

LANDSCAPE AND HERITAGE IN PRACTICE: 3 FOCUS AREAS

The first and simplest way for Dutch water authorities to incorporate historical landscapes and heritage values, is to consider them in practical implementation projects. The effectiveness of these projects can be improved through both regional collaboration and internal activities that are focused on landscape and heritage themes.



INCORPORATING LANDSCAPE AND HERITAGE THEMES IN THE DESIGN: 11 GOLDEN RULES

Eleven specific focus points to implement landscape and heritage values in a development orientated manner, for water related projects.

- View stream valleys as an important spatial structure for the landscape
- Find the old edges of the stream valley and make them stand out from their surroundings
- Recognize the specifically unique historical and landscape qualities of streams and streams valleys and connect to this during the design process
- Respect and preserve the soil and topographic archives as a source of information of natural and historic streams
- Consider the stream valley for the entire catchment area and make appropriate spatial choices
- Utilize and respect the different temporal changes observed across a stream landscape
- Recognize and utilize the historic-ecological values
- Consider built heritage within the context of its related landscape
- Respect and utilize the spatial aspects of a stream systems in urban and built up areas
- Make historical stream landscapes visible and available for recreation and an enjoyable experience
- Recognize that stream restoration influences the landscape beyond the immediate project area

10 GOOD REASONS TO UTILIZE LANDSCAPE AND HERITAGE VALUES WITHIN WATER RELATED PROJECTS

For the Dutch water authorities the preservation of historical stream landscapes in the Netherlands is currently not a key focus point. They are primarily required to provide sufficient, clean and safe water. Nevertheless, there are numerous reasons to incorporate landscape and heritage aspects. In the coming years many stream landscapes will undergo restoration, which provides opportunities to utilize landscapes and heritage as a source of inspiration, a stimulus to boost quality and link to related issues.

10 good reasons to incorporate landscapes and heritage in water related projects:

- 1 Landscape and heritage elements can strengthen the quality and uniqueness of water projects
- 2 Landscape heritage offers inspiration and a starting point for current water objectives
- 3 Attractive landscapes together with a strong regional identity are important factors for the economic viability of a region
- 4 Knowledge of historical landscapes and heritage provides important insights into the functioning of river catchments
- 5 Ecological values are often closely related to the historical land use and water management
- 6 The inclusion of heritage themes increases public support and promotes public participation
- 7 The history and story of a stream contributes to improving water awareness and provides inspiration for (youth) education
- 8 Landscape and heritage features can be a strategic ally for water related objectives
- 9 River landscapes can form a connection between cities and countrysides
- 10 The Dutch environmental law focuses on the landscape, with the aim to promote public participation. It also calls for responsibility and diligence

This brochure is a summary of the guidebook "Handboek beken en erfgoed"
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STREAMS AND HERITAGE

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A new Dutch approach: Using water heritage and historical landscapes in stream restoration and climate adaptation



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