of the Town Hall, made during the construction of the building. Measuring 181 cm wide, 157 deep and 138 high, it is fully detailed inside as well as out. The collections kept in the former Town Hall likewise include four maquettes of 1698 designs for the roof of the Burgerzaal, which needed replacement after 1685. In addition, both the Historical Museum and the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam possess many models and designs for the statues and sculpted decorations executed for the Town Hall in the seventeenth century.

HOFJES (ALMSHOUSES) HOFJES

HOFJES (ALMSHOUSES)

Almshouses known as *hofjes* are a form of post-medieval residential complex typical of the Netherlands generally and the province of Holland in particular. They were originally founded to care for widows, elderly unmarried women, and sometimes indigent relatives or servants.

They take the form of gated communities of small dwellings clustered around a central courtyard or garden (originally often used to dry the washing ¹, now usually a shared garden). As a rule, they are concealed behind other buildings in a street or alley, and can only be reached from the street through a door or gateway ². The name or coat of arms of the person who founded the *hofje* is sometimes displayed above the entrance ³. Edifying inscriptions urge reflection or extol virtue and generosity. One of the main features is the governors' room, where the board of governors who administered the *hofje* held their meetings.

Nine *hofjes* were founded in Amsterdam in the first half of the seventeenth century, and another five in the second half. Ten more were built in the first half and eight in the latter half of the eighteenth century. More continued to be built in the nineteenth century (seven up to 1850, and another twelve in the period 1850-1900). Two more opened their doors in the twentieth century.

Hofjes as homes for the elderly had been founded in the Northern and Southern Netherlands since the Middle Ages, both as expressions of Christian charity and for the salvation of the benefactors' souls. Some were founded by institutions or by the civic authorities. After the Reformation, charitable Reformed Protestants, Lutherans and Mennonites founded *hofjes*, and in the seventeenth-century United Provinces a number were also founded by and for Catholics.

Of the 200-odd surviving *hofjes* in the Netherlands, 47 are in Amsterdam – more than in any other city. There were once 51. Some lie along the canals of the 'canal ring'. Most were built in the quarter known as the Jordaan, since land was cheaper there. As the Plantage district was not developed during the *Fourth Expansion*, this was also a relatively cheap place to build, and several *hofjes* were founded there.

Today, these former almshouses retain little if any of their original function. Renovations generally lead to two of the tiny dwellings being combined to make one larger one. They are now primarily used as accommodation for students and other young people, as well as artists.

Begijnhof

The Begijnhof ⁴ is renowned worldwide. Well into the nineteenth century this former Beguinage was surrounded on three sides by water – Begijnensloot, Spui and the water of Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal, which the rear façades of the houses overlooked. In those days, one entered the grounds from Begijnensteeg.

Duke Albrecht of Bavaria (1336-1404), count of Holland, Hainault and Zeeland, ratified the statutes of this institution in 1393, but its history reaches back to before 1307. In the Middle Ages, Beguines (members of a lay sisterhood) lived here. They took care of the Chapel of the Holy Sacrament 'De Heilige Stede' on Kalverstraat.





A great fire raged through the city in 1421, reducing the church and the Beguines' houses to ashes. The *hofje* was rebuilt, and it was then that it acquired its present form. The narrow, high town houses, each with its own front garden ¹, are grouped around a common garden, which was once two different-sized bleaching greens. The grounds within the *hofje* lie at the level of the land in the medieval period, almost a metre lower than outside the Begijnhof.

The Begijnhof is concealed behind the buildings along Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal, Spui and Gedempte Begijnensloot. In the fifteenth century it expanded towards Spui. But since then, the ground plan of the site, consisting of one large and one smaller *hofje*, has remained unchanged. The entrance (dating from 1574) has a stone depicting St Ursula, the Beguines' patron saint. Most of the façades date from the seventeenth or eighteenth century; 18 of the 41 houses still have the medieval Gothic structure in the interior (*Houten Huys*, Begijnhof 34, circa 1470). ²

The *Houten Huys* ('wooden house') stands where the water of Spui once lay before it was filled in. This explains why the lower section of the house is at ground level; the entrance was originally on the first floor.

The *English Church* ³, was once the Beguines' chapel; it was consecrated in 1419. In 1607, following the 1578 Alteration (when Amsterdam went over to Reformed Protestantism), it was granted to the English-speaking Presbyterian congregation. It was here that the Pilgrim Fathers held their services before they set sail for the New World (1620).

From 1671 onwards the Beguines had a clandestine church here, the Church of Saints John and Ursula, ⁴ which became the new Chapel of the Holy Sacrament, the original church of the 'Heilige Stede' ('Holy Place') on Kalverstraat/Rokin having been taken over by a Reformed congregation after the Alteration and renamed the Nieuwezijds Chapel; it was demolished in 1908.

Hofjes within the area of 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht'

(• = within the *property*; ::: = within the buffer zone)

Vredenburgsteeg

::: *Vredenhofje*, Vredenburgsteeg 1 ⁵

On the street and r side the section built in 1890, design by A.C. Bleijs (1842-1912), neo-Gothic/neo-Renaissance

Prinsengracht

- *Zon's Hofje* ('*Het Nieuwe Hofje*'), Prinsengracht 159-171 ⁶
1756, originally intended for Mennonites, on the site of the seventeenth-century clandestine Mennonite church 'De Kleine Zon', demolished in 1755; expanded in 1800 and 1893. Enclosed garden (1986) with geometrical layout, 15 m wide and 23 m deep. Open to the public. Now used for student housing.
- *Nieuwe Suykerhofje*, Prinsengracht 385-393
Almshouse founded in 1755 by the sugar refiner Gerrit ten Sande and his wife Maria de Groot, as a home for elderly Catholic women. Each dwelling had a single room. The governors' room was above the chapel. The *hofje* was used for this purpose until 1936. Students and artists have lived here since the 1940s. Converted into five apartments in major restoration work in 1999-2001.

- *Deutzen Hofje*, Prinsengracht 855-899 ¹
1695. Governors' room with unique period interior bequeathed from the estate of the founder of this *hofje*, the widow Agneta Deutz (1633-1692). Built for the women who had worked for the Deutz family by the master carpenter Pieter Adolfszoon de Zeeuw. Enclosed garden, 21.5 m wide and 32 m deep, divided into four rectangles separated by clinker brick paths, in the middle a bluestone water pump, on which is a lantern, surrounded by 20 dwellings. Opposite the entrance, above which is the governors' room, is an open Doric colonnade. Restoration 1965 by the architect IJsbrand Kok.

Amstel

- *Swigterhofje*, Amstel 86-98, between Halvemaansteeg and Balk in't Oogsteeg ², 1744, founded by Isaak Swigters for Catholic women (has been used for young people's accommodation since 1979). Entrance decorated with sandstone (style of Louis XV) on Amstel side by Pieter Pantel, 1746. Chapel, surface area 22m². The *hofje* consists of six houses beneath a continuous roof. Restoration 1982 by Stichting Diogenes.
- *Amstelhof (Church home for elderly men and women)*, Binnen-Amstel 62 ³
Originally U-shaped Dutch classicist complex surrounding a courtyard, at the side two smaller courtyards, located between Nieuwe Herengracht and Nieuwe Keizersgracht. Probably designed by the municipal carpenter Hans Janszoon van Petersom, 1681/83 (later expanded, 1719, with a wing for men). Divided into a basement, 'ground' floor (above street level), upper storey and loft; contains dining-room and chapel. The seventeenth-century section is a 31-bay brick façade stretching along the Amstel (over 76 metres long).

Originally designated by the city as a home for elderly women, in 1719 it also started to accept male residents. Restored in 1970/79, it was used for some time as a nursing home. In the year 2000 it was purchased by the municipality of Amsterdam for use as an annex of the Hermitage Museum in the Russian city of St Petersburg (for purposes of comparison: Somerset House in London has 500m² allocated as an annex of the Hermitage; the Guggenheim Hermitage Museum in Las Vegas measures 700m²; the Hermitage's area in the Amstelhof will be 4,300m²). One section of the Amstelhof, 'Neerlandia', at Nieuwe Herengracht 14 ('Hermitage on the Amstel'), has been operational as an annex of the Hermitage since 2004.

Some sections of the *Amstelhof* complex, the *Corvershof* at Nieuwe Herengracht 18 and *Bestedelinghuis* at Nieuwe Herengracht 6-8, 20, are now used as housing for staff of the *Amstelhof*.

Nieuwe Herengracht

- *Corvershof*, Nieuwe Herengracht 6-18 ⁴
1723, measures 28.3 x 24 metres (100 x 85 feet), funded by the estate of Joan Corver (1688-1719) and his wife Sara Maria Trip (1693-1721); stands in the former garden (orchard) of the Home for Elderly Men and Women (Amstelhof, founded in 1683).

Entrance, framed by sandstone pilasters, in Louis XIV style, above which the founder's coats of arms. The almshouse was intended for indigent married couples of the Dutch Reformed Church. Subsequent bequests paid for several further phases of expansion. The complex consists of 33 dwellings.

- *Bestedelinghuis*, Nieuwe Herengracht 20 ⁵
Built with a bequest from Johanna van Mekerem-Bontekoning, 1789, which is commemorated by an inscription in the façade.





Nieuwe Keizersgracht

- *Magdalena Hodshonstichting*, Nieuwe Keizersgracht 1b 1876
- *Van Limmikstichting*, Nieuwe Keizersgracht 1a ¹
Residential care home, 1894/95, design by C.B. Posthumus Meyes Sr (1858-1922)
- *Margaretha Hodshonstichting* residential care home, Nieuwe Keizersgracht 9-13
Design by P.J. Hamer, 1877/78
- *Van Brants Rushofje*, Nieuwe Keizersgracht 28-44 ²
1732/33, designed by the architect Daniël Marot (1661-1752). Founded in accordance with the last will and testament of Christoffel van Brants (1664-1732), merchant who traded with Russia and was elevated to the nobility in 1717 by Czar Peter the Great (1672-1725).
Lutheran *hofje* for women aged over 50. The houses are not grouped around a garden here, as in most *hofjes*, but around a high courtyard (below which there was once a wine-cellar). Wide main building, Louis XIV style. The garden lies behind the complex. The *hofje* now has 27 dwellings. Renovated in 1970.
- *Occo's Hofje ('t Gebouw van Barmhartigheid)*, Nieuwe Keizersgracht 94 ³
1774, founded in 1758 as a Catholic women's almshouse in accordance with the last will and testament of Cornelia Elisabeth Occo (died 1752). Building in the form of a square, Louis XVI style. The wing on Nieuwe Kerkstraat has been demolished; the side wings have been extended to 56.6 metres. There were originally 22 dwellings here. Chapel dating from 1816, gift of the dowager Roest van Alkemade. Restoration 1991

The Jordaen

- ⌘ *Bossche Hofje*, Palmgracht 20-26
Once consisted of eight dwellings, now four two-room dwellings. Founded by the Mennonite grain merchant Arend Dirckszoon Bosch, 1648. The houses stand around a courtyard shared with the Raepenhofje. On the canal side a crow-step gable.
- ⌘ *Raepenhofje*, Palmgracht 28-38 ⁴
Founded by Pieter Adriaenszoon Raep, 1648, 12 dwellings, originally designated for elderly woman and orphans of the Reformed Protestant congregation. Governors' room dates from 1905, with seventeenth-century wainscoting from elsewhere.
- ⌘ *Karthuizerhof/Huyszitten Weduwenhof*, Karthuizerstraat 61-191 ⁵
Founded by the city in 1650 on the grounds of the former Carthusian monastery for over 100 indigent widows and unmarried women. Design by Daniël Stalpaert (1615-1676), city architect. Fenestration eighteenth century. In the courtyard, two seventeenth-century pumps, in addition, two bleaching greens. Now used as accommodation for young people (since 1973). Restoration 1985
- ⌘ *Claes Claeszhofje*, Eglantiersstraat 20-50
Combination of two *hofjes*, the *Anslohofje* (founded in 1626 by the Mennonite Claes Claeszoon Anslo, from Anslo (Oslo); altered and expanded several times in the nineteenth century; restored 1968-1973, in the process of which the entrance and front building were reconstructed; now inhabited by students) and the *Zwaardvegershofje* (1738, on Zwaardvegersgang, founded by Gerrit van Loenen and his wife Annetje Abrahams, for ten widows and unmarried women; renovated in neo-historical style 1973/74)

- ⌘ *Venetiaehofje* or *Maarloopshofje*, Elandsstraat 102-142
Leads to Lauriersgracht. Founded by Jacob Stoffels in 1650; east wing added in the first half of the eighteenth century, extended at the rear in 1904.
- ⌘ *Hamers- en Bouwershofje*, Marnixstraat 281
1626/1877. This almshouse originated from the earlier Hamershofje (which once stood on Herengracht/Beulingsloot) and Bouwershofje (1634; on Wijde Steeg). They were combined here to make a building whose front façade has a crow-step gable inspired by seventeenth-century architecture.
- ⌘ *Rozenhofje*, Rozengracht 147-181
Founded by the timber merchant Jan de Jager (died 1740), 1744, extended 1790, with *inter alia* a governors' room (restored 1818; moved in 1884 to the building on the street side), front side of building dates from 1884 (neo-Renaissance, design by G.B. Salm (1831-1897) and his son A. Salm, 1857-1915). Originally 56 one-room dwellings. Renovated in 1990. Intended for elderly Mennonite women.
- ⌘ *Rijpenhofje*, Rozengracht 116-138
Founded in 1747, extended circa 1830. Funded from a bequest by Gerard van de Rijp, who also helped to fund the Suykerhofje. Renovated, 1912/13, design by A. Salm (1857-1915), the son of G.B. Salm.
- ⌘ *Zevenkeurvorstenhofje*, Tuinstraat 197-223
The date on which this *hofje* was founded is unknown (probably c. 1645 by Cornelis Maartenszoon Pronck), stone with inscription from 1724, neo-Gothic chapel (1862), to replace the original chapel, which was refurbished as the governors' room. Framed entrance on the street side, dated 1775.
- ⌘ *Regenboogs-Liefdehofje*, Tuinstraat 100-102
Founded in 1806 by the Catholic banker Joannes Baptista van Aerde, extended in 1884 (only this section still stands)
- ⌘ *St Andrieshofje*, Egelantiersgracht 105-141
1614, founded under the terms of the will left by Jeff Gerritszoon Oly, donation by the Catholic livestock farmer Ivo Gerritszoon. Chapel on the east side. The first *hofje* to be built in the Jordaan.
- ⌘ *Lindenhofje*, Lindengracht 94-112 1
Founded by the Mennonite congregation in 1614. Original buildings no longer standing. The building was sold to the Catholic Poor Relief Office in 1801. The present buildings were extended with a neo-Renaissance wing on the street side in 1885/1886, and in 1939. Renovation 2004
- ⌘ *Suykerhofje*, Lindengracht 149-163 2
Founded in 1667 by Pieter Janszoon Suykerhof, entrance through an inconspicuous little archway with an inscription in honour of the founder, L-shaped floor plan, originally with bleaching green. Intended for women of the Remonstrant congregation.
- ⌘ *De Notenboome Uitkijk*, Lijnbaansgracht 287
Built as a warehouse, 1724, used as a *hofje* since 1794. Founded by Jan van Meekeren and his wife Johanna Margarethe Okhuysen.



1



⌘ *Hof van Parijs*, Elandstraat 160-180

There was originally a slum known as 'Paris' here. *Hofje van Parijs*, 1903; renovated and restored in 1984.

Weteringbuurt

- *Grill's Hofje*, Eerste Weteringdwarsstraat 11-43 DSC00890
Founded in 1726 by the silversmith Anthonie Grill and his wife Elisabeth, for Lutheran women. Nos. 11-17 and 37-43, nine houses with identical bell gables, belong to the *hofje* behind.
- *Hodshon-Dedelshofje*, Eerste Weteringdwarsstraat 83-105 1
Founded by Isaac Hodshon and his wife Isabella Dedel, 1842. *Hofje* with U-shaped plan, front wall along the street. The founders' impaled arms are blazoned above the entrance. Garden with pump. Built for infirm elderly Protestant women. Restored and renovated by Stadsherstel Amsterdam N.V. in the late 1970s.
- *Looyershofje*, Nieuwe Looiersstraat 16-42
Dates from 1828, founded by *Jonkvrouwe* A.M.E. Elias. Surrounds a small garden and stands behind a row of working men's houses built in 1665. It was built for elderly Protestant women; now used as accommodation for young people (since 1971).
- *Willem Hendrik Hillmanstichting*, Nieuw Looiersstraat 146-152
Founded in 1875 by Johannes Hillman (in memory of his young son who had died), then intended to provide accommodation for unmarried Protestant women, now used for student housing.

WAREHOUSES PAKHUIZEN

WAREHOUSES

Warehouses

One of the more striking characteristics of Amsterdam's historical city centre and the cityscape within Singelgracht is the large number of centuries-old warehouses. Most are integrated into the canal or street façade, sometimes as single buildings and sometimes rhythmically linked as a row of identical structures. They are dispersed around the city, some along canals (including the seventeenth-century canal ring area), the radial streets, the Western and Eastern Islands and Binnenkant.

Numerous warehouses were built along Brouwersgracht ¹ and Prinsengracht, on Prinseneiland ² and around Oude Schans in the seventeenth century (and some in the eighteenth century) for the storage of goods including spices from Asia ⁴, grain from the Baltic states, furs from America, and whale oil from the Spitsbergen area. Others were built for the storage of peat, for instance (at Waterlooplein there are peat warehouses that were later used as an arsenal) ³. Amsterdam is more richly endowed with historical warehouses than any other port in Europe.

Warehouses generally had four to six low ⁵, deep storeys (30 to 45 metres deep), each of which had large shuttered windows for the loading and unloading of goods. In 1692 the city had 600 warehouses; by 1900 there were over 900. Over 120 of these were on the Western Islands.

Their development from storage spaces to residential housing, starting in the seventeenth century, can be followed right down to the present day. The oldest dated warehouse, *Malaga*, 1617, is at Oudezijds Kolk 5. There are a number of very old warehouses on Herengracht (at nos. 43 and 45), *De Fortuyn* and *D'Arke Noach* ⁶, which were probably built at the end of the sixteenth century.

The earliest merchants' houses integrated storage, offices and other business functions into the home. The warehouse as a separate building developed from this in the course of the seventeenth century. By the eighteenth century, warehouses had become an established concept, and goods were no longer stored in homes.

With the loss of much trade and transport in the city centre in later centuries, the interiors of most warehouses were renovated and converted into apartments. In the twentieth century, many were converted into private dwellings, while large historic private houses were converted into offices.

Typology

The earlier private houses, which included commercial and storage space, had a high wooden lower section housing ⁷ offices and sometimes a shop. Above this would be one or more upper storeys, ending in a crow-step or point gable. A hoist-beam projected from the façade, sometimes in a conspicuous design. Merchandise was stored in the cellar and the attic.

Combined private homes and warehouses were narrow (5 to 8 metres wide) but deep, up to some 30 metres in depth. They were tall structures, with brick front and rear façades and wooden floors in the interior. Each floor of the façade (which was frequently surmounted by a funnel-shaped 'spout' gable) had wide windows with shutters, flanked by smaller windows. A variant of the spout gable is the bell gable (as at Herengracht 37/39, *Baltimore*, *Gouda*, eighteenth-century bell gables). ⁸

The architecture of the façade changed in the eighteenth century, and horizontal cornice gables became fashionable, being installed on the warehouses that were renovated at this time. Fewer





warehouses were built in this century, although they continued to be built into the nineteenth century (e.g. at Houtmankade 2-24, designed by W. Hamer, with crow-step gables).

Besides 'single' warehouses, there are also a number of 'double' ones (some 15 metres wide) with wide façades and spout gables (Prinsengracht 771-773, c. 1655) or with trapezium-shaped gables: Prinsengracht 278 ¹ and 659; and Korte Prinsengracht 16, *De Gouwe Wagen*, 1633. ²

Bonded warehouses

In the nineteenth century, in the wake of the Industrial Revolution, the port of Amsterdam was extended and the need arose for larger storage areas. One specific type of storage space was the bonded warehouse, used for the temporary storage of goods before import duties needed to be paid on them.

The earliest bonded warehouse, the General State Bonded Warehouse (*Algemeen Rijks Entrepot*) is on Entrepotdok (formerly known as Nieuwe Rapenburgergracht), built in 1827/1830 and designed by the architect Jan de Greef (1784-1835). It is surrounded by Laagte Kadijk, Nieuwe Rapenburgergracht (Entrepotdok) and Entrepotdoksluis.

On Nieuwe Rapenburgergracht, 51 existing warehouses (1710-1738; nos. 13-29, 3-51, 79-84) were designated as bonded, while another 27 new ones were built in 1829/1830 (nos. 30-36, 52-76), named after cities in the northern and southern Netherlands and based on designs by the city architect Jan de Greef (1784-1835). Between 1981 and 1988, 84 warehouses were renovated and mainly converted into apartments, on the basis of designs by Joop van Stigt and his son André. ³

In 1840 the complex was expanded on the east side, to designs by C.W.M. Klijn (1788-1860) and C.L. de Leeuw, giving it an overall length of some 500 metres. On average, the warehouses are 5 metres wide, about 15 metres high and 30 to 40 metres deep.

The *Kalenderpanden* (Entrepotdok 87-97) (1838, designed by C.W.M. Klijn), contained large undivided spaces, their floors supported by cast-iron columns, above which were wooden beams, covered by twelve roofs, concealed by a continuous brick cornice gable extending across the entire width of the complex. The name *Kalenderpanden* (Calendar buildings) refers to the months of the year. The complex was converted into apartments in 1999 (design by the firm of Claus and Kaan).

In the years 1828-1830, a gatehouse was built at Kadijksplein near Rapenburgersluis ⁴, a neo-classicist structure designed by Jan de Greef (1784-1835). The complex remained in use as bonded warehouses until 1895 (when it was succeeded by the bonded warehouses on Cruquiusweg). At the end of the nineteenth century, the Entrepothaven was built in the eastern part of the port, a dock basin that made the harbour more accessible to large seagoing vessels. It was here, on Cruquiusweg, that the *Nieuwe Entrepot* was built in 1898/1900, a row of warehouses named after the days of the week.

Amsterdam's main port was moved from the east to the west after the Second World War, to ensure better access through the North Sea Canal, as a result of which the warehouses here no longer fulfilled any function.

Warehouses and storage companies, Oostelijke Handelskade

A large complex of late nineteenth-century warehouses on Oostelijke Handelskade in the *buffer zone* came into use in response to the opening of the North Sea Canal (*Europa, Azië, Afrika*, 1883, designed by W. van Lookeren Campagne, E. Confeld von Felbert; *Amerika, Australië*, 1893/95). Some of these buildings were incorporated into the redevelopment of the south bank of the IJ.

The development of warehouses culminated in the rise of companies that entered into joint agreements for the use of specially equipped storage spaces such as the one called *Oranje Nassau*, at Van Diemenstraat 2-16, 1896/99, designed by Foeke Kuipers (1871-1954) and Roelof Kuipers (1855-1922) and the advent of warehouses in reinforced concrete (*Afrika* warehouse at Oostelijke Handelskade 19, designed in 1913 by A. J. Joling (1857-1934); *Emma* warehouse on Westerdoksdijk, now Van Diemenstraat, designed by G. van Arkel (1858-1918), 1914; and Oostelijke Handelskade 21, *De Zwijger*, designed by J. de Bie Leuveling Tjeenk, built by K. Bakker in 1933/34).

On the west side of Amsterdam within Singelgracht, on Westerdoksdijk, stands the former grain silo, designed by J.F. Klinkhamer (1854-1928) and A.L. van Gendt (1835-1901), 1896-1897, a building that is over 104 metres long and over 26 metres high.

Depots

A separate group of buildings used for storage consists of depots (*magazijnen*). Still standing today is the national naval storage depot, 's *Lands Zeemagazijn*, at Kattenburgerplein 1, dating from 1656 (now the Netherlands Maritime Museum) ¹, the West Indies Warehouse, *West-Indisch Pakhuis* ² on 's-Gravenhekje, dating from 1641/42, the warehouse of the Dutch East India Company (VOC) on Prins Hendrikkade, dating from 1602 ³, the arsenal *Bushuis/Militiegebouw* at Singel 23 ⁴, dating from 1606, and the city's peat depot at Waterlooplein 69-75, dating from 1610. ⁵

One remarkable warehouse with offices is the former naval rope-yard (*Admiraliteitslijnbaan*), Oostenburgergracht 79-81, with a trapezium-shaped façade on the street side ⁶. There was a second rope-yard at Oostenburgergracht 77, belonging to the Dutch East India Company (VOC), the warehouse and office of which have also been preserved. The VOC's monogram is displayed on the façade ⁷.

Warehouse names

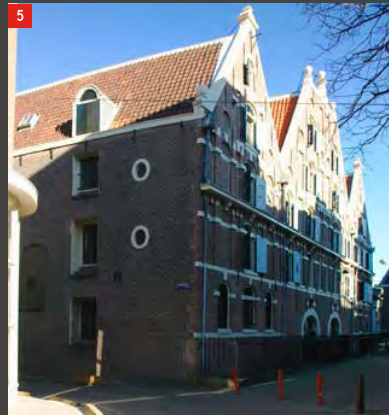
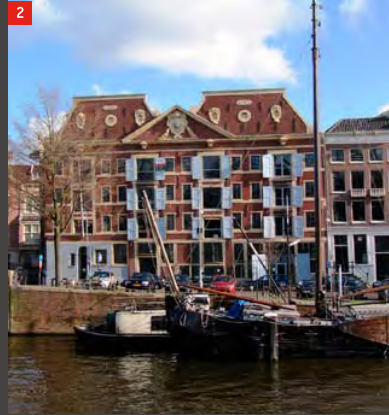
Warehouses were often named according to the places of origin of the merchandise stored in them. Rented warehouses were sometimes named after the months of the year (Nieuwe Achtergracht) ⁸ or the days of the week (Nieuwe Entrepot, Stadsrietlanden, built in 1898-1900).

Warehouses within the 'seventeenth-century canal ring area' and the protected cityscape of 'Amsterdam within Singelgracht': a selection

(• located within the *property*; ∴ located within the *buffer zone*)

Singel

- Singel 2 ⁹, *De Kruiwagen/Het Spaanse Huis*, warehouse and private house, wooden lower section (formerly incorporating a shop); the upper floors and attic were once used for storage; this house has one of the widest and oldest crow-step gables in Amsterdam, 1606/20. It lay outside the dykes (i.e. the Haarlemmerdijk). Now 'De Spaanse Gevel' café; it has been a coffee-house since 1663. Underwent restoration in 1956/57, architect IJsbrand Kok, renovated in 2000.
- Singel 83-85 ¹⁰, *De Swaan*, expanded for storage in 1651/52 with the addition of two storeys and an attic behind the spout gable above the side-façade. Façades in Dutch classicist style with pilasters, wooden lower façade and kitchen annex.
- Singel 210 ¹¹, *d'Theeboom*, has a late eighteenth-century cornice gable. Unusual in having two entrances on the ground floor.
- Singel 516-518, *d'Eendracht*, double warehouse with trapezium-shaped upper façade, first quarter of seventeenth century.





Brouwersgracht

There are numerous warehouses on Brouwersgracht, most of which have now been converted into private houses and apartments.

- Brouwersgracht 75-77. Former warehouse *De Kroon*, 1631, renovated in 1857. Now residential.
- Brouwersgracht 174-178 ¹, gable-top has a stone with Amsterdam's coat of arms.
- Brouwersgracht 182-196, seventeenth-century (1636) warehouses with point gables ², '*t Potaschvat, Koning David, David, Groene Valk, Grauwe Valk, De Appel*, now residential.
- Brouwersgracht 204/206 ³, 1640, originally a brewery, the warehouse *Het Kleine Groene Hert*, with trapezium-shaped façade.
- Brouwersgracht 208, '*t Vijfde Groene Hert*, 1635, built as a private house in 1680, converted into a warehouse, with spout gable.
- Brouwersgracht 210/212 ⁴, 1640, *Het Grootte Groene Hert*, with trapezium-shaped façade
- Brouwersgracht 236-240, eighteenth-century warehouses. *Danzig* warehouse once used to store whale oil and whalebone
- Brouwersgracht 248/250, 1684, warehouses with point gables
- Brouwersgracht 252/256, including a double warehouse dating from the eighteenth century
- Brouwersgracht 272-274, *Leeuw* warehouse

Herengracht

- Herengracht 37/39 ⁵, *Baltimore, Gouda*, with bell gables, 1753. Now residential complex. Underwent restoration for the Hendrick de Keyser Association in 1967 and 1978, respectively.
- Herengracht 43-45 ⁶, '*t Fortuyn* and *D'Arke Noach*, warehouses with point gables, c. 1590. These are the oldest buildings in this part of Herengracht. Underwent restoration in 1975 by 'Stichting Aristotles' (the Aristotle Foundation)
- Herengracht 81 ⁷, crow-step gable with shutters, early seventeenth century
- Herengracht 109a, on the site of an alley, one bay in width, last quarter of nineteenth century.
- Herengracht 155/157, *Engeland*, (1757), *Het Keyzerrijk* (c. 1725), bell gables
- Herengracht 168 ⁸, 1638, sandstone façade with neck gable, designed by Philips Vingboons (1607-1678). The top two storeys were used for storage. Wide windows in the central bay, with narrower flanking windows. Coat of arms adjacent to the neck of the gable, which is said to have been the first neck gable in Amsterdam.
Interior converted into a private home in the early eighteenth century (1728-1734); decorations are by Jan van Logteren (1709-1745); front room with wall hangings by I. de Moucheron, 1677-1744; wall paintings by Jacob de Wit, 1695-1754. The front façade was altered at this time. From 1960 to the end of 2008 the Toneelmuseum (Theatre Museum) was located here. Underwent restoration in the 1950s.
- Herengracht 170-172 ⁹, *Bartolotti House*, 1622, crow-step gable with sculptural work. Largely built for residential use, with area for storage. Property of the Hendrick de Keyser Association. Gable-top restored.
- Herengracht 267 ¹⁰, architect J. van Looij, 1898. Warehouse with offices on first floor. The alley *Treeftsteeg* runs to its left.

Keizersgracht

- Keizersgracht 24, *De Torenwachter*, late eighteenth-century cornice gable
- Keizersgracht 40-44 ¹¹, *Groenlandsche Pakhuizen* ('Greenland Warehouses'), originally five warehouses, now three, with crow-step gables (1621), built by the Nordic or Greenland Whaling Company (founded in 1614). Used for the storage of whale oil and whalebone. Now residential.

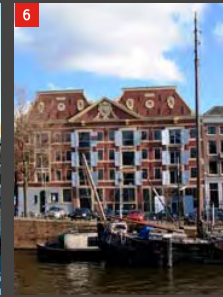
- Keizersgracht 141, *Dubbele Arend*, c. 1620, combined private home and warehouse, with cellar and storage in the attic and a hoist-beam in the gable-top (nineteenth century, 1877/78). Interesting feature: sculptural work between the steps of the gable. Now the premises of the Zuid-Afrikaanse Stichting Moederland (ZASM) and known as the Van Riebeeck or South Africa House.
- Keizersgracht 403, formerly the warehouse known as *Maarseveen*, 1669; lower section was altered in 1949.
- Keizersgracht 454, *Het Scheepje*, late seventeenth century.
- Keizersgracht 483, like no. 487, one of the relatively few warehouses on Keizersgracht, built around 1680. To its left stood two more warehouses, now no. 485, which were converted into a coach house in 1838. Seventeenth century, with spout gable, formerly part of a row of warehouses.
- Keizersgracht 493 ¹, *Indië*, 'double' warehouse, c. 1870, two warehouses joined together; the house to the right was added in 1872.
- Keizersgracht 710, spout gable, one of the relatively few warehouses on Keizersgracht, built after 1683, when Hendrik Staets came into possession of the buildings at no. 708 (the house known as *De Wolf*) and 710 (the warehouse *Het Lam*).

Prinsengracht

- Prinsengracht 55, suitably adapted new building, architect Baanders, 1930
- Prinsengracht 168, *De Eikeboom*, latter half of seventeenth century, spout gable, wooden lower façade
- Prinsengracht 187-195, 197, 203-217, no. 187, originally seventeenth century, 189-193, mid-eighteenth century, no. 195, mid-eighteenth century. No. 197, eighteenth-century warehouse with spout gable. No. 203, warehouses c. 1884, original structure eighteenth century. No. 205 was once a warehouse, converted for residential use in the mid-nineteenth century. No. 207, warehouse, early twentieth century (c. 1910), no. 209, built c. 1630, nos. 211-217, four virtually identical warehouses, late seventeenth century
- Prinsengracht 189/193, brewery *De Drie Schulpen*, converted into the warehouses *Geloof*, *Hoop*, *De Liefde* (Faith, Hope and Charity) after 1753, three spout gables.
- Prinsengracht 195-197, double warehouse with spout gables, c. 1750.
- Prinsengracht 203, eighteenth-century warehouses built in 1884.
- Prinsengracht 209, c. 1630, spout gable.
- Prinsengracht 211/217, *D'Arend*, four identical warehouses with spout gables (late seventeenth century).
- Virtually identical to the *Groenlandsche* warehouses (Herengracht 40-44). Adjacent to warehouse dating from c. 1630 (no. 209).
- Prinsengracht 349, bell gable with pediment (seventeenth century, c. 1650). See also a similar warehouse at Prinsengracht 353.
- Prinsengracht 353, with bell gable (c. 1730)
- Prinsengracht 659, double warehouse, c. 1640
- Prinsengracht 715, built warehouse, after 1912. Until that date, the top of the bell gable had been on a building at Dam Square.
- Prinsengracht 771-773, double warehouse with spout gables, c. 1655. Underwent restoration in 1976
- Prinsengracht 1029/1035, after 1669, originally a brewery complex, consisting of *De Witte Arend*, *De Vergulde Arend* and *De Blauwe Arend*, used as a warehouse after 1719, around which time another warehouse, *De Nieuwe Arend*, was built. The complex extends to Kerkstraat. Now used as apartments (converted in the late 1970s, design by Edo Spier). No. 1035 is the warehouse *De nieuwe Arend* (after 1719).

1





Warehouse *De Pool*, with gable-stone dating from 1685 (Kerkstraat) ¹ ² was built in the courtyard of this complex.

Korte Prinsengracht

- Korte Prinsengracht 16 ³ ⁴, *Het Pachuyts van de Gouwe Wagen*, double warehouse with trapezium-shaped upper façade, dated (1656)

Oudezijds Kolk

- ⋮ Oudezijds Kolk 5, warehouse, early seventeenth century

Prins Hendrikkade

- ⋮ Prins Hendrikkade 176, '*d' Oude Werf*', warehouse used by the Dutch East India Company (VOC), originally built for the *Amsterdamsche Compagnie*. Two double warehouses, 1602, with trapezium-shaped gables. Archway, c. 1650 ⁵

's Gravenhekje

- ⋮ Warehouse of the Dutch West India Company (WIC) ⁶, 1641/42: inscribed in the front façade are the date 1642 and the initials GWC (*Geoctroyeerde Westindische Compagnie* = Chartered West India Company). Bounded on three sides by 's-Gravenhekje, Prins Hendrikkade and Peperstraat. May have been designed by Pieter de Keyser (1595-1676). Between 1647 and 1674 the building also served as the headquarters of the Amsterdam Chamber of the WIC. Double warehouses with trapezium-shaped upper façade, within which is a triangular pediment (with the WIC's coat of arms). Restored in 1986.

Krom Boomssloot

- ⋮ Krom Boomssloot 18-20, *Schottenburg* ⁷, 1636, a double warehouse, on the corner of Krom Boomssloot and Koningsstraat

Nieuwe Achtergracht

- ⋮ Nieuwe Achtergracht 2-26, group of 13 former warehouses, named *De Zon* and the twelve months of the year (1720/1723, renovated at the end of the twentieth century) ⁸

Western Islands / Prinseneiland ⁹

- ⋮ Prinseneiland 49/51, *Insulinde*, 1629 (façade dating from the eighteenth century).
- ⋮ Prinseneiland 63, double warehouse *Justina* and *Catharina*, mid-seventeenth century.
- ⋮ Prinseneiland 65/73, five identical warehouses, mid-seventeenth century, with individual names (*d'Schelvisch*, *d'Korenbeurs*, *d'Gouden Kip*, *Broek in Waterland*, *Mars*). Now residential.
- ⋮ Prinseneiland 77, *Het Roode Pakhuis*, end of seventeenth century.
- ⋮ Prinseneiland 79-85, *Vrede (De Vierling)*, four warehouses, early eighteenth century. Restored after a fire in 1949.
- ⋮ Prinseneiland 283-285, *De Witte Pellicaen*, 1664, with spout gables
- ⋮ Prinseneiland 475-511, *Koornschoor*, *Teerton*, latter half of seventeenth century, with spout gables.
- ⋮ Prinseneiland 517-545, *Windhond*, double warehouse with trapezium-shaped front façade.

Western Islands / Realeineiland

- ⋮ Realeingracht 22-38, double warehouse *De Lepelaar*, latter half of seventeenth century
- ⋮ Realeingracht 160-278, four warehouses, 1670s. Converted into residential complex in the 1970s

Warehouses as depots

A distinctive, free-standing type of warehouse or depot came into being in the seventeenth century.

- ⌘ Kattenburgerplein 1 ¹, national naval storage depot ('s *Lands Zeemagazijn*), now the Netherlands Maritime Museum. 1655-1656, designed by Daniël Stalpaert (1615-1676), Dutch classicism. Built for the Admiralty (the precursor of the present-day Dutch Royal Navy). The façade overlooking the water was originally the front of the building. In the pediments there is sculptural work based on designs by Artus Quellinus (1609-1668), reflecting the Dutch Republic's pre-eminence as a great naval power at that time.

Served as a workshop and as a warehouse for items such as rigging. Burnt down in 1791; rebuilt and whitewashed in 1792 and 1793. At this time buttresses were added, bricked in on the underside, and the side-façades endowed with *ressaults* (1740). The pediment at the top of the front façade contains a symbolic sculpture (a personification of the Dutch Republic's maritime power), while the rear pediment displays images including those of Neptune and the Maid of Amsterdam. The bell tower was built in 1822. Since 1973 this building has been the Netherlands Maritime Museum. Restored in 1972-1981; currently undergoing renovation by the Government Buildings Agency of the Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment (VROM) with modifications in line with the museum's new style of presentation.

A replica of the VOC ship *Amsterdam* that sank off the south coast of England (near Hastings) in 1749 is moored near the museum.

Waterside warehouses

- Warehouses overlooking the water of Beulingsloot ²

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ICOMOS

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES
CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DES MONUMENTS ET DES SITES
CONSEJO INTERNACIONAL DE MONUMENTOS Y SITIOS
МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫЙ СОВЕТ ПО ВОПРОСАМ ПАМЯТНИКОВ И ДОСТОПРИМЕЧАТЕЛЬНЫХ МЕСТ

Our Ref. GB/MA 1349

Paris, 18 December 2009

H. E. Mr Barend ter Haar
Ambassador
Permanent Delegation of the Kingdom of the
Netherlands to UNESCO
7, rue Eblé
75007 PARIS

World Heritage List 2010: Request for information - Seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht (The Netherlands)

Dear Sir,

ICOMOS is currently assessing the nomination of "Seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht" as World Heritage property and we thank you for your assistance with the recent Mission to the property.

As part of our evaluation process, the ICOMOS World Heritage Panel has now reviewed this nomination and identified a few areas where it considers that further information is needed.

Therefore, we would be pleased if the State Party could consider the following points and additional information:

1) Revise the boundaries of the nominated property, bearing in mind the following recommendations and remarks:

- The north edge of the nominated area could run from Stroomarkt/Prins Hendrikade along Haarlemmerstraat up to Binnen Oranjestraat, thus excluding Droogbak and Haarlemmerhouttuinen, a portion of the property which contains blocks of buildings which lack historical and architectural interest.

- From Crookback the visual integrity of the surrounding townscape is no longer satisfactory.

- On the south part of the nominated area, the boundary starting from the crossing with Amstelstraat bridge could keep running along the Amstel left bank to join, to the south, the core boundary aligned with Utrechtsedwardsstrat, thus excluding from the core zone the area on the right bank of the Amstel river.

- A second hypothesis for this area, more respectful of visual authenticity, could consist in running the boundary from the Singelcanal at Muntplein, into Vijzelstraat, Reguliersdwardsstraat, along the west front of Rembrandtplein into Utrechtsestraat and then, including the urban plots of the buildings facing Herengracht, up to the Amstel left bank and then joining, to the south, the core boundary aligned with Utrechtsedwardsstrat, thus also excluding the commercial constructions and huge buildings on Amstelstraat and Rembrandtplein.

2) Provide updated information about the following projects and situations, inside the nominated area or in the buffer zone, and about the possibilities of immediate intervention by the national, regional and municipal authorities to stop, modify or control them, bearing in mind the following recommendations and remarks:

- The visual impact of the design of the entrance/exit structures of the huge underground parking facility at Vijzelgracht Metro station should be thoroughly considered, taking into account the nomination of the property and that a very simple design must be adopted for the structure bearing the lift house.

- The design of the Kop Singel Building Plan must be clearly contemporary, so as not to create pseudo-historic architecture which would permanently affect the authenticity of the buffer zone and the authenticity of the view from the Singelgracht, inside the property.

- The design of the new Binnengasthuis library should not involve the demolition of the two existing national monuments, as this would permanently diminish the architectural authenticity of the area, located in a medieval core.

- Restrictive measures on advertising, sheeting, scaffolding and video screens must be adopted in order not to affect the visual integrity of the historic cityscape of the nominated area and buffer zone.

3) Clarify the current situation of building permits, with regard to works permits and transformation permits for listed monuments, some of which are threatened by outright destruction;

4) Provide information about other property construction projects and their possible visual, architectural and urban impact on the property and the expression of its value, with regard to:

- buildings situated in the buffer zone,
- high-rise buildings outside the buffer zone but in the vicinity.

5) Provide recent information about the putting in place and functioning of the property management system.

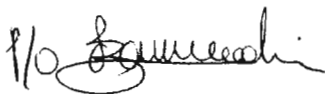
We look forward to your responses to these points which will be of great help in our evaluation process.

ICOMOS has no obligation to contact States Parties during the evaluation process. However, with a view to being as transparent as possible, ICOMOS has agreed to approach States Parties in specific cases. This does not prejudice the ICOMOS recommendation on the nomination and should be considered as preliminary information. It also does not prejudice the World Heritage Committee's decision.

We would be grateful if you could provide ICOMOS and the World Heritage Centre with the above information by **28 February 2010**.

We thank you in advance for your kind cooperation.

Yours faithfully



Regina Durighello
Director
World Heritage Unit
ICOMOS

Copy to

Mr Dré van Marrewijk, Cultural Heritage Agency
Ms Marleen Sloof, Municipal Department Monuments and Archaeology Agency
UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Paris



Permanente Vertegenwoordiging van het
Koninkrijk der Nederlanden

WHC REGISTRATION	
Date	03/03/10
Ref. No.	1349
Copy	1 item 30

Ms Regina Durighello, director
ICOMOS World Heritage Unit
49-51 rue de la Fédération
75015 PARIS

Permanent Delegate of the Netherlands to
UNESCO
7 rue Eblé
75007 Paris

Date 26 February 2010
Our ref. CdP/LR/MC
Page 1/20

Processor Marieke Chouchana
Tel. 01 40 62 33 88
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Subject *Request for information about the nomination of the 'Seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht' (The Netherlands) as a World Heritage site.*

Dear Ms Durighello,

In response to your letter of 18 December 2008, reference GB/MA 1349, requesting further information concerning the nomination of the 'Seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht (The Netherlands)', I am pleased to submit to you the requested information and the answers to your questions.

We have studied the ICOMOS World Heritage Panel's proposals and questions very carefully and with particular interest, all the more so since your response drew our attention to the fact that the Nomination Document and Management Plan may be unclear and inexhaustive on certain points. We are therefore pleased to have this opportunity to provide further clarification of our nomination. The proposals and questions in your letter are addressed in the following order:

1. Revision of the boundaries of the nominated property
2. Updated information on projects and situations
3. Clarification of permits for listed monuments
4. Information about property construction projects and their impact
5. Putting in place and functioning of the property management system

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1. Revision of the boundaries of the nominated property (App. A and B (Maps) and C (Photos))

The unique character of the urban planning concept lies at the core of the nomination of the seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam for inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List (Nomination Document, pp. 98-107, Justification for inscription, particularly pp. 106-107 Proposed Statement of Outstanding Universal Value). The seventeenth-century urban infrastructure of the canal ring area is almost completely intact. The large rational grid is the result of progressive ideas on urban planning, which provided the blueprint for a flexible city that would repeatedly be able to accommodate new developments. At the level of individual houses, too, the seventeenth-century structure in the majority of the property is still intact. Modernisation in the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries mainly involved adapting the interior design to the fashion of the period, with occasional small and generally still clearly visible changes to the layout, which barely impact on the main structure of the house. The replacement of a substantial number of façades gradually created the mixed terrace frontages typical of the canal ring area, which in rhythmic terms remained true to their seventeenth-century origins. The strong infrastructural pattern and the varied, picturesque architecture of the façades give the area a strong degree of unity in diversity. Thanks to the preservation of the structural core, the different phases of construction in Amsterdam's canalside houses are particularly easy to distinguish. This has produced clearly readable, organically accumulated layers of building within the strict seventeenth-century infrastructural pattern.

In the late nineteenth and the twentieth century, the seventeenth-century structure was breached at three locations (see: Map A.4). Nevertheless, the associated scaling up affected no more than a very small part of the property and had hardly impact on the urban structure itself. The number of reconstructions as part of the intensive programme of repair following the Second World War was also limited in this area. We therefore believe that the nominated canal ring area complies with UNESCO's conditions concerning authenticity and integrity.

Bearing these facts in mind, we have studied your proposals for three alterations to the boundary of the property.

Change the Droogbak, Haarlemmer Houttuinen, Buiten Oranjestraat boundary to Haarlemmerstraat, Binnen Oranjestraat.

It was decided in the Nomination Document to include in the property the area between Haarlemmerstraat and Droogbak, which is part of the *Derde Uitleg* (Third Extension: the first phase of the construction of the ring of canals; see: Map B.2). The reasoning was that, when the canal ring area was created, the existing medieval sea dike was straightened (becoming Haarlemmerstraat), and that the area to the north of this (as far as present-day Droogbak and Haarlemmerhouttuinen) was divided into large geometric blocks according to the same urban planning principle as the canal ring area (see: Map A.8 and A.11/part of B.2), with the dike (later Haarlemmerstraat) acting as a central axis.

You propose moving the northwest boundary of the nominated property so that it runs along Haarlemmerstraat (see: Map A.9). Historical arguments could indeed be made for this option. One might argue that on this side the canal ring area stops at Brouwersgracht. Only Singelgracht and Prinsengracht, which both played a key role in water management and transport, were connected via locks to what was then the open water of the IJ. Herengracht and Keizersgracht, whose main function was to impress, end at Brouwersgracht. The former sea dike, whose elevation is still slightly higher, forms the boundary between the city and the port area, and can be physically perceived as a 'ridge' in the area.

Our conclusion is that both approaches to defining the northern boundary of the property are appropriate from an historical and urban planning perspective.

In terms of the architecture in this area, we would like to make the following remark. Your letter indicates that the idea of shifting the boundary of the property to Haarlemmerstraat, Haarlemmerdijk and Binnen Oranjestraat was prompted mainly by your observation that the blocks of buildings between Haarlemmerstraat, Haarlemmerdijk, Droogbak and Haarlemmer Houttuinen as far as Buiten Oranjestraat and Binnen Oranjestraat 'lack historical and architectural interest'. This must however be based on a misunderstanding. The observation most probably refers to the new buildings to the north of the proposed boundary of the property. The buildings on the blocks mentioned above are historical, and follow the original plot boundaries. The buildings display a variety of architectural styles from the seventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, thanks to a careful transformation within the seventeenth-century infrastructural pattern (see: Photo C.1 - C.14).

In view of these considerations, it would not seem to us to be necessary to move this section of the boundary of the proposed property. Our preference would be to retain the northern boundary as proposed in the Nomination Document (see: Map A.10). Should this prove unacceptable to the World Heritage Panel, we could however agree to the boundary being moved to Haarlemmerstraat, Haarlemmerdijk and Binnen Oranjestraat.

Move the eastern boundary to the left bank of the Amstel.

The World Heritage Panel proposes to shift the eastern boundary to the left bank of the river Amstel. This proposal is, in our opinion, not defensible from a historical point of view, and is at odds with the essence of the nomination, i.e. the urban planning concept. Designs for the *Vierde Uitleg* (Fourth Extension: the second phase in the construction of the canal ring area) reveal that the Amstel was intended as the central axis of this phase, and the riverbanks were accordingly straightened (see: Map B.7 and B.8). Though the eastern part of the canal ring area was built between 1660 and 1850, it largely follows the original planning concept and is therefore an integral and essential part of the canal ring area. The original plan for the canal ring area was used as the framework for development into the nineteenth century.

We can imagine that the expansion and architectural transformation of Weesperstraat in the twentieth century has compromised the cityscape to such an extent at this point that it can be perceived as an 'insurmountable barrier' within the canal ring area. Nevertheless, with the exception of the buildings bordering directly on Weesperstraat and the buildings on the blocks known as 'Roeterseiland' (bordered by Roetersstraat, Nieuwe Achtergracht, Plantage Muidergrecht, Nieuwe Prinsengracht), this eastern part of the canal ring contains many historic buildings that conform to the pattern of the seventeenth-century plan (see: Map A.12 and B.6; Photo C.15, C.16, C.17).

It is worth noting that from the beginning the eastern part of the ring of canals is characterized by plots on a larger scale than elsewhere in the canal ring area. This is the result of the construction of a number of large complexes, including the former parish old people's home (*Diaconie Oude Mannen en Vrouwenhuis*) on the east bank of the Amstel (1670; now the Hermitage Museum) and the workhouse (*Spinhuis en Nieuwe Werkhuis*, 1780) on Roetersstraat. These are both visually important listed buildings, and examples of the expanding system of highly institutionalised social care in Amsterdam that began in the seventeenth century. Other examples are the *Nieuwe Lutherse Diaconie* (1770) and the former Jewish old

people's home (*Nederlands Israëlitische Oude Mannen en Vrouwenhuis*, 1840) on Nieuwe Keizersgracht, which are also listed buildings (see: Photo C.18 – C.27). They were built as new premises for institutions that had previously been established in the old city. This concentration of social institutions in the eastern part of the canal ring area was able to occur because, in the eighteenth century, private interest in purchasing land declined, causing prices to fall. It was not until after 1850 that private construction revived again, and the Plantage district (north-east of the property) was developed. The construction of this neighbourhood broke with the seventeenth-century infrastructural pattern (see: Map B.5 and B.6). Plantage has therefore not been included in the nominated property, and the boundary thus runs along Plantage Muidergracht.

To summarise, therefore, there are in our opinion a number of reasons to maintain the eastern boundary as specified in the Nomination Document, despite the breach at Weesperstraat:

- the Amstel functions as the pivot and main axis of the second phase (*Vierde Uitleg/ Fourth Extension*) of the seventeenth-century canal plan;
- the blocks of buildings to the east of the Amstel as far as Plantage conform to this plan;
- the buildings are largely historic and some are important and characteristic listed buildings.

We propose that an exception be made in the case of Roeterseiland (see: Map A.14) and that this area not be included in the property. The large recent buildings in this area do not conform to the plot pattern in the seventeenth-century plan and their architecture is also at odds with the historic cityscape (see: Photo C.28, C.29, C.30). Excluding this area from the proposed property does not affect the seventeenth century concept, on which the nomination is based.

The proposed new boundary to the east of the Amstel would thus run from Blauwbrug Nieuwe Amstelstraat along Weesperstraat, Hortusplantsoen, Nieuwe Keizersgracht, Roetersstraat as far as Nieuwe Achtergracht (see: Map A.14).

Alter the Muntplein, Binnen Amstel boundary to Muntplein, Vijzelstraat, Reguliersdwarsstraat, west front of Rembrandtplein, Utrechtsestraat, Utrechtsedwarsstraat, left (west) bank of Amstel.

The plot divisions in this area arose when the late medieval town was joined with the new seventeenth-century extension. Daniel Stalpaert's map of 1662 (see: Map B.7 and A.18) shows that the sites directly to the south of the Binnen Amstel originally lay inside the medieval ramparts. Reguliersbreestraat had for example already been laid out and built up. The Rembrandtplein conversely was part of the new seventeenth-century extension.

You propose that the boundary of the property be moved from the Binnen Amstel to Muntplein, running via Vijzelstraat, Reguliersdwarsstraat, the west front of Rembrandtplein, Utrechtsestraat and behind the buildings on Herengracht to the left bank of the Amstel (see: Map A.16). We understand from your letter that your proposal to change the boundary is informed largely by the desire to ensure that the large structures on the east front of Rembrandtplein, part of Amstelstraat and part of Herengracht, fall outside the property. The building on the east side of Rembrandtplein is a former bank designed in the 1930s by architects H.P. Berlage and B.J. and W.B. Ouëndag. The building was listed by the local authority several years ago (see: Photo C.32).

Various alternatives might be considered for the Binnen Amstel boundary, on both urban planning and historical grounds. However, each brings its own problems. Your proposal implies that the boundary should be drawn across a block of buildings, and that the garden of the listed building at Herengracht 605 (Willet Holthuysen Museum), which borders on the Amstelstraat, be divided in two. This strikes us as undesirable on practical, historical and architectural grounds. We would therefore prefer to accept your proposal with the exception of the most eastern part and to make a shift in the boundary of the nominated property from Muntplein to the east side of Vijzelstraat, along Reguliersdwarsstraat, the west and north of Rembrandtplein and along Amstelstraat (see: Map A.17; Photo C.31 en C.33).

2. Updated information on projects and advertising policy

- Vijzelgracht metro station and underground parking garage
- Kop Singel building plan
- Binnengasthuis site
- Advertising policy and enforcement

Underground parking garage at Vijzelgracht metro station

The design of the metro station at Vijzelgracht allows for an underground car park to be built at a future date, the roof of the station having been constructed with this in mind (see: Architect's impression, Nomination Document, p. 178). The preliminary sketches of the car park entrances and exits by architects BenthemCrouwel were discussed during Mr Barbato's visit to Amsterdam in September/October 2009.

It should be noted that there are currently no plans to actually build the underground car park, certainly not before completion of the North-South metro line in 2017. Should the issue arise, the municipality will inform the UNESCO World Heritage Committee accordingly.

Kop Singel building plan

The Nomination Document (pp. 193-199) mentions the initiative by the private company Stadsherstel Amsterdam NV to partially reconstruct and rebuild Haringpakkerstoren tower, which was demolished in the nineteenth century.

In the second half of 2009, detailed discussions were held between the management of Stadsherstel, the chair of the executive committee of Central Amsterdam district council, the councillor responsible for monuments and historic buildings in the city centre, and the director of the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology. After careful analysis of the Vienna Memorandum and assessment of the design's compliance with current building aesthetics and heritage policy, the municipality came to the conclusion that implementation of this specific design at this location, in the context of the World Heritage nomination, would be neither desirable nor feasible.

The building aesthetics criteria for this location will be amended to reflect the spirit of the World Heritage Convention, as you urge in your letter, and are likely to be officially adopted in autumn 2010. Pending this, the planning procedure for this location has been suspended.

Binnengasthuis site

In your letter you express the opinion that the former *Tweede Chirurgische Kliniek* surgical clinic and the former *Zusterhuis* nurses' home, both situated in the buffer zone, should not be demolished as part of the construction plans, 'as this would permanently diminish the architectural authenticity of the area, located in a medieval core'.

Amsterdam city council is keen on the presence of the University of Amsterdam in the city centre. The municipal authority therefore allowed this consideration to take precedence over

conservation in its decision-making. The authority did not take the matter lightly, however, having explored and discussed many alternatives over the past few years. Only when no other feasible option was available, the municipal council did decide that the two buildings in question should make way for new structures. On 12 January 2009 Central Amsterdam district council issued permits for the demolition and partial demolition of these two buildings. Official decision-making on this project is now at such a stage that, in our opinion, it is no longer possible to withdraw these permits. If the district council were to do so, its decision could rightly be regarded as 'arbitrary', and would not stand up in court in the event of an appeal.

The planned demolition/partial demolition of these two listed buildings – both designed in 1897 and extended and transformed several times during the twentieth century – to make way for the new university library on the Binnengasthuis site has an unusual history. The buildings were listed (given 'national monument' status) in July 2001. At that point the plans for the library had already been in the pipeline for some time. The designation took account right from the outset of the possibility that the premises might either be radically altered or demolished under a special permit for monuments and historic buildings.¹ The designation was intended first and foremost to ensure that the cultural heritage value of the buildings was considered in the decision as to whether demolition and redevelopment of the site would be permitted as part of the construction plans. These factors were then carefully considered, and the outcome of the process has been underpinned by official decisions.² Three stakeholder groups lodged an appeal with the district court against the decision to issue permits for the demolition of these two listed buildings. The court's ruling, which is expected in the next few weeks, will determine once and for all whether the decision to issue the permits will stand.

The statutory and procedural aspects of granting licences under the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act in general are examined in further detail in our response to question 3. It will become clear that the Binnengasthuis site is an exceptional case, and certainly does not follow standard procedure under Amsterdam's monuments and historic buildings policy.

Finally we will remark that the 'architectural authenticity' of the area can be seen in various ways. Though the Binnengasthuis site is medieval in origin, the spatial structure and buildings have been subject to continual change over the centuries. The most radical transformation of

¹ See Council of State ruling, 19 July 2006. Quoted in Nomination Document, p. 207.

² See Nomination Document, pp. 206-212.

the area – in both a spatial and an architectural sense – occurred in the period 1868–1913, and in the late twentieth century. The buildings are therefore more a functional, dynamic assemblage than a historic, cohesive urban whole.

Advertising policy and enforcement

Advertising policy in Amsterdam city centre, including the proposed property, has been tightened up considerably over the past ten years. In 2008 and 2009 the executive committee of the Central Amsterdam District council introduced stricter rules for façade advertising and advertising on scaffolding wrap. The district council also conducts regular on-site inspections to ascertain whether advertisements comply with the rules, and engages in active consultation with local business associations on the matter. If necessary, it takes enforcement action. At the same time, the district council encourages companies to remove undesirable façade advertising by offering them grants. A budget of € 400,000 is available for this purpose. In 2009 almost 50 grants were awarded, more than double the number in 2008. One result of this policy has been that all large advertising boardings for hotels on Damrak have now been removed.

New rules for façade advertising

Brochures setting out the new rules on façade advertising (adopted by the district council on 27 November 2008) have been distributed to businesses in the city centre. The most important changes are:

- advertising in the form of a name in separate, flat letters now applies to all categories of building;
- each establishment may have only one flat advertisement on the façade and one sign perpendicular to the façade; a second sign will be permitted only if the establishment straddles three or more plots of approx. 5.5 metres each;
- moving advertising images, whether attached to the façade or not, including light projections, are no longer permitted.

The transitional arrangements include a deadline (three to five years, depending on the type of advertising) by which advertising must comply with the new policy. Any businesses with advertising that does not comply with the new rules must remove it by the deadline, and replace it with advertising that is compliant.

New rules for advertising on scaffolding wrap

A more austere policy on advertising on scaffolding wrap was introduced on 1 October 2009.

The most important new rules are:

- the advertising may cover no more than 50% of the scaffolding wrap (was 100%);
- the maximum width for scaffolding wrap is 16 metres;
- the section of scaffolding wrap that does not display advertising must display a print of the façade;
- no advertising may be displayed on scaffolding wrap around Dam Square and along the canals;
- from September 2010, no advertising may be displayed on scaffolding wrap on premises at the corner of a junction between a canal and a radial street or square.³

The arrangements as to how often advertising may be displayed on scaffolding wrap, and for how long, have also changed. Advertising on scaffolding wrap on buildings on which work is being carried out that is not subject to a permit may not be displayed for longer than six weeks (was nine weeks). The frequency has been reduced from once every three years to once every five years. Users of the building must now also be notified.

3. Statutory and procedural aspects of listed building permits

General

The Dutch Monuments and Historic Buildings Act (*Monumentenwet 1988*) allows municipal authorities to issue permits for alterations to listed buildings, on condition that the authority has adopted a monuments and historic buildings ordinance (or heritage ordinance) setting up an independent heritage management advisory committee.⁴ Where plans impact on the future of a monument or historic building (demolition, reconstruction and new designation or function), the municipal authority is obliged to seek the advice of the Cultural Heritage Agency (*Rijksdienst voor het Cultureel Erfgoed*). Though its recommendations are not binding, they generally carry a great deal of weight in the municipality's decision-making. Stakeholders have two opportunities to appeal against the municipality's decision (or submit their views): to the municipal authority itself when the draft decision (draft permit) is issued, and to the district court when the final

³ Particularly radials and squares in the main shopping district: Raadhuisstraat, Leidsestraat, Muntplein and Koningsplein.

⁴ In Amsterdam this is the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Committee.

permit is issued. This procedure conforms to the administrative system in The Netherlands, whereby authority to take decisions is delegated to the lowest possible level, as close as possible to the public, and a broad legal framework guarantees careful decision-making by all concerned.

The situation in Amsterdam

In Amsterdam, the authority to issue monuments and historic buildings permits has been delegated to the district councils. A scientific investigation of the value of the monument or historic building concerned plays a key role in the assessment of permit applications. The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology generally performs an architectural/historical or built heritage survey, the results of which guide the assessment of the restoration or alteration plan. Policy has also been developed on interventions for which many permit applications are received, such as foundation repair, façade repair, roof work, insulation etc.⁵ 'Conservation before renovation' is the first principle. Central Amsterdam district council has formally adopted this policy, which is publicised via the municipality's website. To summarise, therefore: the cultural heritage value of monuments and historic buildings is always the key principle underlying the assessment of permit applications.

Permits and the demolition of monuments and historic buildings

To make alterations to a national listed building requires both a building permit and a permit issued under the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act. A similar procedure applies to municipal monuments and historic buildings, and again a special monuments and historic buildings permit is required. It is a criminal offence to demolish parts of a monument or historic building without a permit. Should this nevertheless occur, the municipal authority (Central Amsterdam District council) will demand that the demolished parts be restored to their original state. If the owner fails to comply, he or she will be prosecuted.⁶

In the most extreme cases, a monuments and historic buildings permit may authorise demolition of a monument. In practice, this occurs only by way of great exception, if at all. Amsterdam city centre has a policy of conservation, commensurate with the area's status as a protected cityscape (Conservation Area) under the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act. Furthermore, there is great popular support for preservation of the heritage in Amsterdam. The

⁵ Programme of Requirements for the Quality of Monuments and Historic Buildings 2009 (PvEM)

⁶ Recent example: Vijzelstraat 103

city's residents have always had a moderating effect on the development and regeneration of the urban fabric. The people of Amsterdam have, for the past 150 years, systematically resisted any breaches of the historic infrastructure, filling in of waterways and demolition of neighbourhoods (such as the Jordaan district). This is in line with a long tradition in Amsterdam whereby residents like to present their city as a free, tolerant and slightly anarchistic city state, while at the same time taking great pride in their heritage and being extremely wary of anything that threatens to harm it.

4. New developments since October 2009 (App. D and E)

Structural Concept and Vision for High-rise Construction

On 26 January 2010 the Municipal Executive adopted the Draft Structural Concept, which sets out a long-term vision for the physical development of the city. On 25 February 2010 the Draft Structural Concept will be debated by the City Municipal Council. The document will then be released for public consultation with Amsterdam residents until 20 May 2010.

The Draft Structural Concept consists of:

- a vision of the development of the city up to 2040;
- a schedule that shows what is to be done, and how implementation will be phased in each district;
- a set of instruments defining how the rules allowing implementation of the vision will be enforced.

Contrary to the common procedure for structural concepts, prompted by the World Heritage nomination of the canal ring area, the Municipal Executive has decided to include the Vision for High-rise Construction as a separate policy document. This decision illustrates the fact that the Municipal Council regards it as vital that a clear and consistent policy on high-rise construction be set out for the long term.

The draft Vision for High-rise Construction of August 2009 (appendix D) will be completed by the Spatial Planning Department in collaboration with the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology and presented to the Municipal Executive for adoption after the 2010 summer recess.

Pontsteiger (Waterpoort) building in the Houthaven

Plans have been developed for a 90-metre building containing public amenities and apartments (designed by Arons & Gelauff) in a new residential area in Houthaven, in the Westerpark district.

This location is well outside the buffer zone. Sightline studies produced to identify the impact of the building on the city's skyline have found that it will not be visible from the canal ring area. At Westerdok, which is situated in the buffer zone, along the IJ, the building will however be clearly visible. Given the fact that there are already modern buildings at this location, the new building will not disrupt the city's skyline.

Update on key issues

For the latest update on the key issues, please see appendix E.

5. Update on implementation of Management Plan (App. F and G)

The Management Plan for the 'Seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht' sets out a series of Key Points (pp. 71-86) to ensure that management of the canal ring area is implemented in municipal policy in a way that is compliant with the World Heritage Convention's objectives. They cover:

- continuity and optimisation of the policy on the conservation of the historic city centre developed since it was designated a protected cityscape (Conservation Area) under the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act in 1999;
- activities associated with mandatory monitoring;
- activities designed to broaden and strengthen public support for the World Heritage nomination.

The majority of the actions have already been implemented, and the rest of the actions are on schedule. The main developments are listed below.

World Heritage Office

The World Heritage Office came into being on 1 September 2009. In organisational terms, the office (1.5 FTE) is part of Central Amsterdam district council, the owner of the nominated site. The costs of the office are being borne jointly by the district council and the city centre authority. The World Heritage Office's main responsibilities are to ensure that the site is monitored and to report monitoring activities to UNESCO, to provide information on and create support for the world heritage nomination among residents, businesses and other stakeholders, and to maintain a network.

Heritage Ordinance

The Heritage Ordinance that is to supersede the current 'Central Amsterdam District Council Monuments and Historic Buildings Ordinance 2005' has now been presented for public consultation. It will be officially introduced as soon as new legislation on building and other permits (known by the Dutch acronym WABO) enters into force. This is currently scheduled for 1 July 2010. The most important change relative to the existing regulations (Monuments and Historic Buildings Ordinance 2005) lies in the fact that the Heritage Ordinance will set out rules both for the built heritage above ground (monuments and historic buildings) and the archaeological heritage under ground. The procedure and associated deadlines for monuments and historic buildings permits will also be adjusted to the provisions in the new legislation. The criteria for issuing permits will be the same as those applying under the current Monuments and Historic Buildings Ordinance of 2005.

Progress with review of zoning plans

Since 1999, Amsterdam city centre has enjoyed the status of protected cityscape (Conservation Area) under the Monuments and Historic Buildings Act. Protective zoning plans have been drafted for the entire city centre which, under the new Spatial Planning Act, must be updated once every ten years. This updating process (zoning plan review) is on schedule. The zoning plan for the eastern city centre (which covers the section of the canal ring area to the east of the Amstel) will be presented for public inspection, after which the official adoption process will be completed. A start will be made on preparations for the zoning plans for the southern and western city centre (covering the section of the canal ring area to the west and northwest of the Amstel) this year; the revised plans will be presented for public inspection and official adoption in 2011. This means that all zoning plans pertaining to the canal ring area (the property) will have been updated by 2012.

One important change in relation to the old zoning plans is that plot boundaries in built areas may no longer be breached, thus explicitly regulating the preservation of the urban structure. The new zoning plans will also include an archaeological policy map.

Updating and extension of Conservation Area Classification Map

The Conservation Area Classification Map, which was drawn up after the city centre was designated a protected cityscape in 1999 (see Nomination Document, Management Plan pp. 235-236) was updated in 2009. It now shows all monuments and historic buildings granted statutory protection since the year 2000 (more than 1200 in all). The map, which carries legal

force as part of the zoning plan, and is used as an assessment framework for building permit applications, is publicly accessible, and can be consulted online as an appendix to the 'The Beauty of Amsterdam - Digital' policy document on building aesthetics (www.welstandsnota.amsterdam.nl). The plan is to update the map in 2010 to include information on buildings from the period 1940-1970, which have thus far been overlooked.

Map of Built Heritage Values

In 2009 the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology produced a map of built heritage values for the medieval core of the city centre (see Nomination Document, Management Plan, 'Classification Map for Historic Architectural Value', pp. 236-237). A similar map is now being produced for the canal ring area. The possibility of incorporating this map and the rules associated with it into the updated zoning plans and formally adopting them as policy – as has happened with the archaeological policy map – is currently being explored.

Water zoning plan

On 29 January 2009 Central Amsterdam district council adopted a policy document that sets out criteria for the appearance of boats and houseboats and the design of jetties, ladders and other structures designed to provide access to floating objects. As a follow-up to this, a start has now been made on a water zoning plan regulating the designated purpose and use of the city's waterways and other water bodies, including moorings for boats and the locations of jetties. The basic principle of the plan is to highlight the relationship between the water and the quayside. Options being considered include moving houseboats to allow unobstructed views of historic bridges, and creating space for historic ships in important sightlines. Another important principle behind the plan is that access to the water should be promoted by allowing short-term mooring at some spots. The district council will adopt the zoning plan in 2011. The rules in the plan will gradually be incorporated into the updated regular zoning plans.

To promote passenger and – possibly – freight transport by water, the district council has drawn up a jetties plan which will be included in the water zoning plan. The idea is to construct a number of new jetties of modest dimensions, with as light a structure and restrained a design as possible. The district council signed covenants on the implementation of the plan with a number of private companies and cultural and other organisations on 30 November 2009. Under these agreements, the district council will construct the jetties, and the private parties will pay the costs. Fourteen possible locations have so far been identified, eleven of which are situated in

the canal ring area. A separate decision will be taken on the construction of each jetty. The jetties planned for two visually important locations (Amstelveld and Noordermarkt) will be constructed after the houseboats currently moored there have been moved. A new jetty was recently built at the Hermitage aan de Amstel museum.

Monitoring

One of the key issues included in the Nomination Document required the municipal authority to compile a monitoring matrix to accompany the section on monitoring in the Management Plan (pp. 317-324). The matrix was completed in September 2009 (appendix F). Arrangements have since been made with Amsterdam's statistics department O+S for the collection of data. O+S has also been commissioned to conduct a survey of visitor perceptions of the canal ring area. In September 2009 Central Amsterdam district council published its regular two-yearly trend report (*Trendrapport 2008-2009*) on the main developments and trends affecting the city centre. A summary of the report is enclosed (appendix G).

Communication

The World Heritage Office has drawn up a communication plan for the period up to summer 2010, with the aim of keeping stakeholders as fully informed as possible about the nomination, and of engendering the widest possible support for it among Amsterdam residents, by responding to queries and exchanging requests and opinions. A separate plan is being drawn up for activities after summer 2010, assuming a positive decision will be taken by the World Heritage Committee.

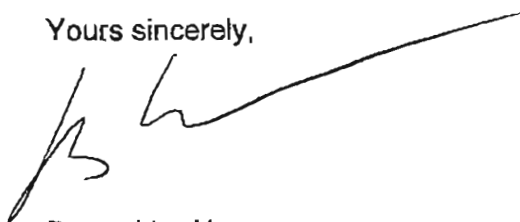
Work is currently underway on the expansion and updating of the interactive site www.werelderfgoed.amsterdam.nl, where residents, businesses, visitors and other stakeholders can find information and give their opinions and ideas about the nomination of the canal ring area. The first newsletter has been sent to stakeholders, and a second one is now being drafted, assuming a positive decision will be taken by the World Heritage Committee. As a follow-up to the stakeholder meeting in June 2008 and the two city consultations in 2009, a 'network of ambassadors' has now been set up. These are individuals who are prepared to convey the importance and significance of world heritage status to their grassroots. The first meeting took place on 15 September 2009, and the second is planned for spring 2010.

Important forums like the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Committee and Amsterdam Urban Development Board have been fully informed, and have committed their support for the nomination.

Final remarks

We have done our utmost in this letter to provide you with correct, adequate and up-to-date information. We are aware that in a few cases we have departed from your suggestions. We believe that we have good reason for doing so, and have attempted to present our arguments as clearly and consistently as possible. Throughout, we have based our response on the underlying principle that the essence of the nomination of the seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam for inscription on UNESCO's World Heritage List is the unique character of the urban planning concept. We have been frank and transparent on this issue in the Nomination Document, during the evaluation mission and in the answers set out above. We hope that those answers prove helpful in your evaluation process.

Yours sincerely,



Barend ter Haar

Permanent Delegate of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to UNESCO

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APPENDICES

A. Boundaries

- A.1 The Centre District and the World Heritage property and buffer zone:
Proposal by the State Party in the Nomination Document, January 2009
- A.2 The Centre District and the World Heritage property and buffer zone:
Proposal by ICOMOS, December 2009
- A.3 The Centre District and the World Heritage property and buffer zone:
Revised proposal by the State Party, February 2010
- A.4 The Centre District and the World Heritage property and buffer zone:
Changes in the 17th-century urban plan
- A.5 The Centre District and the World Heritage property in focus:
Proposal by the State Party in the Nomination Document, January 2009
- A.6 The Centre District and the World Heritage property in focus:
Proposal by ICOMOS, December 2009
- A.7 The Centre District and the World Heritage property in focus:
Revised proposal by the State Party, February 2010
- A.8 Northern boundary, proposal by the State Party in the Nomination Document, January 2009
- A.9 Northern boundary, proposal by ICOMOS, December 2009
- A.10 Northern boundary, proposal by the State Party, February 2010
- A.11 Northern boundary, proposal by the State Party, February 2010, in Historical Map of 1612
- A.12 Eastern boundary, proposal by the State Party in the Nomination Document, January 2009
- A.13 Eastern boundary, proposal by ICOMOS, December 2009
- A.14 Eastern boundary, revised proposal by the State Party, February 2010
- A.15 Boundary round Rembrandtplein, proposal by the State Party in the Nomination Document, January 2009
- A.16 Boundary round Rembrandtplein, proposal by ICOMOS, December 2009
- A.17 Boundary round Rembrandtplein, revised proposal by the State Party (as possible alternative), February 2010
- A.18 Boundary round Rembrandtplein, revised proposal by the State Party (as possible alternative), February 2010, in Historical Map of 1662

B. Historical Maps

- B.1 Amsterdam in 1538
- B.2 Amsterdam in 1612 (Design Third Extension)
- B.3 Amsterdam in 1662
- B.4 Amsterdam in 1662
- B.5 Amsterdam in 1708
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- B.7 Design Fourth Extension (Daniël Stalpaert 1662)
- B.8 Design Fourth Extension

C. Photos

- C.1 - Photos
- C. 31

D. High Rise Construction in Amsterdam

Input for the Draft Structural Concept 2040, August 2009

E. Key Issues

Update June 2009

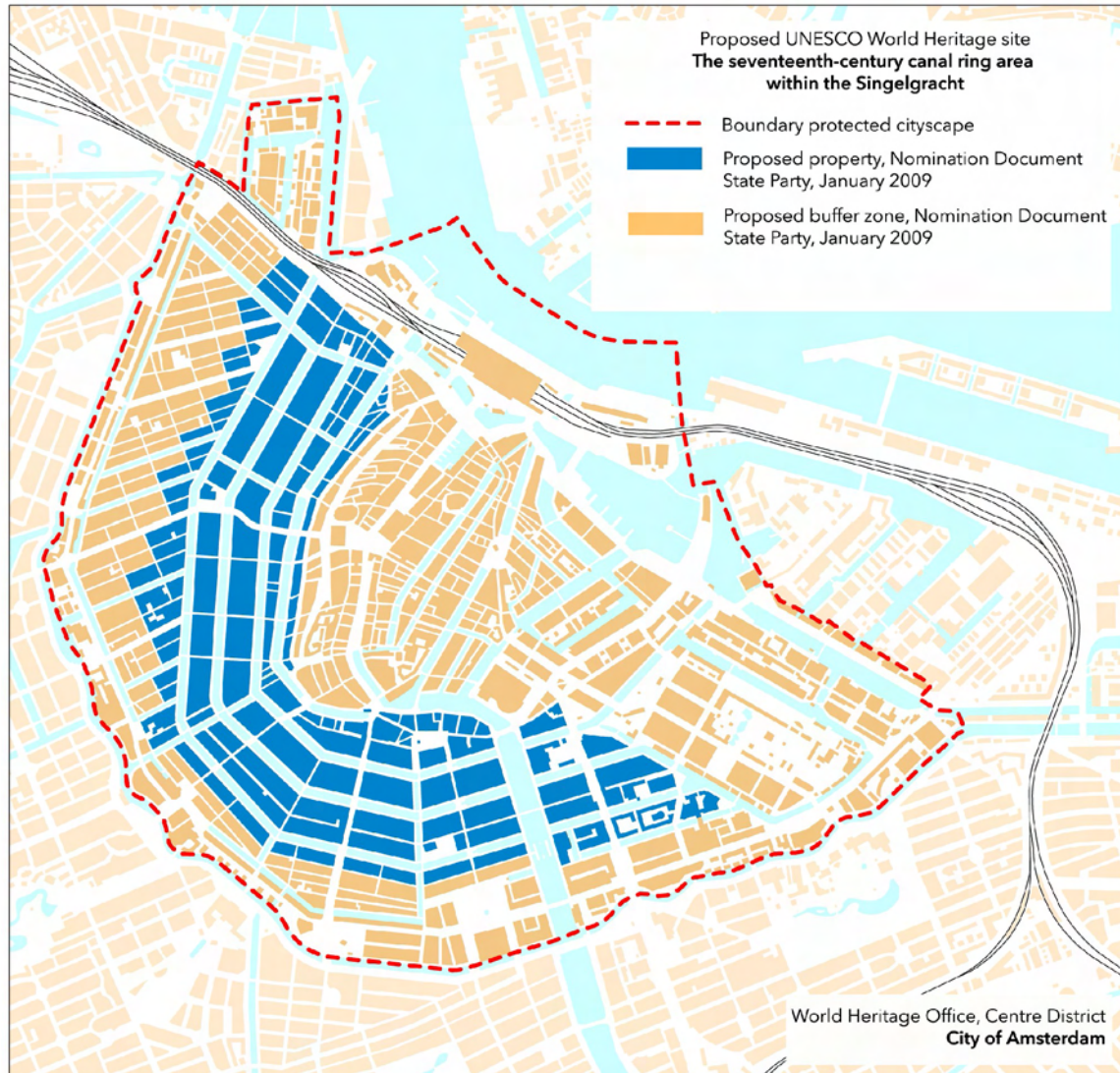
F. Monitoring Matrix

Key Indicators for Monitoring the State of Preservation, October 2009

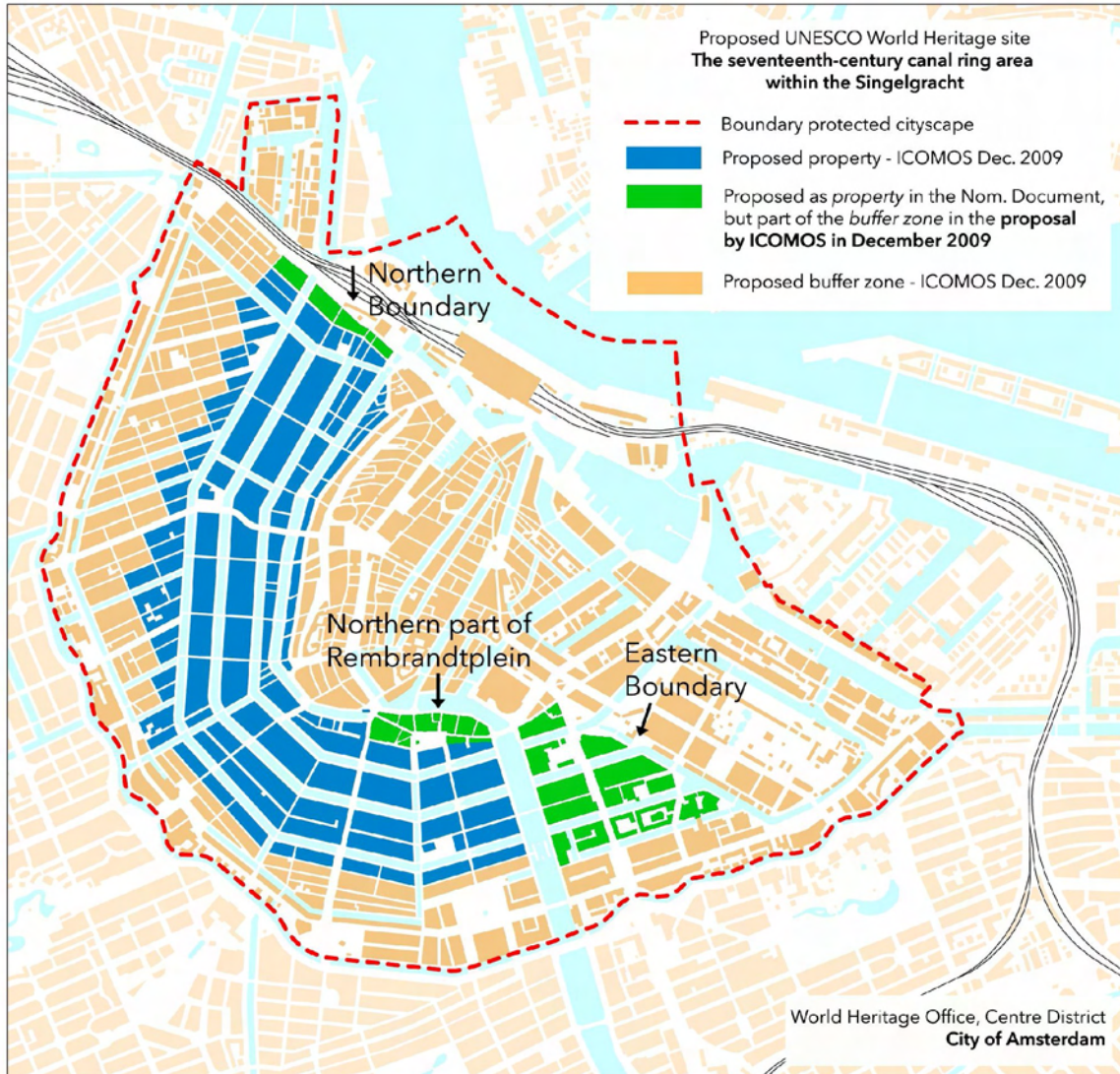
G. Summary Trend Report

Amsterdam inner city Trend Report 2008/2009 – English Summary, 2009

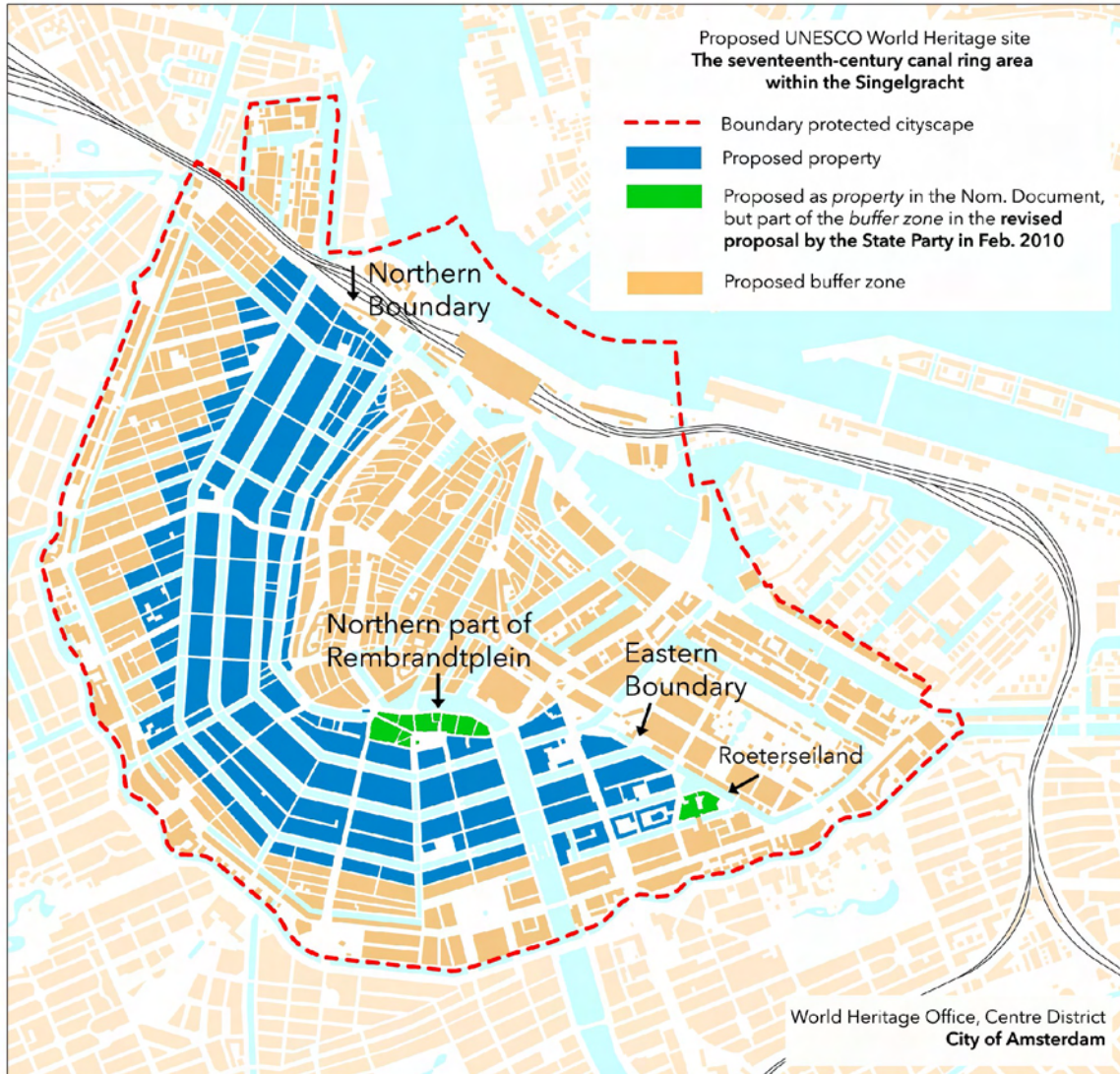
A. BOUNDARIES



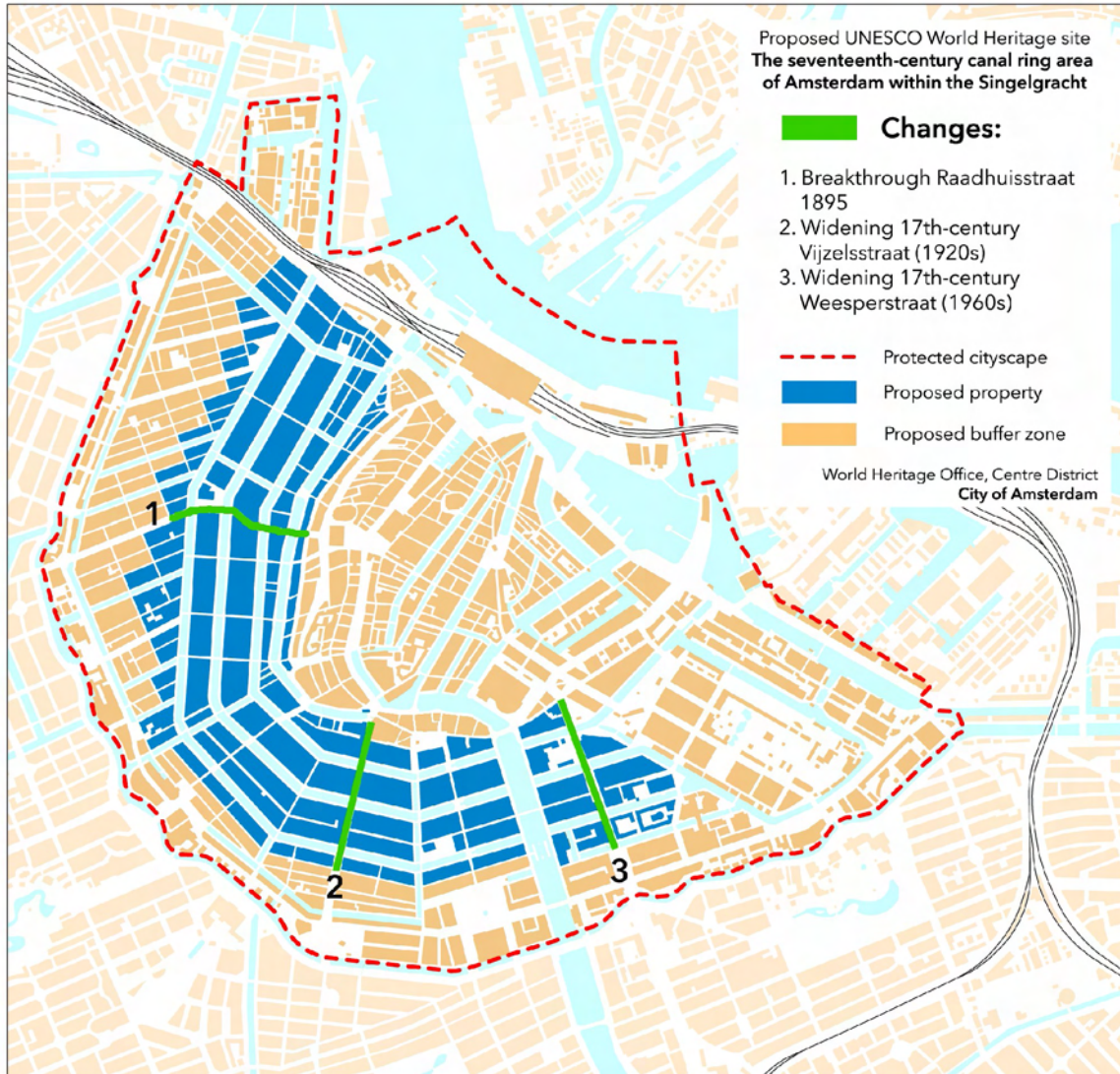
**Map A.1: The Centre District and the World Heritage property and buffer zone:
Proposal by the State Party in the Nomination Document, January 2009**



**Map A.2: The Centre District and the World Heritage property and buffer zone:
 Proposal by ICOMOS, December 2009**



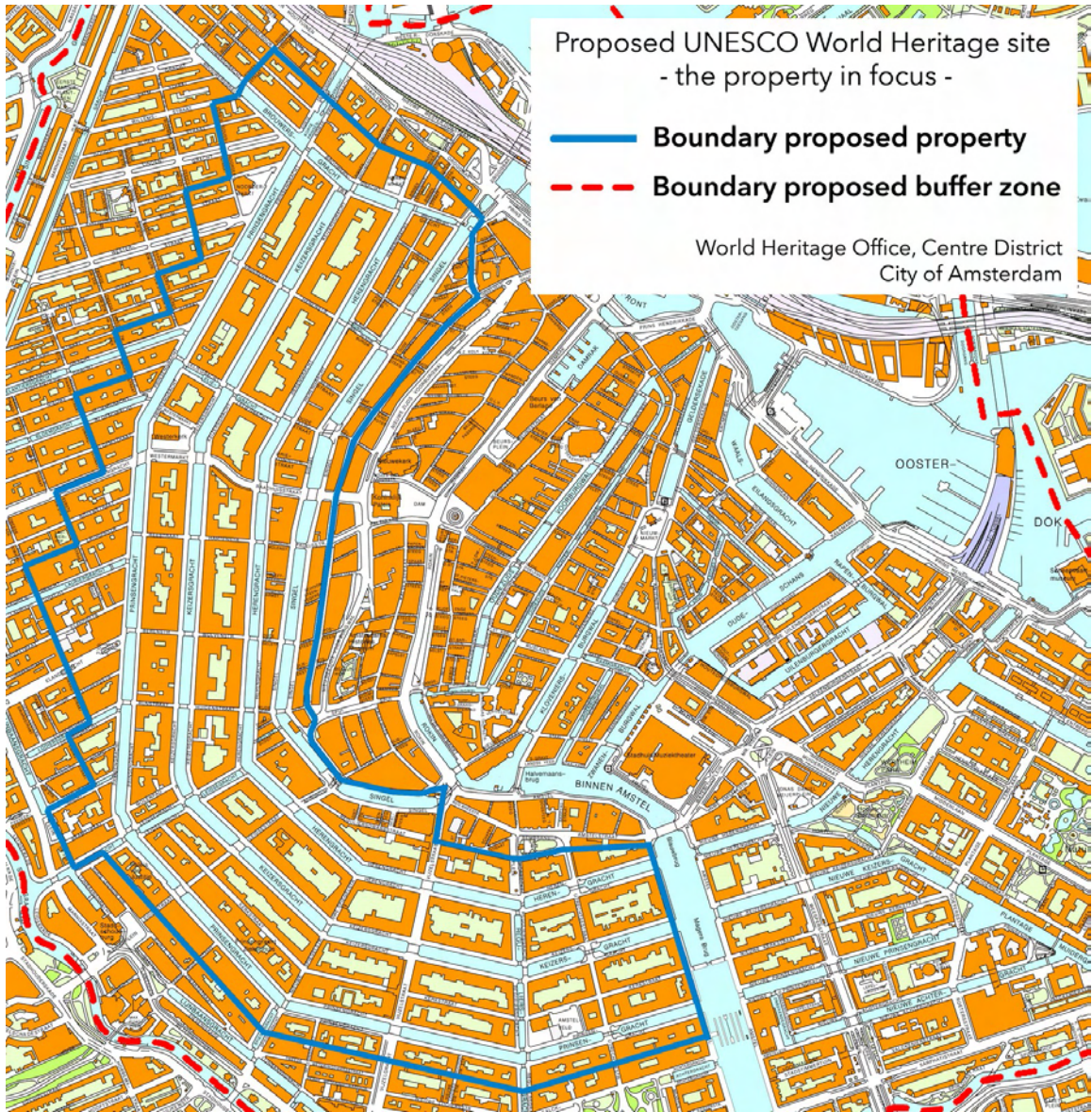
**Map A.3: The Centre District and the World Heritage property and buffer zone:
Revised proposal by the State Party, February 2010**



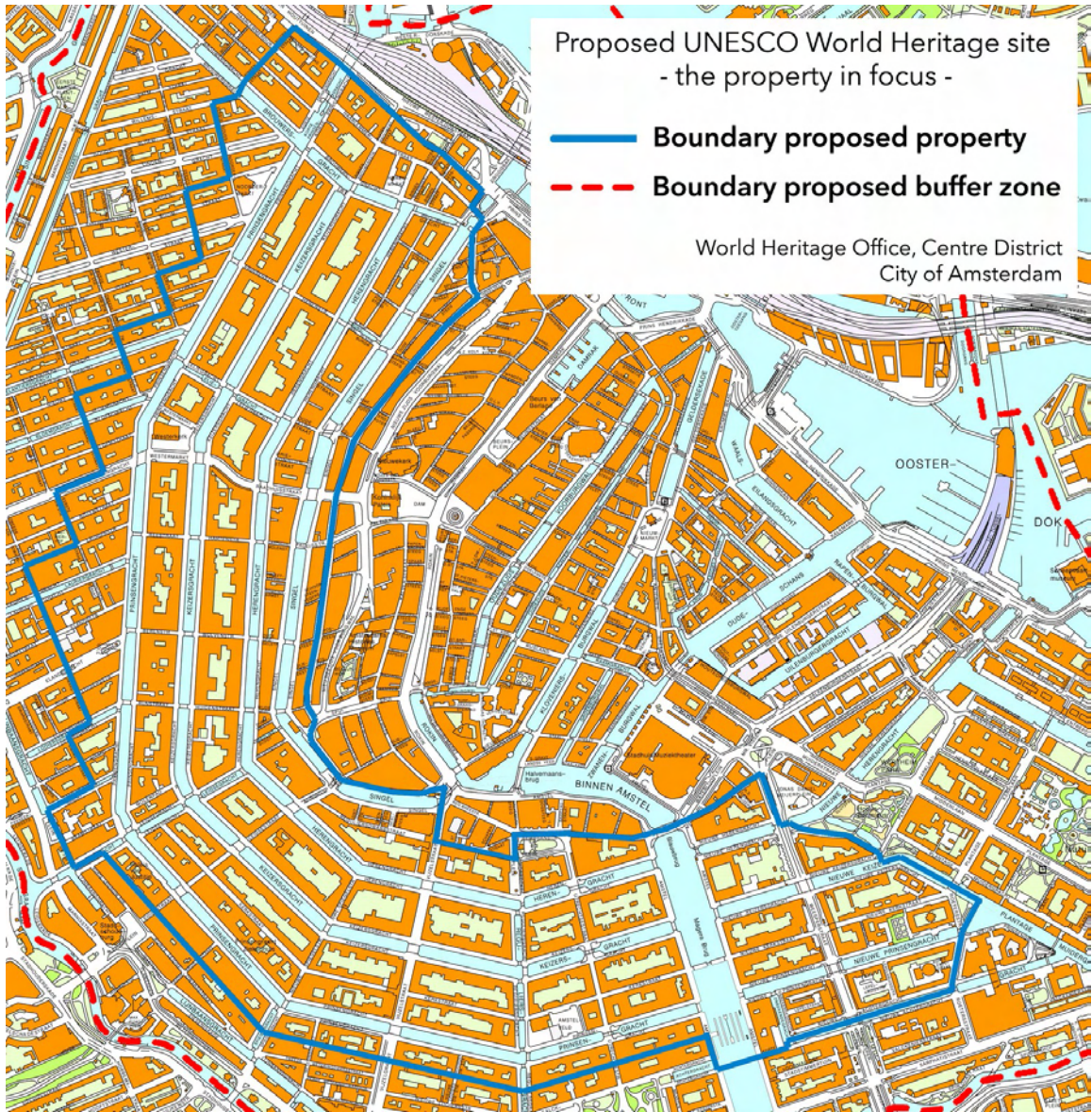
Map A.4: The Centre District and the World Heritage property and buffer zone:
Changes in the 17th-century urban plan
 (Map: Revised Proposal by the State Party, January 2009)



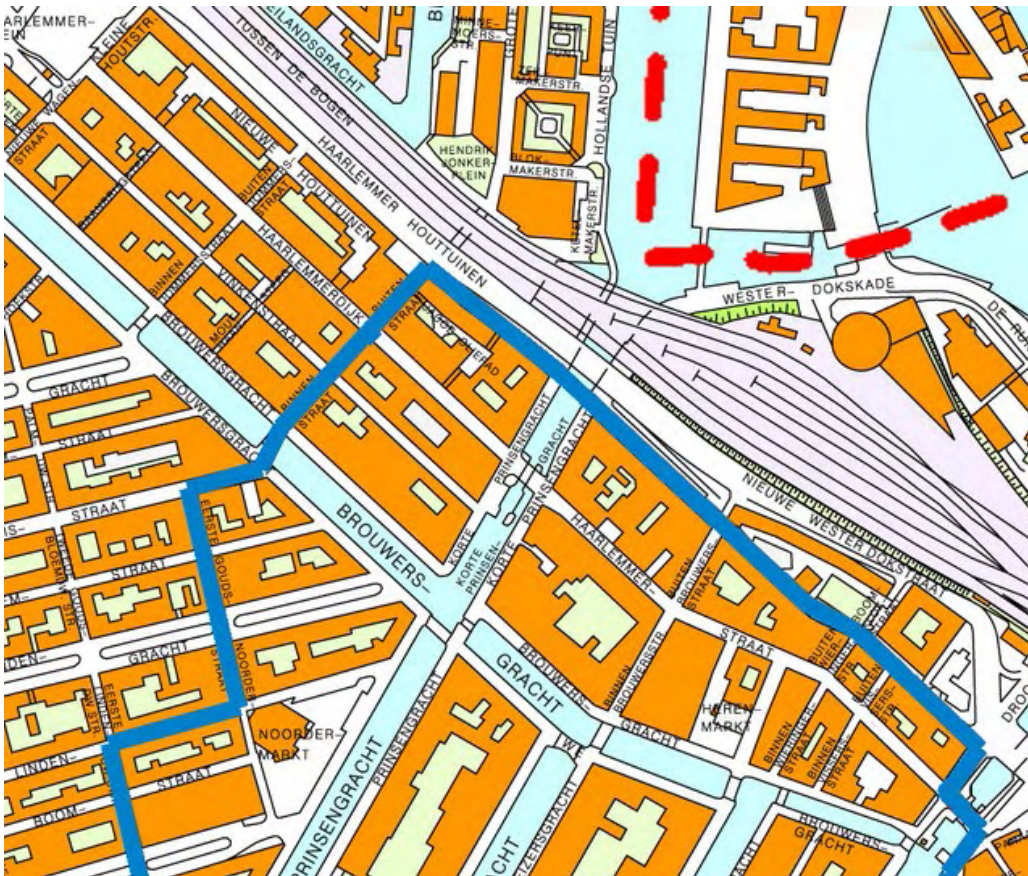
Map A-5: The Centre District and the World Heritage property in focus:
Proposal by the State Party in the Nomination Document, January 2009



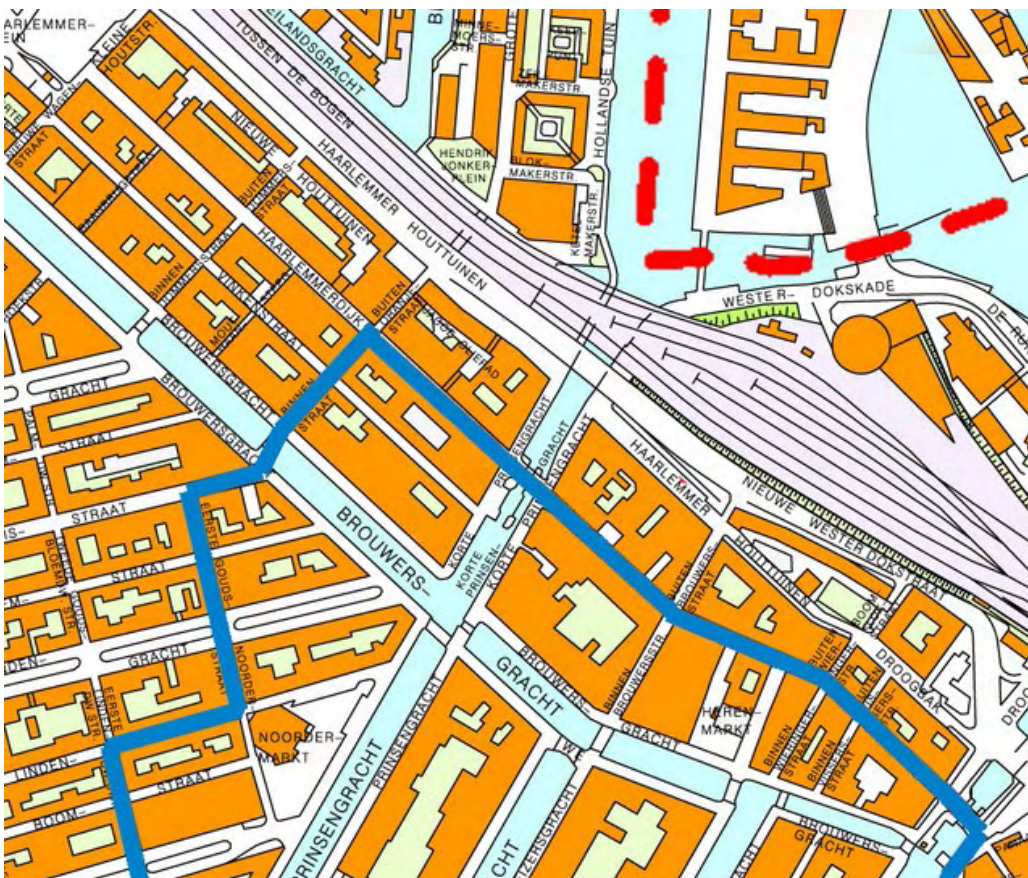
**Map A.6: The Centre District and the World Heritage property in focus:
Proposal by ICOMOS, December 2009**



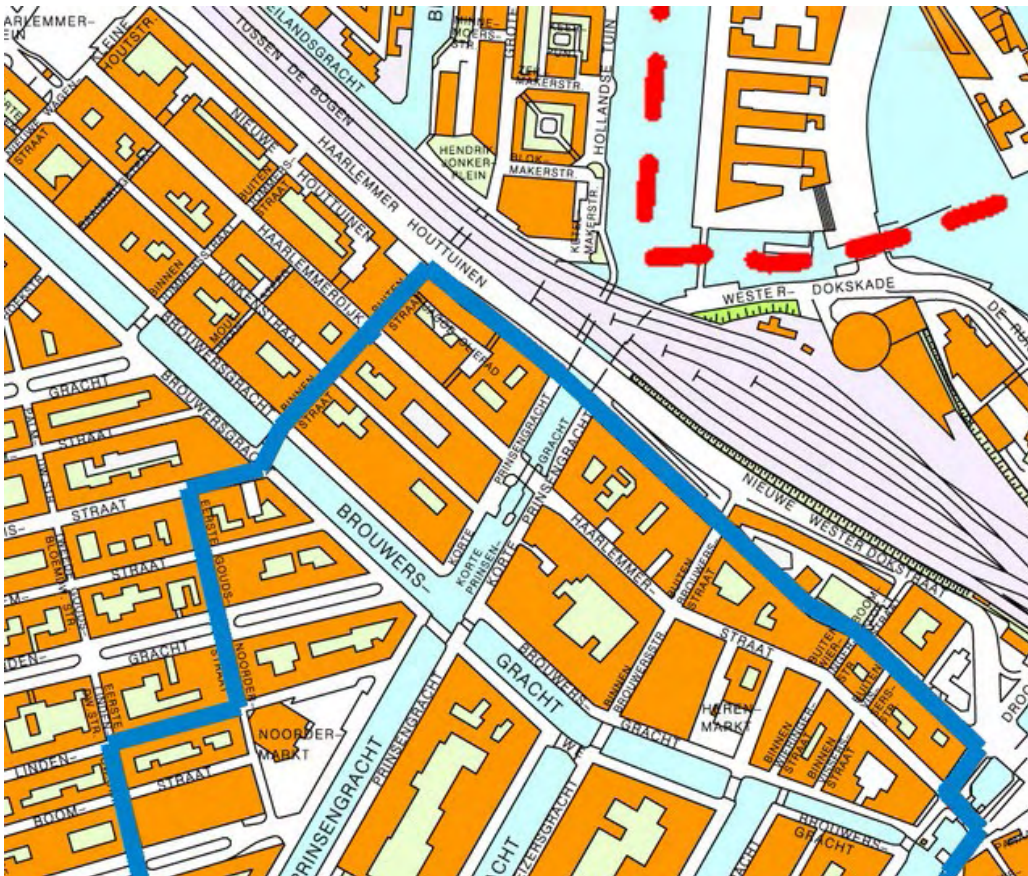
**Map A.7: The Centre District and the World Heritage property in focus:
Revised proposal by the State Party, February 2010**



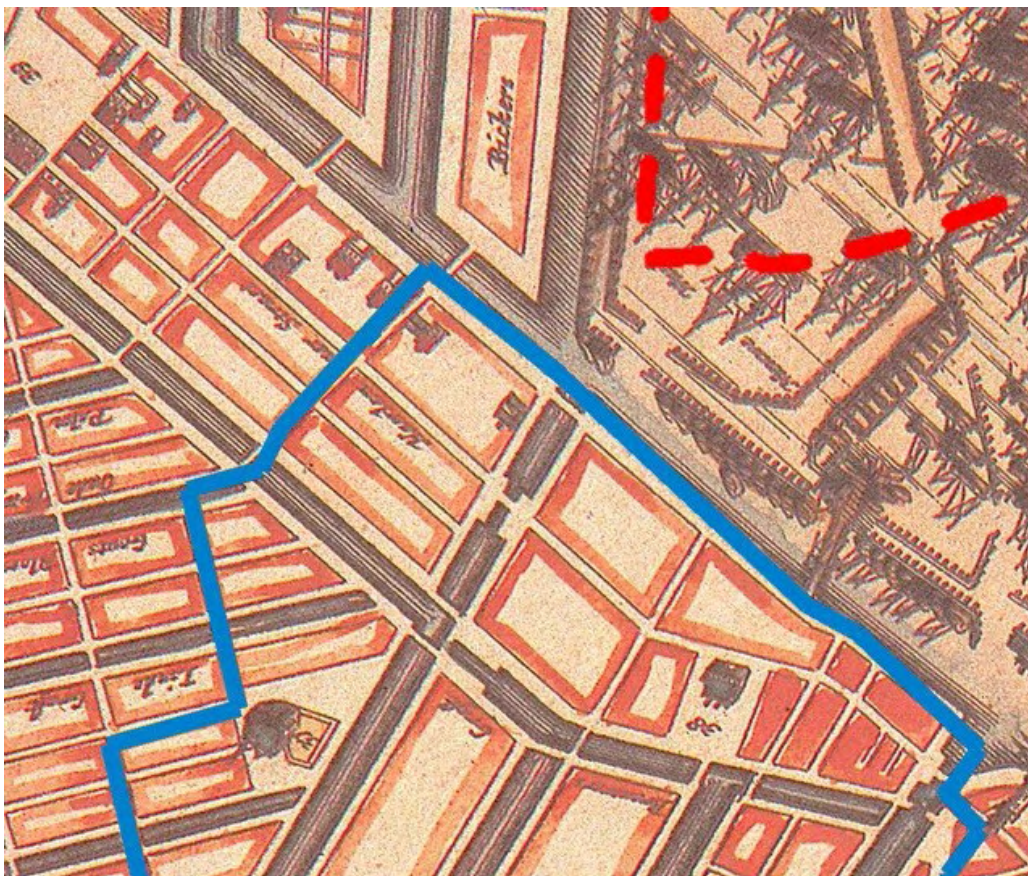
Map A.8: Northern boundary, proposal by the State Party in the Nomination Document, January 2009



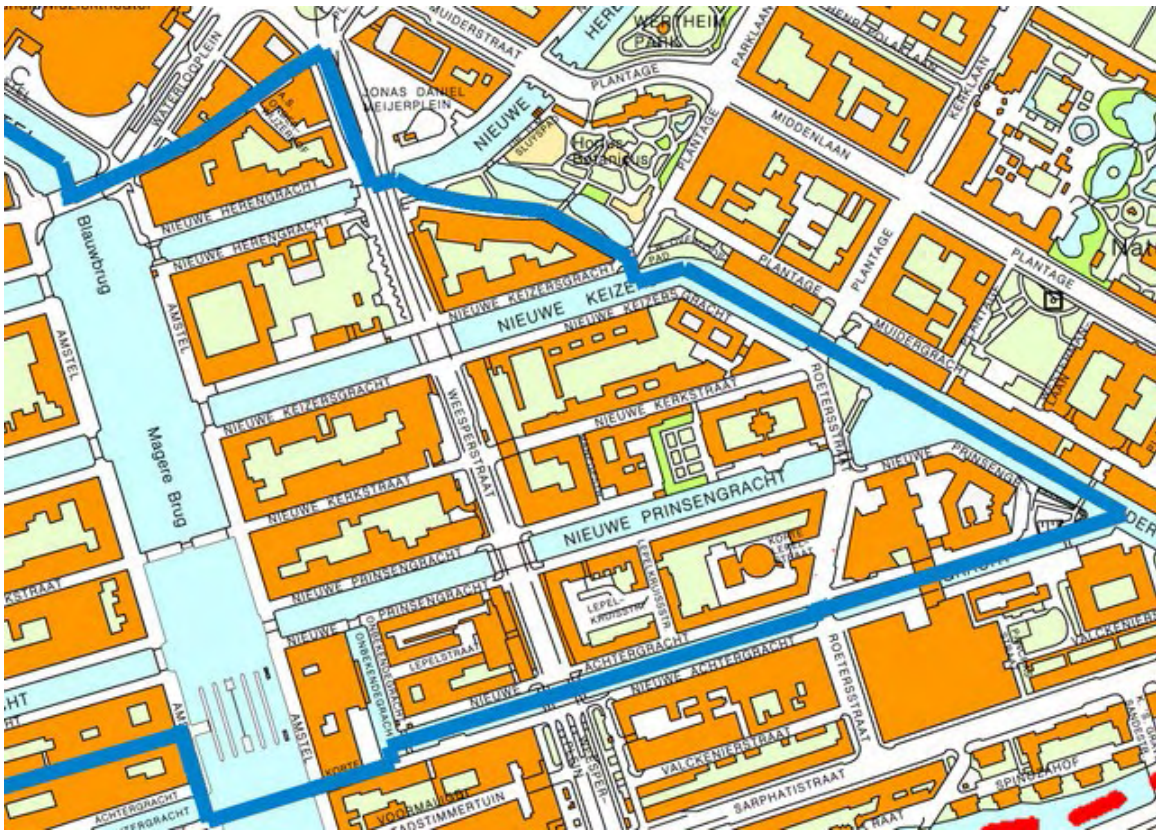
Map A.9: Northern boundary, proposal by ICOMOS, December 2009



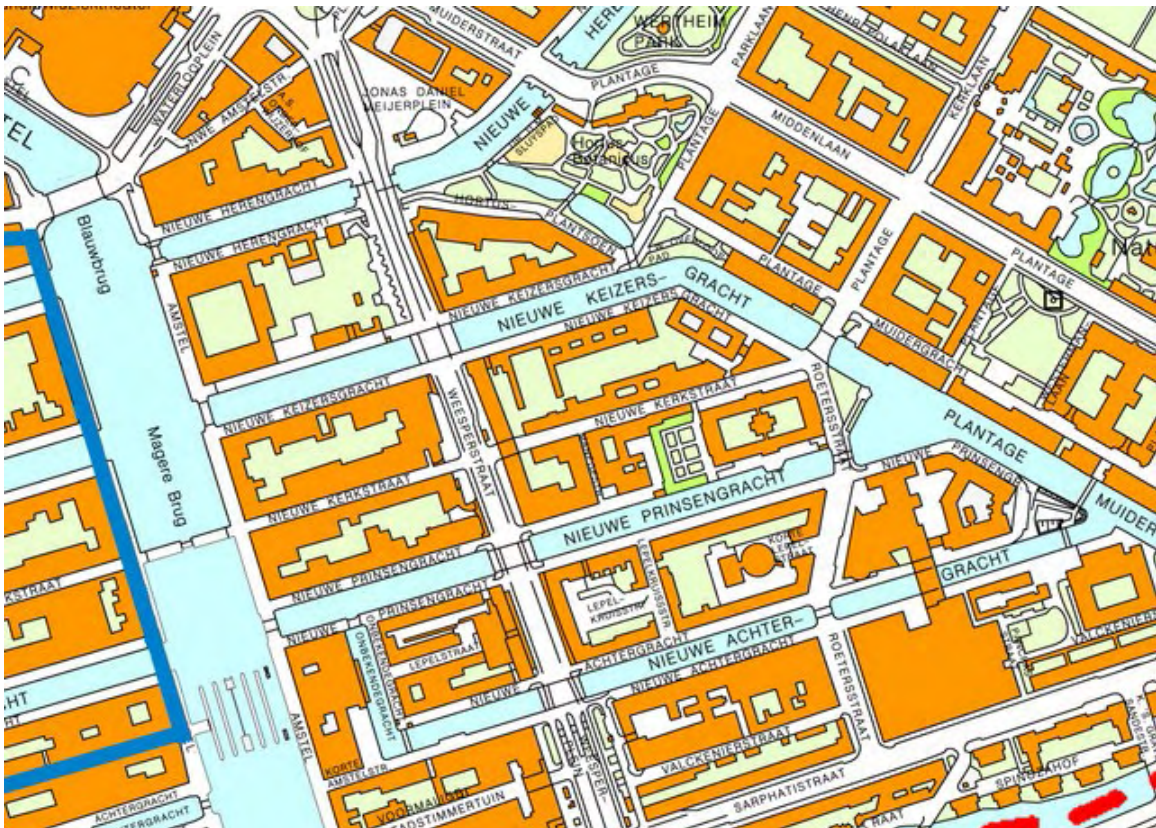
Map A.10: Northern boundary, **proposal by the State Party, February 2010** (same as proposal in the Nomination Document, by the State Party, January 2009)



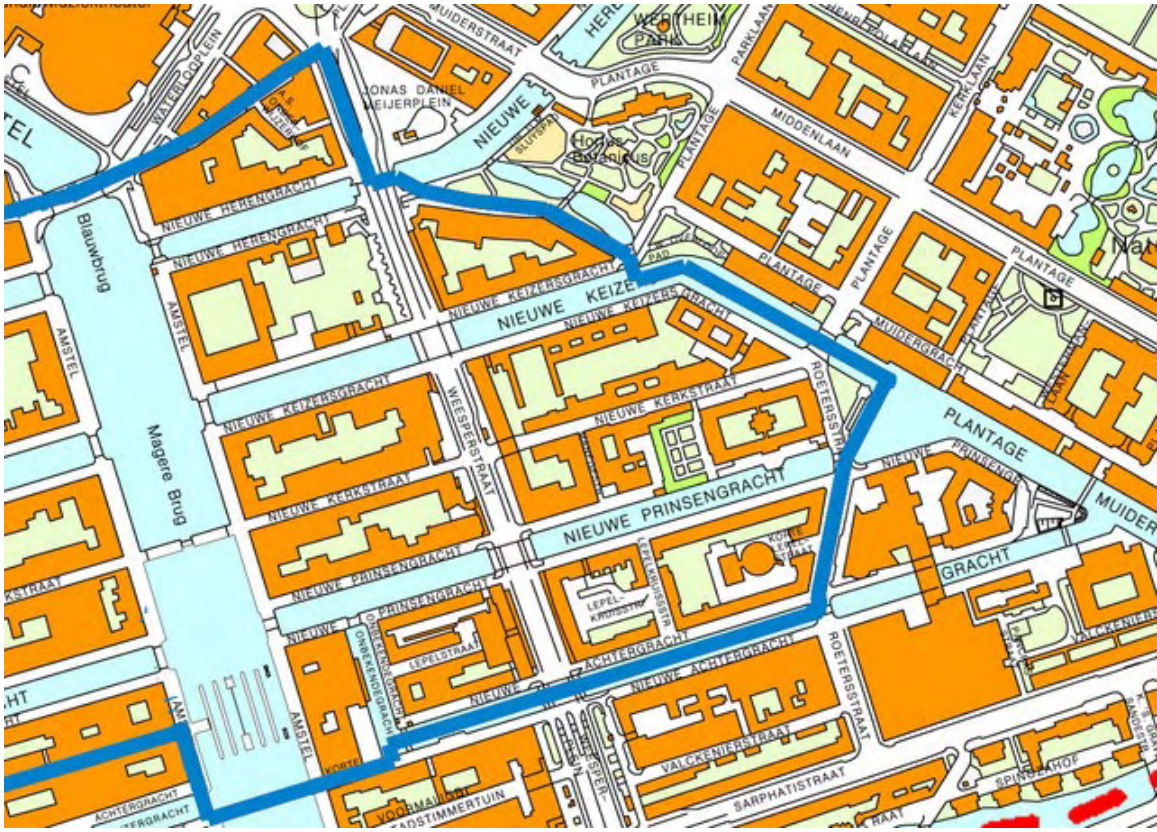
Map A.11: Northern boundary, **proposal by the State Party, February 2010** in Historical Map of 1612 (same as proposal in the Nom. Document, by the State Party, January 2009)



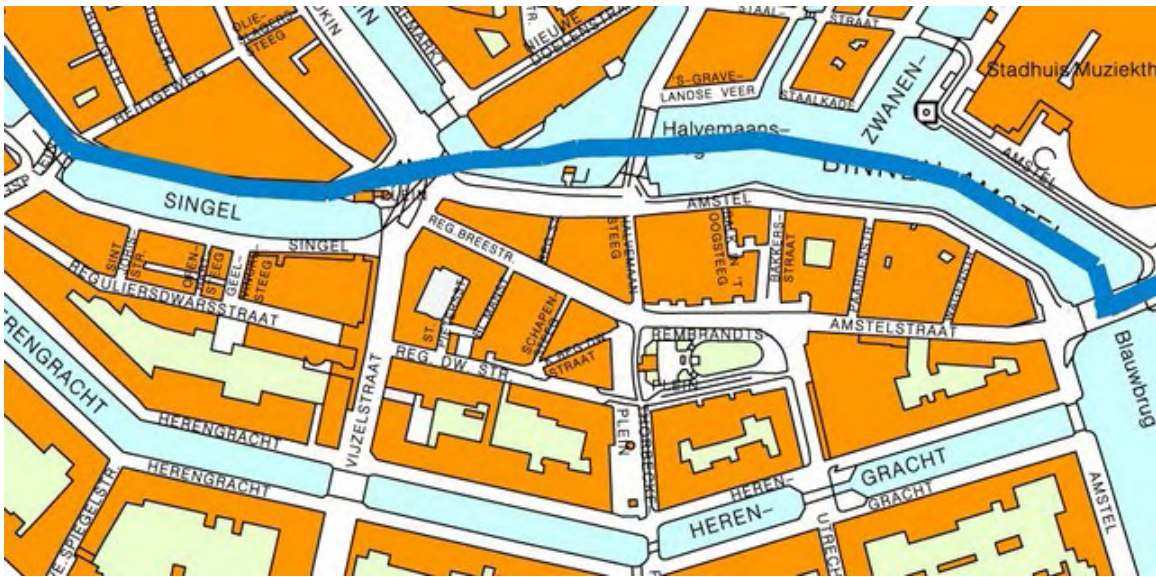
Map A.12: Eastern boundary, **proposal by the State Party in the Nomination Document, January 2009**



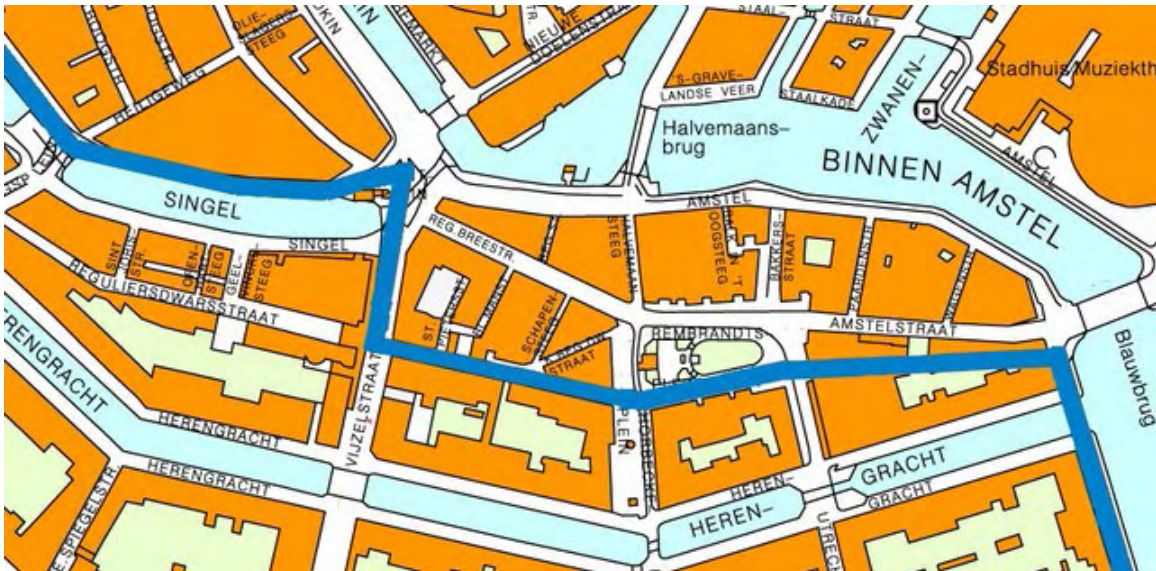
Map A.13: Eastern boundary, **proposal by ICOMOS, December 2009**



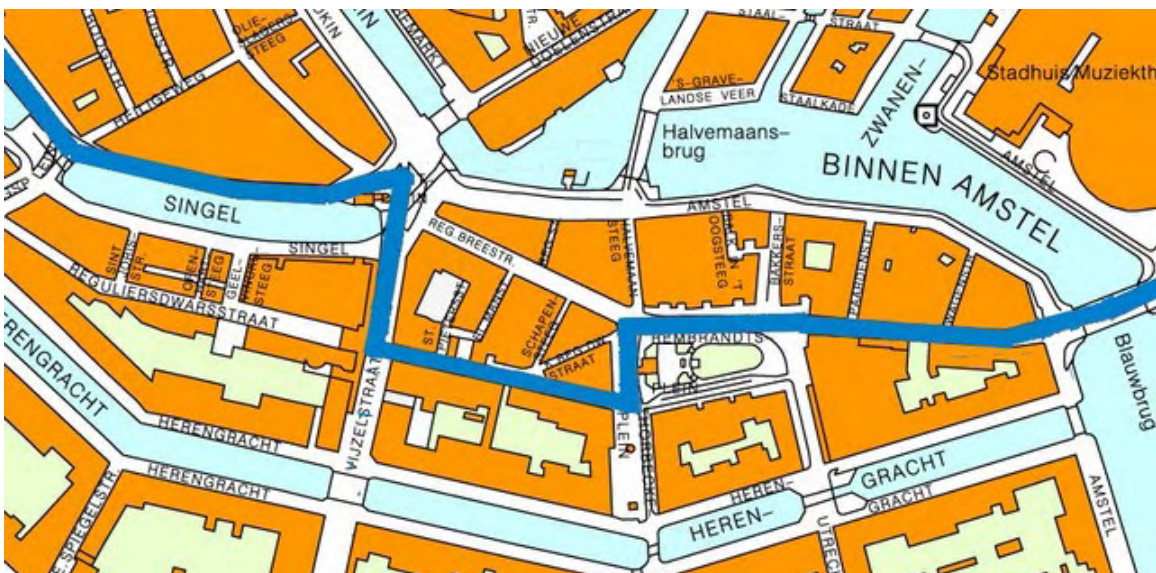
Map A.14: Eastern boundary, revised proposal by the State Party in February 2010



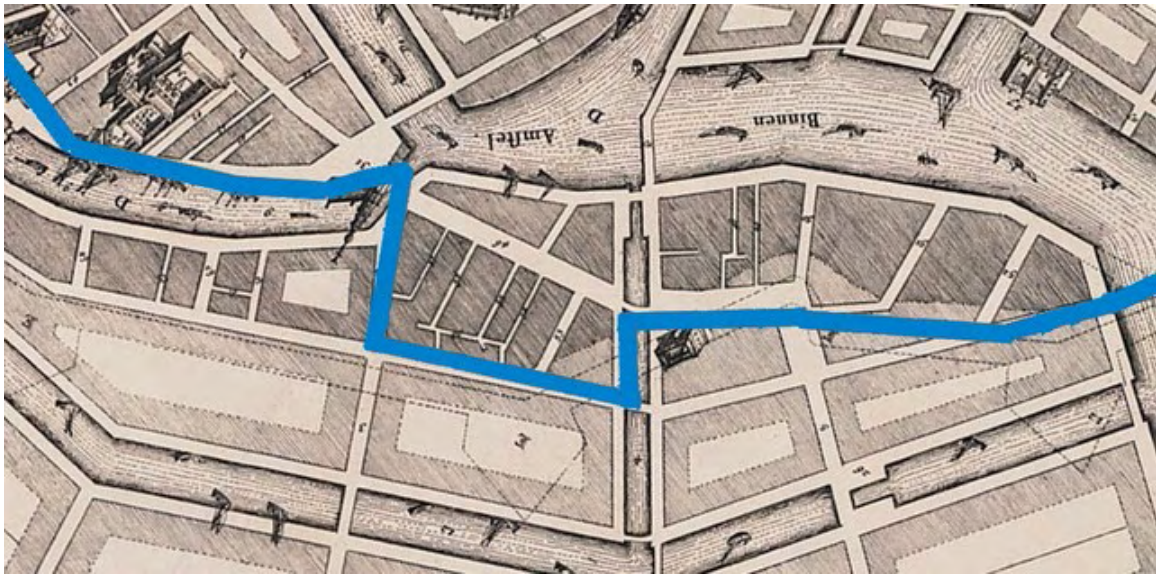
Map A.15: Boundary around Rembrandtplein, proposal by the State Party in the Nomination Document, January 2009



Map A.16: Boundary around Rembrandtplein, proposal by ICOMOS, December 2009

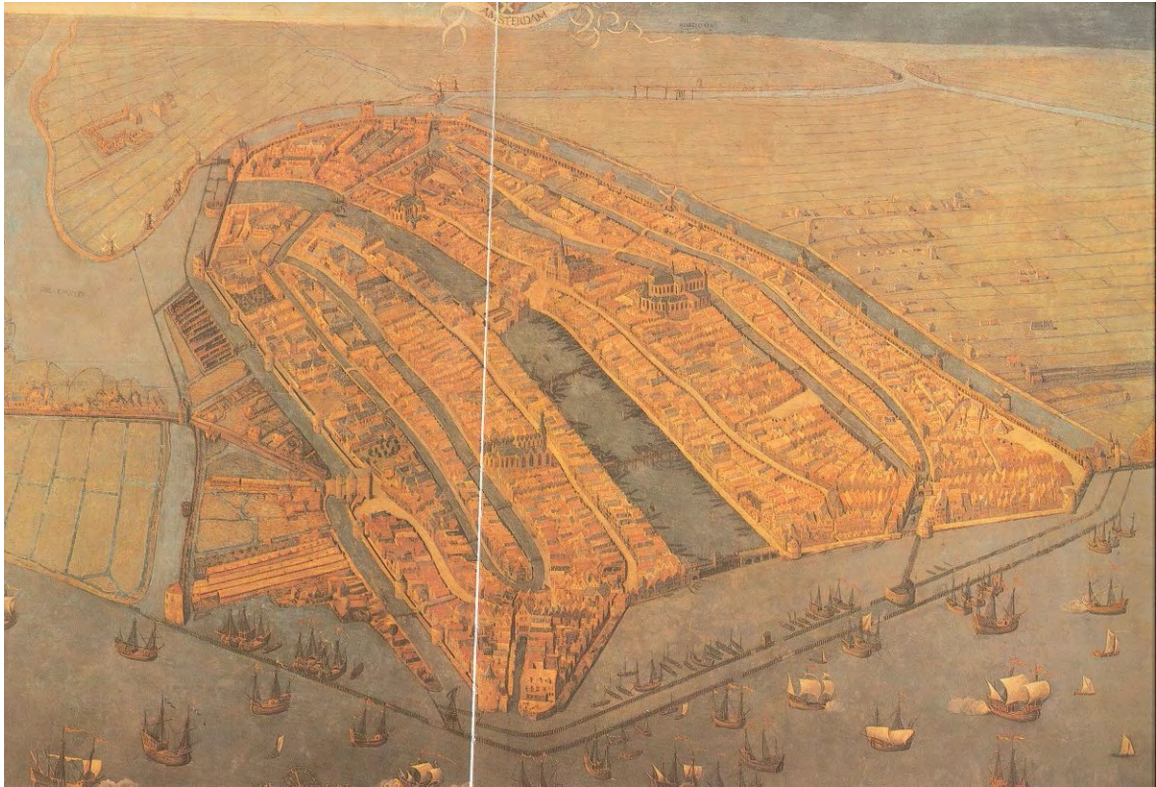


Map A.17: Boundary around Rembrandtplein, revised proposal by State Party in February 2010 (as possible alternative)



Map A.18: Boundary around Rembrandtplein, revised proposal (as possible alternative) by the State Party, February 2010 in Historical Map of 1662

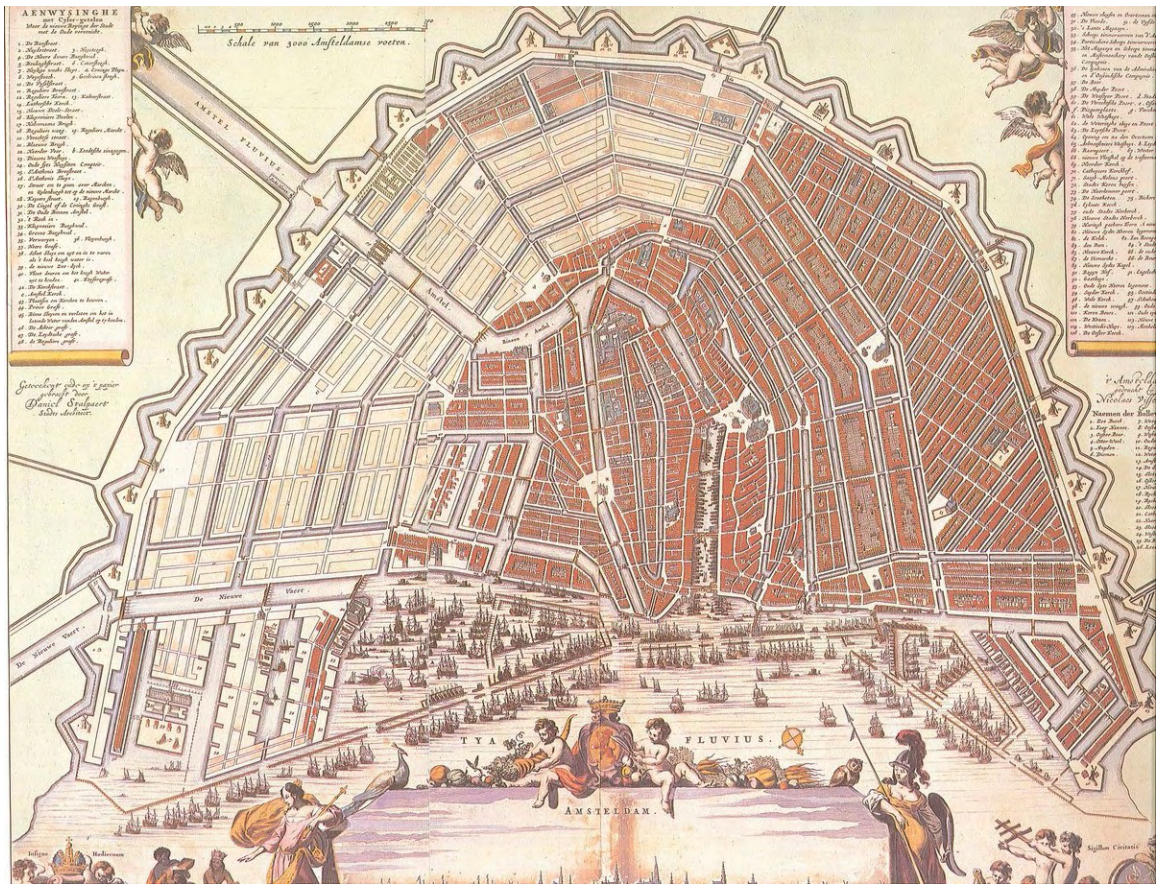
B. HISTORICAL MAPS



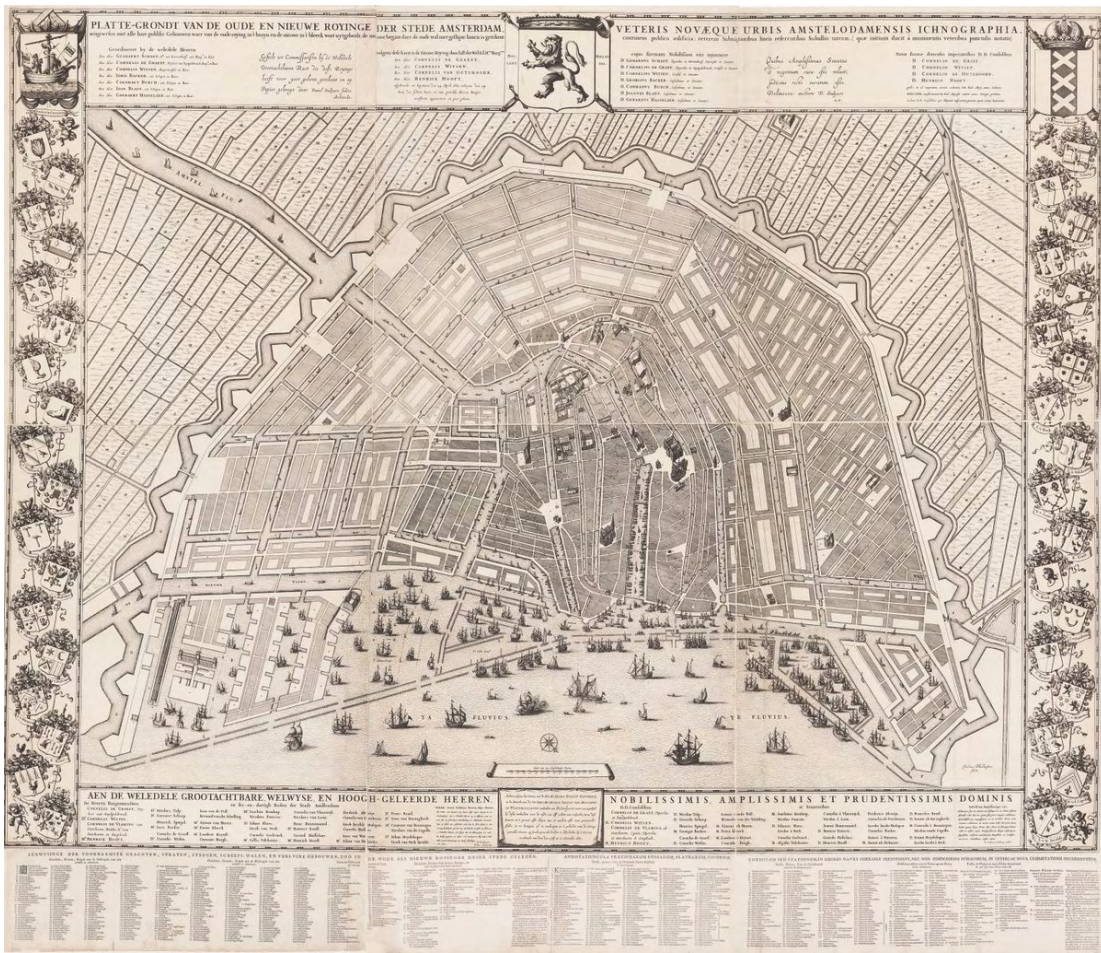
Map B.1: Amsterdam in 1538



Map B.2: Amsterdam in 1612 (Design Third Extension)



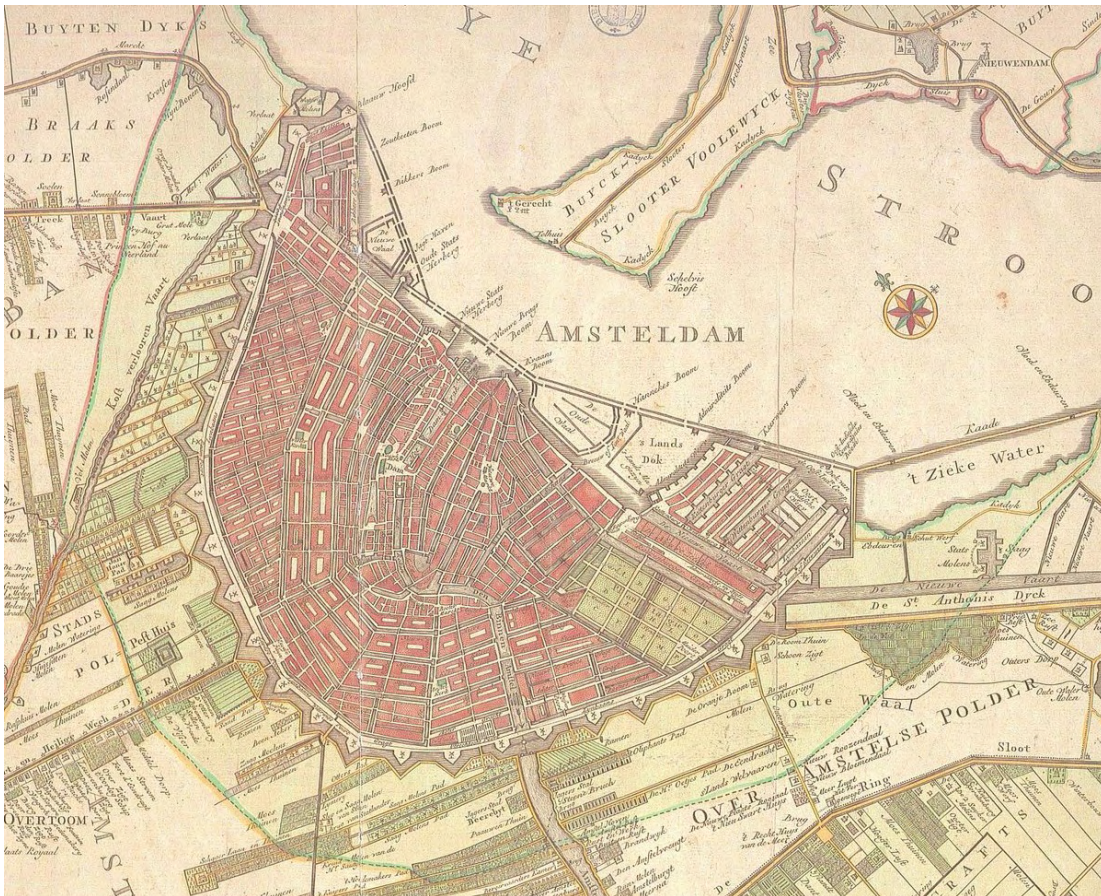
Map B.3: Amsterdam in 1662



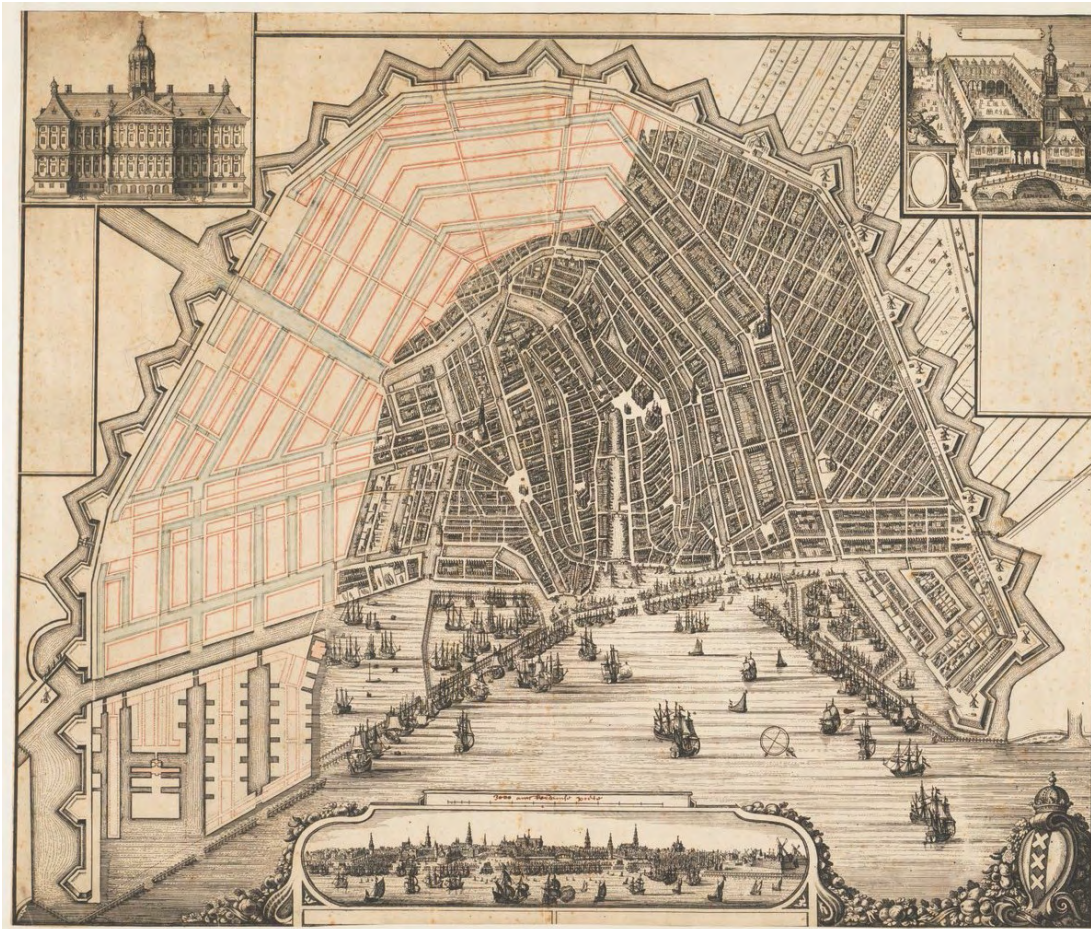
Map B.4: Amsterdam in 1662



Map B.5: Amsterdam in 1708



Map B.6: Amsterdam in 1770



Map B.7: Design **Forth Extension** (Daniël Stalpeart, 1662)



Map B.8: Design **Forth Extension**

C. PHOTOS



Photo C.1: Droogbak, view in Western direction. On the right: buildings outside the proposed northern boundary of the property in the Nomination Document



Photo C.2: Droogbak. outside the proposed northern boundary of the property in the Nomination Document



Photo C.3: Droogbak, inside the proposed boundary of the property in the Nomination Document



Photo C.4: Haarlemmer Houttuinen, inside the proposed boundary of the property in the Nomination Document



Photo C.5: Haarlemmer Houttuinen, inside the proposed boundary of the property in the Nomination Document



Photo C.6: Haarlemmer Houttuinen, inside the proposed boundary of the property in the Nomination Document



Photo C.7: Haarlemmerstraat, corner with Singel, view in south-western direction



Photo C.8: Haarlemmerstraat, corner with Singel, view in north-western direction



Photo C.9: Haarlemmerstraat, view in western direction. On the left: West-Indisch Huis



Photo C.10: West-Indisch Huis, court-yard



Photo C.11: Haarlemmerstraat, view in eastern direction



Photo C.12: Haarlemmerstraat, even street numbers



Photo C.13: Haarlemmerstraat, even street numbers



Photo C.14: Haarlemmerstraat, odd street numbers



Photo C.15: Weesperstraat, corner Nieuwe Keizersgracht, view in north-eastern direction



Photo C.16: Weesperstraat, corner Nieuwe Keizersgracht, view in south-eastern direction



Photo C.17: Weesperstraat, corner Nieuwe Prinsengracht, view in northern direction



Photo C.18: Amstel, eastside. View of the former *Diaconie Oude Mannen en Vrouwenhuis*, today Hermitage Museum



Photo C.19: View of the former *Diaconie Oude Mannen en Vrouwenhuis*, today Hermitage Museum



Photo C.20: Nieuwe Keizersgracht, even street numbers



Photo C.21: Nieuwe Keizersgracht, odd street numbers



Photo C.22: Nieuwe Keizersgracht, odd street numbers



Photo C.23: View of the former *Nieuwe Spinhuis en Werkhuis*, seen from Roetersstraat



Photo C.24: View of the former *Nieuwe Spinhuis en Werkhuis*, seen from Nieuwe Kerkstraat



Photo C.25: View of the former *Nieuwe Spinhuis en Werkhuis*, seen from Nieuwe Prinsengracht



Photo C.26: View of the former *Nieuwe Spinhuis en Werkhuis*, seen from Nieuwe Keizersgracht, on the left: buildings Roeterseiland



Photo C.27: View of the former *Nieuwe Lutherse Diaconie*, corner Nieuwe Kerkstraat, Nieuwe Keizersgracht



Photo C.28: View from Nieuwe Kerkstraat in direction of Roeterseiland



Photo C.29: Buildings Roeterseiland



Photo C.30: Buildings Roeterseiland



Photo C.31: View of Rembrandtplein in western direction



Photo C.32: View of Rembrandtplein in eastern direction



Photo C.33: Reguliersdwarsstraat, view in the direction of Rembrandtplein

D. HIGH RISE CONSTRUCTION IN AMSTERDAM

✘ Gemeente Amsterdam
✘
✘



High-rise construction in Amsterdam

Input for the Draft Structural Concept 2040

august 2009



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1. What constitutes high-rise construction in Amsterdam?

Status

This vision for high-rise construction in Amsterdam is intended as part of the Draft Structural Concept for Amsterdam 2040 being compiled in 2009. The draft version will be released by the Municipal Executive in September 2009. The final version is scheduled for adoption in December 2010, thus finalising policy on high-rise construction in Amsterdam. The vision developed for policy on high-rise construction is set out in this report, which has also served as input for the Structural Concept.

In international terms, Amsterdam's version of 'high-rise' is fairly modest, in terms both of height and of scale. Nor is it a static concept; it changes constantly over time. Throughout its development, Amsterdam has always had a fairly horizontal landscape, with just a few 'highpoints'. Initially, these were church towers and spires, mills built on the 17th-century ramparts, and the towers of the former Medieval city walls. The upper sections of the church towers and former defence towers were generally quite light and decorative, with colourful details, carillons or clocks. The city's towers reflect its collective consciousness. The Westertoren, at 90 m, is/was central Amsterdam's tallest tower.

As the city expanded in the 19th century on the basis of Pierre Cuypers' plan, it was surrounded by a series of churches and public buildings, including Central Station and the Rijksmuseum. The prominent new towers introduced in this phase, and the height and scale of these grand public buildings, altered the 17th-century skyline. Along with the warehouses along the river IJ, it became common for buildings to be constructed to a height of some 30 metres. During the same period, harbour cranes and chimney stacks also had an impact on the skyline. Many of these historical industrial structures have now disappeared, along with most of the windmills on the ramparts. They have been replaced by new ones on an even grander scale in the

Westelijk Havengebied (Western Port Area), including the power station, the cranes at the container terminals, and wind turbines.

The newly invented lift was not initially broadly adopted in Amsterdam. The 40-metre(!) 'Skyscraper' built in 1931 as part of Berlage's plan for the south of the city was the first tall structure with no public function or significance. The AUP of 1935 was also based on a 'flat city in a flat landscape', although the flatness had already been relieved here and there by tall residential buildings, often built in series. This strategy continued into the 1970s. Buildings to a height of around 70 metres still blended in with the 17th-century towers. However, their function was no longer to mark the location of public functions. Their role was now more compositional and plastic. The growth in mobility and the speed of travel also added a new level of perception to static spatial compositions.

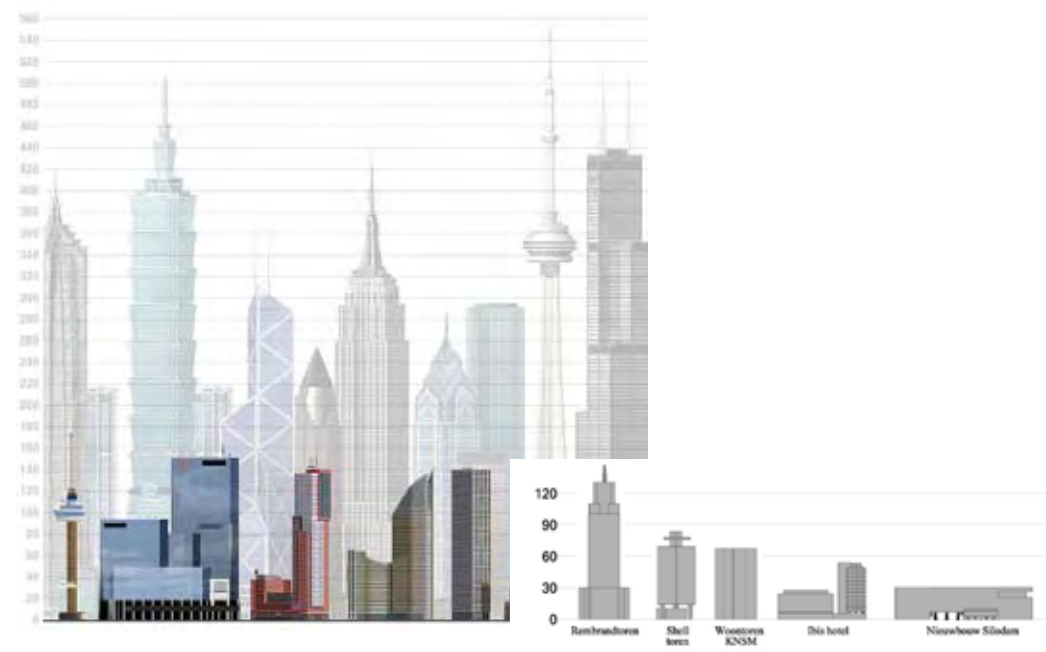
Taller buildings have been built since then, mainly around public transport hubs. This can be seen as a physical manifestation of the policy of the 'compact city', and of a reversal in the trend that had been prevalent for several decades of spreading into the areas surrounding the city to create new centres of urban growth. Rembrandt Tower near Amstel station is the tallest of the buildings from this era, at 135 metres. The lion's share of



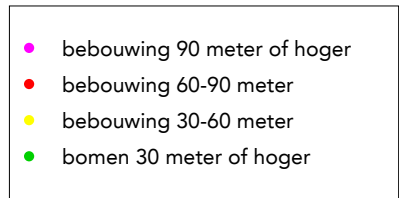
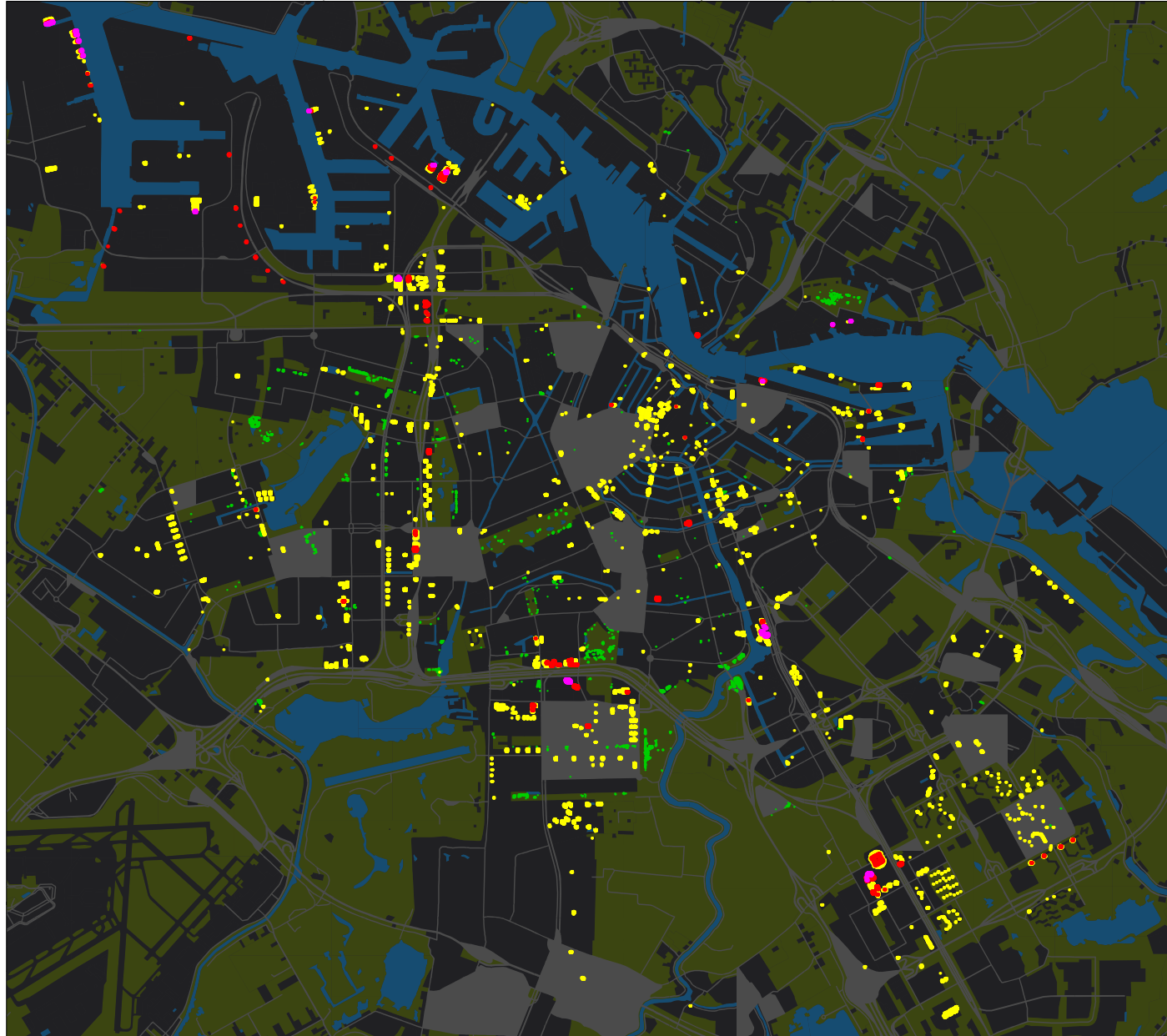
buildings that have appeared as part of the 'compact city' policy have not, incidentally, exceeded the height of the traditional warehouses, though they have made this scale of building, around 30 metres tall, more commonplace. This is probably most pronounced in the waterfront developments along the river IJ. During this period, the number of very large buildings, such as the RAI conference centre, AMC hospital and Arena stadium (which is 85 metres tall) also increased. These structures impact on the skyline because of both their height and their sheer size. With the occasional exception, the height of buildings in the 19th- and early 20th-century canal ring area remained virtually unchanged. This is a matter that is treated with great caution. The height of Rembrandt Tower is not for example apparent when it is seen among the rooftops of buildings of the height common in the city centre.

As such, high-rise construction in Amsterdam can be defined as any building or object that substantially exceeds the height of the warehouses along the river IJ. Three types of high-rise buildings can be distinguished: tall slim buildings (towers), very large buildings (colossi), and utilitarian installations and wind turbines (objects). Three common categories of tower have developed in Amsterdam. By far the most prevalent in terms of overall number are not much taller than warehouse height (35-60 metres). They include most of the historical highpoints, and local compositional highlights. They are visible from outside the city, but are not generally apparent at street level. The second category is towers of 60-100 metres, which are commonly found at important intersections; this category also includes a large proportion of the city's utilitarian objects. Finally, there is a category of up to 150 metres high, the maximum height permitted in a large area of the city under the flight paths to and from the airport. Rembrandt Tower, 135 metres tall, appears to

have been accepted by many of the city's residents as a suitable highpoint in the city's skyline. This does not necessarily rule out the possibility that a taller tower may, by way of exception, be built in the future, but it does provide a point of reference. As such, high-rise construction in the Netherlands is of an entirely different order than in many other countries.

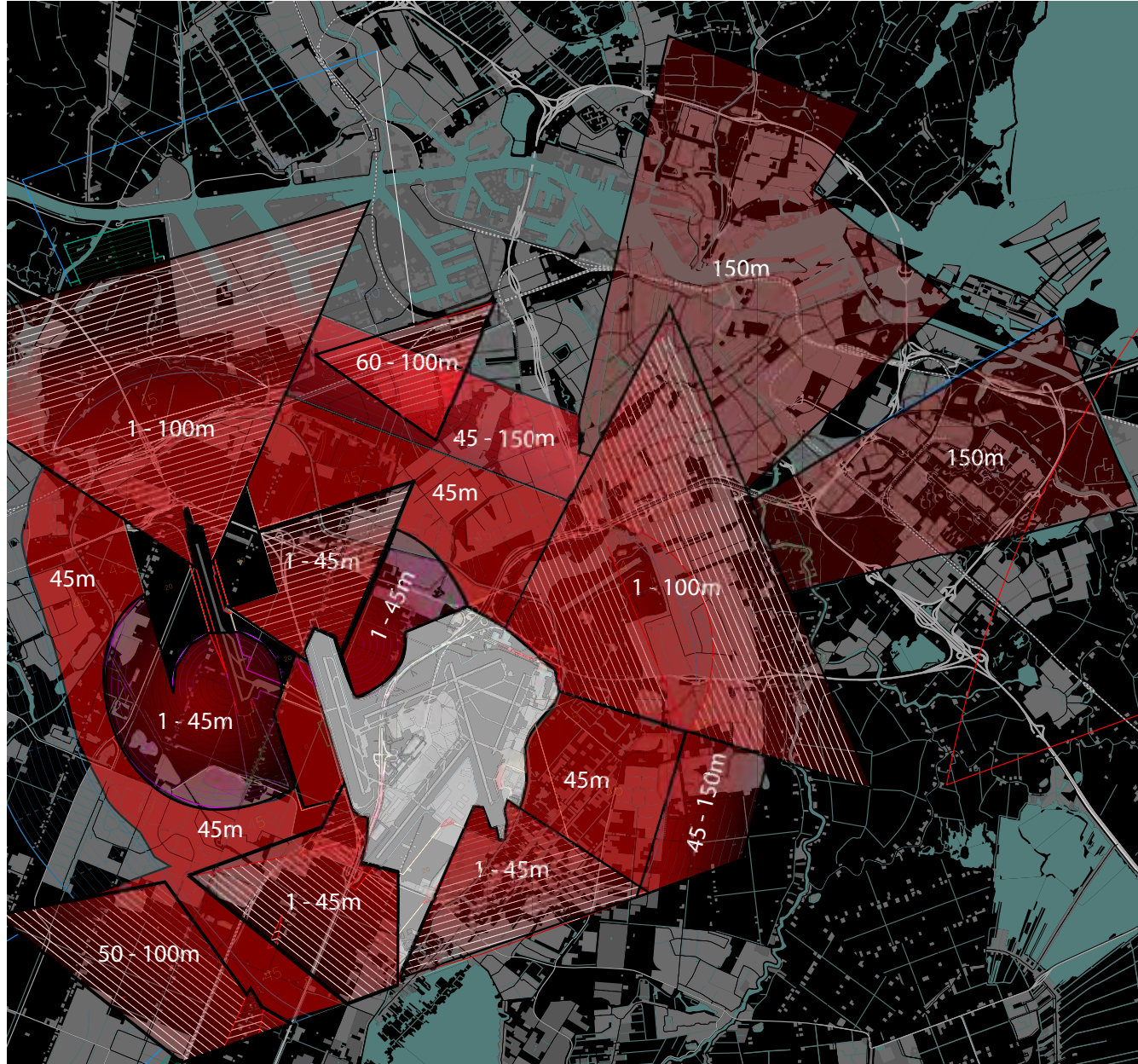


comparison high-rise construction



actual situation high-rise construction and trees (in meters boven NAP)

bron: Actueel Hoogbouwbestand Nederland (AHN) 2003



high-rise restrictions Schiphol



High-rise construction in Amsterdam



2. Vision

Amsterdam is a small metropolis, but it is home to more nationalities (178) than any of the other major global centres. The morphology of this metropolis is a perfect example of how to accommodate within a small scale a wealth of urban functions, many more than one would expect to find in a city of this population size. And all within walking distance. Visitors from abroad constantly remind us of how unique this is. Amsterdam is a city where you can meet the entire world.

Small and compact is our unique selling point. The Structural Concept acknowledges Amsterdam's position at the core of a much larger metropolitan region, which includes surrounding urban areas and the metropolitan landscape. Amsterdam will continue to develop as the core of this metropolitan region. Its population is set to expand by 80,000 over the next 30 years. Its development as a metropolitan centre and the strengthening of the metropolitan landscape will lead to greater density.

High-rise construction will not only be needed in this process, it is also a powerful spatial and planning tool. It can be used in a number of ways in the structure and readability of the city.

- 1) *Protection of the historic city centre, emphasising the canal ring area. The guideline here is an average height of no more than approx. 20 metres. There must be no high-rise construction in the area, and no disruption from high-rise buildings within view.*
- 2) *A cautious approach must be taken to high-rise construction in the surrounding 19th- and pre-Modern 20th-century area. The average height of buildings in this zone should largely correspond to that in the historic centre itself. Any high-rise construction should highlight places of local importance, as*

church towers (some of which have now disappeared) did in the past. A maximum of 60 metres will be the guideline.

- 3) *Since the city's expansion after the war, high-rise construction has always been part of the town-planning vocabulary, in terms either of composition or typology, depending on the period and the area in question. Most of the high-rise buildings in the post-war developments do not exceed 60 metres. Any redevelopment could proceed on the same basis.*
- 4) *Between the pre- and post-war city lies a ring of condensed infrastructure, in a dynamic and well-connected zone. A great deal of high-rise construction occurs in this zone. This could continue, giving this highly dynamic zone a distinctive look, with a concentration of branching radial connections, particularly on the south side of the city. Most of the high-rise buildings in the zone would be no taller than 60 metres. The exception is the northern ring, across from the open water of Waterland, where there is only one motorway, and no concentration of infrastructure.*
- 5) *The key public transport hubs could be marked by a concentration of high-rise buildings, preferably very high. This would highlight the importance of public transport. The Zuidas (Southern Axis) could even develop further to become a high-rise urban centre.*
- 6) *Finally, highpoints also have a role to play in the port landscape along the river IJ, where cranes and chimney stacks have always been a feature of the skyline. A large number of wind turbines are also being built in the industrialised Westelijk Havengebied. In the redevelopment of areas that were once associated with our nautical and industrial past, towers mark sightlines and intersections in the waterways.*

The Structural Concept describes the key physical developments envisaged to make Amsterdam the core of the metropolitan region in terms of four main themes: the spread of city centre functions, the waterfront, the southern flank and the metropolitan landscape. The vision for high-rise construction is discussed below on the basis of these four main themes.

Spread of city centre functions

The Medieval and 17th-century city is the heart of Amsterdam. The western part of the canal ring area is being nominated for the World Heritage List. The vision for high-rise construction naturally includes protection for the area within the Singelgracht. The guideline for the height of new buildings in this area is 20 metres. No buildings in excess of 35 metres tall may be visible within approximately two kilometres of certain canal bridges. Tall buildings further away, even Rembrandt Tower, have an impact on the observer's perception of the size and scale of their immediate surroundings.

The city centre functions are no longer confined to the historic centre, as they gradually spread towards the A10 ring road. The economic importance of the A10 is now such that a zone of buildings up to 60 metres high has developed along it, with some even taller structures at certain intersections. Zuidas and Teleport are the most obvious examples. These buildings can be seen from the A10 and in the immediate vicinity. From street level in the historic centre, however, their size is concealed by the skyline.

Since their scale has no impact at street level in the historic centre, and given the economic importance of the zone along the A10, construction of buildings between 35 and 60 metres tall – higher at important intersections – will be encouraged. The exception is the section around the north of the city, opposite the open water, where high-rise construction is not desirable.

3D visualisations have been produced to highlight the visual impact of these developments in the canal ring area within the Singelgracht, as seen from key vantage points on bridges over the canals. The tall buildings that are concealed by the façades of the canalside terraces are shown in white.

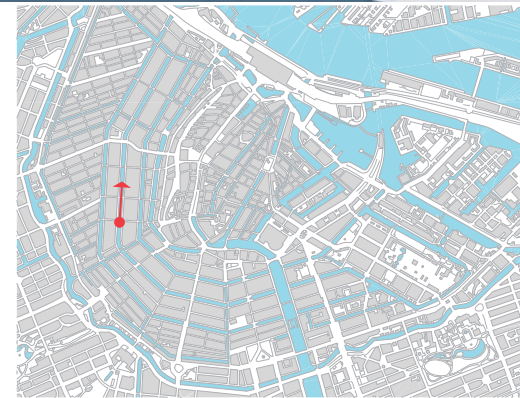
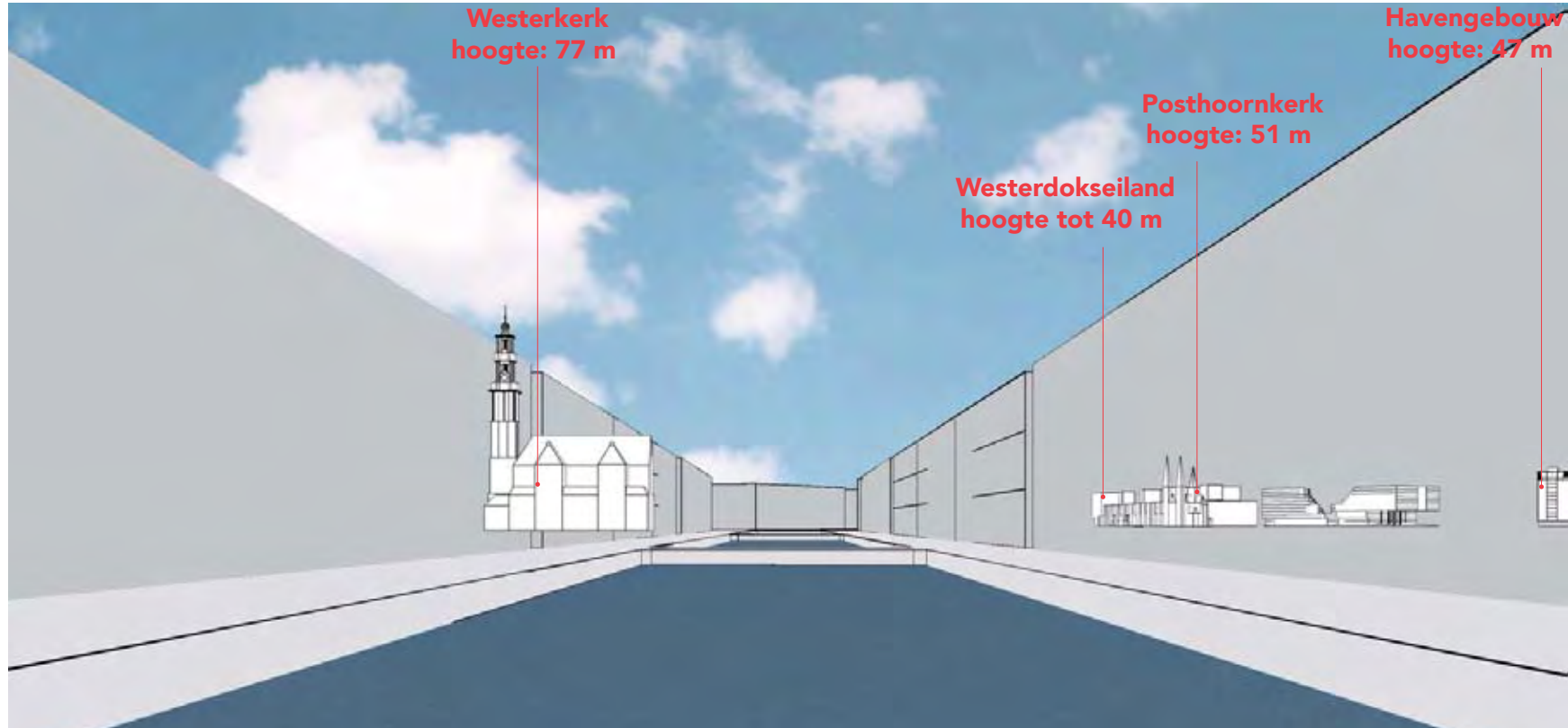
spread of city centre functions



- Westelijke grachtengordel
- spread of city centre
- zone around infrastructure
- Singelgrachtzone
- public transport hub

High-rise construction in Amsterdam

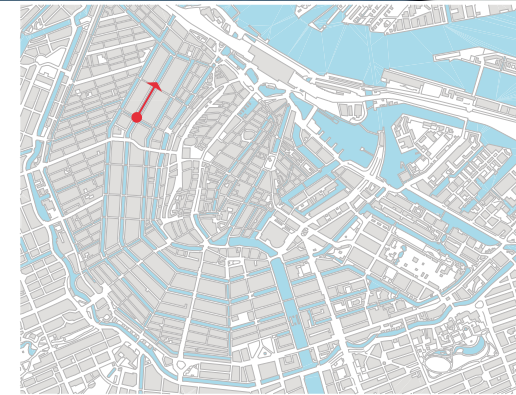
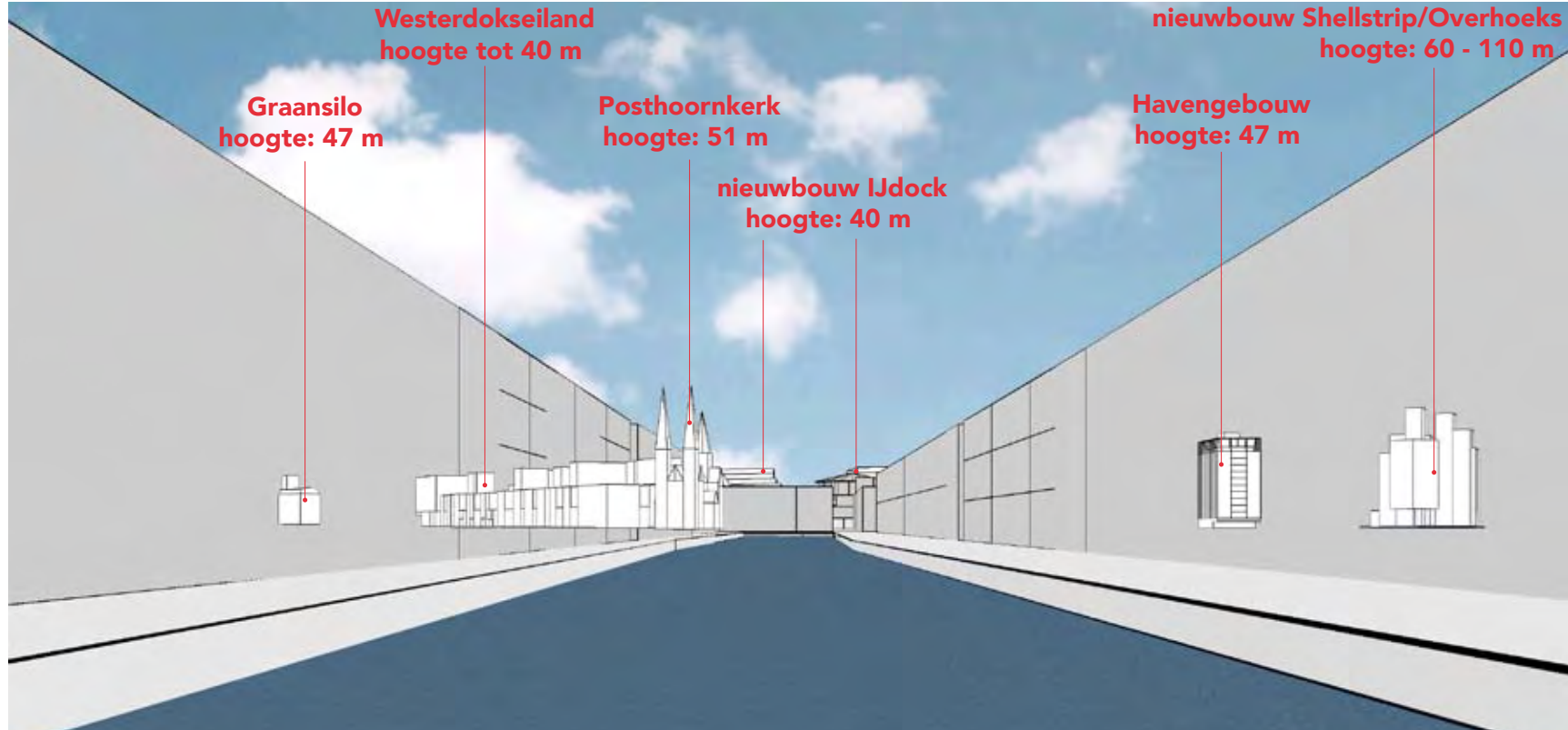




View bridge Keizersgracht nearby Huidenstraat

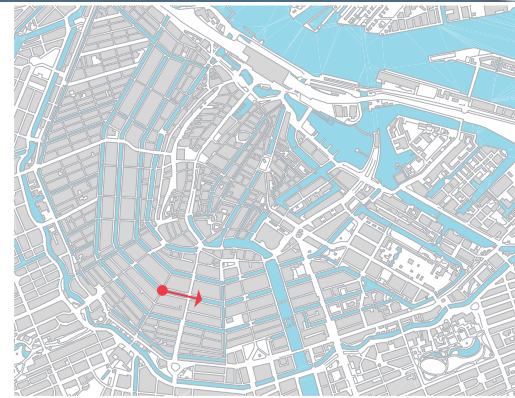
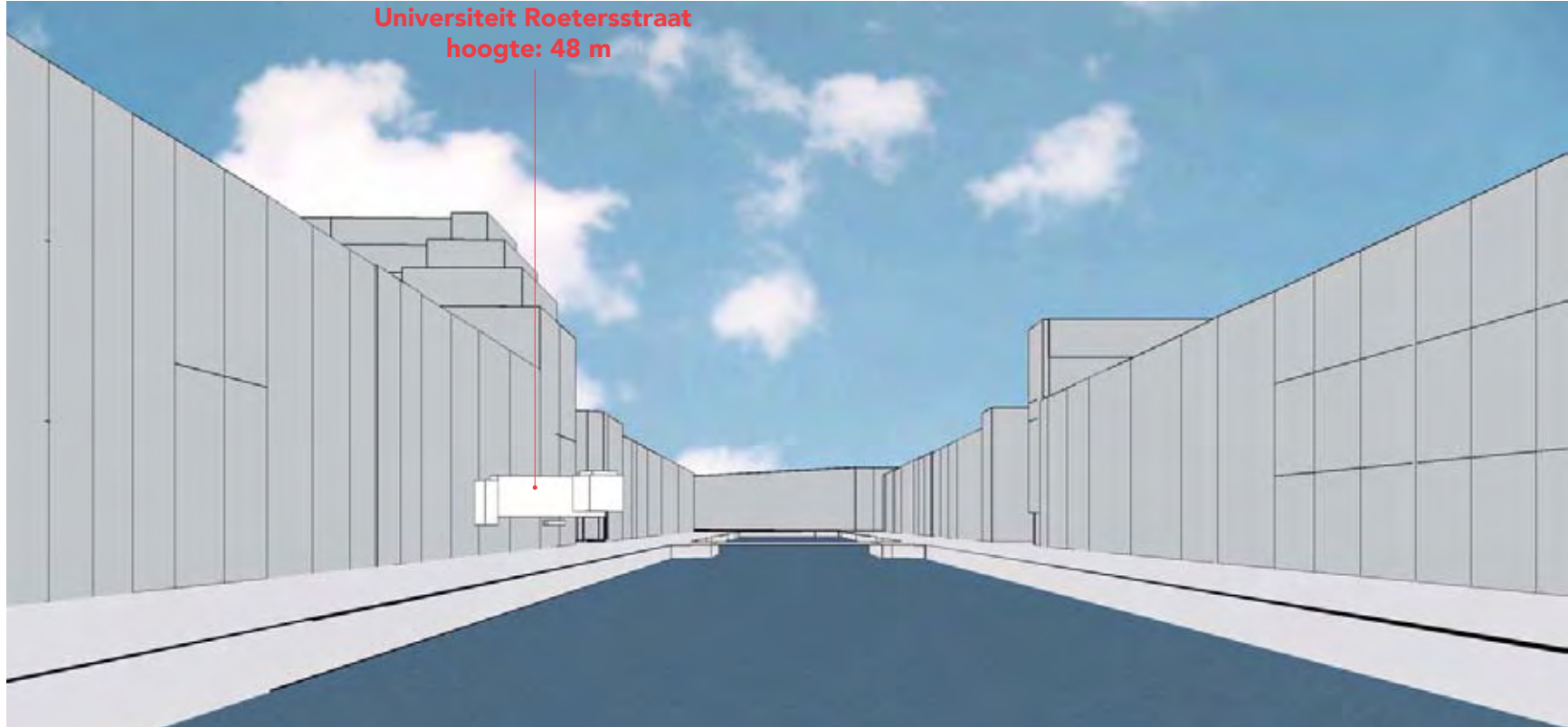






View bridge Keizersgracht nearby Leliegracht

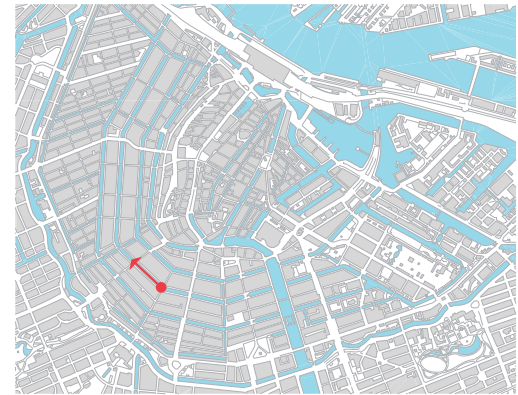
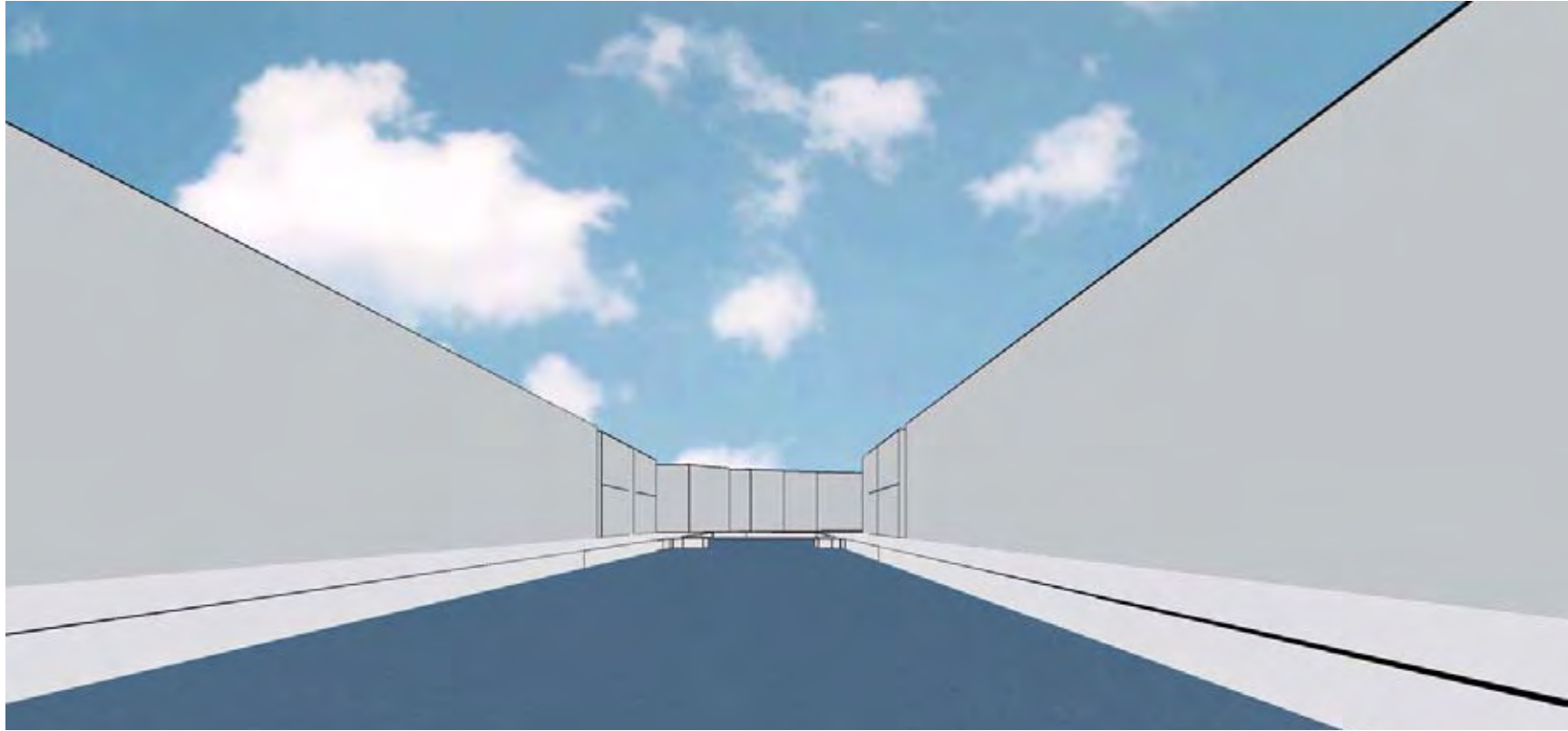




View bridge Keizersgracht nearby Spiegelstraat eastern direction

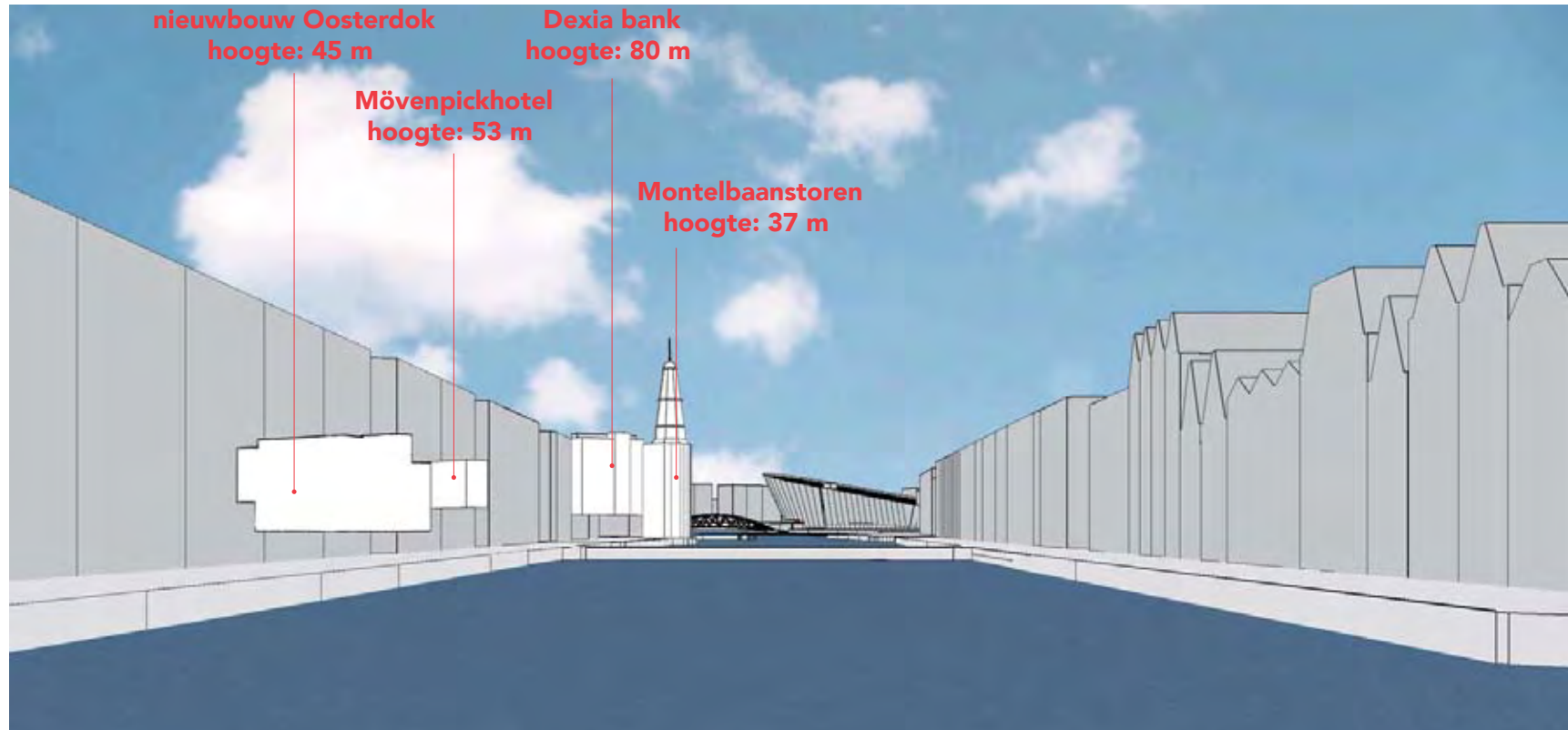






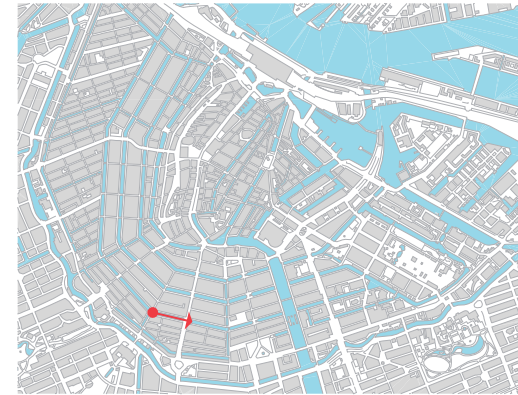
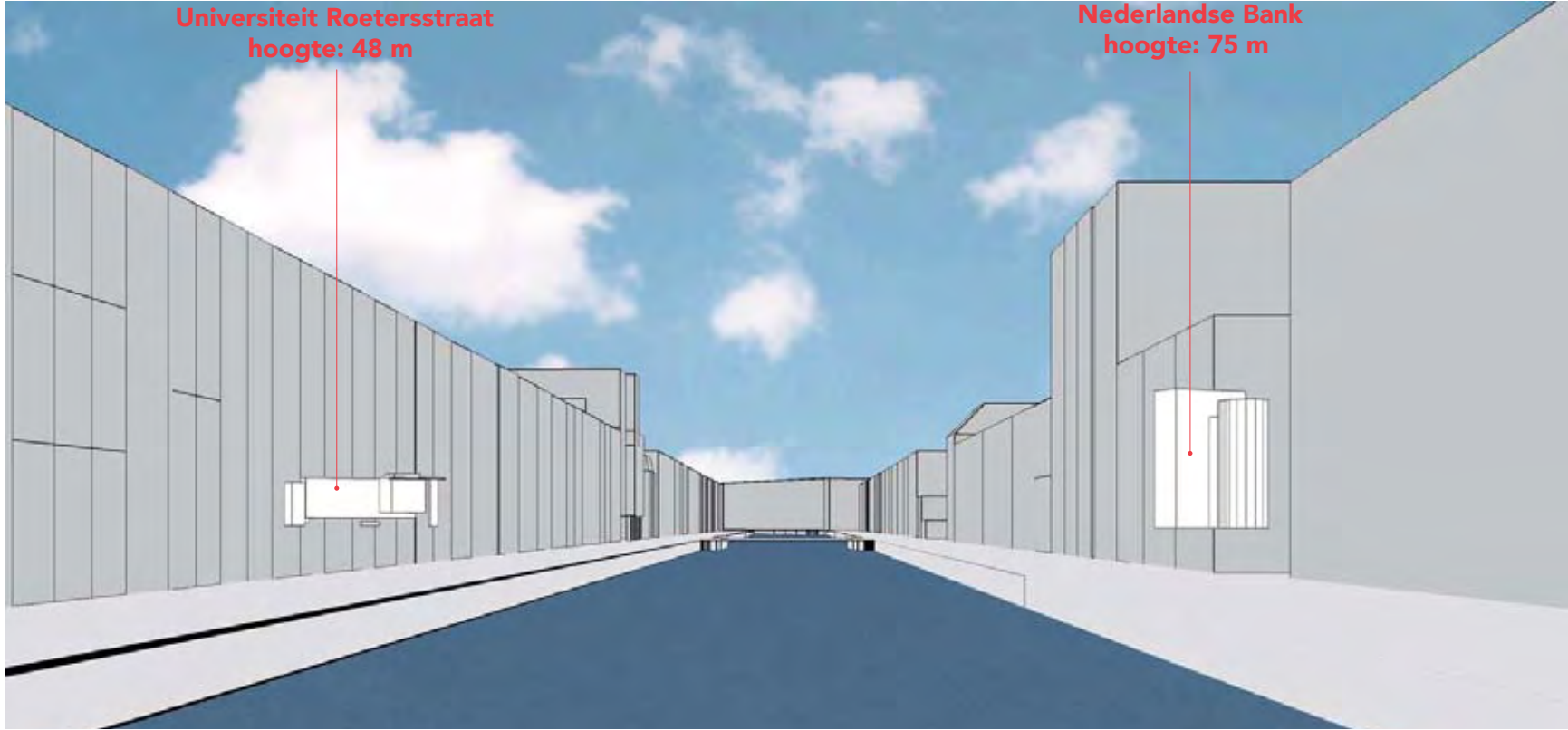
View bridge Keizersgracht nearby Spiegelstraat western direction





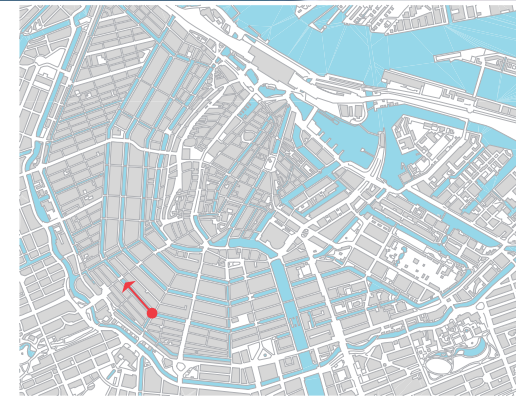
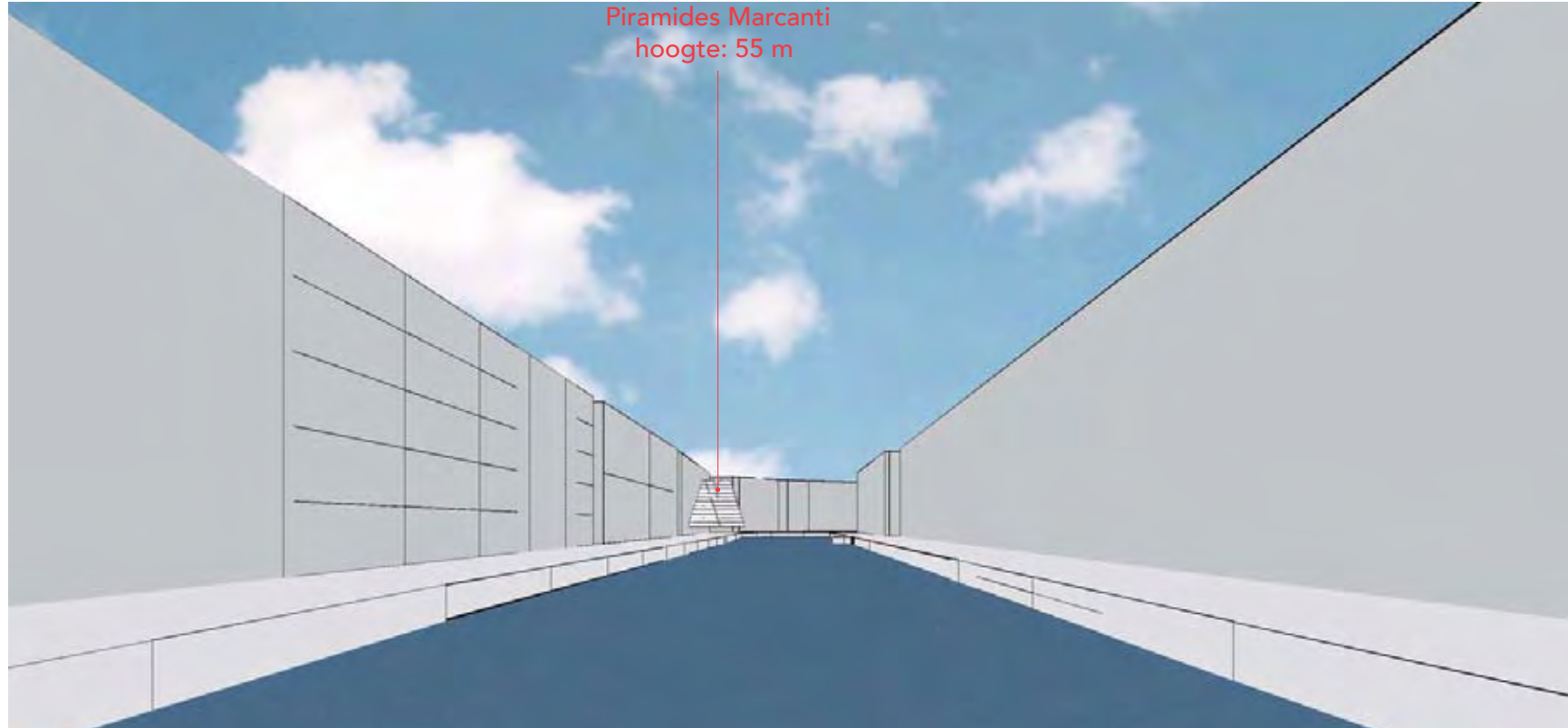
View over de Oude Schans from Jodebreestraat





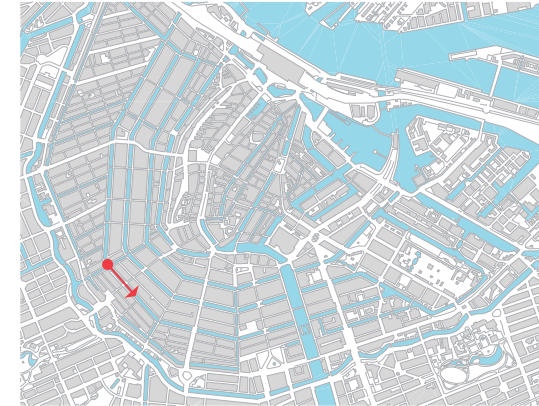
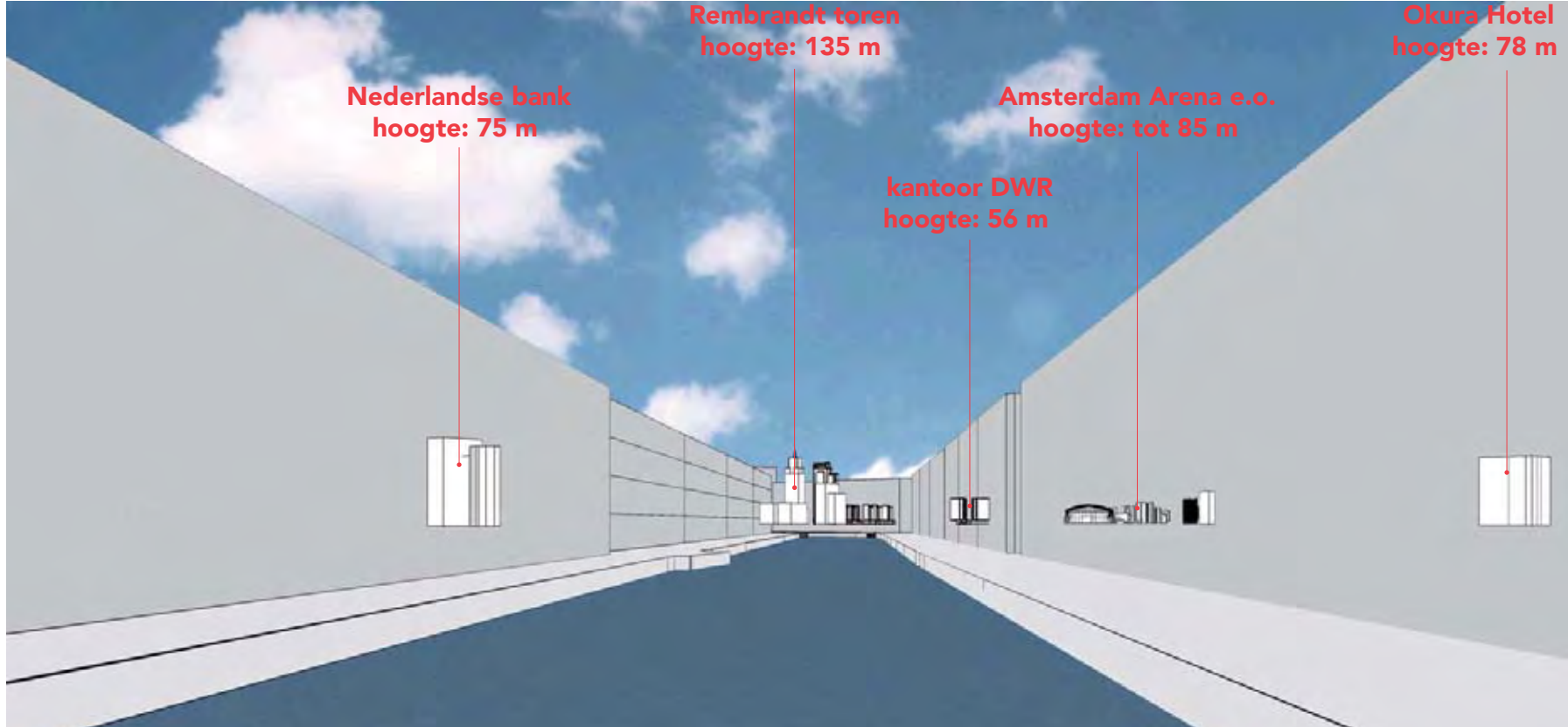
View bridge Prinsegracht nearby Spiegelgracht eastern direction





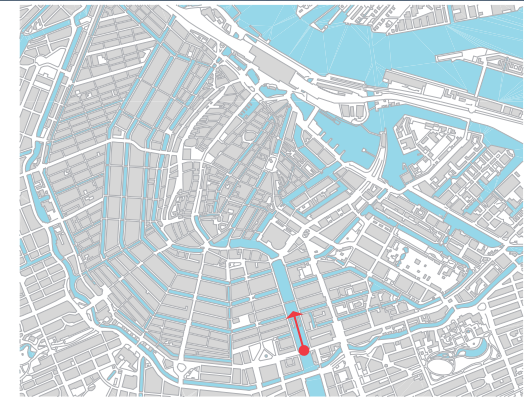
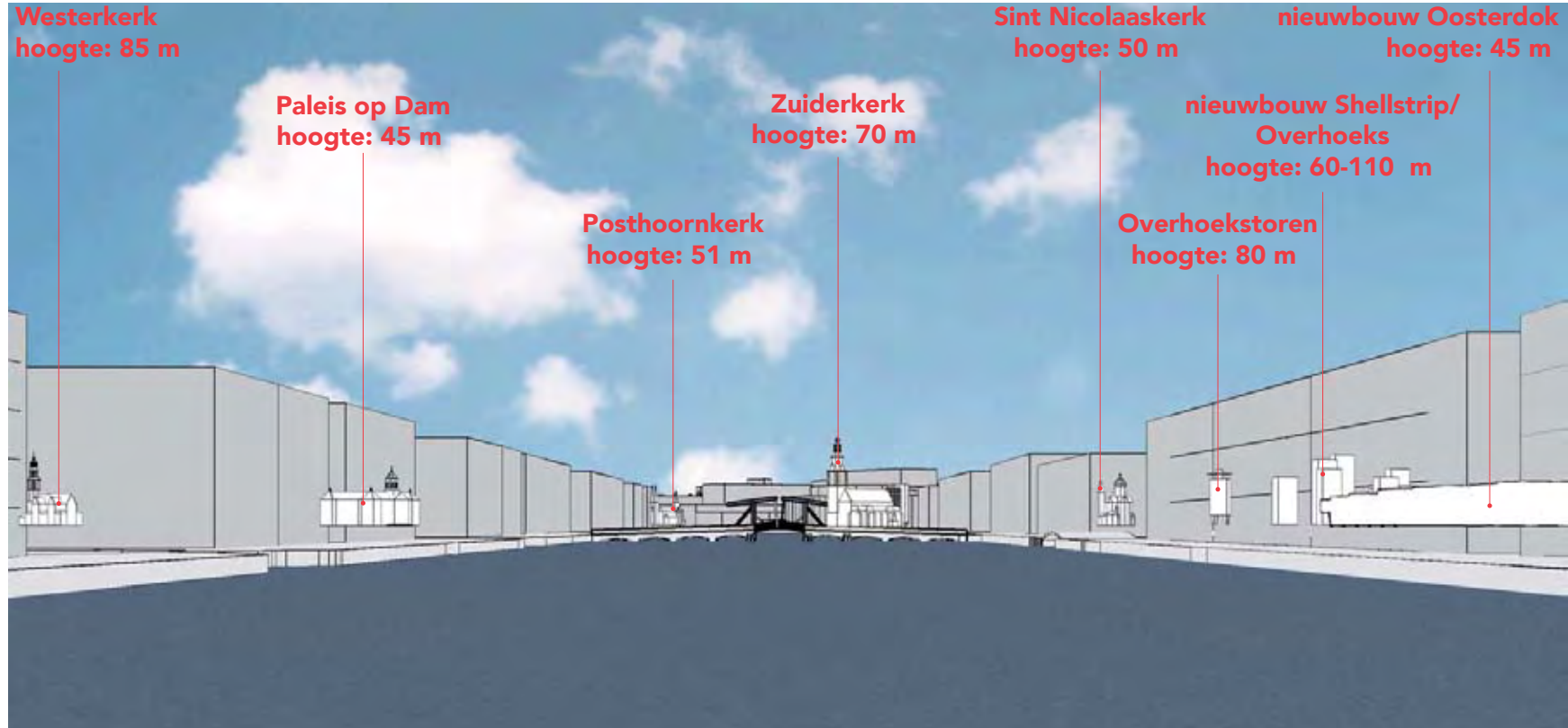
View bridge Prinsegracht nearby Spiegelgracht western direction





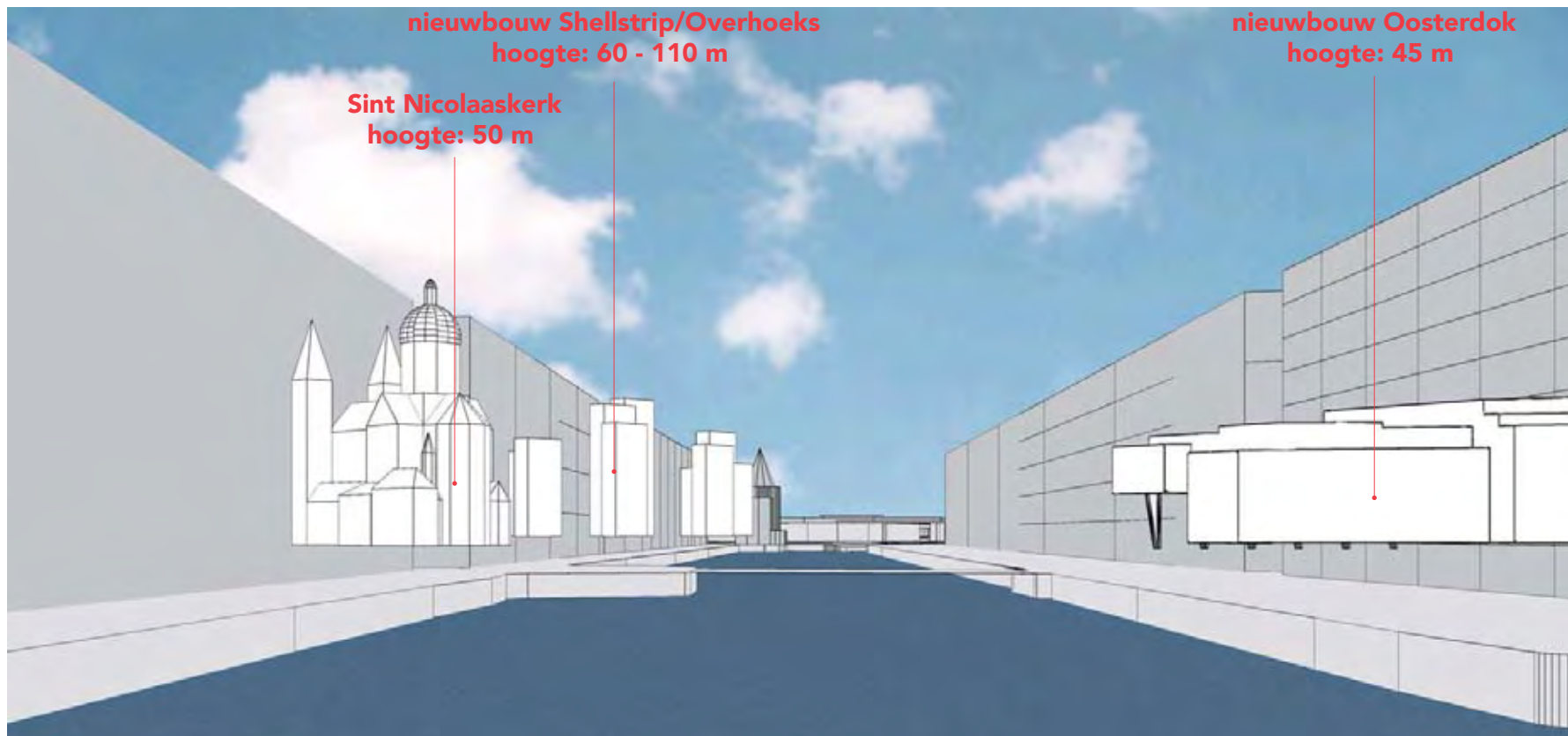
View bridge Prinsegracht nearby Leidsegracht





View Amstel from Sarphatistraat





View over de Gelderse kade from de Nieuwmarkt



The waterfront

The construction of the railway, Central Station and the new islands in the 19th century radically altered the 17th-century open waterfront. New commercial and transport zones isolated the city from the river. On the other hand, however, they probably saved the historic centre from impoverishment. Harbour cranes came and went. A number of highpoints have remained, including the 75-metre tower on the Shell site designed by Arthur Staal in 1966. Situated directly opposite Central Station, this tower stands at the narrowest point of the river IJ. The current redevelopment of the riverbanks is intended to give the city a waterfront once more, and bring a more metropolitan feel to both banks, so that the river no longer marks the city's edge, but is an integral part of it.

The modern industrial and commercial landscape has now shifted westwards along the North Sea Canal. The scale of the power station, the cranes at the container terminal, the oil storage facilities and the wind turbines makes the port landscape visible from far away, and as such it is now a visual part of the city itself. New high-rise utilitarian objects or very large buildings will only reinforce this image.

In the redevelopment of the vacated south bank of the river IJ, the aim was to give the city a waterfront on the river once more. The typical dimensions of the old warehouses were taken as a basis, with a few highpoints here and there. These highpoints serve two purposes: to shape the redeveloped space along the river, and to create spatial relationships with the city on the landward side. This is a complex issue. Some views are desirable, while others are not. In developing the south bank, it was decided that no view from a public space of a homogeneous

historic urban ensemble from a single period could be altered by new construction along the IJ. An urban ensemble that already has features from the 17th and 19th centuries may therefore have a visual association with 20th- or 21st-century objects, but an ensemble that is entirely 17th-century must remain largely unaffected. Though the Wester IJdock will be a prominent feature on the IJ, it will not therefore be visible from the western part of the canal ring area. The tower on KNSM island is a highpoint in the riverside landscape, and it also bears a visual relationship to Sarphatistraat, which was originally built in the 19th century.

This policy has been applied on the north bank, too. The series of towers at Overhoeks, at over 110 m tall, standing like a promontory into the IJ, will, like Staal's tower, mark the narrowest point of the river. They will not however be visible from



the western canal ring area. Other high-rise construction on the north bank, up to 60 metres tall, will not be situated immediately on the river, but in a second row along the route of the Van Hasselt Canal, a past attempt to cut off the tight bend in the river that was never completed. The river is at its widest at either end of the canal. These are also intersections in the waterway network, one leading into the North Sea Canal, the other to the IJmeer. As at Overhoeks, the idea is to highlight these landscape features with high-rise buildings over 80 metres tall, not with concentrated building in this case, but with individual towers that define the space on either side of the river.

The impact in the city centre will be similar to that of Rembrandt Tower, in that they will be seen from a distance of about two kilometres, and will therefore be lost in terms of perspective. Along the Buiten IJ stretch of the river, the waterfront is the district of IJburg, which is situated on the open water opposite the natural environment of Waterland. The aim here is to create a compact urban environment in a broad, open landscape, without prominent highpoints or utilitarian objects (wind turbines), though some buildings are approximately 40 metres tall.



High-rise waterfront





The south bank of the IJ seen from Overhoeks. On the right, the Silodam ('Housing Silo') designed by MVRDV. On the left, the 1960s port offices designed by Dudok and Magnee. The most common height for new buildings here is 30 to 35 metres, thus preserving the scale of the IJ landscape. This area is becoming part of the city, albeit more akin to Hamburg's Alster than to the Grand Canal in Venice.



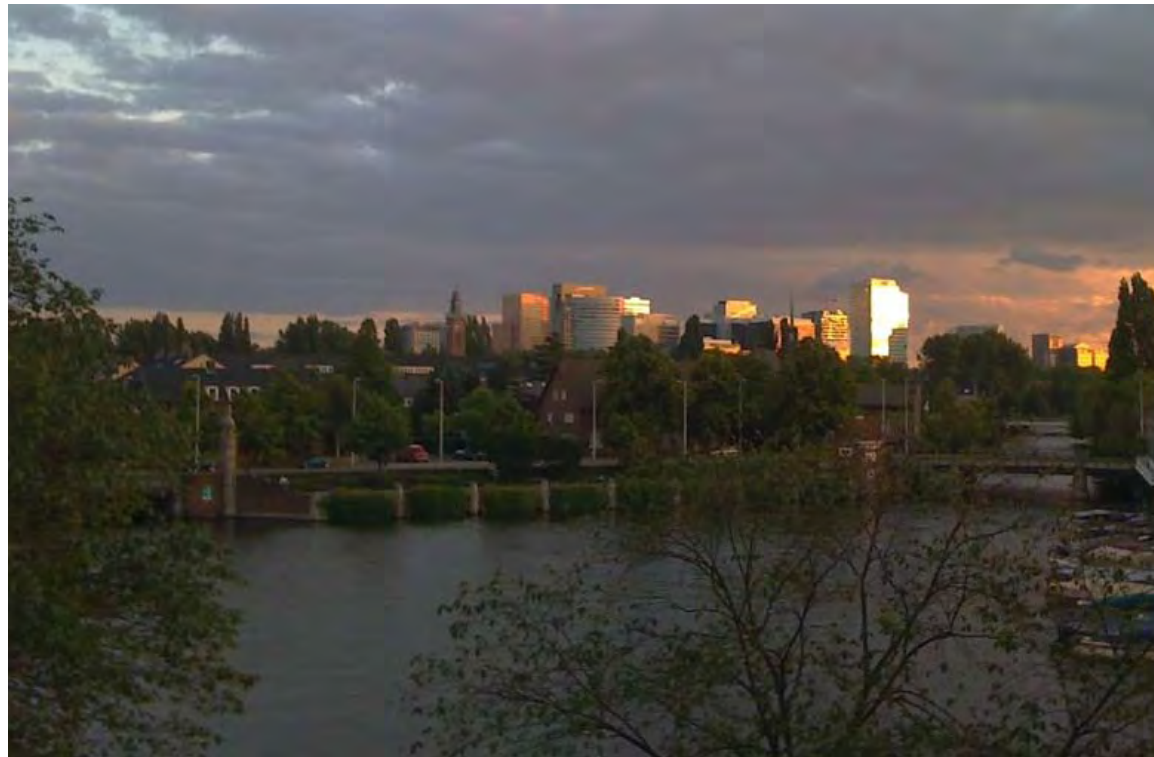
The bend in the river seen from the west, after completion of Overhoeks and Wester IJdock. In the foreground the Wester IJdock, to the left Overhoeks, in the middle the Kop Oostelijke Handelskade commercial centre and the Muziekgebouw aan het IJ concert hall. The cutaway section in the Wester IJdock prevents it from being visible from the main canals above the gable ends on Brouwersgracht, which runs perpendicular to the canals in the ring. In this part of the canal ring area the view of the cityscape is entirely 17th-century.

The southern flank

The southern flank of Amsterdam is an economically dynamic zone which functions as a hub in the metropolitan infrastructure. A number of key intersections are highly visible, marked by high-rise construction and a number of very large buildings: Schiphol, the Zuidas, Amstel station and Bijlmer station. Buildings around or well above 100 metres tall can be found at all these transport intersections. The high-rise buildings on the Zuidas are particularly tall, and a real big-city skyline is developing there.

What goes for the A10 zone applies even more to the southern flank, along the A4, A10 and A2. There is great demand for

space here, which can be readily met by constructing buildings of up to 60 metres tall, and preferably even higher at major intersections. The concentration of very large buildings in this zone will emphasise this image, though it does not leave scope for many more new buildings on such a scale.





The southern flank
 zone around infrastructure
 public transport hub

high-rise southern flank

Metropolitan landscape

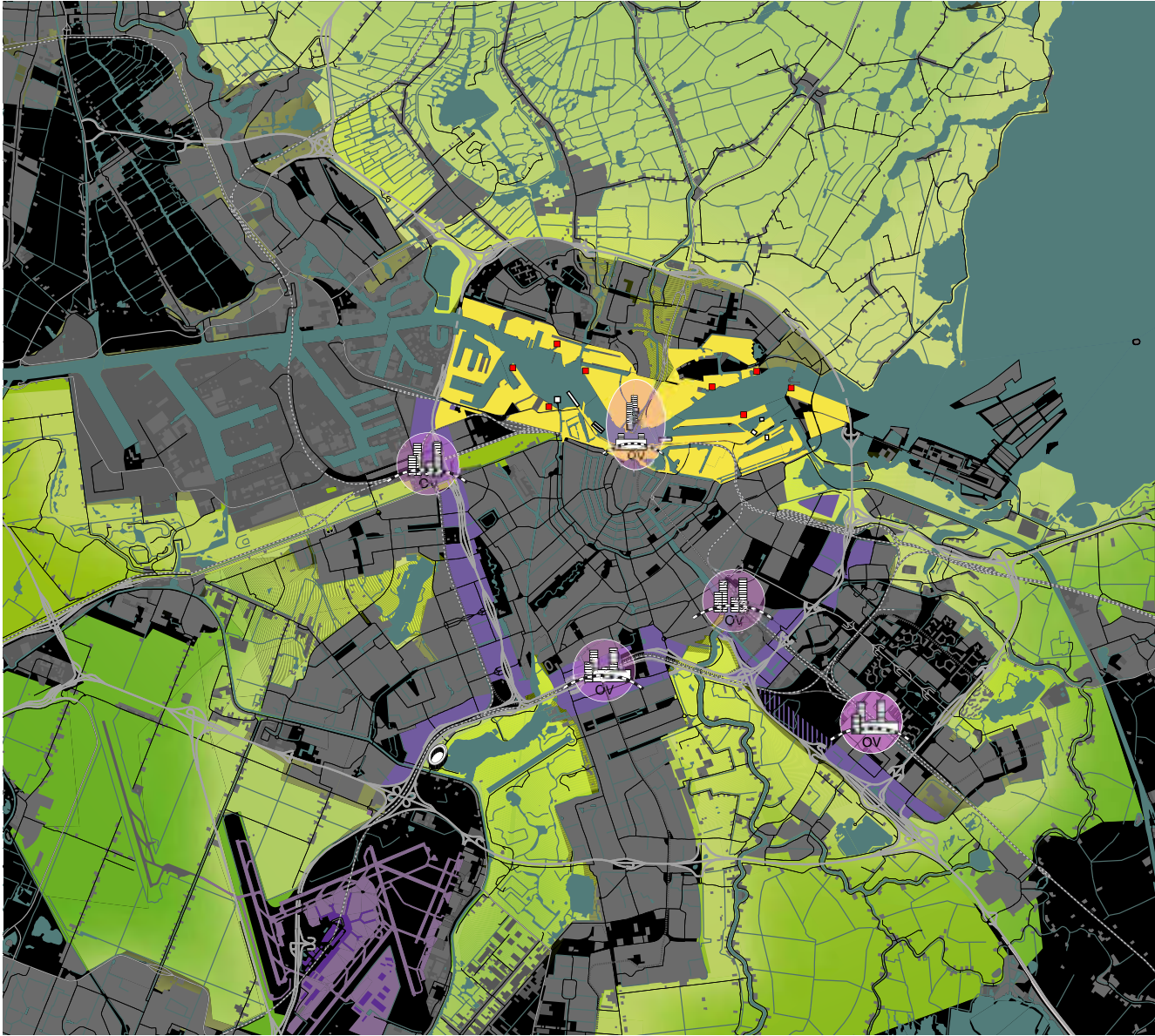
As long ago as the Golden Age, wealthy residents of Amsterdam would engage in leisure pursuits in the surrounding countryside. Many country houses were built to the west (along the IJ), the south (along the Amstel), the east (along the Vecht) and the north (on Beemster lake). This landscape appeared on the AUP as green wedges extending into the expanding city. Some of the landscape was natural (Amstel, IJ), some of it man-made (Amsterdamse Bos, Slotterplas lake). The idea behind the Structural Concept is to develop this in its entirety into a metropolitan landscape that serves several purposes, including leisure.

The high-rise buildings of the city are particularly prominent when seen from these green wedges. This is not a bad thing. Indeed, it is all part and parcel of a metropolitan landscape, and makes it all the more interesting. The tall buildings can be perceived not only as a static panorama, but also as a shifting

landscape, as travel changes the observer's perspective. It is therefore important to retain some depth in the urban high-rise landscape. Building heights on the edge should therefore be restricted to 35 metres, with the odd highpoint up to 60 metres here and there, preferably in the second row. Exceptions could be made in parts of the southern flank. Transport intersections marked out by taller buildings add a third layer of depth.

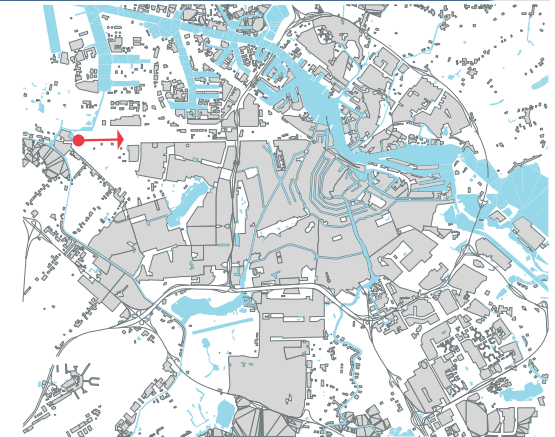
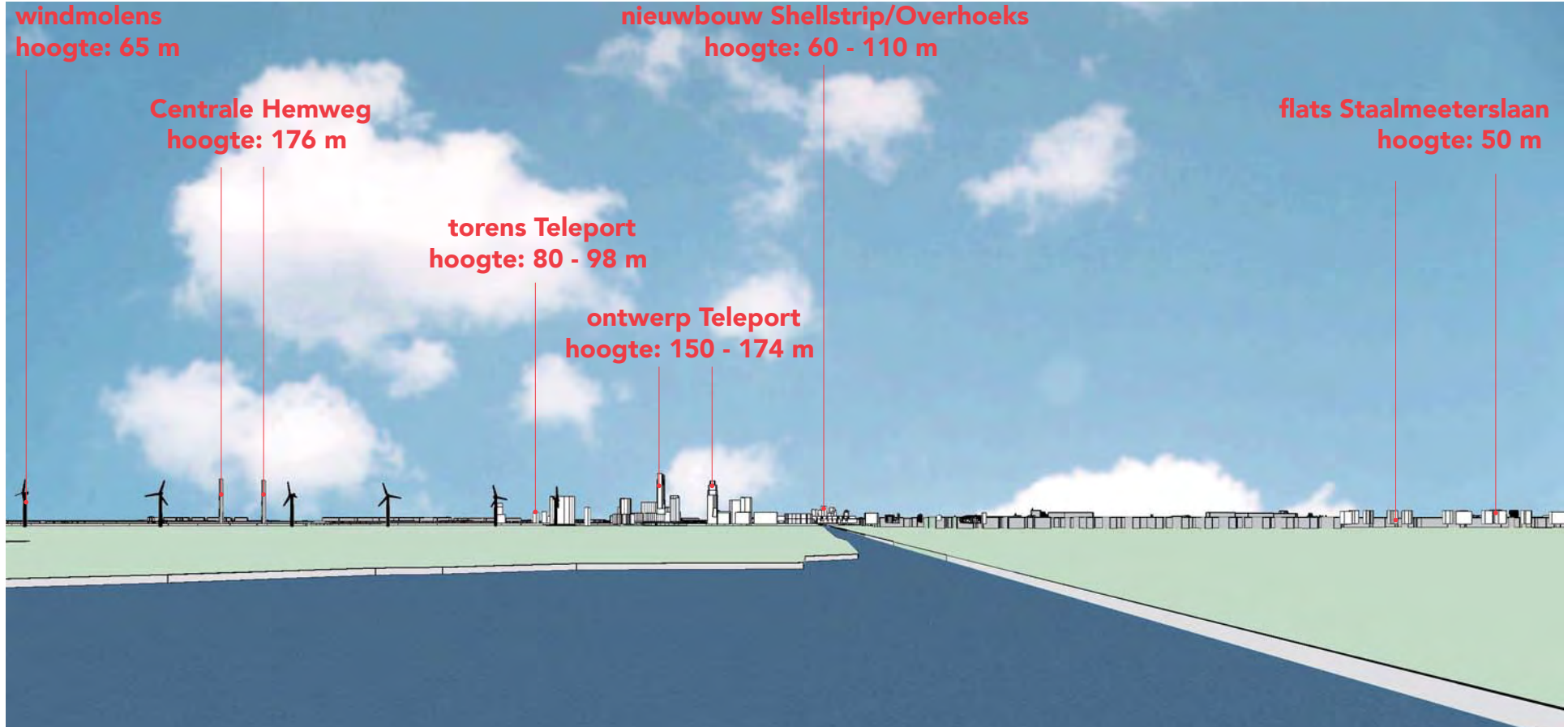
The vision for high-rise construction based on the four main themes described above will accentuate the tips of some of the wedges with tall buildings at points where city and countryside meet: Amstel, Zuidas, Brettenzone, Zeeburgereiland. Although high-rise construction is out of the question in the green wedges themselves, the possibility of high-rise construction to accentuate those without intersections – such as Slotterplas and Gaaperplas lakes – might also be considered. These buildings should of course blend carefully into their surroundings.



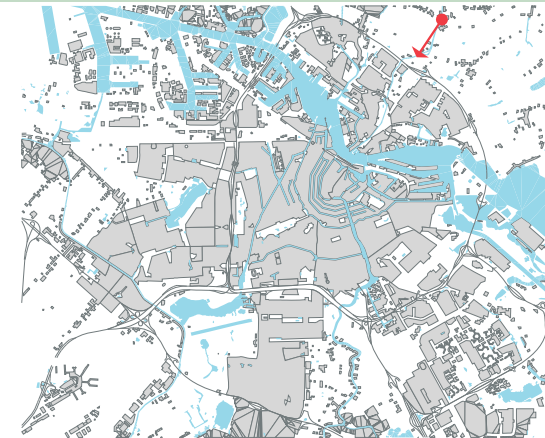
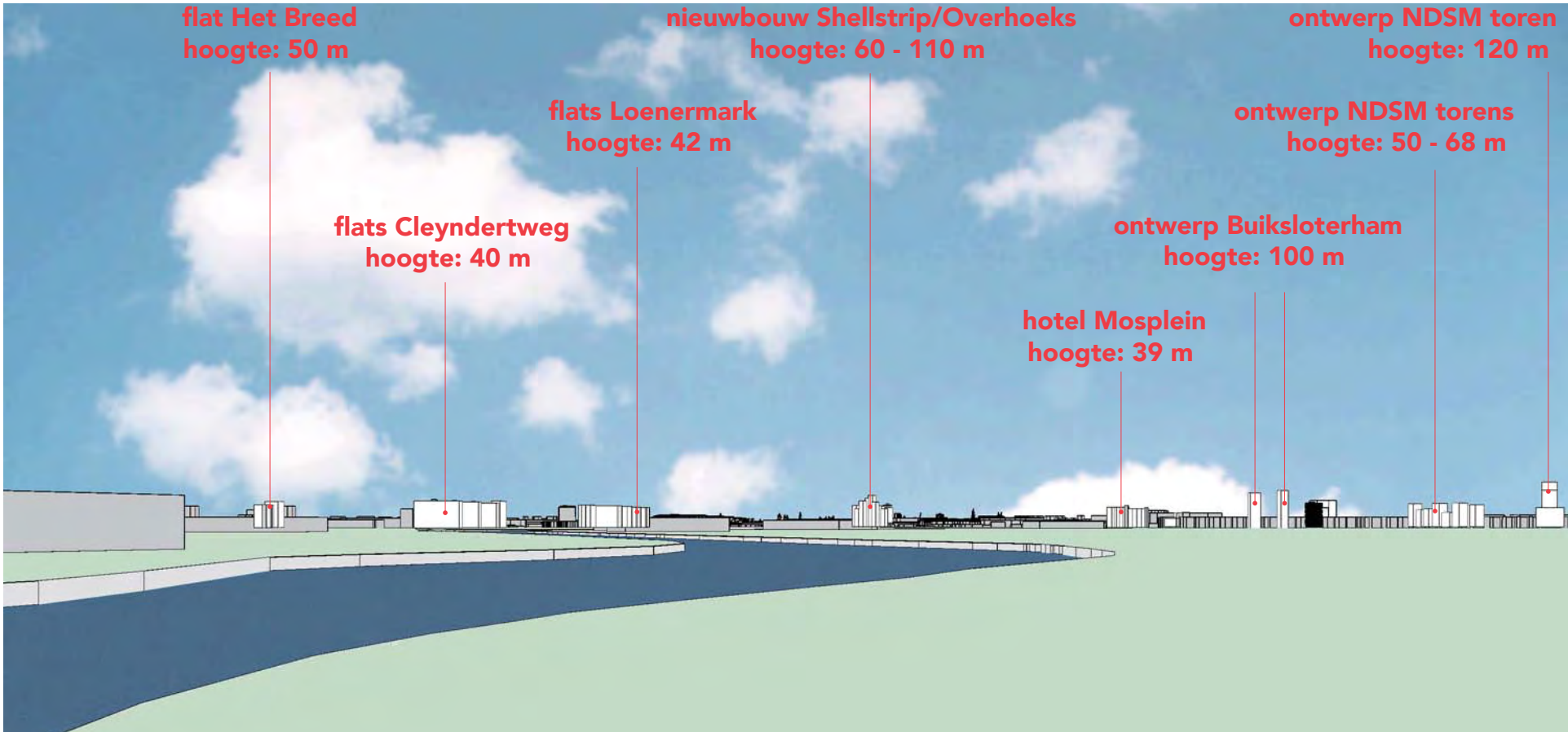


High-rise around metropolitan landscape

- Binnen-IJ
- zone around infrastructure
- countryside
- OV
 public transport hub
- search area highpoints

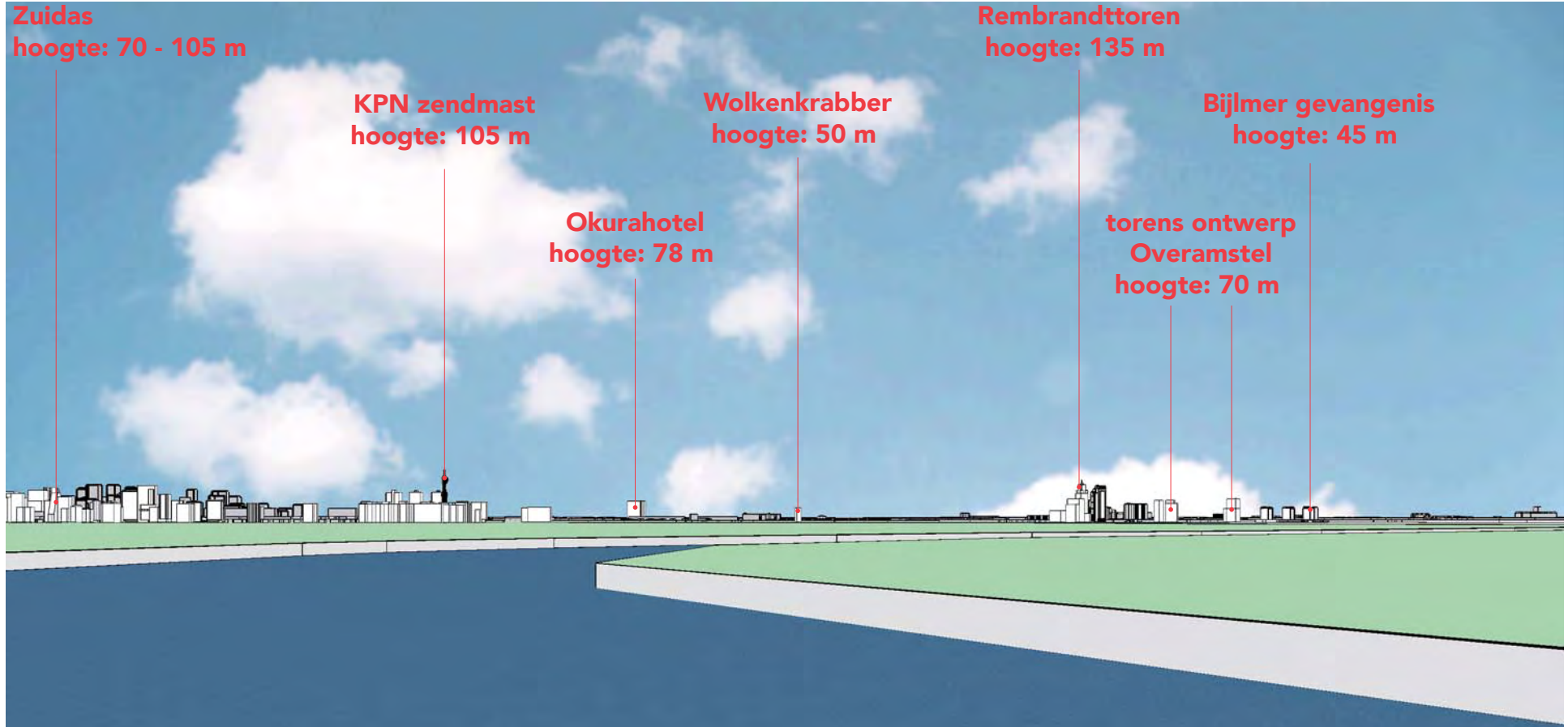


View Halfweg



View Noord-Hollandskanaal from Het Schouw





View Amstel from Ouderkerk

3. Conclusion

- The vision for high-rise construction is to protect the centre within the Singelgracht and, to a lesser extent, the metropolitan landscape as a whole
- There is a desire for high-rise construction up to a maximum of 135 metres to highlight certain points along the Binnen IJ stretch of the river. The locations would have to be chosen very carefully so as to protect the city centre.
- The vision for high-rise construction is to promote heights of up to 60 metres in the zones around the A10 ring road to the west, south and east of the city, and along the southern flank.
- There is a desire for high-rise construction up to a maximum of 135 metres around the major public transport intersections at Central Station (Overhoeks), Amstel, Bijlmer, Zuidas and Teleport.



High-rise in Amsterdam



High-rise construction in Amsterdam

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E. KEY ISSUES

The 17th-century canal ring area of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht

Key Issues – Update June 2009



The Key Issues were set out in the Management Plan
as part of the nomination of the seventeenth-century canal ring area
of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht
for inscription on UNESCO's World Heritage List

Introduction

The City of Amsterdam (and the surrounding area) has experienced a dynamic and complex development of urban space. The nomination of the 17th-century 'ring of canals' for inscription on UNESCO's list of World Heritage Sites raises the question of how this urban dynamic interacts with the protection of the historical city centre and, in particular, with the proposed World Heritage Site. In the first place, this relates to Amsterdam's high-rise construction policy, but also to a number of strategic projects which are currently in progress or which will be carried out in the near future. Each key issue is accompanied by an explanation, of which the purpose is to provide insight into a number of projects and issues which may play a role in judging the nomination. By subject, a short description of the project is provided; coming administrative decisions and their justification are mentioned, plus the current state of affairs and the (possible) consequences for the 17th-century ring of canals concerning *visual impact, integrity and authenticity*, the criteria and the conditions of the *operational guidelines*¹ which form the basis for benchmarking the nomination. The explanations are supplemented with resources and visual material. When a resource is too extensive to be added to the explanations in digital format, references are provided to the relevant websites and links.

June 2009 update

The Nomination Dossier presented to UNESCO at the beginning of 2009 included an appendix entitled 'Key Issues', which described a number of strategic projects that were underway or pending at that point in time. Many of these projects are progressing rapidly, and Central Amsterdam district council and the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology has therefore produced an update describing their current status. The most recent developments in each project (or issue) are described below under the heading 'May (or June) 2009 update'.

One new project has been added: 'De Heren en de Keizer' (The Gentlemen and the Emperor), situated in the property. It is described in section I.5.

Included Key Issues

- A. High-rise construction
- B. Overhoeks
- C. Westerdokseiland (Westerdoks Island)
- D. Noord/Zuidlijn metro line
- E. Coalition project 1012
- F. Chinatown
- G. Binnengasthuisterrein
- H. Construction plan kop Singel (Haringpakkerstoren)
- I. Projects in the planning stage lying within the *property*
 - I. 1 Former Prinsengracht Hospital
 - I. 2 Former Public Library Prinsengracht
 - I. 3 Former Bank Building ABN/AMRO Vijzelstraat
 - I. 4 De Vijf Keizers (The Five Emperors)
 - I. 5 [De Heren en de Keizer \(The Gentlemen and the Emperor\)](#)
- J. Water Level and Ground Water
- K. Steigerdoek Advert

¹ Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention par. 79-85.

Explanation

The explanation regarding high-rise construction the key issue (A) details how high-rise construction policy has been applied in Amsterdam, and the way in which the city wants to manage high-rise construction in the future. Overhoeks and Westerdoks island (B and C) explanations pertain to two central urban projects outside the historical city centre where high-rise construction already exists, and is still being developed.

The Noord/Zuidlijn (D) is a central urban project; the alignment of the metro line directly traverses the historical city centre of Amsterdam.

The Coalition Project 1012 (E) pertains to a cooperative relationship between the city of Amsterdam and the District of Central Amsterdam, the objective of which is to improve the quality of life in the oldest parts of the historical city centre. Chinatown (F) is an initiative aimed at strengthening the economic situation of the Chinese merchants in the city centre and is implemented within the framework of the Coalition Project 1012.

Explanations H and I pertain to larger construction projects which are located partly inside and partly outside the ring of canals. In this respect, key issue Construction Plan Kop Singel has a unique position because it pertains to the reconstruction of a 17th-century tower (the Haringpakkerstoren). On the recommendation of the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM), an explanation regarding the key issue Water level and Ground Water (J) was included. Because the historical city centre of Amsterdam is founded for an important part on wooden poles, the ground water table constitutes an important piece of information.

Lastly, an explanation regarding key issue Steigerhoek Advert (K) has been included because there have been repeated discussions regarding this subject with the Werkgroep Buitenreclame (Advertising in Public Space Workgroup) of community centre d'Oude Stad.

Key Issue A: High-Rise Construction in Amsterdam

Introduction

In 2008, the Physical Planning Service developed a policy for high-rise construction. On the one hand, the policy is an explanation and justification of the city's management regarding high-rise construction up until now, and the completed high-rise projects of years past. On the other hand, the policy contains proposals, which form an initiative for the formulation of a high-rise building policy as part of the framework of the Structural Concept Amsterdam 2010.

Main points High-Rise Construction Policy (September 2008)

Management up until now

In 1991, the need for the re-development of sites at a higher density, an optimum use of real estate and an increasing number of high-rise building initiatives led to the formulation of a high-rise construction policy. This policy was adopted as additional benchmark for construction plans currently in operation.

The basic principle of the high-rise construction policy was – and is – a careful application of high-rise construction within the existing structures. The policy included the obligation to extensively research the ramifications of plans with a building height of 30 meters or higher and to compile a separate report for evaluation, the so-called 'high-rise effect report' (HER), and to include it in land-use plans and/or construction plan procedures.

The current – central urban – high-rise policy dates from 2005 and is stipulated in a benchmark supplemental to the structural plan, Opting for Urban Identity of 2003. The requirement to compile an HER has been dropped with this last implementation. In certain cases the (central urban) city council is informed of a high-rise development plan in a given District, and of the ramifications of such a plan for the urban landscape.

Additionally, among other things, the execution of view-line studies form a standard requirement of the urban development policy of the District of Central Amsterdam for those development plans which could lead to a (substantial) change of the roofscape (surpassing building height, constructing roof terraces, etc).

Proposals for a new policy

As a consequence of the recent development of construction plans along the north bank of the IJ and at the tip of the Amsterscheg, a discussion arose about the visibility of high-rises from the city centre and about the effects on existing and cherished cityscapes. The City of Amsterdam insists that the unique quality of the historical city centre has to be handled with care. The proposed nomination of the ring of canals for the World Heritage list of UNESCO has been the incentive to formulate a high-rise policy as a starting point for a new policy, which will be further elaborated upon in time and which will be established as part of the Structural Concept Amsterdam 2010.

It is proposed to again proceed with a reactive high-rise policy whereby for certain areas of the city a more elaborate benchmark will be established than is currently the case. This applies in particular to the areas within the Singelgracht. Furthermore, it is proposed to make an HER or, at least a report relating accommodation into the urban landscape, a mandatory requirement. For additional clarification of the proposals, please refer to High-Rise Policy Amsterdam 2008 (reference A1).



Photo composition: Impression of the south bank from the Schaefer bridge, DRO 2004

Preparation of Structural Concept 2012

On April 22, 2008, with formulation of the notification of intent, Process Structural Concept Amsterdam, the municipal executive has given the starting signal to establish a structural concept for the area of the city of Amsterdam (reference A2). This structural concept will replace Choosing for Urbanity (2003). The objective of the structural concept is to provide direction for the dynamic and complex urban development of the Amsterdam metropolis. Which urban strategies and corresponding impulses are necessary to further cultivate Amsterdam as the nucleus of the metropolitan region of Amsterdam?

The structural concept will cover a long-term vision of the urban development of the city (2030/2040). Additionally, the concept will provide a unifying element and a benchmark for the city of Amsterdam and its Districts for all the relevant spatial policy for the period 2010-2020. The structural concept is also the framework for the prioritising and implementing of programmes and projects, with the objective of encouraging public/private investment in the city and region and the effective utilisation thereof. Thus, the policy regarding the spatial development pursued by the city of Amsterdam provides its citizens with security over the years.

Input for the structural concept is provided by Development Vision 2040 for the metropolitan region of Amsterdam, which defines the developmental direction of the region and the regional context, the long-term vision Randstad 2040 and the programme Amsterdam Top City, set up in extension of the programme People Make Amsterdam (2006-2010). This last also applies to the housing policy, harbour policy and public transportation policy (all with a view through 2020). Additionally, work is being done on the Spatial Economic Ambition of Amsterdam. This project adds to the implementation strategy of the structural concept.

In autumn, 2008, a communal discussion took place pertaining to the themes that determine the spatial questions in Amsterdam. The result of the discussion will lead to a statement, Keystones of the Structural Concept, in which the main points of the spatial tasks and the most important issues of choice are described. This statement will become the agenda for the structural concept, and in 2009 will lead to a conceptual framework for the structural concept. After a sequence of consultations, the definitive structural concept will take effect.



Photo composition: the north and south banks of the IJ bay. The different towers near Overhoeks are visualised, as well as the planned construction on the south bank of the IJ.

References

- A1. High-rise policy Service of Physical Planning September 2008 (only available in Dutch)
- A2. Statement of principles discussion pertaining to the future of Amsterdam, to the structural concept 2010 – 2020 for the centre of the metropolitan area, as established by the municipal executive on June 17, 2008.

June 2009 update:

Preparations for Structural Concept

A memorandum on the future physical development of Amsterdam (*De Pijlers voor de ruimtelijke ontwikkeling van Amsterdam*) has been published. It sets out ten 'pillars' relating to:

- more radical urbanisation in the form of denser development, more services and the upgrading of important city streets
- creation of a wide range of residential environments in the metropolitan region
- a regional public transport system to support key urban developments
- greater unity between urban life and public spaces, green spaces and water, both in and around the city
- measures to accommodate a range of commercial activity in the metropolitan region, particularly activity related to the knowledge-based economy and innovation

- the future of Amsterdam's key transport hubs, or 'mainports' (Schiphol and the Port of Amsterdam)
- investment in a sustainable, carbon-neutral, flood-protected city
- strengthening of the socio-spatial infrastructure with a view to creating a socially sustainable and integrated city
- scope for growth in tourism, with a focus on improvements in quality and spreading tourism further throughout the city
- development of a programme of physical developments geared towards a bid to host the Olympic Games in 2028

These pillars provide the framework for the Draft Structural Concept, which is currently in preparation.

High-rise construction

Work is currently underway on a specific policy on high-rise construction, which will form part of the Structural Concept. The draft version of the policy will be discussed with the councillors ('Aldermen') concerned in August/September.

Reference

A3. *De Pijlers voor de Ruimtelijke Ontwikkeling van Amsterdam. Notitie op weg naar de structuurvisie.*

Key Issue B: Overhoeks project

- Project description:** The plan for the site (formerly the Shell premises) comprises the construction of 2,200 homes, offices, restaurants, hotels, cultural and other social facilities. The provision of green space, such as a bank-side park and recreational facilities along Buiksloter Canal (*Buiksloterkanaal*) are also envisaged. Overhoeks will be realised by public/private co-operation between seven partners (ING Real Estate, Amsterdam City Council, Amsterdam North District, Ymere, Vesteda, Shell and the Film Museum).
- Location:** The area is in Amsterdam North and is bordered by the IJ, Buiksloter Road, the Buiksloter Canal and Johan van Hasselt Canal, outside the buffer zone, about 250 metres from the conservation area, 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht'.
- Status:** In progress

History and decision-making process

Urban development plan

The Urban Development Plan was adopted in September 2004 (preceded by a Project order). The Urban Development Plan comprises two parts. The northern part, the 'Campus', will be made up of buildings 8 to 9 storeys high (to a maximum of 35 metres) grouped round enclosed gardens. This part accounts for roughly half the development, and the accent will be on residential, working and non-commercial facilities.

The southern part of the planned site will be given over to a 'Strip' of high-rise blocks. Besides the Overhoeks Tower (*Toren Overhoeks*, the Shell Tower) and the Great Laboratory (*Groot Laboratorium*), the strip will comprise five new high-rise towers grouped round a number of gardens. The 'footprint' of the towers is 1,000 square metres per storey. To guarantee a relatively 'slim-line' look to the individual towers, each will be divided into two parts, staggered between 5 and 10 metres apart. The parts will be of differing heights, varying from between 75 and 110 metres. The strip will be a mixed development containing homes, hotels, offices, and cultural and catering facilities. At ground level, squares will be built round the towers, containing shops, restaurants, cafés and other facilities. The angular twist between the Strip and the Campus will be accentuated by the 'Green Wedge', alongside the IJ where the new Film Museum will be built. The most important open spaces in the development site will be the Oever Park, the 'Green Wedge', and the enclosed gardens in the campus.

Zoning plan

On 20 March 2007, the Provincial Executive of North Holland voted to approve the zoning plan, Overhoeks, which was adopted by the City of Amsterdam on 18 October 2006. The North Amsterdam Built Heritage Foundation (*Stichting Monumenten Amsterdam-Noord*; SMN) and the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre (*Vereniging Vrienden van de Amsterdamse Binnenstad*) registered an objection to this decision with the Council of State (*Raad van State*). Both organisations objected to the high-rise development because of its effect on the inner city. They argued that the high-rise development would damage the conservation area and the open quality of the views of the IJ from the inner city, and it would lead to a loss of 'typical, architectural features of the inner city'. Furthermore, according to the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre, 'the development would mean Amsterdam's 17th-century ring of canals would not be able to obtain the status of World Heritage Site'. The Council of State's administrative-judicial department then instructed the Administrative Justice for the Environment and Town Planning Foundation (*Stichting Advisering Bestuursrechtspraak voor Milieu en Ruimtelijke Ordening*; StAB) to launch an inquiry under Article 8:47 of the General Administrative Law Act (*Algemene Wet Bestuursrecht*; Awb). The StAB's guiding principle for its recommendations of 26 February 2007, concerning the visibility of the high-rise development from the inner city, was the map of sightlines and the montage photos from the supplementary High-Rise Effect Report produced by the Physical Planning Department in 2004 (see below). Using the evidence in the sightlines map, the foundation ruled that, from all points in the inner city from where the high-rise development would be visible, there would not be 'unacceptable damage' to the open quality of the views of the IJ and that the visibility of the development would not result in the 'fixing of a dominant image'. With regard to the World Heritage Site status, used as an argument by the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre, the foundation cited, in its ruling, UNESCO's Declaration on the

Conservation of Historic Urban Landscapes (Adoption of a Declaration on the Conservation of Historic Urban Landscapes, p. 1) as well as the notes to the decision to designate 'Amsterdam within the Singelgracht' as a conservation area. The conclusion was that 'bearing in mind the findings concerning the visibility of the high-rise development from the inner city (...) the plan in question does not endanger obtaining the status of World Heritage Site'. See appendix: The Recommendations of the Administrative Justice for the Environment and Town Planning Foundation (*Advies Stichting Advisering Bestuursrechtspraak voor Milieu en Ruimtelijke Ordening*) of 26 February 2008.

On 2 July 2008, the Council of State declared the objections to the Overhoeks zoning plan unfounded, thereby ratifying the zoning plan, and making it possible to start further developments to the construction plans.

Consequences of the nomination of the 17th-century ring of canals as a UNESCO site

What impact will the high-rise buildings in the Overhoeks development have on the property and the buffer zone?

Visual impact

Behind the Overhoeks Tower (75 metres high), there will be five towers – staggered and separated from each other – which, seen from Overhoeks, will be 75, 110, 100, 75 and 90 metres tall. In 2003, a High-Rise Effects Report was compiled, and augmented in June 2004. This charts the visual effects of the towers on areas including the inner city, where they can be seen from Prins Hendrikkade/Oude Waal (buffer zone), Brugsteeg (buffer zone), Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal (buffer zone), Singelgracht canal from Haarlemmersluis (buffer zone/property border) Palm street (buffer zone) and Willemstraat (buffer zone).

Prins Hendrikkade/Oude Waal: from here, the towers are clearly visible.



Brugsteeg: the highest tower will be visible behind the station from this point. This will affect the silhouette of the station building. The extent of the damage to the view will depend on the design and materials used for the tower.

Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal: the highest towers will be visible from the bend in Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal near Korte Kolksteeg.

Singel canal/Haarlemmersluis (bridge no. 14): here, the image of the city is dominated by the silver tower next to the Ibis Hotel. The new towers directly behind the Overhoeks Tower will be obscured by the Ibis tower.



Kop Singel beside the Haarlemmerluis

Palmstraat (Jordaan): the new towers will be visible from Palm Street in the distance, on the horizon.
Willemsstraat (Jordaan district): Overhoeks Tower is in the centre of the view from Willemsstraat. The new development behind Overhoeks, partially visible from this street, will to an extent fill in the horizon.



Willemsstraat

In general: the new towers (still unknown) will influence the visual impact.

Authenticity and integrity

The answer to the question of how the Overhoeks high-rise development will affect the authenticity and integrity of the designated property depends on how much importance is given to the visual relationship between the ring of canals and the IJ. In the present structural concept, it is generally supposed that Amsterdam's inner city 'faces' the IJ. The western and eastern islands originated as water defences; in the 19th century, they grew into 'islands' with economic and industrial purposes; nowadays, they are being transformed into residential and business areas, which is bestowing them a new identity, thus changing their relationship with the historic inner city.

The high-rise development policy is constrained in view of this context: the height of new buildings is restricted, as are their locations and each project has to be drawn up with care in relation to the historic inner city. These principles will be realised within the framework of the structural plan.

In the historical context, it can be said that, in the 17th and 18th centuries, clear sightlines (interrupted by bridges and locks) to the IJ were only available from Singel canal and Prinsengracht canal in the western ring of canals. These sightlines were blocked firstly by the railway dyke constructed in the 19th century and, later, in the 20th century, by the Ibis Hotel, the silver tower and, in the distance, the Shell Tower, as well as recent developments on the island, Westerdokseiland. The high-rise Overhoeks development is not visible from the property, except from the end of Singel canal on the border of the buffer zone near Haarlemmersluis. The high-rise development is clearly visible from many areas of the buffer zone.

Progress so far

Phase 1 of the 'Campus' part of the plan is under construction: the first homes will be ready for occupation at the end of 2009. Construction of the 'Strip', the band of high-rise buildings directly behind the Overhoeks Tower, has begun. The Overhoeks Tower, the Great Laboratory and part of the Strip will be handed over to ING; further construction and other work will follow. The whole development site will be ready between 2018 and 2020.

Sources

- 'The Northern Shore of the IJ', A Cultural-historical Report on the Effects. What does the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology's Cultural-Historical Effects Report say About the Issue of Sightlines from the Property and the Buffer Zone?' (*De Noordelijke IJ-oever. Een cultuurhistorische effectrapportage wat zegt de CHER van BMA over de kwestie zichtlijnen vanuit de property en de bufferzone?*): Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology, August 2003.
- Supplementary High-rise Effects Report on the Shell Site (*Aanvullende Hoogbouw Effect Rapportage Shellterrein*), Physical Planning Department, June 2004.
- Objection to the Overhoeks zoning plan by the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre, 3 March 2008.
- Report re: Article 8:47 General Administrative Law Act by the Administrative Justice for the Environment and Town Planning Foundation (*Algemene Wet Bestuursrecht van de Stichting Advisering Bestuursrechtspraak voor Milieu en Ruimtelijke Ordening*), 26 February 2007.
- Defence of Amsterdam High-Rise Policy Memorandum (*Notitie Verantwoording Hoogbouwbeleid Amsterdam*), Physical Planning Department, 2008.
- Website <http://www.overhoeks.nl>

June 2009 update:

No change in the situation described above.

Key Issue C: Westerdokseiland

Project description: The Westerdokseiland project concerns the redevelopment of areas including a train shunting yard to the northwest of the property. Homes for about 2,000 people and employment opportunities for about 5,000 people will be provided in the development. The project will be characterised by a high density of buildings, and a wide diversity of uses and living styles.

Location: Former train shunting yard in Westerdokseiland, the 'Kop' (the head, or end point) of the Westerdok and Stenen Hoofd, bordered by the IJ, Westerdoksdijk and Westerdok about 200 metres from the northern border of the property.

Status: In progress.

History and decision-making

Westerdokseiland

On 17 March 1999, Amsterdam City Council adopted the Westerdokseiland Urban Development Programme of Requirements (*Stedenbouwkundig Programma van Eisen*, SPvE). This signalled the start of the redevelopment of the area (including the Kop of the Wester-IJdok (the Western IJ dock). The council decided that a minimum of 900 homes, about 80,000 square metres of non-residential accommodation and at least 60 berths for houseboats should be provided at Westerdokseiland. Westerdokseiland is divided in the Northern Block 1st and 2nd phase (or Westerkaap I and II), the Middle Block (or VOC Cour), and the South Block (La Grand Cour). The construction of this area harmonises with the compact, brick inner city and western islands. The Wester-IJdok will be located in the southeast corner of Westerdokseiland, partially in the IJ. This block is the counterpart to the end of the Oostelijk-Handelskade. These two developments to the west of Central Station form a symmetrical reflection along the city's historic front: Oudezijds Wallen and Nieuwezijds Wallen, Oudezijds Kolk and Nieuwezijds Kolk, the Church of St Nicholas (*Nicolaaskerk*) and the Posthoorn Church (*Posthoornkerk*). The scale of this complex of buildings is related to the grain silos, the Harbour Building (*Havengebouw*) and the Kop Oostelijke Handelskade.



View of the IJ from North Amsterdam

The Westerdokseiland Urban Development Plan (*Stedenbouwkundig Plan voor Westerdokseiland*) was adopted in 2001 and ratified by the Council of State on the 6 April 2005. Eleven parties and individuals objected to the Westerdokseiland zoning plan, including the Heemschut Union (*Bond Heemschut*), the Working Group Westerdoks Houseboats (*Werkgroep woon-schepen Westerdoks*), Amsterdam Water Front (*Waterig Amsterdam Front*), Golden Reael Neighbourhood Bond (*Wijkopbouworgaan Gouden Reael*) and the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre (*Vereniging Vrienden van de Amsterdamse Binnenstad*). Most of the objections concerned the

reorganisation of houseboats and the scale of the development in relation to the view from the old city. The section, Western IJ Dock, was twice dealt with by the Council of State and, following modification (survey of the sightlines Western IJ Dock on the planning map), was also adopted in 2005.

The material to be used, according to the Urban Development Plan, is the composite brick-built block. The maximum height will be 36.75 metres above the quay and 35 metres above Westerdoksdijk. The street layout will harmonise with that of the ring of canals and is based on the guidelines laid out in the Manual for the Redevelopment of the Public Space. The guiding principle is to use the same materials as in the surface relief of the ring of canals, i.e., red brick and natural stone kerbing (main roads are an exception and will be of black asphalt). The vast majority of homes are situated in three blocks: north, central and south. The first buildings in the north block were started on 11 November 2004. Most of the non-residential structures have been built in Western IJ Dock.

Wester IJdock (Kop Westerdokseiland)

A separate Urban Development Plan has been drawn up for the Kop (adopted on 3 July 2001). The maximum construction height will be 46 metres above Normal Amsterdam Water Level (*Normaal Amsterdams Peil*; NAP). Gaps have been designed in the new blocks to afford views of the IJ from various parts of the historic inner city (including from Keizergracht canal).

The Kop is behind Westerdokseiland and is barely visible from the ring of canals.

The Kop development will include a hotel (300 rooms, on 11 floors), 59 luxury owner-occupier houses, Amsterdam's Court Building (relocated from the Prinsengracht canal and other locations and comprising about 30,000 square metres), National Police Force Services (*Korps Landelijke Politie Diensten*, KLPD) and Inland Waterways Board (*Binnenwaterbeheer*) offices and a yachting marina (temporary berths for sea-going yachts to be run by the hotel).



Visualisation IJ Dock complex

Parking facilities will largely be located in garages inside the buildings.

A public parking garage will be situated underneath the Western IJ Dock complex. A new square will be built alongside the marina, with services such as cafés, restaurants and other small businesses. The development plan for the Kop has been halted for four years due to judicial procedures (zoning plan) and the slow demand for business premises. In 2005, the Government Building Agency

(*Rijksgebouwendienst*) decided to locate the Amsterdam Court building here and the plan was again taken up.



Visualisation: IJ Dock from the East

Stenen Hoofd

Stenen Hoofd (Stone Head) is a former pier on the northeastern side of Westerdokdijk and will be given over to public use.

Consequences for the UNESCO nomination

Visual Impact

There are sightlines from the property, from Prinsengracht canal and Binnen Brouwers Street (leading on from Keizersgracht canal), towards Westerdokseiland. The new Westerdokseiland development will block the sightline from Prinsengracht canal to the IJ. Since the 19th century, this sightline has been partially blocked by the railway embankment.

Gaps have been left in the new blocks in front of the Kop, the Western IJ Dock, to secure views of the IJ from Keizersgracht canal/Binnen Brouwers Street. 'In situ' inspections revealed that this view was blocked by a tree. As far as can be ascertained from the sightlines studies, the new development at the end of Westerdokseiland will have no visual impact on the property. The gaps in the buildings will preserve the views to the IJ and on to the horizon.

Conclusion: there will be considerable visual impact on the property as an important sightline will be interrupted. However, it must be pointed out that the original sightlines did not afford direct views of the IJ or the harbour front. They did, of course, afford views of the open horizon, giving a sense of space.

Authenticity and integrity

The new Westerdokseiland development is outside the buffer zone. The civic design combines references from different epochs in Amsterdam's development, with the aim of making Westerdokseiland a logical link between the 17th-century inner city and the 19th-century harbour area around the IJ. The development thus harmonises with recent Amsterdam tradition in civic design illustrated in the developments in the southern shore of the IJ and the islands. The relationship to the authenticity and integrity of the property cannot be indicated.

Progress so far

Westerdokseiland

The completion process of the development started in 2007 and will be finished halfway through 2009. The 'La Grande Cour' block and 'Westerkaap I' have been completed and handed over to the residents. It is expected that 'Westerkaap II' and 'VOC Cour' will have been handed over by the middle of 2009. Work has begun on the final street-level layout around 'La Grande Cour'. The progress of the street-level work is dependant on the speed of the completion and handing over of the remaining blocks on the island. Where necessary, temporary surfaces will be laid. The restaurant, 'Open', began catering to the public at the beginning of this year. It is housed in a structure on the Western Dock's (*Westerdok*) former railway swing bridge.

Western IJ Dock (Kop of the Westerdokseiland)

The construction of boat collision defences (*aanvaarbescherming*) started in June 2008 and will be completed in 2012/2013. The necessary contracts were signed in February 2008 with Fortis Real Estate (*Fortis Vastgoed*), the Government Building Agency and the City of Amsterdam.

Stenen Hoofd

A Strategy Resolution (first plan, formulation phase) is being prepared for the re-zoning of Stenen Hoofd. It is hoped that Stenen Hoofd will remain open to the public.

Sources

- Westerdokseiland Urban Development Schedule of Requirements (*Stedenbouwkundig Programma van Eisen Westerdokseiland*) adopted by Amsterdam city council, 17 March 1999.
- Westerdokseiland Urban Development Plan (*Stedenbouwkundig Plan Westerdokseiland*) (October, 2000); adopted by the Executive Committee of the City of Amsterdam, 10 January 2001.
- Kop Westerdokseiland Urban Development Plan (*Stedenbouwkundig Plan Kop Westerdokseiland*) (September 2001); adopted by the Executive Committee of the City of Amsterdam, 3 July 2001.
- Kop of the Westerdokseiland Street-level layout (*Maaiveldinrichting [Kop] Westerdokseiland*)
- 'Westerdokseiland Zoning Plan (*Bestemmingsplan Westerdokseiland*) (regulations and map), adopted by the City of Amsterdam, 14 November 2001, adopted, 5 April 2005
- Sightlines study (to be attached)

Websites

www.westerdokseiland.nl (with photo montages of the development)

www.ijoevers.nl (general site)

www.ijdock.nl

May 2009 update:

Westerdokseiland; city side

The construction work is on schedule. All the homes and commercial premises will be completed by mid-2009, as will developments at ground level. The public play boat and seating area in the Westerdok were recently opened. A play gym will be built at Westerdokplein in summer 2009. The new development should be officially handed over in January 2010.

Wester IJ-dock

The installation of the concrete tanking and collision protection is progressing; work will start on the foundations of the parking garage in mid-2009.

Stenen Hoofd

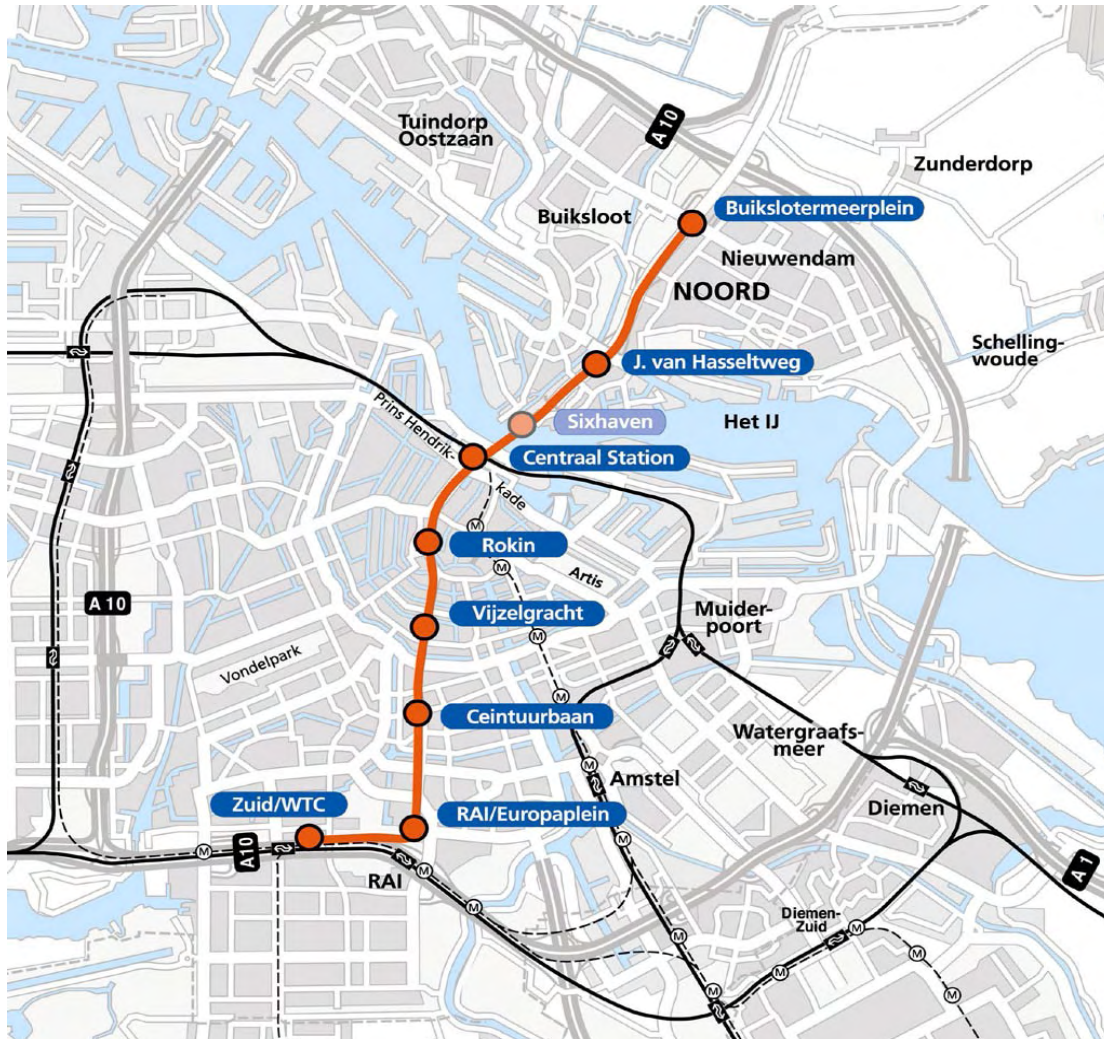
The strategic decision on this district was taken in early 2009. The present foundations will be inspected, after which the choice of development model will be finalised. The current assumption is that a minimal option will be chosen, involving continuation of current use with open spaces and only few (temporary or permanent) structures. The Stenen Hoofd is one of the projects that the city council has downgraded in terms of priority as a result of the credit crunch.

Key Issue D: The North-South Metro Line

Project overview: The North-South metro line (*Noord/Zuidlijn*) project concerns the construction of a metro line almost 10 kilometres long, 6 kilometres of which will be underground. The tunnel is being constructed deep underground and does not pass underneath any buildings with the exception of Central Station. When construction is finished in 2013, 200,000 people per day will use the metro link. Construction is being supervised by the North-South Metro Line Project Agency (*Projectbureau Noord/Zuidlijn*).

Route: The North-South metro line will run from Buikslotermeerplein in Amsterdam North, under the city centre (Stationsplein, Damrak, Dam, Rokin, Vijzel Street, Vijzelgracht canal, Weteringplantsoen) to the World Trade Centre in Amsterdam South.

Status: Under construction



The route map of the future North-South line. Station Sixhaven will not be realised.

History and decision-making process

On 9 October 2002, Amsterdam City Council voted to begin the North-South Metro Line (Council order, 9 October 2002; Council paper, Section 3A, no. 295/514).²

The vote was preceded by the necessary public debate. Amsterdam's Urban Development Board (*Amsterdamse Raad voor de Stadsontwikkeling*; ARS) pointed out – as early as 1995 – that town-planning considerations had to a large extent been forgotten because the debate had largely focused on the cost.³

In 1995, the d'Oude Stadt District Centre (*Wijkcentrum d'Oude Stadt*) published a report entitled *Metropijn (Metro Pain)*. This proposed alternatives to the construction of the North-South metro line, such as optimising the existing public aboveground transport links combined with measures dealing with parking and goods transportation.⁴

Official complaints about the council decision coupled with a demand for a referendum were registered by the Above-Grounders Association (*de Vereniging De Bovengrondse*), Nelly Frijda and Maarten Lubbers, on behalf of 75 well-known Amsterdam residents and many others. This was rejected because a plebiscite had already been held on 25 June 1997.

The complaint by the Above-Grounders Association was dismissed by the Council of State (*Raad van State*) in November 2005. The Council of State did, however, rule that, in 2000/2001, the Amsterdam City Council failed to pay enough attention to the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency's comments about the aesthetic problems regarding the design for the lift exit near Weteringscircuit (see below).

Foundations investigation and measuring programme

To prevent damage to the foundations of buildings along the metro line route, the foundations of 1700 buildings were examined before construction started. If there was a reasonable possibility of subsidence resulting from the construction of the tunnel, owners were able to claim subsidies covering the restoration of the foundations, for which an amount of 27 million guilders was made available. Many buildings have had new foundations laid using internally sunk steel piles.⁵

A system has also been installed along the entire route that continually monitors local buildings for any subsidence.

Compensation for loss and damage

Since 2002, affected parties (residents and businesses in premises along the North-South metro line) have been able to register damages and make a claim under the Regulation for the Compensation for Loss and Damage Due to Planning of the North-South Metro Line (*Verordening Nadeelcompensatie en Planschade Noord Zuid/lijn*). In the event of damage to buildings, an independent expert can be brought in. Compensation claims are dealt with by the North-South Metro Line Damage Agency (*Schadebureau Noord/Zuidlijn*). Up to the end of 2006, 175 owners had made damages claims, and 3.2 million euros (a quarter of the available budget of 12.6 million euros) had been paid out (figures from the audit office report).

Building aesthetics

As far as this issue is concerned, this memorandum only deals with the position and architecture of Vijzelgracht metro station, which is within the property.

The Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency (CWM) has lodged the following objections to the building plans which have already received a building permit (advice issued on 31 May 2000, 20 September 2000 and 4 October 2000):

² An overview of the major events during the preparation and decision-making process can be gained by visiting www.noordzuidlijn.amsterdam.nl

³ Urban Development Board Recommendations on the North-South Metro Line (*Adviezen Amsterdamse Raad voor de Stadsontwikkeling over de Noord Zuidlijn*) (February 1995), and no. 214 (August 1998).

⁴ The d'Oude Stad District Centre's May 1995 Traffic Working Group Report, 'Metropijn', a critical report into Amsterdam's planned North-South Metro Line (*Werkgroep Verkeer van het Wijkcentrum d'Oude Stadt, Metropijn. Kritisch onderzoek naar de geplande noord-zuid-metro in Amsterdam*), May 1995.

⁵ Wind, H., Major repairs of foundations along the new North-South Metro Line (*Grootschalig funderingsherstel langs nieuwe Noordzuid-lijn*), in: *Bouwwereld*, no. 5 (3 March 2003).

- Locating a lift at the junction of Nieuwe Vijzel Street and Weteringschans. The CWM believes the locating the lift just a few metres from the facades of existing buildings is very unfortunate; the entrances to the station are too large – ‘the size of the exits does not harmonise with the cityscape’ – and the CWM objects to this. The agency takes the view that additions to the public space should conform to the scale of the immediate area. It believes a guiding principle should be that such changes harmonise discreetly with the urban fabric, and this is not the case with the present proposal.

The City of Amsterdam’s Executive Committee decided to reject the agencies objections, citing opinions by external experts.

Part of the opinion given on 23 May 2005 by Prof H.C. Bekkering B.Sc. (professor of town planning at Delft University of Technology) is quoted below:

‘The view expressed by Amsterdam’s Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency at its 4 October 2000 meeting, that the design for the Vijzelgracht station would “monumentalise the metro within the cityscape”, is, as I pointed out earlier (in my opinion of 21 July 2004), in no way compatible with the scale, the materials used and the decoration of the visible parts of the station: the sunken entrance, the lift housing and ventilation shaft. In my opinion, the additions to the public space are totally in keeping with the scale of the immediate area and fit in discreetly. The transparency of a lift housing made entirely of glass and the extremely reserved decoration used in the Benthem Crouwel Architects design, in their very abstraction, draw little attention.

The advantage of this relatively neutral architectural approach is that, through the neutrality, not only is a certain timelessness achieved, but also the impact of new elements on the existing surroundings can remain limited. Partly for this reason, the entire North-South metro line design has been favourably received in specialist publications (see Aart Oxenaar in De Architect 29/5, 1998, among others).

The lift housing is relatively close to the pavement, in front of the buildings with the addresses, Vijzel Street nos. 3 and 5, near the corner of Weteringschans. These houses have retained some of their historic value. The lift housing, at 4.2 metres high, reaches roughly the first-floor windowsills of these and nearby buildings, a height that is marked by cornices on the facades and additions such as billboards and sun blinds. The lift housing fits in completely with the scale of what is to be found at ground level in the vicinity, viz. shops, restaurants and bars and other service outlets. Architecturally, it is totally different, but its overall transparency and neutrality ensure it does not really stand out. The proximity to the facades of the existing buildings does not counteract this.’

In November 2005, the Objections Committee (*Bezwaarschiffencommissie*) ruled that Prof Bekkering, in his opinion dated 23 May 2005, had sufficiently refuted the objections made by the CWM, and that the City of Amsterdam’s Executive Committee, in adopting this and earlier arguments, was justified in laying aside the CWM’s negative report.

Archaeology

In accordance with the guidelines laid down in the Malta Convention, archaeological investigations have been and are being carried out during the construction of the tunnel 30 metres underground. The City of Amsterdam has set aside 6 million Euros for this work.



Damrak in 2005. Archaeologists made the first excavations here.

Archaeological research was carried out in the initial phase, long before the start of construction work: this centred on Station Island (*Stationseiland*), Damrak and Rokin. These are the sites of medieval Amsterdam and the River Amstel's IJ estuary. Pro-active archaeological supervision will take place or has taken place at the Vijzelgracht and Ceintuurbaan stations, and in Amsterdam North as far as the Willemsluizen (locks). A practical approach was adopted. This entails the archaeology being fitted in alongside the civil engineering work. No separate inventorial field research is done: instead, it takes place when the foundations for the stations are being excavated. The archaeological research/excavations are mostly done in the evening. The situation underground is documented as much as possible. During the day, the civil engineering work is also supervised by archaeologists to secure material and prepare for the evening's research work. In addition, all the material that comes to the surface is sifted and documented. So far, the most important finds have been made in the Damrak-Rokin area.⁶



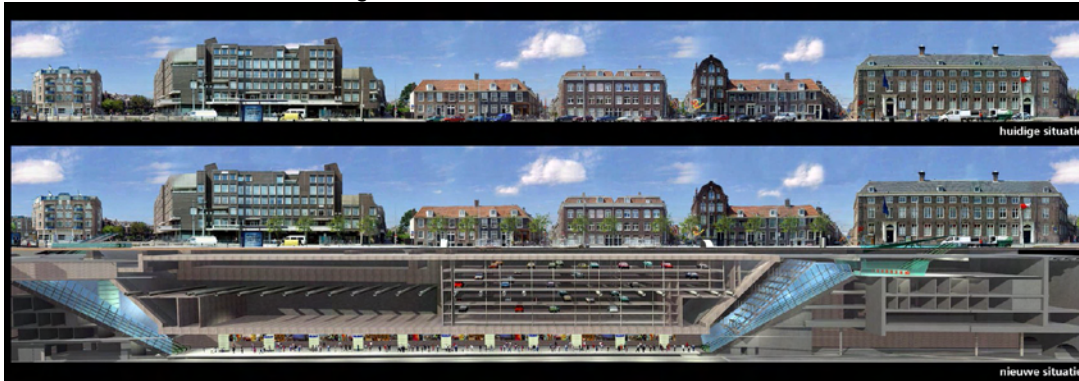
During excavations in the Damrak, a unique seal stamp, dating from the late 14th century, was found.

⁶ *Vitruvius*, vol. 1, no. 4, July 2008.

Consequences for the UNESCO nomination

Visual impact

The North-South metro line follows an underground route between Central Station and Weteringcircuit. On street level, only the station entrances are visible along Rokin (buffer zone) and the Vijzelgracht (property). Only the part of Vijzelgracht Station which is aboveground will be dealt with from now on. There will be three entrances, only one of which, the entrance near Maison Descartes, will be within the property. This entrance is only visible from Vijzel Street and partially visible from Prinsengracht canal. The lift and lift housing designed by Benthem Crouwel Architects is as far as possible transparent (for the most part glass). The use of transparent materials and its height, 4.20 metres, makes the modern design restrained.



Benthem Crouwel: impression of the Vijzelgracht with the mainly glass entrance to the metro.

Authenticity en Integrity

The design of the lift housing and the entrance to the North-South metro line is modern and at the same time restrained

Progress so far

Recently, work began on excavating the Vijzelgracht and building the station. On 19 June 2008, a leak occurred in a joint between two restraining wall panels of the excavated site for the station, and led to a number of nearby buildings subsiding and having to be evacuated and shored up (Vijzelgracht 20-24). An inquiry is underway into the Vijzelgracht Station leak and the subsidence of the building.

Sources

www.noordzuidlijn.amsterdam.nl

June 2009 update:

Work on the North-South Metro Line was halted in response to the incidents described about. At the request of the councillor ('Alderman') then responsible for the project, the Ombudsman instituted an investigation in response to the first incident. A number of recommendations now need to be met before work can resume. At the same time, the Veerman Committee was set up to investigate whether and, if so, under what conditions, work could recommence. Its final decision will be issued in early June 2009.

Central Amsterdam district council has stabilised the premises on Vijzelgracht that were affected by the subsidence, in close consultation with the North-South Metro Line Claims Office ('North-South Metro Line Damage Agency') and the North-South Metro Line Project Office ('North-South Metro Line Project Agency'). All parties are now hard at work putting the recommendations of the Ombudsman

and the interim assessment of the Veerman Committee into practice. The councillors responsible and the Municipal Executive will decide in June whether excavation work can continue.

A number of stakeholder organisations concerned with the built heritage (*Bond Heemschut*, *Genootschap Amstelodamum*, Friends of Amsterdam City Centre) wrote to Amsterdam city council on 15 May 2009 expressing their concern about recent developments associated with the construction of the North-South Metro Line. In response to the letter, the councillors responsible for Transport & Infrastructure (including the new metro line), Housing, and Built Heritage & Archaeology held talks with these organisations. It was agreed that in autumn 2009 the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology would conduct a quick scan of the cultural heritage value of the monuments and historic buildings along the route. The scan will also consider a random selection of monuments and historic buildings in the buffer and core zones.

Amsterdam city council has offered to buy all the premises affected by subsidence, and a number of owners have now taken up the offer. The council (Amsterdam Municipal Development Agency, *Ontwikkelingsbedrijf Gemeente Amsterdam*) has now bought Vijzelgracht 4, 6, 8, part of 20 and 22, and Eerste Weteringsdwarsstraat 68A-70. The North-South Metro Line Claims Office is currently working on a plan of action for repairs to the foundations and structure of all the premises the council has bought. Investigations are currently underway.

The municipal council discussed the Veerman Committee's report on 2 June 2009, adopting its recommendations unanimously. A summary of the report and the recommendations is given below.

Summary of the Veerman Report (from council presentation of 2 June 2009)

At the start of 2009, the year's financial forecasts for the North-South Metro Line made it clear that the costs and scheduling of the project were not proceeding according to plan. Some of the delay and the increase in costs was caused by the subsidence on Vijzelgracht, as a result of which work there and on Rokin had to be halted. Other new risks were also emerging, giving the impression that the project was becoming unmanageable.

The Municipal Executive was concerned about the progress of the project and the annual rise in costs, particularly at a time when Amsterdam is being hit by the credit crunch.

On 4 March 2004 the Executive decided to ask a heavyweight committee of independent experts chaired by Professor C.P. Veerman (the Veerman Committee) to advise it on continuation of the project.

The Committee was given the following assignment:

"To advise the Executive on:

1. The scope of the project. In other words, advice on the future of the project in the broadest sense, considering all alternatives, as well as the costs and benefit to society.
2. The organisation of the project.
3. The funding of the project. The Executive would like to receive recommendations concerning any better or alternative methods of funding."

The Veerman Committee presented its report to the Municipal Executive on 2 June 2009. The Committee sought information from all parties associated in any way with the North-South Metro Line, including interest groups, private individuals, residents, businesses, contractors, technical experts and council staff involved in the project.

The Committee also had access to all council documents, including some that are still under development.

The Committee sought recommendations from external experts. It also commissioned a study of the social costs and benefits, and the likely financial costs of continuing the work. The Committee brought in a number of Dutch and internationally renowned technical experts to assess the technical risks associated with the project. The Committee took a very thorough approach, and the Executive has full confidence in its report.

The scope of the project

The Committee explored three scenarios concerning the scope of the project:

- 1) Discontinuing construction of the North-South Metro Line
- 2) Constructing only the northern section
- 3) Continuing construction of the entire North-South Metro Line, possibly without Vijzelgracht station.

The Executive noted the criteria used to assess these three scenarios: cost, benefits, technology and technical risks, other risks and how they can be minimised/controlled, including safety considerations, nuisance, time and non-tangible factors.

The Committee's assessment of the three scenarios

1) *Discontinuing construction of the North-South Metro Line: "If work on the North-South Metro Line were to be discontinued, there would be nothing to show for the huge investment made so far. The major underground work already carried out would have been for nothing, and would constitute a physical reminder of a failed and wasteful project for years to come. There would also be no rapid connection between the commercial centres in the North and South of the city and its residential areas. In the view of the Committee, discontinuing the project would give residents the feeling that it had 'all been for nothing', undermining their confidence in any future major construction projects in Amsterdam. It does not regard simply abandoning the project as a realistic option."*

The Executive agrees entirely with the Committee's view that discontinuing the project would leave nothing to show for a major investment. This would cost the city some EUR 1.7 billion in total, and still leave it without the improvements to public transport needed to boost the urban economy.

2) *Constructing only the northern section:*

"The Committee believes that building only the northern section would not be in proportion to the investments made so far and the further costs that would be incurred. The benefits to the city of Amsterdam, the Randstad conurbation and the entire country would be far too limited. The city would still lack a good, rapid connection for commuters between the commercial centres in the North and South and its residential areas. As with the first scenario, it would mean that the partially completed underground work had been for nothing, and that the people who have suffered for years as a result of the project would never be able to enjoy the benefits of a good metro link."

The Executive would point out that the cost-benefit analysis in fact identified slightly negative implications and high costs for construction of only the Buikslotermeerplein-Central Station section. It therefore supports this conclusion.

The Committee did not assess construction of the northern section in the meantime as a prelude to completion of the entire project. The Executive will therefore put forward separate proposals (in autumn 2009) concerning the possibility of launching the northern section earlier than the rest of the project.

3) *Continuing construction of the entire North-South Metro Line, possibly without Vijzelgracht station*

"The Committee believes that not continuing construction of the North-South Metro Line would not be in the interests of Amsterdam city council or the city's residents.

"Abandoning the project would be expensive, and only completion of the project would yield results on all the investments made so far, as well as a working metro system between North and South Amsterdam. The benefits of continuing with the project outweigh the costs, certainly when compared to the options of discontinuing the project or constructing only the northern section.

"However, given the differences in terms of risk, and particularly public safety, quality of life and nuisance, between the options of continuing or abandoning the project, the Committee does have some reservations about whether continuing the project is a sensible course of action."

The Executive has adopted this recommendation. Inclusion of Vijzelgracht station has been found to be unavoidable, for both technical and commercial reasons.

Implementation of the project

The Committee regards the risks of implementation as acceptable on condition that its recommendations on the matter are adopted. The Executive will adopt in full the Committee's recommendations on improving implementation of the project.

The recommendations are as follows:

Contractor

1. *Regular consultations must be held between the Project Office and the contractors involved regarding the risk analyses drawn up by both sides, and improvement of the coordination between them.*
2. *Regular consultations on all construction contracts must be introduced between the Project Office and the contractors involved regarding risk management and the immediate repair of any damage.*

The Executive has adopted these proposals. They will be fleshed out by the North-South Metro Line Project Office.

Claims

3. *The speed, willingness and public-friendliness of the work of the Claims Office in terms of assessing, repairing and paying for damage must be improved*
4. *The Claims Office should be placed under the authority of the Project Office, while retaining its autonomy regarding payments*

The Executive has adopted this recommendation. The Claims Office has until now been an external body, which fell under the responsibility of the councillor responsible for finances, in order to guarantee segregation of duties. In the interests of streamlining, the Executive has agreed to the Claims Office being placed under the responsibility of the councillor responsible for the North-South Metro Line, on condition that the Claims Office remain free to make its own assessments.

Coordination, excavation, study of tunnelling from both sides

5. *Good coordination must be brought about between work on the tunnel and on the underground stations, in terms of both design and technical implementation*
6. *Excavation of Rokin underground station may resume only after a thorough study of the various alternatives, and of how the risks can be managed*
7. *The Project Office's study of alternative phasing of tunnelling work involving tunnelling from both sides must be completed. The initial results of the study suggest that this might save time, and allow risks to be managed more effectively.*

The most striking recommendation in the report is that a study should be conducted into the possibility of tunnelling from two sides, from North to South and vice versa. This could shorten construction time by a year. The North-South Metro Line Project Office is already investigating such a change in the order of construction, and hopes to have a clear indication of its feasibility soon. The study of alternative phasing will be presented to your Council in September 2009.

The Executive has incorporated the conditions for excavating Rokin station in its order for the resumption of work on Vijzelgracht and Rokin.

Risks

8. *Adequate measures must be taken against highly probable risks, such as anchoring the unstable retaining wall at the wet Damrak site before tunnels are dug there*
9. *The risks listed in appendix 3 to this advisory report must be addressed by means of preventive and control measures*

The Executive has adopted these recommendations. The North-South Metro Line Project Office will take steps to stabilise the retaining wall..

Incidents, "emergency squads"

10. *Responses to and coordination in the event of incidents of subsidence during tunnelling work, both in technical terms and in relation to nearby residents and/or victims, must be devised and*

rehearsed, and repair materials and competent manpower (“emergency squads”) must be available at all times

The Executive has adopted this recommendation.

1.3 Residents

This Executive has taken note of the Committee’s observation that a convincing majority of local residents believe that the project must be completed, albeit better and more rapidly. In this context, the following recommendations are important.

Information

- 1. The quality and character of the information provided to residents must be reconsidered. Too often, the public find the information obscure, or even misleading. The same is often true of meetings of the committee set up to oversee the work (BCU, BegeleidingsCommissie Uitvoering). The aim of providing information must be to inform people as openly, honestly and fully as possible. Frankness and clarity are better than attractive packaging. Successes must also be publicised.*

The Executive has adopted this recommendation in full. The required culture change within the organisation is already underway.

Communication

- 2. Communication with the public concerning risks – expected, actual or imagined – must be improved, and conducted with complete openness, honesty and frankness. People should not be made to feel concerned about their safety if risks are not actually present, or are present to only a small degree. A more realistic picture could be given of the risks involved.*

The Executive also wholeheartedly supports this recommendation. Improvements of this kind have already been brought about since publication of the Ombudsman’s report.

Claims

- 3. Living and working next to a major construction site for longer than a decade is not the kind of risk one expects to face in society. This must be reflected in the way any damage is dealt with*
- 4. Change the tasks of the Claims office such that the emphasis is also on representing the public’s interests, which should be reflected in rapid and generous assessment and repair of damage, and advance compensation*
- 5. Accelerate procedures for damage assessment, repair and compensation. Consider whether the advance compensation scheme is adequate, and regarded as such by claimants. Consider settling small claims in an informal way, which could save on the expense of expert advice and formal procedures*

The Executive has already adopted an earlier recommendation on claims by placing the Claims Office under the direct responsibility of the councillor responsible for the North-South Metro Line. As regards this specific recommendation, the Executive believes that a majority of the existing compensation schemes already provide 100% compensation. In principle, therefore, the arrangements are already accommodating, and changes to the existing framework would not be justified. There is however scope for the recommended improvements to be introduced within the existing framework, for example by expanding the mandate for settling simple claims and, as of 1 January 2009, opening the existing compensation scheme to residents and businesses in the same area who are not eligible for other schemes. The possibility of extending the existing compensation schemes to other construction sites, in terms of duration, scale and distance, will also be considered, on the basis of recent insights.

a. Improved organisation

The incidents on Vijzelgracht put the leadership of the project under such pressure that roles and responsibilities became blurred to some extent. This affected management of the project. The municipal clerk asked the Berenschot consultancy to advise the council on a structural approach to the leadership and organisation of the North-South Metro Line project. The Veerman Committee used Berenschot’s report as a starting point for its own report. It regards Berenschot’s recommendations for improving the interaction between the various municipal services and bodies as promising and likely to solve problems in the long term, but other measures are needed now to enable the project to resume.

The Committee proposes that:

1. An independent Project Agency be established, staffed by the directors of the Infrastructure & Transport Service (IVV) and the Environment & Construction Supervision Service (DMB), with a representative of the administrative service (acting as executive secretary without voting rights) and three external, renowned independent experts, one of whom would act as chair. The executive secretary would act as the official link between the Executive and the Project Agency, coordinating and supporting the work of the Agency, under the direction of the chair. The Project Agency would advise the Project Office and assess the actions of the project director in terms of efficiency, legitimacy and project objectives.
2. The position of the North-South Metro Line project director be strengthened, and that he be given full responsibility for the project and the budget. Direct quarterly reports (or more frequent as implementation work or specific circumstances require) from the project director to the councillor responsible should be approved by and coordinated with the Project Agency before submission. Responsibility for implementation would thus lie entirely with the director of the Project Office, who would act autonomously but under supervision, and would take decisions on matters associated with implementation within the given framework. Responsibility for supervision would lie with the Project Agency. None of these arrangements would affect the tasks and responsibilities of the municipal services, or the final responsibility of the Executive.
3. The director of the North-South Metro Line be made responsible in the new organisation for putting in place an operational transport system on the North-South Metro Line.

The Executive would observe that an organisational form involving an independent Project Agency has never before been used in Amsterdam. It acknowledges that it would have the advantage of clearly defining the roles of the Executive, the organisation implementing the project and the Project Agency. This would make the new organisation more effective, and give it more expertise for supervising the project, as well as strengthening collaboration between the services involved.

The Executive has also read the Berenschot report. It agrees with the Veerman Committee's view that the recommendations in the Berenschot report are worth considering for the long term. The municipal clerk will work up the recommendations in consultation with the heads of the services involved, and implement them as soon as possible.

The Executive would point out that the role of supervisor has already been better defined as part of a clearer allocation of roles at the Environment and Construction Supervision Service (*dienst Milieu- en Bouwtoezicht*). The emphasis in assessing the quality of supervision is now on assessment of the process whereby the principal and the contractor organise supervision.

The director of the North-South Metro Line Project Office will be made responsible for ensuring there is an operational transport system.

References

- D4. Report of the Veerman Committee, *Bouwen aan verbinding*. June 2009
D5. Letter to the chair of Amstelodamum of 15 May 2009

Key Issue E: Coalition Project 1012

Project description: Coalition Project 1012 aims to take a far-reaching approach to one of the oldest parts of Amsterdam's city centre. The goal is to inhibit the crime-conducive infrastructure of the city's red light district (the area centred on the Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canals known as the Wallen), and combat the degeneration of the Damrak, the street that serves as an entrance to the city from Central Station, by means of a large-scale, radical alteration of the area's function. The unique cultural and historic value of this part of the city is the starting-point for creating a high-quality, attractive and accessible environment.

Location: The 1012 postcode area is bordered by the Prins Hendrikkade, the Singel canal, the Kloveniersburgwal/Geldersekade canals and the Munt square; the area to the west of the Spuistraat lies within the property, the rest of the project area is in the buffer zone.

Status: Coalition Project. A collaboration between the City of Amsterdam and the District of Central Amsterdam.

History and decision-making process

In 1997, one of the findings of a parliamentary inquiry on crime detection was that the Wallen (the red light district) was in the hands of organised crime. This prompted the City of Amsterdam to make a concerted effort to tackle the problems in the area, leading to the foundation of the Van Traa Team. Working with partners including the organisations NV Zeedijk and NV Stadsgoed, the team has acquired around 100 properties. The buildings have thus successfully been kept out of criminal hands and subsequent to redevelopment given a new function. In 2005, the District of Central Amsterdam initiated a targeted approach to the northern Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canal area, with a view to achieving a general enhancement of the neighbourhood by actively tackling the physical infrastructure, nuisance in the street, and law enforcement in the widest sense. Leading on from this policy, in 2006 the Wallen Coordination Team was set up to take responsibility for surveillance and law enforcement in this part of the central Amsterdam district.



The Oudekerksplein square with the Old Church (*Oude Kerk*), the heart of the 1012 area

Because of the complexity of the task and the wide-ranging ambitions for a substantial enhancement of the Wallen area and the nearby Damrak and Rokin, in summer 2007 the City of Amsterdam

(represented by the Mayor and the Alderman for Economic Affairs), and the District of Central Amsterdam (represented by the Chairman and Alderman for Public Space and Economic Affairs) initiated a process of consultation between the two local government bodies, and the collaboration was formalised as a so-called coalition project in a resolution adopted on 4 December 2007. The administrative coalition is responsible for inhibiting both the crime-conducive infrastructure in the Wallen area in particular, and the degeneration of the Damrak.

Moreover, there was an urgent desire to achieve a substantial enhancement to the area that forms an entrance to the city. Historically and spatially, the Damrak and Rokin have a key function in the city, but suffer from a lack of quality both in terms of architecture and function – the usage of the real estate. The proposed remodelling of the street layout, referred to as the ‘Red Carpet’ (see below), is an essential element. Another instrument both to reduce crime-conducive property functions and realise a qualitative improvement is to intervene in the use of real estate. A new premium-quality entrance area fits within the concept of the *Amsterdam Topstad* programme.

Furthermore, there are a range of projects already running in the area which can reinforce the Project 1012 quality impulse: the construction of the North-South Metro Line and car park beneath the Rokin; the development of a business plan for the *Beurs van Berlage* building; the restoration of the *Blauwaken* block of buildings; the extension of Hotel Krasnapolsky; the renovation of the Royal Palace on Dam Square; the renovation and construction of the university in the grounds of the *Binnengasthuis*; the extension of the Hotel de l’Europe; the renewal of the Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canals; the acquisition and change in function of properties formerly owned by prostitution and sex shop entrepreneur Charles Geerts; and the acquisition and change in function of the Mata Hari building, a former gambling club.

The Coalition Project 1012 aims to link and extend these developments, as well as to coordinate projects undertaken in cooperation with private parties.

The resolution approving the establishment of Coalition Project 1012 (*Instellingsbesluit Coalitieproject 1012*) and the Shared Principles memorandum, commissioned by the board by the City of Amsterdam Project Management Bureau (PMB), refer to a range of action and strategic projects. There are four aspects to the approach:

1. The continuation of matters that are already running successfully: the renewal of the northern Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canal area with associated traffic measures, the remodelling of the street layout for the Damrak and Rokin, integral action to enforce the terms of existing permits, the application of the Public Administration Probity Screening Act (*Bevordering van de integriteitbeoordelingen door het openbaar bestuur – Bibob*), mediation and where necessary financial contribution to the acquisition of real estate.
2. Future perspective: clarity on the desired and commercially feasible functions in the project site, focusing on the northern Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canal area, the Damrak and Rokin (analysis and scenario study).
3. Acquisition strategy: the establishment of an acquisition strategy, including a model acquisition protocol, a survey of all possible legally legitimate means and possible special financing constructions.
4. Strategic projects: the promotion and monitoring of the quality of projects that could have a flywheel effect on the desired enhancement of the area:
 - a. Extension of the Hotel Victoria
 - b. Redevelopment of C&A Damrak department store
 - c. 2-4 Dam Square
 - d. Remodelling of the Damrak canal
 - e. Business plan for the *Beurs van Berlage* + Beursplein + Euronext
 - f. Redevelopment of the Bijenkorf department store underground car park
 - g. Redevelopment of the Hotel Krasnapolsky underground car park
 - h. Fortis Building, Rokin
 - i. Underground parking facilities, North-South Metro Line, Rokin
 - j. ‘Red Carpet’ remodelled street layout
 - k. Redevelopment of Mata Hari building

- l. *Ons' Lieve Heer op Solder* ('Our Lord in the Attic') museum and church
- m. Planning of underground parking facilities on the Geldersekaade canal
- n. Development possibilities for Chinatown
- o. Remodelling of the street layout in the northern Oudezijds Voorburgwal and Oudezijds Achterburgwal canal area
- p. Extension of the Hotel de l'Europe
- q. Extension of the library in the grounds of the *Binnengasthuis*

The Red Carpet

One of the key projects within Coalition 1012 as a whole is known as the Red Carpet. Its goal is to give the 'entrance' to the city – along the route of the North-South Metro Line in the historic city centre from Station Square to the Weteringschans – a new, enhanced atmosphere. This not only involves remodelling the public space, but also redeveloping buildings and their functions. A range of other projects, such as the remodelling of the Leidseplein and Rembrandtplein squares, will be coordinated with the Red Carpet, so they are mutually complementary.

A draft document has been drawn up, setting out the basic principles for remodelling the public space. It is scheduled for approval by the District of Central Amsterdam Executive Committee and the City of Amsterdam Municipal Executive in mid-November 2008, after which it will be released for public consultation. The public consultation procedure was scheduled to begin in January 2009.

Consequences for the UNESCO nomination of the 17th-century ring of canals

At present, none of the projects referred to are at a stage that is sufficiently concrete for an assessment to be made of the possible affects on the property and buffer zone. The first plans are not expected to be handled before November 2008.

According to the vision on cultural history drawn up by Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) and the District of Central Amsterdam, the qualities of the property and buffer zone would be explicitly stated (report completed end of October 2008) and a proposal made for the 'operationalisation' these qualities, and how this can be linked to the various projects in the Strategy Resolution.



Map showing historic architectural value of the expanding city

Current situation

The Project Organisation established by the City of Amsterdam and the District of Central Amsterdam (7 December 2007) has been working on the draft Strategy Resolution (completed in Autumn 2008), detailing the strategic projects referred to above. At the same time, the dialogue with residents and businesses in the area is being continued, and consultation with market players on development and investment possibilities in the area is being intensified. This partly forms the basis for the content of the resolution.

In mid-February 2008, the Chair of the District of Central Amsterdam Executive Committee presented BMA's Classification Map for Historic Architectural Value (*Bouwhistorische Waardenkaart*) in the medieval city centre to the project manager of Coalition Project 1012. BMA and the District of Central Amsterdam have been working to establish a vision on cultural history for the project area (completed October 2008). This will be included in the Strategy Resolution.

In autumn 2008, wide public consultation was organised with residents and businesses in the area, to exchange ideas on the vision for the future of the 1012 area. The results will be taken into account in the draft Strategy Resolution 1012 for approval by the City of Amsterdam and the District of Central Amsterdam in spring 2009.

Sources

- Memorandum: Boundaries to enforcement; new ambitions for the Wallen area (Directorate of Public Order and Safety/Van Traa Team), September 2007
- Memorandum: Shared Principles 1012, 7 December 2007
- Memorandum: Resolution approving the establishment of Coalition Project 1012, 7 December 2007
- Strategy Resolution, autumn 2008
- BMA and the District of Central Amsterdam's vision on cultural history, end of October 2008

May 2009 update:

In response to the draft Strategy Document 1012 ('Strategy Resolution 1012') a broad-ranging round of consultations was held between November 2008 and February 2009 involving local residents, the business community, the Chamber of Commerce and investors. The results were taken into account in the subsequent decision-making. The official public consultation was launched on 9 March 2009. A consultation evening on the draft Strategy Document was held on 23 March 2009. The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology and the district council have produced a report on the cultural heritage value of the area (physical structure, public spaces and building/parcelling). Though the report was not included in the consultation, it has been appended to the Strategy Document.

Examples of issues and projects:

- Over the next ten years some EUR 75 million will be invested in attractive and sustainable public spaces in the 1012 postcode area. Developments will be low-key, so as not to detract from the historic character of the facades.
- Twenty-two streets in the 1012 area have been designated for special measures to tackle degeneration. Sectors and businesses with a low-value image and a relatively strong association with crime will be given over to higher-quality functions with a better image, consistent with the historical context of the city centre.
- A new policy is being developed to tackle graffiti. The first action to remove graffiti and posters from the whole of Warmoesstraat was undertaken in March 2009.
- A new policy on facade advertising has been drawn up. It will be introduced first in Warmoesstraat, and later on Damrak.
- The profile of heritage icons like Oude Kerk church and 'Ons Lieve Heer op Solder' Museum will be raised. They are fairly unknown among residents and visitors alike, and thus symbolise the often undiscovered cultural heritage of the city's Wallen red light district. 'Ons Lieve Heer op Solder' is currently making preparations for alterations, which are due to be carried out in 2011. A commercial profile plan and development plan will be drawn up for Oudekerksplein in

collaboration with the Oude Kerk Foundation and other property owners around the square. The revamped square will have the church as its magnificent centrepiece.

- Forgotten routes in the area will be revived as alleyways are reopened to pedestrians. Though the alleyways are an inherent feature of the morphology of the city, many were closed to the public in the 1980s for reasons of public order and safety. A start will be made with the reopening of the Waterpoortsteeg-Spooksteeg-Vredenburgsteeg route in 2009.
- An extra EUR 600,000 a year will be spent on stepping up monitoring and enforcement in the area, in terms both of compliance with building permit conditions and of technical requirements, architectural quality and use of public spaces.

Reference

E 5 '1012 Monumenten. Gebiedsadvies middeleeuws stadshart', Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology Report, June 2009

Key issue F: Chinatown

- Project description:** Strengthening the economic fabric of 'Chinatown'. Since the beginning of the 20th century, many Chinese people have settled in the area and set up businesses. The area is distinctive in Amsterdam because of the predominance of Chinese and Asian businesses, restaurants and amenities, and the presence of The Netherlands' only Buddhist temple.
- Location:** The area surrounds the Zeedijk and its side streets and alleyways, the Geldersekade canal, the Nieuwmarkt square and the Binnen Bantammerstraat. The area lies within the buffer zone.
- Status:** Coalition Project. A collaboration between the City of Amsterdam and the District of Central Amsterdam.

History and decision-making process

On 6 May 2008, the District of Central Amsterdam Executive Committee approved a memorandum entitled Chinatown Amsterdam (source no. F 1). This was preceded by a variety of initiatives by a wide range of parties (residents, businesses, councillors), and the presentation of two analytical studies. The District of Central Amsterdam Executive Committee then responded with a memorandum. The Coalition Project 1012 is to formulate a concept for the entire 1012 postcode area, to be completed by mid-2009. Chinatown is located within this area. The memorandum is to be presented to the coalition project to serve as building material for the concept. There is a particular focus on Chinatown, because the Executive Committee has established that in its present form the area functions weakly in social and economic terms. The committee sets great store by the continued presence of Chinatown in the neighbourhood and wishes to strengthen it in its present form. It has opted to do so in two ways:

1. Strengthen the economic fabric;
2. Broaden the supply of products and services that reinforce the neighbourhood's Chinese or Asian character.

To strengthen the economic fabric, the Executive Committee will cooperate with initiatives by Chinese entrepreneurs which contribute to a broader supply of products and services in the area. This also applies to initiatives that aim at increasing Chinatown's possibilities as a tourist destination and which encourage and prolong overnight stays by tourists and businesspeople, whether of Chinese or other origin. Efforts will also be made to promote a more attractive and safer environment for visitors by investing in remodelling the public space both of the Zeedijk and its side alleys, and of the Geldersekade. The area's accessibility is to be improved by the provision of underground parking facilities.

To achieve a broader supply of goods and services appropriate to the Chinese and Asian character of the neighbourhood, the Executive Committee will support initiatives for the construction of housing for elderly people of Chinese ethnic origin. It will also support Chinese social, cultural, educational and sports associations in Amsterdam, either in organising temporary activities such as special events in the neighbourhood, or in moving into permanent premises in the area. The Executive Committee also proposes to work actively to interest Chinese cultural organisations in moving into the area, and to support private cultural initiatives such as a cinema or Chinese museum. Moreover, it will also support events that are Asian in character.

Critical factors

An absolute precondition for the Chinatown project is that the historic cityscape must be preserved. The policy document stresses that the conservation, broadening and strengthening of Chinatown must take place within the scope of policy applying to the city centre as a whole. In concrete terms this means that for the Executive Committee there is no question of dispensing with the conservation of the area for the sake of increasing its Asian atmosphere. It is virtually impossible to introduce gates, lions, Chinese streetlamps and other such alterations or additions to the public space, because they are not in keeping with the neighbourhood's historic character as build heritage.

The area's Asian atmosphere derives from the nature of the use of the buildings, and primarily this will have to remain so in future. Characteristically Chinese additions are only possible when they are appropriate and are not detrimental to the historic cityscape. Moreover, there must also be room for non-Chinese businesses to remain in the area, which must be prevented from becoming mono-functional.

The design of the area will take place in accordance with the guidelines in the Handbook for the Design of Public Space.



Zeedijk

Current situation

The District of Central Amsterdam is working on a concept Policy Document on Basic Principles for underground parking facilities in the Chinatown area. A variety of possibilities are being considered, such as under the Geldersekaade canal or Oosterdok dock. The starting-point for the study is to provide a car park with 350 parking spaces, 70 percent of which are reserved for residents and local businesses and 30 percent for visitors to the area. The city council is due to reach a decision on the matter at the end of 2008.

The consequences for the UNESCO nomination

Visual impact

The neighbourhood has had an Asian character since the beginning of the 20th century. The coming of Chinese people, which has resulted in a neighbourhood with an Asian atmosphere, fits within the concept of Amsterdam as a free port.

Strengthening the neighbourhood's Asian atmosphere must not cause any harm to the conservation area and will primarily have to derive from the use of the buildings in the area. In the first place it should contribute to enhancing the atmosphere of the neighbourhood.

Authenticity and integrity

The neighbourhood lies within the buffer zone and will not essentially change in character (see above). The anticipated developments will not affect the property's authenticity and integrity.

Sources

1. *Memorandum on Chinatown, Amsterdam*, approved by the Executive Committee on 6 May 2008.

May 2009 update

In March 2009 a project manager was appointed for Chinatown with the task of initiating and supporting projects to strengthen the social and economic structure of the area. She is employed by the largest property owner in Chinatown, NV Zeedijk, and works closely with the district council, Chinese organisations and other local residents' and business groups.

Key Issue G: The Binnengasthuisterrein

Project description: A new library for the Humanities Faculty of the University of Amsterdam (UvA) on the Binnengasthuisterrein.

Location : The area is bordered by the Grimburgwal, the Oudemanhuispoort, Kloveniersburgwal, Nieuwe Doelenstraat and by the Oude Turfmarkt (in the buffer zone) at the back of the area. There are twelve national monuments in the area.

Status: The project is currently in the building permit application phase.

History and decision-making

The plans to establish the library of the Humanities Faculty of the University of Amsterdam (UvA) has a long history; a summary of the most important stages in the decision-making process follows:

- The UvA presented the university's entire plan for the library to the B&W in November 1998.
- The then Council Committee for Urban Renewal, Spatial Planning, Ground Affairs (*Commissie voor Volkshuisvesting, Stadsvernieuwing, Ruimtelijke Ordening en Grondzaken*) agreed in principle with this location plan and the cluster principle which forms its basic principles in February 1999. Regarding the Binnengasthuisterrein they stipulated that the results of further research into the suitability of the development had to be presented before they would make a final decision. This involved asking the B&W to conduct more extensive research into the suitability of the development.
- On 19 September 2001 the city council decided:
 - To cooperate in principle in the establishment of the Faculty Library and the Humanities Faculty on the Binnengasthuisterrein;
 - To ask the mayor and aldermen to appoint a quality control team to supervise further planning developments;
 - To endorse the drafting of a zoning plan for the Binnengasthuisterrein and surroundings based on the principles included in the recommendations.

The council's recommendation concluded that even though the UvA had limited the programme requirements in a revised plan, the development would still not harmonise with the existing structures, while there were no useable alternatives that did justice to the university's proposed plan, including the so-called Alfacluster (with, among others, language and cultural studies, [art]history, media, culture and philosophy) in and around the Binnengasthuisterrein. The decision-making explicitly mentions the possibility of erecting new buildings for the Faculty Library in the location of the convent, the Zusterhuis, and the former Theatre School (the former Second Surgical Clinic [*Tweede Chirurgische Kliniek*]).

- On 13 July 2001 the State Secretary of the OCW designated the Binnengasthuis complex as built heritage. The objections by the UvA to this – even in an appeal – were rejected (Council of State [*Raad van State*] 19 July 2006). An important consideration for this was: 'The designation of the buildings as built heritage does not necessarily imply that radical changes such as those proposed by the appellant (the UvA) for the realisation of the new building plans on the location of the buildings, does not necessarily imply that those changes will not be able to take place. This must be decided in the framework of the specified permit procedure described in Article 11 *et seq.* of the Monuments Act'.
- The zoning plan for the Binnengasthuisterrein and its surroundings was adopted on 28 February 2002. It specifies that the urban planning principles that were ratified by the city council on 19 September 2001 must be adopted in their entirety. It appears from the explanatory notes that the zoning plan includes the possibility of renovating or erecting new structures in the locations of the Second Surgical Clinic and the Zusterhuis convent.
- On 4 February 2004 the Council of State reached a decision regarding the appeals that were lodged against decision of the Provincial Executive of North Holland and (partially) approved the zoning plan. The Council of State's decision meant that a new zoning plan had to be drafted for the Binnengasthuis Street/Vendel Street corner. The resulting gap in this extremely small section of the Binnengasthuisterrein development zone was addressed by the

Zoning Plan for the Binnengasthuis Street/Vendel Street Corner (*Bestemmingsplan Hoek Binnengasthuisstraat/Vendelstraat*) that was adopted by the district council on 31 March 2005.

- At the end of October 2006 the UvA presented a preliminary application for the realisation of the library on the location of a building complex (part of the Zusterhuis convent and the Second Surgical Clinic) that is inscribed as a national monument. The UvA used this preliminary application to request the Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district to take a position regarding the proposed plans, prior to submitting the formal (building permit) applications.
- After an extensive advisory period and consultation with the Council Committee for Building, Living and Urban Development (*raadscommissie Bouwen, Wonen en Stedelijke Ontwikkeling*), the Executive Committee decided on 25 March 2008 that they approved in principal with the UvA's proposition of a newly-constructed university library on the Binnengasthuisterrein, despite the regrettable demolition of a national monument that this would entail. Important considerations included:
 - The quality of the plans for the new development (by the Spanish architects bureau Cruz y Ortiz), the realisation of which was guided by a district council-appointed Quality Team (that included representatives from The Netherlands Department for Conservation [*Rijksdienst voor de Monumentenzorg*; RDMZ] and the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency [*Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten Amsterdam*]);
 - The role the university and the library play in the city centre as well as the significance a quality impulse could have for the university and the city centre.

The Binnengasthuisterrein Memorandum. A New Library for the University of Amsterdam (*Binnengasthuisterrein. Een nieuwe bibliotheek voor de Universiteit van Amsterdam*; see source no. 1) extensively and carefully details the various considerations that served as the basis of the decision.



Current situation



Planned situation

Opinions in the framework of the zoning plan procedure

The following ten parties have submitted opinions in the framework of adopting a zoning plan for the Binnengasthuisterrein and its surroundings:

1. The Binnengasthuisterrein Society for the Quality of Life and Public Space (*Vereniging Openbaar en Leefbaar BinnenGasthuisterrein*; VOLBG);
2. Amsterdam Discussion Platform (*Amsterdam Overleg*) on behalf of the Royal Antiquities Society (*Koninklijk Oudheidkundige Genootschap*), the Amstelodamum Society (*Genootschap Amstelodamum*), the Heemschut Society (*Bond Heemschut*), the Society of Friends of Amsterdam's City Centre (*Vereniging van Vrienden van de Amsterdamse Binnenstad*), the Cuypers Society (*Cuypers Genootschap*), the restoration company *NV Stadsherstel Amsterdam* and the Diogenes Foundation (*Stichting Diogenes*);
3. see no. 2;
4. University of Amsterdam;
5. Various individual opinions;
6. P. Veer;
7. Heemschut Society, Amsterdam Commission;
8. the Cuypers Society;
9. d'Oude Stadt District Centre (*Wijkcentrum d'Oude Stadt*);
10. Enterprise Group South Burgwallen (*Initiatiefgroep Burgwallen Zuid*).

These opinions and the reactions to them are detailed in the Binnengasthuisterrein and Environs Zoning Plan (*Bestemmingsplan Binnengasthuisterrein e.o.*; Council paper [*Gemeentebld*], no. 198, 28 February 2002).

See source no. 3.

The opinions are discussed below, insofar as they relate to the cultural-historical aspects:

The Binnengasthuisterrein Society for the Quality of Life and Public Space (VOLBG) advocates 'safeguarding the quality of the historic cityscape'.

Reaction: the zoning plan discusses the 'preservation of cultural-historical values' (like other zoning plans for the city centre), but with 'consideration for the cultural-historical values'. 'This distinction is made because the zoning plan considers the possibility of realising a new development or alterations to the existing structures on the location of the Second Surgical Clinic and the Zusterhuis convent'.

The Amsterdam Discussion Platform (*Amsterdam Overleg*) objects to the possible construction of a tower/high-rise structure in the new development.

Reaction: modern high-rise buildings do not harmonise with the city centre; hence, limiting the height to 40 metres.

In addition, the Amsterdam Discussion Platform states that the zoning plan does not comply with the requirements of a conservation zoning plan.

Reaction: 'The regulations in this zoning plan...more than meet the requirement to carefully consider of the valuable historic structures on the one hand, and suitable spatial preconditions relating to a new development in the historical context of the area on the other'. For the background to this reaction, see the complete text in the council recommendation.

The Heemschut Society is opposed to enabling a high-rise development by means of the B&W's executive authority and is concerned that this might set a precedent. The construction boundary on the planning map has insufficient measures to protect the Zusterhuis and the Theatre School (both with built heritage values).

Reaction: it is proposed to link the B&W's executive authority to a High-Rise Impact Report (*HoogbouwEffectRapportage*; HER). See the reaction by the VOLBG regarding the concerns for the conservation of built heritage.

The Cuypers Society is of the opinion that the zoning plan must use the existing valuable structures and buildings as a starting point. It must have an 'open' character and not incorporate any options involving (partial) demolition. The basic principle should be enforcing the courtyard structure.

Moreover, a Cultural-Historical Effect Report (*Cultuurhistorische Effect Rapportage*) is lacking.

Reaction: The zoning plan is neither explicit nor implicit about the conservation or about a new development on the location of the former Zusterhuis/Theatre School. Both options (enforcement and

– partial – demolition/new development) are possible. The more detailed information will have to explicitly take the cultural-historical context into consideration. The impact on the cultural-historical surroundings will be detailed in the urban planning/architectonic plans for the area. One of the basic principles in the zoning plan is enforcement and improving the courtyard structure.

The d'Oude Stadt District Centre requested a zoning plan that focuses more on preserving the quality of the historic cityscape. (Reaction: see above).

To do justice to the cultural-historical values, the construction area for renovation or erecting a new building will have to be reduced and the current building line (an unusual street plan) has to serve as the basis.

Reaction: Incorporating the construction area in the zoning plan will ensure that the characteristic open structure of the Binnengasthuisterrein remains recognisable. The building line retains its whimsical character.

The Enterprise Group South Burgwallen wants a zoning plan to be drafted with an emphasis on national monuments, courtyard structure and the existing public/urban planning character.

Reaction: Because of all the safeguards, this conservation zoning plan conforms to the framework of Article 36 of the Monuments Act .

The Enterprise Group also states that a building 22 metres tall (instead of the existing building height of 16.70 metres) will have serious and irreversible consequences on the surroundings and the conservation area.

Reaction: The zoning plan states that the maximum heights of the gutter and the building (of category 1 and category 2 buildings) may not exceed the current heights of the gutter and the building.



Above: current situation. Below: planned situation

Advice from the CWM, BMA and RdmZ (now the RACM) in the framework of the preliminary application

Based on the decision by the city council on 19 September 2001, a quality team comprising professionals and experts was established to safeguard the quality of the proposed new development. This included representatives from the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency (CWM), The Netherlands Department for Conservation (*Rijksdienst voor de Monumentenzorg*; RDMZ) (now: The National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage, RACM) and an architect (with proven experience with construction in a historical context). This team was charged with three tasks:

- Supervising the urban development-architectonic development and periodic evaluation of the results;
- Supervising the development of the architectonic design;
- Advising on the choice of architect/s.

Eventually, the proposal from the Spanish architects bureau Cruz Y Ortiz was selected by the quality team and the selection committee as the best design. The development was so positively received by the Building Aesthetics Agency at the end 2004 that from this perspective there was no objection to a formal application for a building permit. They did this in isolation from the quality team that was involved in developing the plan between 2000 and 2004.

In the framework of the preliminary application, advice was (again) requested from the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency (in its dual role as the Building Aesthetics Agency and the Monuments Commission [*Monumentencommissie*]), from the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology (BMA) as preliminary advisor of the Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency (CWM) and from the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM).

In its role as the building aesthetics commission, the CWM reacted positively to the preliminary application, but in its role as the Monuments Commission (*Monumentencommissie*) the commission objected to the proposed demolition of the Second Surgical Clinic and the partial demolition of and extensive modifications to the Zusterhuis. The commission based its objection on the similar advice from the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology (BMA). 'Adoption of the Zoning Plan for the Binnengasthuisterrein and its Surroundings' (*Vaststelling bestemmingsplan Binnengasthuisterrein e.o.*; Council paper [*Gemeentebld*] 2002, no. 198, 28 February 2002).

The advice from the RACM was also negative, concluding with: 'The proposed plans for the new faculty library by Cruz & Ortiz have paid a great deal of attention to ensuring that the proposed development will harmonise with the area as well as refining the architectural design of a massive building. From its inception, the programme of realising a new building that does justice to the existing built heritage at this location appears to have been too ambitious in attempting to improve the characteristic courtyard structure. Despite the efforts taken with the design, in my opinion they do not justify the removal of a building of social, cultural-historical and architectonic national importance; I thus advise you *not* to demolish the Second Surgical Clinic.'

See source no. 1

The current state of affairs

On 30 June 2008 the formal building permit, monument permit and demolition permit applications relating to the new faculty library building and the related demolition of the Zusterhuis (the facade on the Nieuw Doelen Street and part of the gable will be retained) and the former Theatre School (the Second Surgical Clinic) were submitted. More than 40 opinions have already been presented. These will be evaluated and incorporated in the preparations for the decision-making process relating to the monument permit application and the necessary procedure as outlined in Article 19, Clause 2, WRO (applicable before 1 July 2008)

Regarding the building and monument permit applications, advice was requested from the CWM and the RACM, but has not yet been received. The spatial basis must still be worked out for the spatial planning procedure.

The publication of the concept decisions relating to the monument permit application and Article 19, Clause 2 of the WRO was in October, after which opinions were presented. The final decision-making

will probably occur before the end of this year, depending on the results of the (revised) agreement with the council committee.

Consequences for the 17th-century ring of canals resulting from the UNESCO nomination

Considering three of the *Operational Guidelines* criteria used by the *World Heritage Committee* in evaluating the nomination, the possible consequences of developments on the old hospital site, the Binnengasthuisterrein, could be defined as follows:

Visual impact

Cruz y Ortiz's design for a new library adds some volume, height and architectural style to the character of the area. The Binnengasthuisterrein, an enclosed and, for the most part, inward-looking group of buildings and gardens, determines the character of the terrain, which stands alone surrounded by urban structures. It was originally a monastery complex, which, at the end of the 19th century and beginning of the 20th century, was transformed into a city hospital and, in the 1980s, was altered once again to become part of the university. This has resulted in the Binnengasthuisterrein and the buildings it contains having little connection with the surrounding urban area. The library conforms to the site's existing building contours and volume (see source no. 4). The present facade of the convent (*Zusterhuis*) in Nieuwe Doelen Street has remained intact. The highest new building (22 metres above ground level) can only be seen locally from Staal Street (buffer zone). The tallest structure to remain on the old hospital site is 17.5 metres above ground level. The tallest surrounding buildings, such as the Doelen Hotel and the Hotel de L'Europe, are over 30 metres high. Conclusion: There is no visual impact on the property. The building is not visible from the 17th-century ring of canals (see source no. 5).

Authenticity and integrity

The authenticity of the area will be affected if the decision is taken to demolish two national monuments. Whether the integrity of the area is affected will depend on how the eventual new development complements the existing urban fabric.

The demolition/new development plans will have no direct consequences on the authenticity and integrity of the property.





Above: current situation. Below: planned situation

Sources

1. Memorandum: Binnengasthuisterrein. A New Library for the University of Amsterdam (*Notitie: Binnengasthuisterrein. Een nieuwe bibliotheek voor de Universiteit van Amsterdam*). Adopted by the Central Amsterdam district council, 5 February 2008.
2. Council recommendation (Council paper [*Gemeentebblad*] section 1, 2001, no. 553)
3. Adoption Binnengasthuisterrein and Environs Zoning Plan (*Bestemmingsplan Binnengasthuisterrein e.o.*; Council paper [*Gemeentebblad*], no. 198, 28 February 2002).
4. Impression of the architectural design
5. Sightlines study

May 2009 update

In June 2008 the University of Amsterdam (UvA) applied for a building permit and a permit for demolition of a historic building. The building permit application was published, as required by law, on 7 July 2008, and made available for public inspection from 10 to 23 July 2008. Several responses were submitted in response to the publication.

On 11 September 2008, on behalf of the Minister of Education, Culture and Science, the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage recommended that the application be rejected.

This negative response on the part of the Minister is nothing new, but in fact constitutes the formalisation of an official advisory report that had already been considered in the committee report of 5 February 2008. The draft decision on the application for a permit to demolish a historic building [03-08-0224], based on the decision in principle of 25 March 2008, was published on 2 December 2008 and made available for public inspection for six weeks.

In December 2008 the Executive Committee endorsed the committee report on the redevelopment of the Binnengasthuisterrein site for a new library for the University of Amsterdam (*Binnengasthuisterrein, een nieuwe bibliotheek voor de Universiteit van Amsterdam/Besluitvorming*). The report has been produced for two reasons:

- as a response to the views submitted in response to the building permit application and
- in support of the official decision-making on two matters of principles: the demolition of a historic building (monuments and historic buildings order), and building on the inner courtyard (procedure under section 19, subsection 2 of the Spatial Planning Act).

The monuments and historic buildings order, constituting a permit to demolish a historic building, was published in January 2009. The views that were received in response to the draft order were then assessed in light of the committee report of 16 December 2008. Three parties submitted an appeal to the court before the six-week deadline:

- Friends of Amsterdam City Centre

- *Vereniging Openbaar en Leefbaar BG terrein e.o.*
- *Stichting De Maelstroom*

The draft decision for an exemption from the provisions of section 19, subsection 2 of the Spatial Planning Act [81-08-0368] was published on 22 January 2009 and made available for public inspection for six weeks.

By March 2009 five parties had responded within the six-week deadline: the three parties listed above again submitted an appeal, as did the Cuypers Society, the Heemschut Society and one private individual. The proposed exemption will be reassessed within six weeks (15 April 2009).

References

- December 2008 committee report

Key issue H: Haringpakkers Tower (*Haringpikkerstoren*)

Project description: The project concerns the planned construction of a tower with surrounding buildings. The design of the tower is based on the Haringpikkerstoren, which was pulled down in the 19th century. The new development will be located at the end of Singel canal near the abutment of Haringpakkersbrug (bridge no. 58) on the extension of Prins Hendrikkade. The project is the initiative of a number of private individuals and was taken over in 2005 by Amsterdam Urban Restoration PLC (*Stadsherstel Amsterdam NV*). Amsterdam Urban Restoration buys historically valuable buildings, restores them and maintains them in perpetuity.

Location: The uneven side of Singel canal near Prins Hendrikkade, in the buffer zone, bordering on the property.

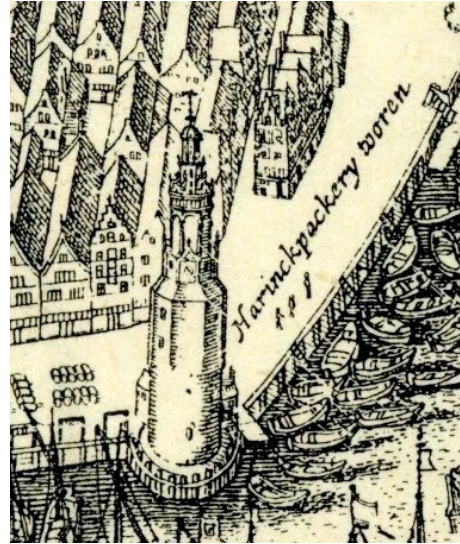
Status: The project is in the provisional design phase.

History and decision-making process

- In August 2005, during a press conference to mark its 50th anniversary, Amsterdam Urban Restoration announced it hoped to build a tower on the site of the Haringpikkerstoren, which was demolished in 1829. Amsterdam Urban Restoration's intention, in constructing the tower, was to restore a city view and, in the process, stimulate improvements to the quality of the surrounding area. The tower is to be used as office space, if possible by the creative industry sector. The street and cellar levels of the surrounding buildings will be given over to a catering facility.
- Amsterdam Urban Restoration will be responsible for the total cost of the project, including the cost of preparing the land for construction and of any necessary inspections.
- The wooden spire will be a reconstruction of the one added to the original medieval tower in the 17th century and is based on an early 19th-century surveyor's drawing. The brick tower base will be an interpretation of the medieval city-defences tower. The surrounding buildings will be of contemporary architectural design.
- Central Amsterdam district has been in consultation with Amsterdam Urban Restoration about this project since before August 2005. On 26 April 2005, the Executive Committee wrote to Amsterdam Urban Restoration saying that the district would in principle cooperate in the necessary procedures, once a request for building permission had been received.
- The City of Amsterdam has assisted in the adoption of a boundary correction (decision City Council and decision District Council 21 December 2005). Before this decision, part of the project location was within the metropolitan area Station Island (*Stationseiland*).
- On 11 July 2006, the Executive Committee of Central Amsterdam district approved the project commission, after various investigations had been conducted.



View of the tower in the third quarter of the 17th century



Details from the map by Balthasar Florisz of Berckenrode, 1625

Investigations and recommendations

From December 2005, Central Amsterdam district's official project team started the preparatory investigation into the zoning plan and into the reorganisation of the public area (see source no. H 1). Furthermore, the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM) has provided a response (not requested) to the plan (source no. H 5), and the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology (BMA) has, in consultation with the district, carried out an archaeological investigation of the site. The results are summarised below.

1. The air quality investigation (*luchtkwaliteitonderzoek*) has been completed (IBA, July 2006, actualisation to follow); Result: The tower will not have a significant effect on air quality (see source no. H 2).
2. The High-Rise Impact Report Haringpakkerstoren Amsterdam (*De HoogbouwEffect Rapportage* [HER] *Haringpakkerstoren Amsterdam*; Physical Planning Department, May 2007) was sent for examination by the Advisory Commission of the City of Amsterdam on 5 September 2007. The Report concluded that a tower on the site would add to the cityscape and improve the skyline. A tower would combine well with a number of existing towers (South Church [Zuiderkerk], Old Church [Oudekerk], New Church [Nieuwe Kerk], the church, Posthoornkerk and the domes on the Royal Palace [Paleis op de Dam] and the Sonesta). It will be a new point of reference and will form a striking highlight at the beginning of Prins Hendrikkade. As far as visibility from a distance is concerned, there is certainly no negative effect (see source no. H 3).
3. From 30 November 2005, the Building Aesthetics Agency has been regularly informed about the project through preliminary consultation, and discussions on drawing up aesthetics criteria for an evaluation framework (for reports, see source no. H 4).
4. On 21 July 2006, the Netherlands Department for Conservation (RDMZ) (now the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage ; RACM) delivered unsolicited recommendations concerning the project to Central Amsterdam district's Executive Committee. These include the following:
 - a. A thorough and expert town planning and historic investigation should be instigated;
 - b. The choice should be made for a top-quality contemporary allusion to the original tower and not for a reconstruction which could only partially be realised;
 - c. Bear in mind the imminent application to UNESCO that the ring of canals be included on the World Heritage List.
 See source no. H 5.
5. The Archaeology Department of the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology has conducted a historical location investigation. Based on historical sources, an overview of the anticipated archaeological value has been compiled (31 March 2006). The site's archaeological value has been rated as high. Prior to construction work beginning, archaeological research, in the form

of inventorial field research (*inventariserend veldonderzoek, IVO*) or archaeological digs (*archeologische opgraving AO*), is compulsory.

6. The district's public space department (*sector Openbare Ruimte*) has drafted a proposal for the redevelopment of the site together with an estimate of the cost. The development will follow the guidelines laid down in the Manual for the Redevelopment of the Public Space (*Handboek Inrichting Openbare Ruimte*). The district will invest in the public space with the aim of improving its quality and appeal as a residential area. The public space in this area is badly in need of improvement and is moreover, according to the police responsible for the neighbourhood, viewed locally as unpleasant and unsafe.

Consequences for the UNESCO nomination

The plans are still in the preliminary design phase. The design concerns a new development inspired by the complex made up of the Haringpakkerstoren and adjoining buildings, which were demolished in 1829. The location of the historical complex (which made way for the road that became Prins Hendrikkade) was about 20 metres to the northeast of the proposed construction site. The design of the top part of the tower is based on an 1813 drawing by the architect Abraham van der Hart and will be built by master craftsmen using the best materials. The body of the tower, as far as material and details are concerned, will be a new construction, which will include references to the old tower so as to form a whole (architecturally and visually) with the upper part. The buildings surrounding the tower will be built in a contemporary architectural style which will harmonise with the characteristics of the city centre, and which will be visually distinct from the tower construction although joined by glass roofs.

Bearing in mind the principles and guidelines laid down in the Vienna Charter (2005) and the Operational Guidelines (2005), Chapter II E on integrity and/or authenticity, the following remarks can be made regarding the design.



The present situation

Authenticity

Article 7 of the Vienna Charter defines the historic urban landscape as follows: 'ensembles of any group of buildings, structures and open spaces, in their natural and ecological context, including archaeological and palaeontology sites, constituting human settlements in an urban environment over a relevant period of time, the cohesion and value of which are recognized from the archaeological, architectural, prehistoric, historic, scientific, aesthetic, social-cultural or ecological point of view'.

Article 21 of the Charter's guidelines for conservation management states: 'Taking into account the basic definition (according to Article 7 of this Charter), urban planning, contemporary architecture and preservation of the historic urban landscape should avoid all forms of pseudo-historical design...'

Paragraph 86 of the Operational Guidelines states, in relation to authenticity, that: 'the reconstruction of archaeological remains or historic buildings or districts is justifiable only in exceptional circumstances. Reconstruction is acceptable only on the basis of complete and detailed documentation and to no extent on conjecture'.

A strict interpretation of the texts would draw the conclusion that the design fails to comply with the principles of the guidelines concerning authenticity. The design concerns an architectural ensemble which will partly be constructed in contemporary style (surrounding buildings), and partly, in (reproduction) historical style (the body of the tower). To the untutored eye the latter will appear to be an old historical tower, the more so because the upper part will be a reconstruction based on detailed historical information. The exceptional circumstances, whereby reconstruction is allowed under Paragraph 86 of the Operational guidelines, are not present.

The following remarks, however, can be made. In the UNESCO documents, the idea of authenticity is firstly connected to cultural heritage in a material sense and is primarily object related. This refers to the conservation of historical buildings and structures, to the authenticity of the material elements of the area and the relation between these elements in their physical, cultural, urban and rural context. Traditional ideas about authenticity, which led built heritage conservation theory and practice in the last century, have recently become really dynamic.⁷ This issue is also under discussion within UNESCO. The alternative interpretations of the meaning of 'authenticity' arise out of intangible considerations relating to notions of a political, cultural-historical (religion, folk culture), spiritual and commemorative nature. From the standpoint of a wider interpretation of the meaning of authenticity, a development plan such as this is justified. Amsterdam Urban Renovation PLC, in the light of its aims (see source no. H6), intends that the tower should function as a landmark, as a reminder of and a delineation to the border of the medieval city and the 17th-century ring of canals. The design of and material used in the tower should, in the spirit of the protected historical cityscape, contribute to the visualisation of these ideas.

Integrity

There are no buildings on the site of the tower development; it has mainly been used by vehicles from the 20th century. Because the proposed development does not satisfy the quality demands of the Manual for the Redevelopment of the Public Space and because the area is in need of improvement, the quality of the public space is important in regard to the project.

In 2007, a radar survey of the construction site was carried out. This showed the existence in various places of solid remains. These are probably from stone scaffolding, rubble from the demolition of the Haringpakkerstoren, an embankment or part of the city walls. These remains are below the construction level of the proposed development.

Conclusion: considering that the quality of the location in terms of urban development has changed through the years, it can hardly be said that the urban fabric or the integrity of the location will be damaged.

⁷ For background information on the development of the idea of 'authenticity', see: Koos Bosma, *Het post-Belvederetijdperk: cultuurhistorisch beleid verankerd in de ruimtelijke ordening en in de ontwerpogave*, The Hague: Atelier Rijksbouwmeester, 2008.



Visualisation of the plan in the location

Visual Impact

The construction site is in the buffer zone, just beyond the boundary of the property. The tower will be 45.60 metres high and has a 300-square-metre 'footprint', which includes the adjoining buildings. These buildings will be able to be seen from the direct vicinity of the tower and from a small section of the property. As a vertical feature, the tower will itself be visible from a greater distance. From the property, the tower is mainly to be seen from Singel canal; from the even-side of Singel canal roughly as far as Berg Street. The tower's visibility from Singel canal can be compared to that of the 55-metre-high Wagon Lits office building (Bentham Crowel, 1991-1992) on Western Station Island (*Westelijk Stationseiland*). The view of these office buildings will actually be partially blocked by the new tower. The border of the property lies on the north side of Droogbak. The tower will be more or less visible from here as far as the intersection of Droogbak and Buiten Wieringer Street. It will not be visible from other public streets in the property. The conclusion is that there is major visual impact on the cityscape in the property and in the buffer zone.

Progress so far

- There is a detailed provisional design for the tower (including installations). The Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency has, through the framework of preliminary talks, provided recommendations on this since 30 November 2005. The last recommendations were dated 21 May 2008; the comments/objections at present are mainly to do with (technical) details. With regards to architectural and urban planning issues, it has been noted that the quality of the plan has improved.
- As yet no building permit has been applied for.
- There have been discussions between Central Amsterdam district and Amsterdam Urban Restoration concerning the design and the requirements laid down in UNESCO's Vienna Charter about the relationship to historical urban landscapes. There have also been talks with the Bureau of Monuments and Archaeology (August-October 2008).

- This has led to Amsterdam Urban Restoration drawing up a 'defence' of the development plan (24 October 2008).
- The zoning plan has to be revised for the building plan. The hope is that a zoning plan (including appendices) and draft building aesthetics criteria will be decided upon by the district council at the same time.

Sources

1. Haringpakkerstoren project commission, adopted by Central Amsterdam district's Executive Committee, 11 July 2006.
2. Haringpakkerstoren air quality investigation, IBA, July 2006.
3. Haringpakkerstoren: High-Rise Impact Report, DRO, May 2007.
4. Building Aesthetics and Built Heritage Agency records, November 2005 to the present day.
5. Recommendations from the Netherlands Department for Conservation (RDMZ), 21 July 2006.
6. 'Defence' Amsterdam Urban Restoration, 24 October 2008.

June 2009 update

No change to the situation described above.

Key issue I 1: Prinsengracht Hospital

Description of project: The Prinsengracht hospital is part of the Onze Lieve Vrouwen Gasthuis (OLVG), Amsterdam's major medical centre, and is situated on the Prinsengracht. OLVG has plans to remodel the hospital and has commissioned architectural firm Henket & Partners to prepare a conceptual development plan. This conceptual development plan is based on the idea of restructuring the national built heritage into a hospital with diverse functions, for example a pharmacy, restaurant facilities and housing. Under this plan, Prinsengracht 769 (a building dating from the 1950s), would be demolished and replaced with new buildings. Demolition is also proposed for the building extensions within the enclosure. Because of the proposed increase in volume, the zoning plan will have to be revised.

As is usual for large projects, the District will shortly compose architectural boundary conditions for urban development including a historical paragraph and benefit criteria. The *Outstanding Universal Values* will hereby be taken into consideration as well.

Location: Prinsengracht 751-769; Kerkstraat 122,124, 126, located within *the property*.

Status: Private initiative (OLVG), in planning stage



View Kerkstraat



View Prinsengracht

History and Managerial Decision

No decision has so far been made.



Aerial photograph of the current site

References

- I 1.1 Conceptual development plan Prinsengracht hospital by the firm of Henket & Partners
(Not included, not yet finalised)

Key issue I 2: Former Main Branch Public Library

Description of project: The project pertains to a development plan by Aedes Real Estate concerning the internal remodelling and elevation, including a new façade of a hotel (Pollux Gallery Hotel).

Architectural firm Kentie (with the assistance of Marcel Wanders). A centre for creative enterprise is proposed on the side of the Keizersgracht. The façade on the Keizersgracht will not be altered.

Location: Prinsengracht 587(the 70's) and Keizersgracht 440 (= national built heritage), located within *the* property.

Status: Private initiative (Aedes Real Estate), in planning stage

History and Managerial Decision

A building request has been submitted for July 1 2008. As a consequence of this request the District of Central Amsterdam will formulate supplemental benefit criteria, among others regarding the partitioning of the façade. To enable a different utilization of the premises (as hotel with a gallery and other creative endeavours) it is necessary to start with a release procedure from the zoning plan (article 19 WRO).

On August 8 2008 the Heemschut Society has submitted a request to designate Prinsengracht 587 as municipal built heritage. The designation procedure has been set in motion. Other managerial decisions have not been initiated.



Current situation

References

- I 2 1. Building request dated June 30 2008 (façade design not final, therefore not included);
- I 2 2. Built heritage request of the Heemschut Society dated August 8 2008.

May 2009 update

Keizersgracht 440 is a scheduled national historic building. On 12 May 2009 the Executive Committee approved the draft decision to give Prinsengracht 587 municipal monument status.

To allow the establishment of a 123-room hotel and a centre for the creative industries, proceedings have been instituted to introduce two amendments to the Westelijke Grachtengordel zoning plan 2000. The plan is to create a parking garage for 20 cars, a bicycle park, storage, staff rooms and a wellness centre in the existing cellar. The first amendment is needed to transform the building's current use from social to mixed. The second is needed to allow the establishment of a hotel and parking facilities. A public consultation meeting was held for both plans on 21 April 2009. The two plans will be made available for inspection from approximately mid-June to mid-July 2009. It is expected that the first plan will be approved in September, and the second in October 2009.

Key issue I 3: Vijzelstraat 66-80

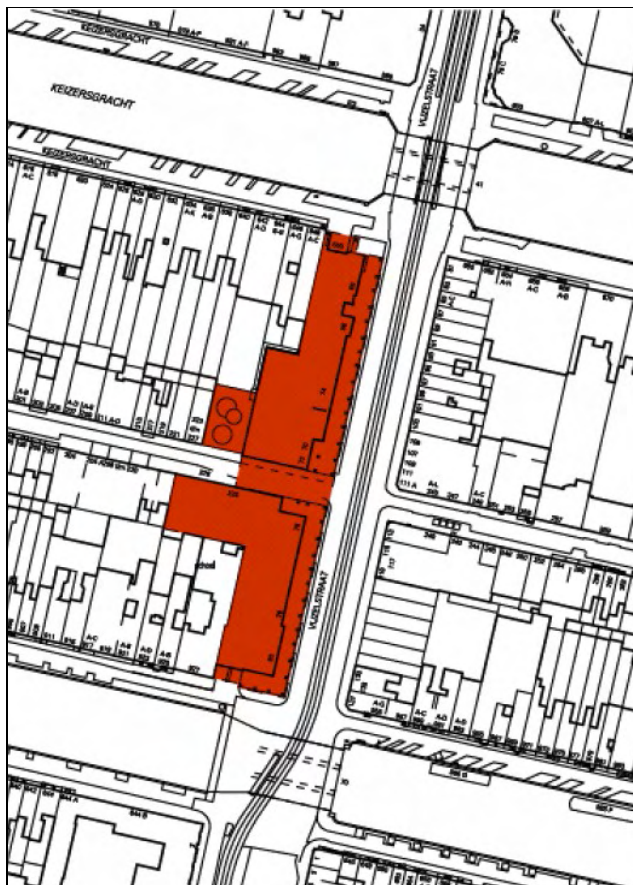
Description of project: The property on Vijzelstraat 66-80 is an office building which has been used as bank building for years. It consists of a plinth area and five storeys with a gross surface area of 24,000 m². The basement has three building layers with a total surface area of 15,000 m². Two basement layers are used for parking; the uppermost basement layer is used for storage. One part of the property has been let to ABN AMRO (the former owner of the building) through 2008. The remaining portion is temporarily in use as gallery space, for art expressions and as creative 'hotspot'. By order of developer Vesteda and housing corporation Stadgenoot (formerly Het Oosten), this former office building will be remodelled.

Location: Vijzelstraat 66-80, located in *the property*.

Status: Private initiative (Vesteda, Stadgenoot); project is in planning stage

History and Managerial Decision

Until 2008 Vijzelstraat 66-80 had been used as bank office of ABN AMRO. The building is located on the right-of-way of the Noord/Zuidlijn and the so-called 'Rode Loper' (Red Carpet). The Noord/Zuidlijn connects the most important employment areas in the city. The 'Rode Loper' is the corridor along the Noord/Zuidlijn, from Central Station to the Pijp district. Efforts at renovating the street level are aimed at creating an exceptional, beautiful and lasting public space. The Vijzelstraat location means that the site is easily accessible by car, bicycle or public transportation. The objective of Het Oosten and Vesteda is to develop a high-quality building which fits in with the level of ambition of the 'Rode Loper'. For the design the architectural firm of Baumschlager & Eberle have been retained.



The location of the project

Conceptual Statement of Basic Principles and Directional Procedure Built Heritage

The District of Central Amsterdam has composed a Conceptual Statement of Basic Principles regarding Vijzelstraat 66-80, including benefit criteria and a historical analysis. See reference nr I 3 1. The most important principle is that the current building is preserved and that functions will adapt themselves to the building. The proposed functionalities are: 50% housing (12,000 m²), 50% commercial space (12,000 m²) with public functions at ground level and two layers for parking in the basement. The current zoning plan must be adapted to allow for the housing function.

Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology (BMA) has described the building, by architect M. F. Duintjer from 1969-1973, and found it worth preserving on the basis of architectural, urban design and cultural historical values. The building can be seen as a commemorative symbol of the popular protests against the coming of the colossal bank building in the city centre. These protests led to a cultural revision regarding the management of the city centre, which was eventually resolved with its designation as preserved cityscape. See reference I 3 2.

The municipal monument procedure was started in 2006. The Monument Advisory Committee (Committee IV of the Committee for Welfare and Monuments) has reacted positively on the designation of the building as city monument (reference I 3 3). Vesteda and Het Oosten have submitted opinions (articulated by Bureau M&DM and professor Henket of architectural firm Henket & Partners), in which they question the worthiness of the building as monument and in which they suggest to enter into a covenant regarding the values to be preserved instead of declaring the building a city monument. (Reference I 3 4).

The cultural historical (monumental) value and the benefit criteria, which have been drafted after in depth consultation with BMA, have been included in the Conceptual Statement of Basic Principles. The Statement of Basic Principles will be determined executively in the first quarter of 2009 when, simultaneously, the monument procedure will be completed.



Current situation

Relevant data Executive Decision process:

- Project commission assigned on February 19 2007;
- Information evening January 30 2008;
- Conceptual Statement of Basic Principles Vijzelstraat 66-80 incl. historical analysis and benefit criteria composed (executive resolution follows in 2009);
- On March 4 the executive committee releases the Concept Basic Principles for community input;
- Input conference Conceptual Statement of Basic Principles March 26 2008;
- City's monument procedure has been started and still has to be completed.

Sources

- I 3 1. Conceptual Statement of Basic Principles Vijzelstraat 66-80, input version dated February 25 2008;
- I 3 2. Description of the building, Bureau Monuments & Archaeology May 10 2006;
- I 3 3. Advice Monument Advisory committee dated August 29 2006;
- I 3 4. Viewpoints Vesteda and Het Oosten dated September 20 2006, with reference to opinions of Bureau D&DM and Prof. H. J. Henket of Architectural firm Henket & Partners.

May 2009 update

The Draft Statement of Basic Principles ('Conceptual Statement of Basic Principles') was to be officially adopted in the first quarter of 2009, at which time the procedure for designation as a municipal monument would also be completed. This has not yet occurred, however. The property developer is currently studying the financial feasibility of the project. The study should indicate the extent to which the developer will be able to comply with the district council's desire for the development to include a large number of mid-priced dwellings (with a rent of up to EUR 1000 a month). The draft design, which will serve as the basis for the calculation, has not yet been approved by the building aesthetics committee. Work is continuing on the design.

Key Issue I 4: De Vijf Keizers (The Five Emperors)

Description of project: The premises on the Keizersgracht 271 through 287 are empty and were used for office space. The project concerns 5 buildings with individual façades. The premises at Keizersgracht 271-275 are designated as city monuments (architect A. J. Westerman, 1955). It was the original office building for the Nederlandse Crediet Maatschappij (NCM). The neighbouring properties were built later as an expansion of NCM over a time span of thirty years.

The total combined floor space is almost 17,000 m² whereby each site has a gross floor space of over 1000 m². A private developer has submitted a development request for Keizersgracht 287 (corner Wolvenstraat) on June 27, 2008 to split off this building and transform it into housing. This plan will not change the building's height nor the layout of the façade, except that an entrance has been added to the façade at the Wolvenstraat. The building at Keizersgracht 287 is not a monument and is indicated on the Map of Protected Cityscapes as "new development from later than 1940".

The proposal envisions 23 flats varying in size between 90 and 200 m². It is noteworthy that each bedroom (sometimes mention is made of four bedrooms) is provided with a separate shower/bathroom with lavatory.

Judging from the size of the flats and their relationship to location, expensive free sector homes are involved here. 23 parking spaces for the residents will be provided in the basement.

An initial request for a top hotel with 120 rooms for all buildings was submitted on July 10, 2008 (policy framework: *Hotel Policy City Centre 2008-2011*, established by the District council May 29, 2008).

Location: Keizersgracht 271-287, located within *the property*.

Status: Private initiative (Van der Schroeff Beheer BV), partitioning request for Keizersgracht 287 and initial request for top hotel for all buildings submitted.

History and Managerial Decision

District drafts a quick scan as framework for possible additional realisations. Plans for Keizersgracht 271-287 are investigated with the existing boards and administrations (such as Protected Cityscape, zoning Western Canal Belt, Car park Ordinances, etc.). Within the executive framework, attention is paid to the UNESCO nomination. The cultural-historical context is also examined. Urban constructive and architectural principles are formulated for the renovation of Keizersgracht 271-287 based on this analysis. The managerial decision-making has not yet begun.



Current situation

Sources:

Not applicable.

May 2009 update

In response to the quick scan, the developer has withdrawn the initial request to develop a top-class hotel. The plan submitted in June 2008 will be altered to reflect the principles and issues identified.

The developer initially planned to submit a combined plan for five plots so that a single decision could be taken on the entire project. However, current market conditions preclude a development on such a scale. The procedure for Keizersgracht 287 will now be initiated (under section 19, subsection 2 of the Spatial Planning Act), and will include the official adoption of the principles listed above.

Key Issue I 5: De Heren en de Keizer (The Gentlemen and the Emperor)

Description of project: This complex, consisting of eleven premises which formerly housed the offices of Fortis/Mees Pierson bank, was vacated some time ago. Last year a developer, prompted by Amsterdam city council's new policy of developing a leading hotel (5-star) in the city, decided to develop it into a top-class hotel. With the support of the district council, the owner started exploring the potential of this location. The future operator has yet to be chosen.

The Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology has conducted a historical survey of the heritage values at the site. The eleven premises on Herengracht and Keizersgracht have historic facades and the individual plots are defined accordingly. However, since 1960 they have all been used as a single office block. To make a single office building, all the premises were connected internally in the early 1960s. The work included creation of an undercroft, an archive and vault, and a parking garage beneath the garden. As a result of these internal alterations, all the premises were almost entirely stripped out or demolished and rebuilt: Keizersgracht 685-689 was completely rebuilt, including the facade. Herengracht 550-552 was also demolished and rebuilt; only the 'Louis XV room' (1768) was preserved.

The structure and details of Herengracht 556 are still intact. The interiors date partly from the eighteenth century, but mainly from the nineteenth century.

Herengracht 542-544 is the only premises that was not radically altered in the 1960s. The design dates from 1929, and the building still has much of its original structure. Its overall design and certain details are still intact.

The total gross floor area is approx. 18.850m². The protected status of the premises varies. Herengracht 546, 548, 554 and 556 and Keizersgracht 679, 681 and 683 are scheduled national historic buildings. Herengracht 544-542 is a municipal monument. Herengracht 550, 552 and Keizersgracht 685-689 fall into the category 'new post-1945' on the protected cityscape map.

Central Amsterdam district council's Executive Committee has stipulated that the historic character of the premises, including the definition of the plots, must be respected and preserved in the hotel development. The quality of the inner courtyard will be boosted with the restoration of the formal garden. The hotel will have generously proportioned rooms, ranging from 40m² to 240m², adapted to the structure of the individual premises. The concept includes a 'wellness' facility on the lower ground floor and a gallery in the parking facility beneath the garden.

Location: Herengracht 542-556, located within the property.
Keizersgracht 679-689, located within the property.

History and official decision-making

The new hotel policy adopted in 2008 opened up the opportunity of developing a top-class hotel in this area to boost the city's economy. In response to a private initiative by property developers DVM Vastgoed, the district council gave its approval for a study of the potential for such a development at this location.

May 2009 update

This is a new initiative which has been added to the Key Issues. It is a private initiative (DVM Vastgoed BV) for a top-class hotel housed in all the premises.



Herengracht 556, 554, 552-500, 548, 546 and 544-542



Keizersgracht 679, 681, 683 and 685-689

References

n.a.

Key issue J: Surface and groundwater levels

Introduction

In an old city like Amsterdam with a specific soil composition and hydrological regime, groundwater problems are a given, and there is limited room for manoeuvre in influencing the groundwater level. Nevertheless, the habitation of Amsterdam is an irreversible fact. The land use both above and below ground is increasingly intensive. To keep Amsterdam habitable, groundwater management is focused on dealing with existing problems and preventing new ones from occurring.

Problems with groundwater can arise if the level in relation to the buildings and land use is either too high or too low.

In Amsterdam, water management is contracted out to Waternet by the city council.

Problems caused by high groundwater levels

High groundwater levels can result in problems such as water in crawl spaces, wet cellars and damp ground floor rooms. Most of these problems occur in Amsterdam's 19th century neighbourhoods, often in buildings that are not in the best structural condition. Specific problems occur in what are known as polder sewerage areas (low-lying areas within polders), all of which lie outside the city centre. In public spaces, the principal groundwater problems occur in the older public parks, where the land is not raised. Areas of poorly raised land are also affected, with trees dying prematurely due to the high groundwater level. This occurs chiefly in the suburbs of Amsterdam North, Slotervaart and Watergraafsmeer.

Problems caused by low groundwater levels

If the groundwater level is low for a prolonged period, wooden foundation piles can become dry and begin to rot, potentially resulting in building subsidence. The centre of Amsterdam within the Singelgracht canal is largely built on wooden piles, which in many older buildings extend only as far as a shallow silty sand layer to a depth of approximately 8 metres below Amsterdam Ordnance Datum (or Normal Amsterdam Water Level). Today, concrete piles are driven into deeper sand layers (the first or second sand layer). To measure building subsidence, a network of 10,000 survey bolts have been mounted in the facades of buildings in the city centre and other areas.

Problems with high and low groundwater levels in the 17th-century canal belt

Problems with high groundwater levels

The drainage depth (the distance between the ground level and the highest water level) in the city centre, which is entirely raised above storage-basin level, is generally quite large (approximately 1.5 metres). With the exception of the Jordaan and Plantagebuurt neighbourhoods (both of which lie within the buffer zone), where the drainage depth is quite small, up to now little or no problems with groundwater have been reported. The impression is that in the city centre, water problems chiefly concern rainwater seeping into non-watertight basements and cellars.

Problems with low groundwater levels

A fall in the groundwater level can result in damage to wooden foundations. According to information from Waternet (source no. 2) there is no conceivable process that could lead to a general lowering of the groundwater level in the canal belt. Due to the presence of the canals, which are a relatively small distance apart and are kept at a stable level, even in periods of prolonged drought, for example, the supply of water to the groundwater system in the canal belt is assured.

The greatest threat to the foundations of the buildings in the 17th-century canal belt is a lowering of the groundwater level as a result of drainage for construction work. Damage may also occur due to the construction of underground structures. This is more likely to produce a high groundwater level, however, where due to the construction of retaining walls, for example, water is unable to drain away. In the past, piezometers were placed along the main sewers to indicate any fall in groundwater level as a result of drainage, and enable the prevention of any damage to wooden foundations.

For the drainage of groundwater for construction work, exemption from the water board statute (*Keur AGV*) is required. For the drainage of deep groundwater, a permit is required from provincial government; under the new Water Act this authority will be transferred to the Amstel, Gooi and Vecht Water Board (with Waternet as implementing organisation). The new Water Act was passed by the Lower House of Parliament in 2006, and is expected to come into force in 2009.

Water assessment procedure and basis in law and urban planning

For urban planning (the construction of new buildings and necessary underground structures) the City of Amsterdam operates a water assessment procedure, whereby the same steps are followed as for the Planning and Decision-making Process for Spatial Measures (*Plan- en Besluitvormingsproces Ruimtelijke Maatregelen - Plaberum*). The inclusion of a section on groundwater in plans is compulsory.

In addition, the City of Amsterdam is investigating the possibility to give a firmer legal basis to groundwater-related aspects and criteria currently applied to recommendations on construction plans, alterations and renovations, either by including them in the building regulations and zoning plans or by means of groundwater regulations for Amsterdam. Because of the nomination of the 17th-century canal belt for the UNESCO World Heritage List, the District of Central Amsterdam will handle this as a matter of priority.

Sources:

J.1 Policy Document on Groundwater for Amsterdam 2007-2011 (*Nota Grondwater Amsterdam 2007-2011*), approved by the Municipal Executive on 26 June 2007 and acknowledged by the Council Committee for Spatial Planning, Ground Affairs, Water Management and ICT (*Raadscommissie voor Ruimtelijke Ordening, Grondzaken, Waterbeheer en ICT*) on 26 September 2007.

J.2 Waternet Policy Document of 19 August 2008 on Groundwater management for the 17th-century canal belt in relation to the UNESCO Management Plan.

June 2009 update

No changes have occurred to the situation described above. Waternet intends to complete its study of possibilities for creating a legal basis for groundwater issues and criteria in 2009.

Key issue K: Scaffolding Wrap Advertisements

Introduction

Since 2003, scaffolding wrap advertisements are only allowed in Amsterdam city centre under strict conditions (see reference K 1). To be able to regulate this form of advertisement, the city centre has entered into a (private law) contract with advertisement firms. The agreements pertain to the appearance of the public space (see reference K 3). With this in mind, article 5 contains stipulations pertaining to the size of the wrap (maximum width 16m) the framework around the advertisement display, the location on the façade where the display is allowed (between ground level and gutter height) and the period during which the advertising campaign may be carried out. Moving images and/or three dimensional objects attached to the advertisements are not allowed and neither is the use of fluorescent colours. Also specified are conditions when investigation by the Committee for Built Heritage (Commissie voor Welstand en Monumenten) is deemed necessary. Alcohol advertisement is not permitted. Furthermore, advertisement displays that run contrary to legislation, jurisprudence, and/or the guidelines and insights of the Advertising Code Commission are not permitted. Lighting up the advertisements at night is not permitted.

Specific requirements are included in the agreement for the ring of canals and Dam Square (the Dam). In these locations, only 10% of the scaffolding wrap surface may consist of advertisement displays. The advertisement may only be applied between the 1^e and 2^e storey of the building.

The scaffolding wraps are only permitted during the necessary maintenance activities of a building. Usually, a building does not need painting or other maintenance on a yearly basis. It is therefore not permitted to place a new advertisement on the same building within three years of the completion of maintenance activities.

In the preceding period (2003 – 2008 up to the present), scaffolding wrap advertisements have been placed on 11, 30, 37, 36, 32 and 28 locations respectively. A review of the locations shows that, during this period, one case involved the application of advertisements twice on the same building, to wit Koningsplein 11 (in 2003 and in 2008), but yet conformed to the rule of more than a three-year interval. For a review of the scaffolding wrap advertisements applied during the period 2003-2008, see reference K 4.

The proceeds of the advertisements are divided between the owner of the building around which the scaffolding has been placed, the District of Central Amsterdam and the advertisement firm. The idea is that in this way owners are motivated to spruce up their buildings, and that the District receives extra income to improve the quality of the centre city.



Rokin

History and managerial policy

Experiment

On July 8, 2003, the executive committee decided to conduct an experiment with scaffolding wrap advertisements (see reference K 2). Initially, the experiment ran from summer 2003 until January 1, 2004, but was later extended until January 2005. On November 25, 2004 the District council decided to make scaffolding wrap advertisements a structural part of the advertisement policy.

The results of the trial period have been evaluated (see reference K 4). Based on this evaluation the executive committee did not see a reason to adjust the policy at that time. However, promises were made to involve scaffolding wrap advertisement policy in the negotiations within the framework of the Programakkoord 2006-2010.

Discussion

From the beginning of the experiment there has been discussion over the tense relationship between the restrictive advertisement policies on the one hand and scaffolding wrap advertisements on the other. In this discussion, interested parties such as the Advertising in Public Space Workgroup (Werkgroep Buitenreclame) of the community centre d'Oude Stadt have argued that scaffolding wrap advertisements dominate the cityscape too much. Some more detail is needed here. In relationship to the protected cityscape the restrictive advertisement policy is specifically aimed at advertisement displays which are *permanent* and/or attached as an *extra component* to or on a façade. Scaffolding wrap advertisements are a temporary form of advertisement (maximum 9 weeks). Furthermore, as stated before, scaffolding wrap advertisements on the canals are very restricted. As a consequence, scaffolding wrap advertisements have never been used on the canals.

As a final point, within the framework of construction regulations (Arbo regulations) scaffolding wraps are mandatory. These scaffolding wraps are often dangling or fluttering shoddily alongside. Because of their meticulous and taut fastening, the scaffolding wrap advertisements are usually an improvement.

Objections of the Advertising in Public Space Workgroup (Werkgroep Buitenreclame) of community centre d'Oude Stadt

In relation to the UNESCO nomination, the Advertising in Public Space Workgroup of community centre d'Oude Stadt has again made its objections known to the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology. The group emphasised that scaffolding wrap advertisements, the introduction of large video screens, and other huge advertisements are purely commercial projects, an unprecedented expansion of commercial activity in the public space of the historical city centre. The group requested – also because of the UNESCO nomination – to put an end to the scaffolding wrap advertisements policy (see reference K 10).

In answer to the letter from the group (see reference K 11), the Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology has pointed out that the District of Central Amsterdam will prepare a new Policy Statement regarding Façade Advertisement Regulations, which will include stricter rules for the replacement of advertisements either when the property is converted to another function or when it changes hands to a new owner. The objective is to better reconcile façade advertisement with the protected cityscape. Within a period of three to five years all advertisement displays have to comply with the new policy. The tempering of scaffolding wrap advertisements is appropriate within the framework of developing the entire façade advertisement policy for the District.

Tempering scaffolding wrap advertisement in Programakkoord 2006-2010

The executive committee of the District of Central Amsterdam attaches great importance to measures which improve the urban environment. In the Programakkoord 2006-2010 it is agreed that scaffolding wrap advertisements will be tempered in order that this temporary form of advertisement is less prominent in the street scene. For this reason the implementation of the Programakkoord requires, as well, that a tempered scaffolding wrap advertisement policy be determined in 2008 (see references K 5 and 6). To that end, the executive committee has submitted a temperance proposal to the advisory committee three times (November 14 2006, April 3 2007 and January 10 2008. For specifications see also reference K 9). This has not resulted in a consensus between council factions (see references K 7 and 8).

In the near future, the executive committee will again submit a temperance proposal and thereby take into consideration the UNESCO-nomination. This temperance proposal is based on a robust reduction of available surface for this type of temporary advertisement display. Furthermore, the intent is not to permit scaffolding wrap advertisements on the canals. A proposal will be drawn up more narrowly for corner properties in shopping streets which border on canals (like the Leidsestraat). The intent is not to allow advertisements on the side of canals. Also, use will be made of fixed rates per m2 rather than the current complicated system which includes passing on the media value. Fixed rates also have the advantage that they are transparent and easier to control. The executive committee aims to implement the temperance policy in the first quarter of 2009.



Corner of the Marnixstraat and the Rozengracht

Consequences for the UNESCO nomination

By means of the above mentioned temperance policy, the *visual impact* of scaffolding wrap advertisement will be severely limited beyond but especially within the *property*.

Sources

- K 1. Guidelines Façade advertisement (2004)
- K 2. Ordinance executive committee District of Central Amsterdam dated July 8 2003 regarding Scaffolding wrap advertisement
- K 3. Agreement Scaffolding wrap advertisement (2005)
- K 4. Evaluation Scaffolding wrap advertisement policy, included in the Evaluation Buildings Aesthetics Statement District of Central Amsterdam 2004 (decision District council January 26 2006-18)
- K 5. Paragraph Programakkoord 2006-2010 regarding temperance policy of Scaffolding wrap advertisement
- K 6. Paragraph Measurable Programakkoord 2006-2010 regarding temperance policy of Scaffolding wrap advertisement
- K 7. Proposal initiative SP dated June 19 2006
- K 8. Proposal initiative PvdA and GroenLinks dated June 28 2007

- K 9. Temperance proposals by the executive committee District of Central Amsterdam dated November 14 2006, April 3 2007, and January 10 2008
- K 10. Letter to Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology from Werkgroep Buitenreclame of community centre d' Oude dated July 16 2008
- K 11. Letter to Werkgroep Buitenreclame of community centre d'Oude Stadt from Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology dated September 10 2008

May 2009 update

It was agreed in the *Programmakoord 2006-2010* that advertising on scaffolding wrap should be toned down. This means above all that in future such advertising must be less prominent.

Scaffolding wrap remains mandatory for health and safety reasons. Allowing advertising on scaffolding wrap provides a way of encouraging owners to renovate their property. The district council is therefore keen to continue some form of advertising on scaffolding, though more low-key than is often the case at present.

The Executive Committee has set out a number of principles which the district council must observe, the most important of which are:

- no more than 50% of the scaffolding wrap may be advertising; the rest must display a picture of the façade
- no advertising may be displayed on scaffolding wrap around Dam Square and along the canals
- scaffolding wrap may be used only during the actual construction/alteration work. The maximum period is six weeks in the case of maintenance work not requiring a permit
- the deadline for removal of the advertising must be shown on the scaffolding wrap advertising companies must inform users of the premises that scaffolding wrap advertising is to be installed

The new proposal will be made available for inspection from 23 June to 5 August. It will be debated by the Construction, Housing and Urban Development Committee (*Commissie Bouwen, Wonen en Stedelijke Ontwikkeling*) on 10 September 2009.

References

- K 12 Draft Policy on Scaffolding Wrap Advertising, 7 June 2009 (public consultation version).

F. MONITORING MATRIX

MONITORING MATRIX

1 October 2009

Key Indicators for Monitoring the State of Preservation

Principles

The Dutch government has nominated the 'Seventeenth-century canal ring area within the Singelgracht' for the UNESCO World Heritage List. The nominated site encompasses a large area with a diverse range of buildings, scheduled monuments, canals, quaysides, trees, streets and squares. One of the conditions for acquiring World Heritage Site status is that Amsterdam City Council, and Central Amsterdam district council in particular, as siteholder, must ensure that the nominated area remains in good condition, and that it remains protected and preserved for future generations. This concerns not only the area's physical condition, but also preservation of the mix of functions that has been a characteristic feature of the canal ring area since it was first built.

The basic principle is to promote economic and social developments that help the historic centre of Amsterdam, and the canal ring area in particular, to remain a lively urban environment where people enjoy living, working and relaxing, while doing justice to the area's major cultural heritage value. Maintaining a balance between these interests is a key theme of Central Amsterdam district council's policy.

These principles are in line with article 5 of the World Heritage Convention: '*endeavour... to adopt general policies to give the heritage a function in the life of the community*'.

Monitoring

Every six years, the siteholder must submit a report to UNESCO's World Heritage Committee on the condition of the site. The Amsterdam World Heritage Office of the Central District of Amsterdam is responsible for this reporting. The report contains data collected from monitoring.

Key indicators have been selected for monitoring purposes on three levels. The first level concerns effect (preservation and conservation of the site and buffer zone). The effect indicators relate to the state of preservation of the buildings, public spaces and waterways, and the number of monuments and historic buildings. The second level concerns use and perception of the site. The third level consists of performance targets relating to research, systematic evaluation of government policy, action plans, publicity campaigns, and educational programmes and activities.

Monitoring will be based on existing research data, registers and other relevant material available from the district council, Amsterdam's Department for Research and Statistics O+S and other municipal services, and from external organisations such as the Amsterdam Tourist and Convention Board and

Amsterdam Chamber of Commerce. Additional research will be carried out for some aspects of monitoring. Wherever possible, a baseline measurement will be taken as the starting point, so that developments over time can be monitored.

Monitoring Matrix Table

Effect indicators (based on annual measurement)

Indicator	Source	Remarks
Number of listed national monuments and historic buildings and municipal monuments and historic buildings in the core zone and buffer zone	Cultural Heritage Agency and Amsterdam Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology registers	Increase in number of protected monuments and historic buildings; removal from list as result of loss of cultural heritage value, demolition etc. + indicates protection or possible deterioration of site
Area of public space in core zone and buffer zone	Central Amsterdam District Council Trend Report, Central Amsterdam Public Spaces Sector, O+S	
Water area in core zone and buffer zone	Inland Waterways Management Service, Central Amsterdam Public Spaces Sector, Central Amsterdam District Council Trend Report	Decrease in water area + indicates any deterioration of site
Number of protected bridges and locks in core zone and buffer zone	Cultural Heritage Agency and Amsterdam Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology registers, Central Amsterdam Public Spaces Sector, Inland Waterways Management Service	Relative to total number of bridges and locks in core zone and buffer zone Increase/decrease + indicates protection or possible deterioration of site
Number of historic trees in core zone and buffer zone	Central Amsterdam Public Spaces Sector	Increase/decrease + indicates protection or possible deterioration of site
Number of formal gardens in core zone	Central Amsterdam Public Spaces Sector	Formal gardens are present only in the core zone
Number of historic boats/houseboats	Inland Waterways Management Service	Baseline measurement needed
Number of parking spaces in core zone (on street; in parking garages)	Central Amsterdam Public Spaces Sector	Relative to design of public spaces
Number of underground parking spaces in core zone	Central Amsterdam Public Spaces Sector	Relative to design of public spaces
Physical state of protected monuments and historic buildings in core zone and buffer zone	Central Amsterdam Building and Housing Sector	Data from the Building Quality Monitor
Monument and historic building inspections	Amsterdam Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology, Noord-Holland Monuments and Historic Buildings Inspection Service	
Number of permits pertaining to monuments and historic buildings in core zone and	Central Amsterdam Building and Housing Sector	Reflects dynamism of city centre. Permits not only for restoration, but

buffer zone		also alterations. Included in quarterly reports and annual financial statements of Central Amsterdam district council
Number of cases of building without a permit in core zone and buffer zone	Central Amsterdam Building and Housing Sector	Is permanently monitored; included in quarterly reports and annual financial statements of Central Amsterdam district council
Number of summonses on initiative of the district council in core zone and buffer zone	Central Amsterdam Building and Housing Sector	Is permanently monitored; included in quarterly reports and annual financial statements of Central Amsterdam district council
Number of grants awarded for conservation and restoration of monuments and historic buildings in core zone and buffer zone	Central Amsterdam Building and Housing Sector	Included in quarterly reports and annual financial statements of Central Amsterdam district council
Number of restoration grants for national scheduled monuments and historic buildings in core zone and buffer zone	National Restoration Fund	From: National Restoration Fund
Number of restoration grants for municipal monuments and historic buildings in core zone and buffer zone	Amsterdam Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology	From: Amsterdam Restoration Fund and Noord-Holland Cultural Fund
Number of grants awarded under the Government Grants for the Preservation of Monuments and Historic Buildings Decree ('State Subsidy for the Preservation of Monuments Decree'), including art.43 grants (restoration backlog) in core zone and buffer zone	Cultural Heritage Agency	Only for national scheduled monuments and historic buildings
Number of Urban Regeneration Investment Budget grants awarded for national scheduled monuments and historic buildings and municipal monuments and historic buildings in core zone and buffer zone	Central Amsterdam Building and Housing Sector	Included in quarterly reports and annual financial statements of Central Amsterdam district council
Maintenance and reprofiling of public space in core zone (canal profile): number, type, scale of projects	Central Amsterdam Public Spaces Sector	
Maintenance and restoration of bridges in core zone and buffer zone: number, type, scale of projects	Inland Waterways Management Service	Baseline measurement needed
Maintenance and restoration of quays, banks and mooring facilities in core zone and buffer zone: number, type, scale of projects	Central Amsterdam Public Spaces Sector en Inland Waterways Management Service	Baseline measurement needed
Maintenance of green in the public space in core zone and buffer zone: number, type, scale of projects	Central Amsterdam Public Spaces Sector	
Financial resources spent on maintaining public space in core zone	Central Amsterdam district council budget and reports by sectors concerned	

Indicators of use and perception

Indicator	Source	Remarks
Latest developments in review of zoning plans for core zone and buffer zone: number, type, scale, status	Central Amsterdam Building and Housing Sector	
Number of residents and number (and type) of businesses in core zone and buffer zone	O+S and Central Amsterdam District Council Trend Report	Aim: to maintain a functional commercial/residential mix in city centre
Number of tourists	Tourist Monitor Central Amsterdam District Council Trend Report	Including visitor profile (age, education etc.)
Number of overnight stays in city centre hotels	Tourist Monitor Central Amsterdam District Council Trend Report	
Events in canal ring area: number and type	O+S	Number of permits granted, number of visitors
Value of real estate (for local tax purposes) in core zone	Tax and Customs Administration	Rise/fall
Visitors' perception of canal ring area and canalside museums	Survey	World Heritage Office to commission O+S
Perception of quality of life and public safety in core zone and buffer zone	'Quality of Public Space in Amsterdam Centre', study published every two years , Amsterdam Public Safety Index, Amsterdam Living Situation Index, Central Amsterdam District Council Trend Report	
Accessibility of historic centre	Infrastructure and Transport Service	Monitoring of cars entering and leaving area (at Singelgracht)

Performance objectives

Objective	Actor	Remarks
Trend Report (every two years)	Central Amsterdam district council	Assesses local authority policy in Amsterdam city centre
Incorporate OUV into local authority policy	Authority-wide	Include update in progress report to World Heritage Committee 2010
Key Issues	World Heritage Office Amsterdam	Include update in progress report to World Heritage Committee 2010
Amsterdam canal ring area World Heritage Site work and communication plan 2009-2010	World Heritage Office Amsterdam	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public UNESCO information meetings (stakeholders, shareholders) • Operationalisation of website '<i>Grachtengordel Amsterdam Werelderfgoed</i>' ('Amsterdam canal ring area World Heritage Site') • Development of other forms of communication 		
Amsterdam Heritage Centre	Amsterdam Bureau of Monuments & Archaeology	Feasibility study

G. SUMMARY TREND REPORT

Amsterdam inner city Trend Report 2008/2009 – English Summary

Amsterdam city centre

The trend report is an important source of information about data on the inner city of Amsterdam. In conjunction with previous reports it constitutes a clear time series and is intended as a guide for everyone with an interest or stake in the inner city.

The inner city of Amsterdam is the beating heart of a budding metropolis. Its unique character is determined by factors including:

- the *open and tolerant environment*. The city has a tradition of embracing all kinds of population segments, unusual initiatives and alternative lifestyles. This makes for a lively and varied streetscape, especially in the city centre.
- the *unique spatial structure*. This is largely due to the 'fan-shaped' 17th-century ring of canals that encompasses the old mediaeval heart of the city. This structure is of great interest not only from a cultural historical point of view, but also for its long-standing functional mix of work and dwelling, which is still one of the inner city's principal characteristics. For years, the number of residents in the inner city has been virtually identical to the number of people who work there. In January 2009 the canal ring was officially nominated for inclusion on UNESCO's World Heritage List.

With its unusual and lively character and its many attractions, rich nightlife and specialist shops, the inner city is a magnet for tourists and visitors. It is the ongoing responsibility of inner-city policymakers to find the right balance between dwelling, working and recreation, and between the various economic functions. In 1993 this was clearly set out in the Inner City Policy Plan, which formulated the primary objective as '*strengthening the inner city's position as the heart of the city while maintaining its functional mix*'. At the same time a number of 'limit-setting objectives' were formulated relating to the historic cityscape, quality of life and safety, accessibility and facilities for residents. Because only if limits were set in certain areas would achieving the primary objective result in a safe city centre with a good quality of life.

The Policy Plan objectives provided the framework for this report, as with previous trend reports. In addition, the report also focuses on a development that has been ongoing for several years: the 'dispersion of city-centre functions'. The inner city of Amsterdam does not completely coincide with the borough of Centrum: some neighbourhoods belonging to the borough lack big-city character, while certain neighbourhoods belonging to surrounding boroughs do have that character - or at least the potential. Residential and business premises are in short supply in the inner city and, as a result, prices are high by Amsterdam standards. Neighbourhoods close to the inner city can often offer the same or even more, and often at a lesser cost, which explains why the area outside the inner city offering city-centre functions keeps growing.

This expansion of the inner-city area makes it desirable to cooperate with the surrounding boroughs to anticipate future developments. Because with their own unique identities and together with the inner city, it is these boroughs that form the beating heart of the Amsterdam metropolis.

City-centre position

In order to establish to what extent the inner city holds a city-centre position, the inner city is compared with Amsterdam as a whole in three areas: dwelling, work and recreation.

Dwelling

In 2008 the number of inner-city residents equalled 81,318 or 11% of the total population of Amsterdam. Compared to 2006, there was a slight decline in the number of single-person households and a slight increase in the number of two-person households, a shift already visible in 2006. Over the

past two years there was also a continuation of the trend towards a larger proportion of residents over 50 and a smaller share of under-50s. At almost 30% of the total, the age category 20-34 remains the largest, though it is very slightly down compared to 2004. In 2008 the number of over-65s remained lower than in Amsterdam as a whole, though the difference once again narrowed. Both the average income and the proportion of highly educated residents were above the mean for the city, and the number of residents with an income from their own business or from freelance work was almost twice as high as the figure for the whole of Amsterdam. The number of western foreigners and non-Amsterdam born natives is relatively high and has grown as a percentage of the total. The number of rented dwellings in the non-subsidised sector is growing in the inner city, as is the number of owner-occupied dwellings, partly as a result of housing association dwellings being sold; housing association dwellings now account for 33% of the total, compared to 38% previously. The average house price is rising steadily, with the proportion of dwellings with a high so-called WOZ value (over 282,500 euro; WOZ value is used to determine the level of tax due on a property) is double the Amsterdam average.

Work

In 2008 there were 1,070 jobs for every 1,000 residents in the inner city: the highest score in Amsterdam. Over 20% of people who work in Amsterdam, work in the inner city. This percentage has shown a slight decline since 2004. The inner city is also home to 23% of all Amsterdam-based businesses and institutions, a percentage which is also down on 2006. There is an above-average concentration of shops selling specialist products, cultural institutions, sports and recreational facilities, media and film production companies, higher-education facilities and hotels, bars and restaurants, which can therefore be qualified as 'city-centre functions'. A notable development is that in 2008 the inner city - the long-time financial centre - no longer boasted a concentration of banks. The financial sector did experience growth in the period up to 1 January 2008, but that growth did not occur in the inner city.

There is a strong concentration of both hotels, bars and restaurants (more than 53% of those employed in this sector in Amsterdam work in the inner city) and retail outlets (around 32%). The creative sector is also concentrated in the inner city but figures show that growth in the inner city is less strong than in other city boroughs. The concentration of cultural amenities, sport & recreation and higher education, on the other hand, is growing. Of those employed in education in the inner city, 83% work in higher education.

The exodus of financial and/or large companies has had a negligible effect on total employment, with most of the freed-up space being occupied by small businesses. A recent development in the inner city is the increase in temporary office space on offer in multi-tenant facilities based in large buildings that have been vacated.

The southern banks of the river IJ offer opportunities for large companies and institutions for which the inner city is a less suitable location. The city's Public Library and the Amsterdam Conservatory recently moved to Oosterdokseiland, with the Court of Appeal planning a future move to Westerdokseiland.

Recreation

People are increasingly spending their free time in an urban environment. With its broad offer of specialist shops, hotels, restaurants, bars, museums, attractions, events, theatres and concert venues, the inner city remains the principal focus for leisure activities in Amsterdam.

Up until 2007 the number of visitors to Amsterdam rose gradually to 11.8 million, partly thanks to Dutch overnighters, but has shown a slight decline since.

Pop venues are doing well. Paradiso opened its doors to 565,000 visitors in 2008, 80,000 more than in 2005, while De Melkweg saw visitor numbers rise from 312,000 in 2005 to 415,000 in 2008.

The Anne Frank House was the inner city's top museum in 2008 with around 1 million visitors. Nemo and the Hermitage Amsterdam reported sharp increases in visitor numbers.

The number of visitors to festivals increased, with the Holland Festival and a number of smaller festivals, such as CineKid, IDFA and Hartjesdagen, doing particularly well.

Cinema attendance appears to be on the rise again, with the number of people who visited an Amsterdam cinema increasing from 2.73 million in 2005 to 3.12 million in 2008.

With around 3.1 million passengers a year, the canal boats are still the number one attraction in Amsterdam, even though the figure showed a slight drop in 2008 which is expected to continue in 2009. A decline is forecast for the tourist sector as a whole in 2009.

Cultural participation by inner-city residents is in decline, with 88% of residents participating in at least one cultural activity in 2008 against 95% in 2004. Residents engaging in above-average amounts of sport (such as the highly educated, 18-34 year-olds, western foreigners and Dutch natives) are overrepresented in the inner city, with 75% of inner-city residents engaging in sports at least once a month.

Visits to parks have rocketed in the past few years, in terms of both the number of visitors and frequency of visits. Almost all inner-city residents pay an occasional visit to a park, relying on the big parks in the 19th-century belt. The Vondelpark and Westerpark in particular are enjoying a sharp rise in popularity.

Functional mix

Spatial distribution of functions and diversity within spatial units are two dimensions of functional mix.

The inner city comprises 10 neighbourhood combinations: Burgwallen Oude Zijde, Burgwallen Nieuwe Zijde, Grachtengordel-West, Grachtengordel-Zuid, Nieuwmarkt/Lastage, Haarlemmerbuurt, Jordaan, De Weteringschans, Weesperbuurt/Plantage and Oostelijke Eilanden/Kadijken.

Spatial distribution

We looked at the distribution of people in employment and business establishments across the inner-city neighbourhood combinations. Burgwallen Nieuwe Zijde has the highest share of people working in the inner city at 17.5%, while the Jordaan, the most built-up of the neighbourhood combinations, tops the list in terms of share of businesses at 15.5%. Given the fact that the Jordaan accounts for only 7.5% of total people who work in the inner city, it follows that these are mainly small businesses. The opposite applies to Weesperbuurt/Plantage, where the share of workers is relatively high (11.5%) but the number of business establishments is small (5.7%); this means that generally larger businesses are concerned.

We also looked at the spatial distribution of the principal functions. The economic functions were subdivided into the principal functions 'offices', 'businesses', 'retail', 'facilities' and 'hotels, restaurants and bars'.

There is a clear concentration of 'offices' in Weteringschans and Grachtengordel-West, with almost a third of people occupied in this sector in the inner city working in one of these neighbourhood combinations. 'Businesses', which are underrepresented in the inner city, are concentrated mainly in Burgwallen Nieuwe Zijde. Canal boats and ferries also fall into this category.

'Retail' also shows a clear concentration in Burgwallen Nieuwe Zijde and, to a lesser extent, Burgwallen Oude Zijde. Over half of people occupied in retail in the inner city work in one of the Burgwallen. Retail is not strongly represented in Weesperbuurt/Plantage or Oostelijke Eilanden/Kadijken, but there is a strong concentration of 'facilities' in Weesperbuurt/Plantage.

There is a strong concentration of 'Hotels, restaurants and bars' on Burgwallen Nieuwe Zijde and, to a slightly lesser extent, Burgwallen Oude Zijde, with over half the people occupied in the hotel and catering trade in the inner city working in one of the Burgwallen. This category is not strongly represented in Oostelijke Eilanden/Kadijken in particular, though the number of bars and restaurants is on the increase there.

Diversity

An important measure of functional mix is the ratio of residents to people in employment. The inner city has been reasonably stable in this respect for many years and in 2008 the ratio was 48:52. This balance is unique as in most inner cities do not have as strong a residential function.

Based on the ratio of residents to people in employment, the inner-city neighbourhoods have been divided into residential neighbourhoods (share of residents > 60%), mixed neighbourhoods (share of residents 40-60%) and working neighbourhoods (share of residents < 40%). From North to South, the central part of the inner city consists of neighbourhood combinations mainly comprised of 'working neighbourhoods': Burgwallen Oude and Nieuwe Zijde, Grachtengordel-Zuid and Weteringschans.

These neighbourhood combinations are flanked on both sides by neighbourhood combinations with more 'mixed neighbourhoods': Grachtengordel-West, Nieuwmarkt/Lastage and Weesperbuurt/Plantage. To the far west and east of these are two neighbourhood combinations consisting mainly of 'residential neighbourhoods': Jordaan and Oostelijke Eilanden/Kadijken (map 13).

Limit-setting objectives

The purpose of the 'limit-setting objectives' is to safeguard the historic cityscape, enhance quality of life and safety, improve accessibility and ensure an adequate level of facilities for residents.

Historic cityscape

The urban planning structure of the inner city is the result of a gradual transformation process over the centuries. On 30 January 2009 Amsterdam's 17th-century canal ring was officially nominated for inclusion on UNESCO's World Heritage List. In addition to policy-induced developments, various other data are now being logged, including the number of listed buildings, listed trees, etcetera and the operational use of the canal ring.

The number of listed buildings in the inner city has increased by around 950 since 2004. Of the 7,824 listed buildings, over half are located in the canal ring. Listed objects include not only houses but also bridges and locks. Furthermore, in 2008 there were 243 listed trees (at least 70 years old) growing in (semi-) public spaces.

The canal ring is used intensively. Every year around 11 million visitors come to Amsterdam and surveys show that 38% of them name the canal ring as their principal reason for visiting the city.

Quality of life and safety

Surveys show that, on the whole, residents enjoy living in the inner city. The inner city achieves a high score for 'social cohesion', with the figure in 2008 on the rise again after dipping in 2006. Inner-city residents also take a more positive view of their living environment than the average Amsterdam resident.

A vast majority of residents consider there is a shortage of bicycle racks and bike shelters, though the percentages are slightly down on previous years. However, the percentage of business owners who consider there is a shortage of bicycle racks in the inner city has risen, from 67% in 2004 to 74% in 2008.

Over three-quarters of residents and business owners describe the inner city as 'pleasantly busy.' A large majority also describe the terraces as bustling and fun, though this percentage is down on 2006. There was a notable decline in the number of residents who said they enjoy events in the inner city, from 63% in 2004 to 47% in 2008. Business owners were also less enthusiastic about events: 58% in 2008 against 65% in 2004.

Safety is an essential aspect of a neighbourhood's quality of life. Amsterdam residents feel reasonably safe, both during the day and at night, with the inner city scoring well above average on these variables. Despite this, over a quarter of all criminal offences reported in Amsterdam occur in the inner city. In 2008 a total of 21,117 criminal offences were reported in the inner city, down around 7% from 2006. Pickpocketing remains the most common offence.

Objective safety in Amsterdam and the inner city has improved. The objective safety index shows that the inner city is a relatively unsafe part of Amsterdam, with the neighbourhood combinations Burgwallen Oude and Nieuwe Zijde being two of the three most unsafe areas in Amsterdam. While the drugs problem here has declined, it is causing more nuisance.

The subjective safety index shows that residents themselves do not experience the inner city as being unsafe: the index ratings are more favourable than for Amsterdam as a whole and have improved compared to 2006. The inner city does tend to attract young people indulging in anti-social behaviour: the percentage of young people (between 18 and 24) arrested that live in the inner city (4%) is much smaller than the percentage that committed an offence there (38%). The latter figure has risen sharply since 2006 (25%).

Accessibility

The number of cars going into and out of the inner city has been declining for years. Conversely, the trend for cyclists has been rising spectacularly for years and added another 12.5% between 2006 and 2008. The number of cyclists entering and exiting the inner city equalled 47,650 in 2008 (cyclists crossing the Singelgracht canal between 3 pm and 6 pm). The large number of cyclists and bikes puts great pressure on public spaces. While there are over 10,000 bicycle racks in the streets and around 5,000 spaces in bike shelters, there is not sufficient space to park the increased number of bicycles. There are around 15,500 car parking spaces along the public highway, around 1,000 fewer than in 2003. The inner city charges the highest parking fees in Amsterdam. As a general rule, the further

away from the centre, the lower the hourly parking rate and the greater the number of hours of free parking. Inner-city residents are the most negative of all Amsterdam residents when it comes to the parking facilities on offer; conversely, they rate public transport facilities more positively than the average for the city as a whole.

Facilities for residents

The Social Support Act (Wet maatschappelijke ondersteuning - Wmo) has far-reaching consequences for the borough's responsibility for the level of wellbeing and care of its residents. The inner city has recently established a Care and Community counter and a Parent/Child centre.

With respect to a number of welfare facilities the function of the inner city stretches beyond the borough limits. The inner city has a relatively large number of centres and shelter facilities for vulnerable groups such as runaways and homeless people, drug addicts and people with psychological or psychosocial problems. The inner city also has the largest number of beds in care and nursing homes, though this number is declining as a result of the redevelopment or modernisation of various institutions.

The number of primary school children in state education again registered an above-average increase. In 2008 there were three community schools offering an integrated range of facilities outside regular school hours.

Dispersion of city-centre functions

The city centre of Amsterdam is expanding. The 'dispersion of city-centre functions' involves various processes. It is a fact that more and more city-centre functions are moving to the neighbourhoods surrounding the inner city as a result of short supply and high prices of property in the inner city, as well as the attractiveness of the neighbourhoods themselves. Three general developments can be discerned:

- The borough of Oud-Zuid has long comprised areas with city-centre characteristics. For example, the Museumkwartier is home to the city's leading museums and the Concertgebouw. Shopping streets in the more exclusive segment, such as P.C. Hoofstraat and Cornelis Schuytstraat, as well as the Albert Cuyp street market, attract many visitors from both inside and outside town. Business services have long set up office in the stately buildings overlooking the Vondelpark, and the residential areas behind the Concertgebouw have for many years been as desirable for highly educated and high-earning households as homes in the canal ring.
- Parts of the 19th-century ring around the centre, such as De Pijp in the borough of Oud-Zuid, the Helmers neighbourhood in the borough of Oud-West and neighbourhoods around the Westerpark, have been attracting an increasing variety of urban population segments, specialty stores, creative companies and restaurants, bars and clubs. There is also an interesting presence of multicultural shops, which add to diversity. The urban planning and architecture of these neighbourhoods makes them attractive and exceptionally well-suited to functional mix. Until recently, some of these areas were also cheaper than the inner city, but price differences are narrowing.
- In the boroughs of Amsterdam-Noord and Zeeburg new business locations have been developed along the banks of the river IJ close to the city centre. These have proved a popular location with cultural institutions (Muziekgebouw aan 't IJ, Filmmuseum), creative companies (MTV, IDTV), and hotels, bars and restaurants (De Goudfazant, Wilhelminadok, IJ-kantine). The site of the former gasworks Westergasfabriek in the borough of Westerpark has similarly proved an attractive location for bars and restaurants, businesses and cultural institutions.

Considerations for the medium term

Given likely developments in the medium term, the following trends merit special attention in the years ahead.

1. The dispersion of city-centre functions to surrounding boroughs

An understanding of the factors that contribute towards dispersion and the benchmarks for upgrading a neighbourhood can help clarify in which areas it makes sense and/or it is possible to stimulate or put the brakes on developments. This will enable the inner city to work with other boroughs to create a healthy and dynamic heart for the Amsterdam metropolitan area.

2. Population dynamics in and around the city centre

Stagnation in the housing market is an obstacle to the balanced development of the population composition. 'New urban dwellers', who bring vitality and innovation, find it harder to get on the property ladder in the inner city and so focus on surrounding boroughs. At city level, the influx of 'new urban dwellers' in the westerly boroughs could lead to substantial differences between neighbourhoods within and those outside the A10 ring road.

3. Flexible response to economic shifts

The inner city's various strategies with respect to the availability of office space can be limiting but in the long run they contribute to the inner city's strength. The development of multi-tenant facilities is a useful instrument for facilitating shifts in sectors and business activity levels. They promote the desired economic versatility and flexibility.

4. Attractive climate for 'creatives'

Peace and quiet in the immediate vicinity of your home with hustle and bustle just around the corner - the ideal for many people. The attraction of the inner city for 'creatives' calls for a wide variety of high-quality cultural activities and public spaces that encourage people to meet and mingle. Not a fun fair but not an open-air museum either. There is a persistent need for attention to these aspects.

5. Canal ring nominated for UNESCO World Heritage List

In order to anticipate the opportunities and limitations inherent in world heritage status, the inner city, together with other boroughs, needs to carefully research the consequences that status will have for the dynamics and transformational potential of the inner city. The inner city and the surrounding boroughs need to work together to accommodate developments in the city centre.

6. Responsibility for social support

The effects of the measures taken to improve the level of welfare and care in the inner city will need to be better documented. Only then will it be possible to determine a course towards an adequate welfare and care infrastructure for the inner city. Monitoring of existing facilities can (and must) be improved.

7. Accessibility and public spaces

More attention needs to be paid to changes in transport usage by residents and visitors of the inner city. To keep the inner city and the surrounding boroughs accessible, safe and attractive will require solutions for the close coordination of transport usage and the layout of public spaces. The boroughs could consider developing a joint outlook on this issue.

In many respects the inner city of Amsterdam is doing fine. However, the effects of the economic crisis in 2009 make it even more important to make choices towards creating a good balance in various areas. These choices must take account of developments in both the inner city and the surrounding boroughs.



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联合国教育、
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Ref: WHC/74/3196/NL/LS/MR

4 October 2010

Subject: **Inscription of *Seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht* (C 1349) (Netherlands) on the World Heritage List**

Dear Ambassador,

I have the pleasure to inform you that the World Heritage Committee, at its 34th session (Brasilia, Brazil, 25 July – 03 August 2010), examined the nomination of the ***Seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht*** and decided to **inscribe** the property on the World Heritage List. Please find below the Decision **34 COM 8B.30** adopted by the Committee.

I am confident that your government will take the necessary measures for the proper conservation of this new World Heritage property. The World Heritage Committee and its Secretariat, the World Heritage Centre, will do everything possible to collaborate with you in these efforts.

The *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* (paragraph 168), request the Secretariat to send to each State Party with a newly inscribed property a map of the area(s) inscribed. Please examine the attached map and inform us of any discrepancies in the information by and not later than **15 December 2010**.

The inscription of the property on the World Heritage List is an excellent opportunity to draw the attention of visitors to, and remind local residents of, the *World Heritage Convention* and the outstanding universal value of the property. To this effect, you may wish to place a plaque displaying the World Heritage and the UNESCO emblems at the property. You will find suggestions on this subject in the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*.

In many cases States Parties decide to hold a ceremony to commemorate the inscription of a property on the World Heritage List. Upon request to the World Heritage Centre by the State Party, a World Heritage Certificate can be prepared for such an occasion.

I would be grateful if you could provide me with the name, address, telephone and fax numbers and e-mail address of the person or institution responsible for the management of the property so that we may send them World Heritage publications.

Please find attached the brief descriptions of your site, prepared by ICOMOS and the World Heritage Centre, in both English and French. As these brief descriptions will be used in later publications, as well as on the World Heritage website, we would like to have your full concurrence with their wording. Please examine these descriptions and inform us, by and not later than **15 December 2010**, whether there are any changes that should be made. If we do not hear from you by this date, we will assume that you are in agreement with the text as prepared.

Furthermore, as you may know, the World Heritage Centre maintains a website at <http://whc.unesco.org/>, where standard information about each property on the World Heritage List can be found. Since we can only provide a limited amount of information about each property, we try to link our pages to those maintained by your World Heritage property or office, so as to provide the public with the most reliable and up-to-date information. If there is a website for the newly inscribed property, please send us its web address.

As you know, according to paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*, the World Heritage Committee invites the States Parties to the *Convention* to inform the Committee, through the World Heritage Centre, of their intention to undertake or to authorize in the area protected under the *Convention* major restorations or new constructions which may affect the outstanding universal value of the property.

The full list of the Decisions adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 34th session is available on line at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/34COM/>

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your co-operation and for your support in the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*.

Please accept, dear Ambassador, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Francesco Bandarin
Director a.i.
World Heritage Centre

cc: Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO
ICOMOS International

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

The historic urban ensemble of the canal district of Amsterdam was a project for a new 'port city' built at the end of the 16th and beginning of the 17th centuries. It comprises a network of canals to the west and south of the historic old town and the medieval port that encircled the old town and was accompanied by the repositioning inland of the city's fortified boundaries, the Singelgracht. This was a long-term program that involved extending the city by draining the swampland, using a system of canals in concentric arcs and filling in the intermediate spaces. These spaces allowed the development of a homogeneous urban ensemble including gabled houses and numerous monuments. This urban extension was the largest and most homogeneous of its time. It was a model of large-scale town planning, and served as a reference throughout the world until the 19th century.

BREVE DESCRIPTION

L'ensemble urbain historique du quartier des canaux à Amsterdam est le projet d'une nouvelle « ville-port » construite à la fin du 16e siècle et au 17e siècle. Il s'agit d'un réseau de canaux à l'ouest et au sud du bourg historique et du bourg médiéval quienser la vieille cité et qui accompagna le déplacement des limites fortifiées de la ville vers l'intérieur des terres, le Singelgracht. Ce programme de longue durée consistait à étendre la ville en drainant les terres marécageuses par des canaux en arcs concentriques et à remblayer les espaces intermédiaires. Ces espaces ont permis l'épanouissement d'un ensemble urbain homogène constitué de maisons à pignons et de nombreux monuments. Cette extension urbaine a été la plus grande et la plus homogène de son temps. Ce site présente un exemple de planification urbaine de grande échelle qui servi de modèle de référence dans le monde entier jusqu'au 19e siècle.

Extract of the Decisions adopted by the 34th session of the World Heritage Committee (Brasilia, 2010)

Decision: 34 COM 8B.30

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-10/34.COM/8B and WHC-10/34.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes the **Seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht, Netherlands**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of criteria (i), (ii) and (iv);
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

Brief synthesis

The Amsterdam Canal District illustrates exemplary hydraulic and urban planning on a large scale through the entirely artificial creation of a large-scale port city. The gabled facades are characteristic of this middle-class environment, and the dwellings bear witness both to the city's enrichment through maritime trade and the development of a humanist and tolerant culture linked to the Calvinist Reformation. In the 17th and 18th centuries, Amsterdam was seen as the realization of the ideal city that was used as a reference urban model for numerous projects for new cities around the world.

Criterion (i): The Amsterdam Canal District is the design at the end of the 16th century and the construction in the 17th century of a new and entirely artificial 'port city.' It is a masterpiece of hydraulic engineering, town planning, and a rational programme of construction and bourgeois architecture. It is a unique and innovative, large-scale but homogeneous urban ensemble.

Criterion (ii): The Amsterdam Canal District bears witness to an exchange of considerable influences over almost two centuries, in terms not only of civil engineering, town planning, and architecture, but also of a series of technical, maritime, and cultural fields. In the 17th century Amsterdam was a crucial centre for international commercial trade and intellectual exchange, for the formation and the dissemination of humanist thought; it was the capital of the world-economy in its day.

Criterion (iv): The Amsterdam Canal District represents an outstanding example of a built urban ensemble that required and illustrates expertise in hydraulics, civil engineering, town planning, construction and architectural knowhow. In the 17th century, it established the model for the entirely artificial 'port city' as well as the type of Dutch single dwelling with its variety of façades and gables. The city is testimony, at the highest level, to a significant period in the history of the modern world.

Integrity and authenticity

The network of canals in concentric arcs of a circle that forms the basis of the urban layout, along with the radial waterways and streets, survives in its entirety, with its old embankments and historic facade alignments.

The majority of the houses erected in the 17th and 18th centuries are still present in a good general state of conservation. This basic situation is fundamentally healthy for an urban ensemble that is still alive and active. However, streets have sometimes been widened and the facade dwellings rebuilt, notably the current Weesperstraat arterial road. The old civil and hydraulic structures have generally been replaced, tall modern buildings affect some landscape perspectives, especially in the north of the property, and aggressive advertising pollutes the property's visual condition.

Protection and management requirements

A very large number of buildings and structures are protected by national and municipal heritage listing. The situation with regard to protection seems to be complex, within the context of the operation of the Amsterdam Central Borough (the heart of the city), but the procedures that govern protection are complied with. Good awareness on the part of those responsible means that the excesses of urban growth that was at times difficult to control in the recent past seem to be increasingly better managed, notably advertising within the property and the visual impact of tall buildings on the urban landscapes of the property.

All the management measures form an effective and coherent system, within the responsibility of the Central Borough of Amsterdam and with the guarantee of the Bureau of Monuments. A horizontal management and monitoring body, for the property, has now been implemented, the Amsterdam World Heritage Bureau.

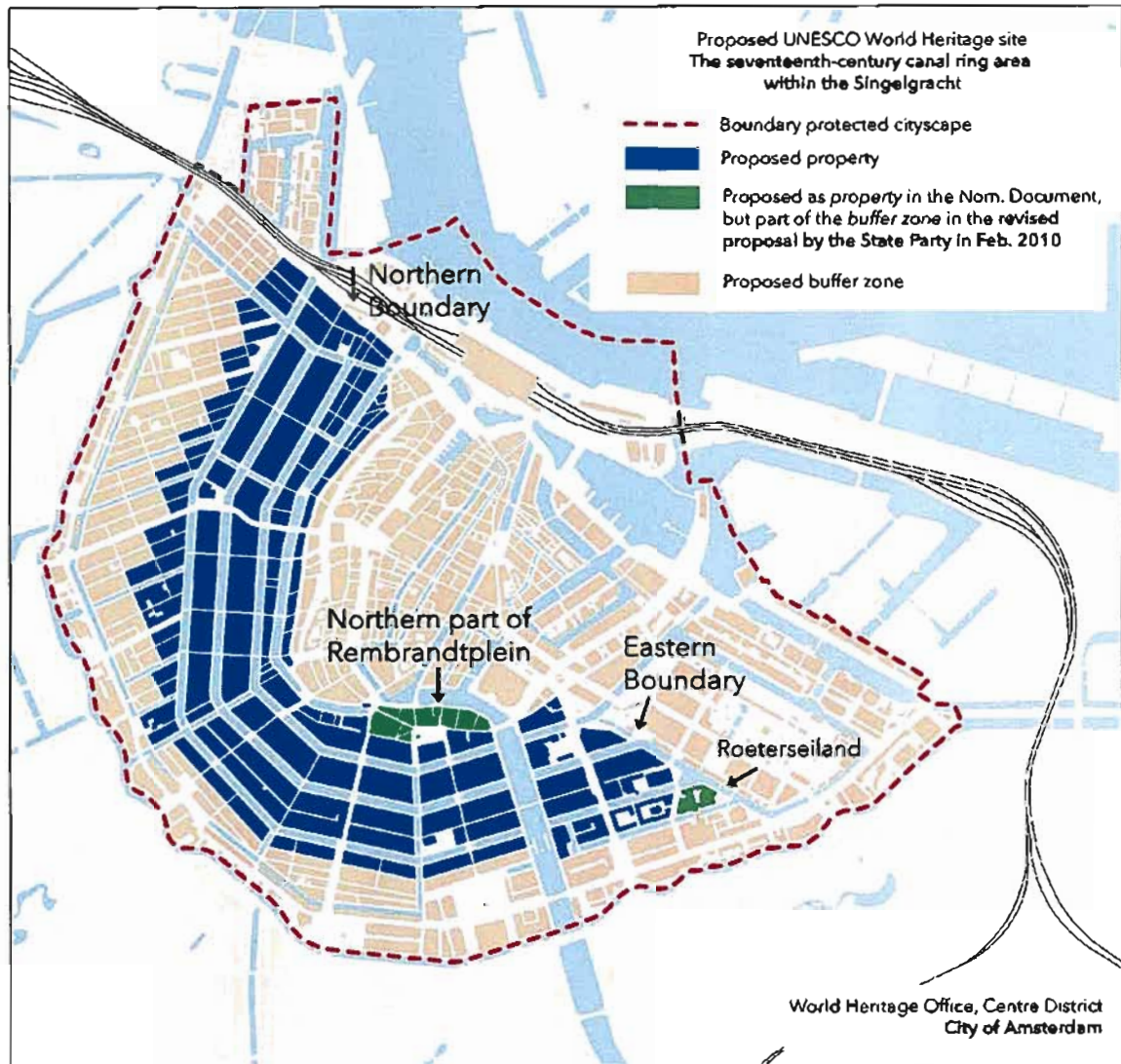
4. Recommends that the State Party:

- a) Pursue the application of measures to eradicate aggressive advertising hoardings and video screens on scaffolding and work-site fences inside the property and submit a detailed report on the situation of advertising displays within the property for examination at the 35th session of the World Heritage Committee in 2011;
- b) Give thought to a charter of good conduct between the city and the private commercial sector, defining what is and is not allowed with regard to how buildings are treated, with view to shop fronts, signage and lighting, the occupation of public space, urban furniture, terraces, etc.;
- c) Ensure that in the Amsterdam Central Borough examination of building permits, conservation objectives remain paramount;

- d) Ensure effective control over projects for tall buildings within the agglomeration to monitor their architectural quality and ensure that they are in harmony with the visual expression of the value of the property;
- e) Keep the World Heritage Committee informed of any development project concerning the property, its buffer zone, and surroundings in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines* for the Implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*;
- f) Provide the number of inhabitants and the surface areas of the property and the buffer zone resulting from the newly configured boundaries.

Surface and coordinates of the property inscribed on the World Heritage List by the 34th session of the World Heritage Committee (Brasilia, 2010) in accordance with the *Operational Guidelines*.

State Party	Name	ID N	Area	Buffer Zone	Centre points Coordinates
Netherlands	Seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht	1349	198.2 ha	491.1 ha	N52 21 54 E4 53 16



**Map A.3: The Centre District and the World Heritage property and buffer zone:
Revised proposal by the State Party, February 2010**