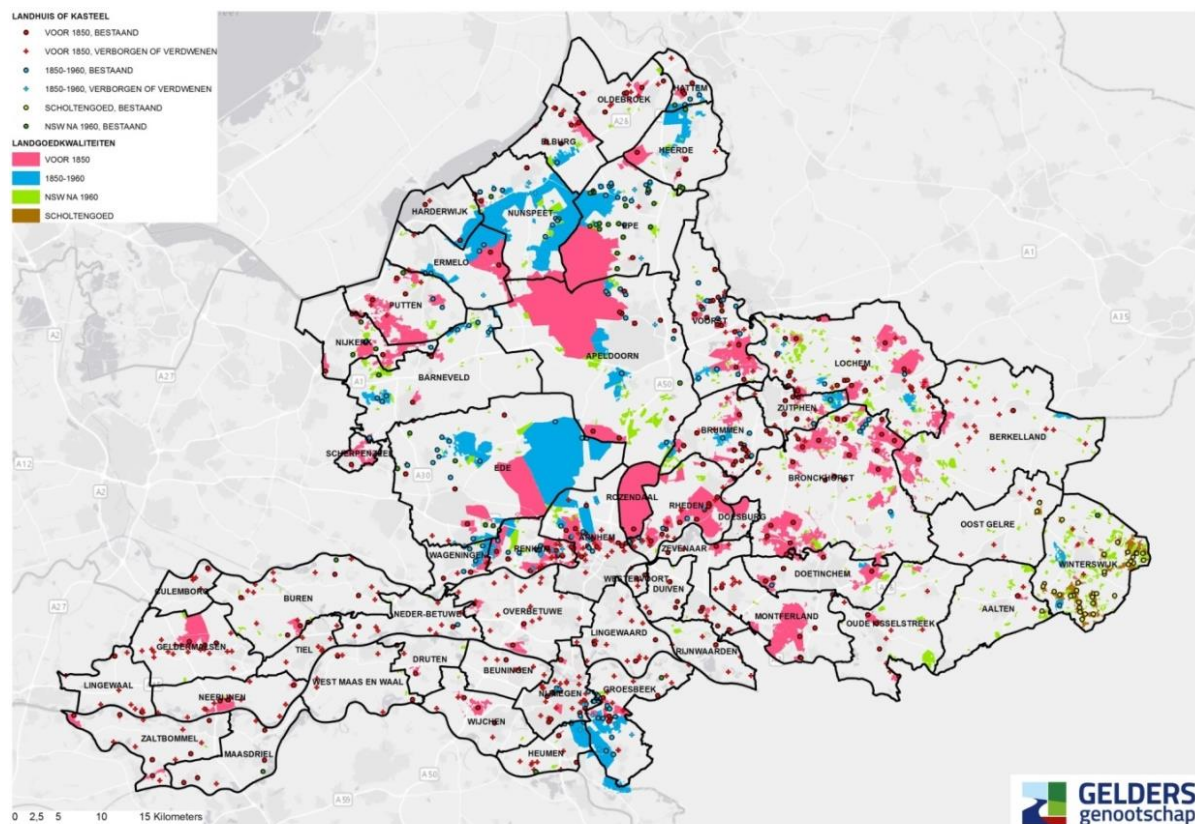


Since October 2018 the Province of Gelderland is one of the partners in the European project Innocastle: INNOvating policy instruments for preservation, transformation and exploitation of heritage CASTLES, manors and gardens. European castles, country houses and landed estates are monumental works of art that represent histories of nobility

and wealth, of growth and decline, of intrigues and hidden connections. All over Europe, many castles, manors and historic gardens cope with serious deprivation and lack of business models. Innocastle's approach is innovative and holistic. It aims to revitalise these hidden treasures by adapting policies to further empower local stakeholders.

The current policies managing historic castles, manors and estates are sometimes outdated and offer few chances for this European heritage to develop to its full potential. Innocastle aims to have a good look at these policies and provide recommendations so that, in the future, this specific European heritage could flourish. The partnership of Innocastle consists of five European partners: National Institute for Heritage (Romania), Ghent University College (Belgium), the Province of Badajoz (Spain), National Trust (United Kingdom) and the Province of Gelderland (The Netherlands). The five partners will work for 4,5 years on remodelling the current regional and national policies to better reflect the trends and future requirements, such as:

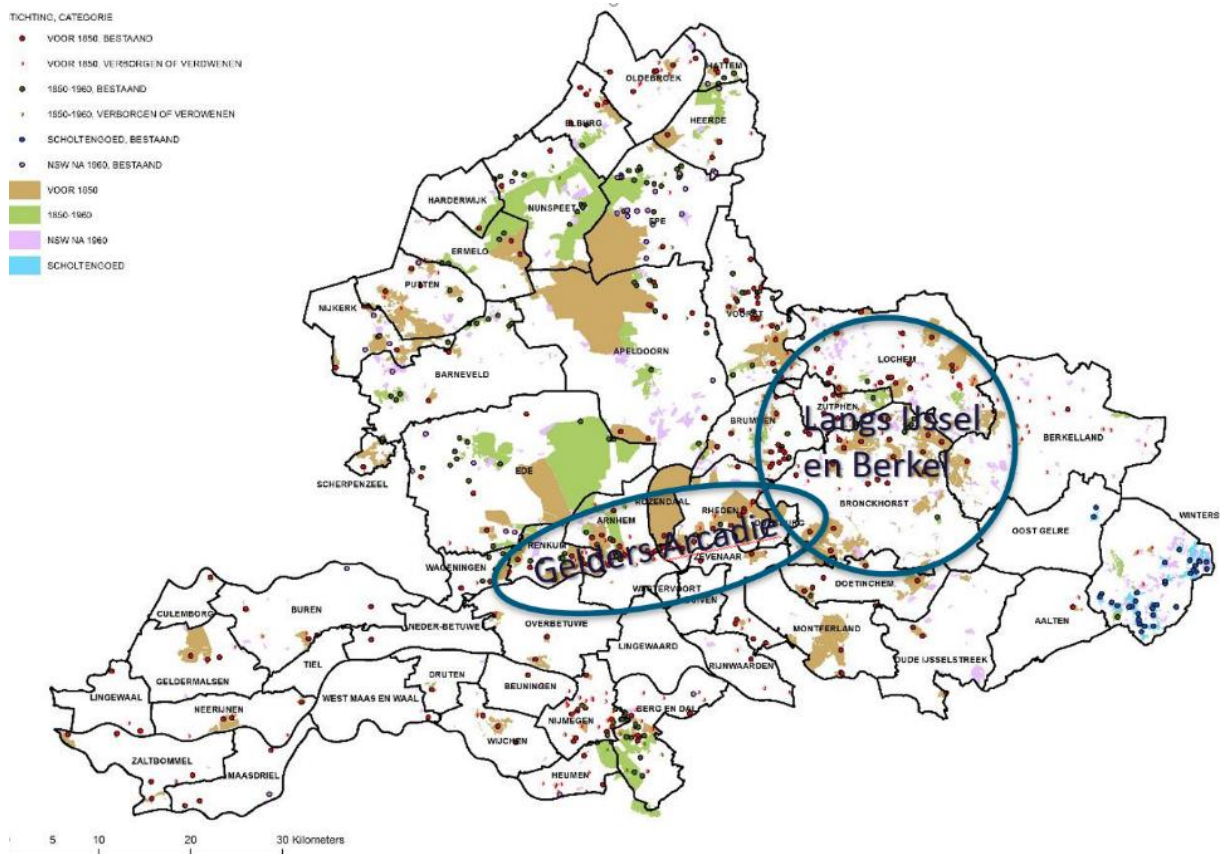
- place-based approaches
- need for economic and environmental resilience
- multi-actor involvement.



In the province of Gelderland over 550 places with 'estate qualities' have been identified. Source: Gelders Genootschap, 2018.

In Gelderland, the province works together with heritage agency Gelders Genootschap and Technial University of Delft. Cooperation with estate owners and governments is essential. The focus lies on two regions that are

abundant in castles, country houses and landed estates, namely u*Gelders Arcadia* and the *IJssel & Berkel* region. At the first stakeholder meeting we invited a representation of estate owners and governments. **The main objective is to explore, discuss and improve:** The role of government agencies in the processes of maintaining, developing and improving historic country houses, castles and landed estates in the province of Gelderland. Together with approximately 25 participants we explored three present-day challenges in relation to country and landed estates: A. climate adaptation; B. heritage tourism; C. spatial fragmentation.



The regions of *Gelders Arcadia* and *IJssel & Berkel* have been chosen as focus regions in the *Innocastle* project.

Gelders Arcadia

The region, now known as *Gelders Arcadia*, encompasses the municipalities of Arnhem, Renkum, Rheden, Rozendaal and Wageningen. Characterised by the relief of ice-pushed ridges (*Veluwezoom*) the area was popular among the Dutch elite from the Middle Ages onwards. Medieval castles and landed estates, eighteenth-century regent country estates and modern twentieth-century country houses can be found. In total, over one hundred country and landed estates have been identified. In 2007 heritage agency *Gelders Genootschap* initiated a participation project called 'New *Gelders Arcadia*', working together with the province of Gelderland, the five mentioned municipalities and the local private and institutional landowners. In 2011 the five municipalities set up a joint visionary document on the estate zone (made by *Gelders Genootschap* & *Poelmans Reesink Landschapsarchitecten*). In recent years several educational and art projects have taken place in *Gelders Arcadia*. As yet, no large scale restoration or redevelopment has been implemented on a regional scale, although much has happened on individual estates.

IJssel & Berkel region

To the northeast of *Gelders Arcadië* lies another region with an abundance of country and landed estates, named '*IJssel & Berkel* region' after the most important rivers. The municipalities of Berkelland, Bronckhorst, Brummen, Lochem, Voorst and Zutphen, together with *Gelders Genootschap*, the province of Gelderland and the local estate owners, worked on a regional project in 2014 and 2015 to discuss present-day challenges, like introducing new economic functions in historic landscapes and buildings. In the region the waterboard of *Rijn & IJssel* has been working intensely on water management projects along the *Baakse Beek*, one of the side rivers of the *IJssel*, that forms a string of HCME. The challenge in the *IJssel & Berkel* region is to connect the qualities of HCME to present-day tasks and developments.



Programme of the 1st stakeholder meeting

Chairman: Paul Stein, Province of Gelderland

13.00 am	Registration & Refreshments
13.30 am	Welcome by chairman Paul Stein
13.35 am	Introduction INNOCASTLE by Paul Thissen
13.45 am	Workshop carousel explained by Elyze Storms-Smeets

Workshop carousel 'Castles, historic country houses and landed estates in transition'

- A. Climate adaptation at country and landed estates
- B. Heritage tourism and spatial quality
- C. Spatial fragmentation of country and landed estates

14.00 am	Start 1st round of workshop carousel
14.50 am	Switch
14.55 am	Start 2nd round of workshop carousel
15.45 am	Switch: from parallel to plenary session
15.50 am	Plenary feedback and closing remarks
16.30 am	Reception



Impression of first stakeholder meeting. Photo by Paul Stein, 2019.

Goals of the first stakeholder meeting

- Introducing the use of a spatial approach in different spatial levels
- Gathering examples (good practices and present-day challenges) for a long list per theme
- Selecting from this long list three potential cases for a short list

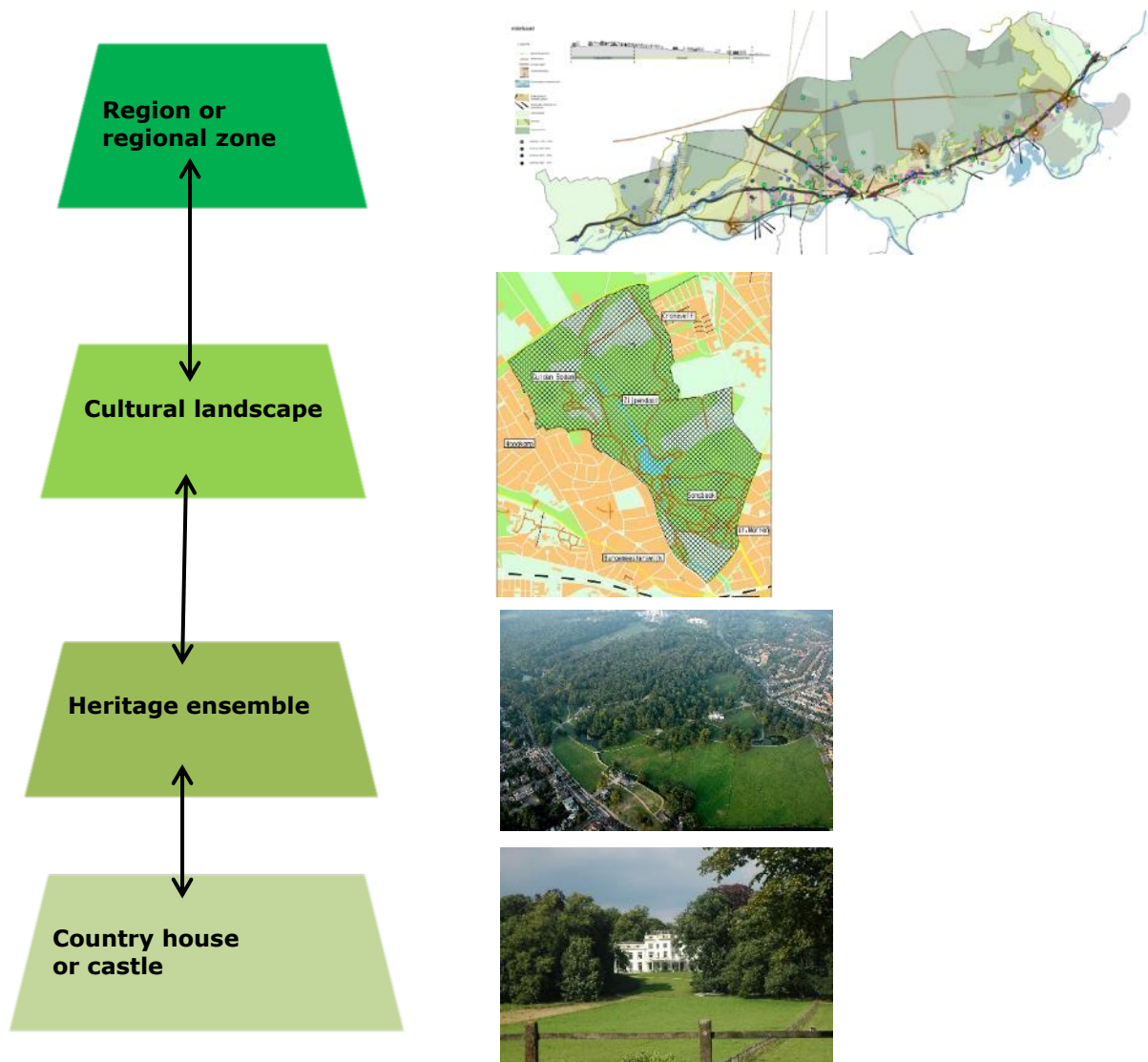
Eventually, from this short list of nine potential cases the province of Gelderland, Gelders Genootschap and TU Delft will choose three learning cases for Innocastle.

A spatial approach

For the this project we use a spatial approach, analysing on various spatial levels:

1. The **country house or castle** as the main building, the core of the country or landed estate;
2. The country or landed estate as a **heritage ensemble** (including a country house or castle, side buildings, parklands, woodlands, farms, etc.);
3. The country or landed estate as a part of a wider **cultural landscape** (including neighbouring country and landed estates, villages, etc.);
4. A **region** or regional zone to which the country/ landed estate belongs to.

For each learning case a specific spatial focus will be chosen, for instance the ensemble or a region, but whatever the main focus is, the spatial approach means that for each case we will be zooming in and out, through the various spatial levels.



Workshop Carousel ‘Castles, historic country houses and landed estates in transition’



Impression of first stakeholder meeting. Photo by Paul Stein, 2019.

Three parallel work sessions were held in two rounds:

- A. climate adaptation, lead by Paul Thissen
- B. heritage tourism, lead by Monique de Rooij
- C. spatial fragmentation and multiple-ownership, lead by Elyze Storms-Smeets

Each theme was discussed in smaller groups of circa 7-8 persons (government bodies, landowners). In **round 1** each group discussed the various topics within that specific theme. On a plotted map of the two regions the participants made sketches and notes about good practices and present-day challenges. This is the base for the long list. Together the participants chose three potential learning cases for the specific theme. In **round 2** the new group discussed the choices made by group 1 and made adjustments, improvements, and alterations. The map with good practices and present-day challenges grew. Together the second group members evaluated the choices made by group 1 and decided on the final short list. In the **plenary round-up** the work session leader presented the map with all the good practices and challenges (long list) and the chosen short list.

Eventually, after meetings with the involved stakeholders (landowners and government bodies) we shall choose 1 learning case per theme. A learning case will have a spatial focus, but will always be seen through the spatial approach (scaling up and down the levels, from local to regional).

A. Climate adaptation at country and landed estates lead by Paul Thissen

In recent years, climate changes have lead to long periods of drought and short intervals of intense rainfall. We will need to adapt to this (climate adaptation) by making our (built) environment climate proof. Can country and landed estates in Gelderland play a roll in this challenging task? How can we ensure that new developments needed for ‘climate adaptation’ are embedded in these historically valuable and esthetic (park)landscapes? The brochure by the Dutch Cultural Heritage Agency [Ruimte voor water en erfgoed](#) offers insight into heritage solutions for present-day challenges of water management. In this parallel session we explore the possibilities for country and landed estates in Gelderland.

B. Heritage tourism and spatial quality lead by Monique de Rooij

Castles, country houses and landed estates have a positive effect on regional economic benefits and can strengthen regional heritage tourism. Heritage tourism can also be a valuable source of income to estate owners, thus helping to sustain these estates. Mostly located in rural and remote areas, historic castles, manors and estates are often unknown to the general public and tourists. They have the potential to become powerful drivers for rural development and innovation. However, this requires a shift of paradigm in governance and support. What is needed to enable heritage tourism at a country estate, such as parking, infrastructure, routing and tourism policy? And how do we prevent negative outcomes, like a breach of privacy, damage to historic landscapes or noise nuisance in nature? Together we look at opportunities and challenges.

C. Spatial fragmentation of country and landed estates by Elyze Storms-Smeets

Particularly processes in the 20th century, such as succession taxes and lower income, lead to the breaking-up of a large number of landed properties. As a result many country and landed estates are currently owned by numerous owners, all with their own management strategy. This multiple-ownership with differences in management has lead to spatial fragmentation, sometimes very bluntly through the erection of fences splitting lanes in two, sometimes through lack of knowledge and cooperation. Spatial fragmentation has also occurred through infrastructural and urban expansions. What is necessary to recreate coherence and cooperation?

A. Climate adaptation



Impression of the climate group discussion. Photo by Paul Stein, 2019.

A large number of present-day challenges have been identified with the groups of owners and governments.

Watersystems

Systematic approach: water management and landscape design

- Too much vs not enough water
- Three subsystems: 1. Brooks in the region, called Achterhoek (particularly Baakse Beek), with country and landed estates; 2. Sprengerbeken (spring brooks) in the Veluwezoom (Gelders Arcadië). Per brook there are on or more country and landed estates (small clusters); 3. Southern IJssel vale with brooks from Veluwe to IJssel, each with their own character, with large east-west orientated estates.

Look at climate adaptation on various spatial levels

- The region as a whole. Can you view the region as one large estate?? Connections, regional structures such as brooks and rivers. Opportunities for climate adaptation (water retention).
- Estate zones, such as along the Baakse Beek; many opportunities here
- Individual estates in their surrounding environment.

Water quality and quantity

- Cutting off sewage purification installation (*rioolwaterzuiveringsinstallatie*) as an option? It means less water, but more quality. Can we get more quality through a spring source?
- Estate zones are suitable to create extraordinary nature through springwater.

Forests, nature and water

Ancient and old trees

- Ancient and old trees are a rarity in the Netherlands, but can be found on historic landed estates
- Extremities in weather can cause damage to trees (drought, storms, etc.). How can we cope with this?
- NB: currently, there is much protest against biomass and the clearing of forests

More afforestation for CO₂ storage

- Trees, forest store CO₂. It is a method still little used in getting our climate targets.
- Opportunity for a combination with water retention, nature development and recreation
- Challenge: Where would you want this? Connection with forest compensation?

Nature inclusive agriculture and agriculture inclusive nature

- Need for planologic guidance and design, reallocation of functions and landscape (*IBP Vitaal Platteland*, vital countryside)

Energy

Zoning within estate zones related to climate adaptation and sustainability

- Where solar fields? Where biomass? Where wind energy?

Individual or clusters of estates

- Grote Noordijk (Voorst) has plans (solar energy).
- Rhederood (Rheden) is searching for possibilities for a solar field within the estate (via Henk Hoogeveen, Marjolein Sanderman)
- Area between Hof te Dieren estate and Middachten estate. Solar field near A348 road, on Hof te Dieren estate (already realised?)
- Initiative of Het Enzerinck estate and neighbouring estates: isolation solutions suitable for country houses and 'turning off the gas' projects (dhr Viersen)
- Looking at a combination with renovation of small landscape elements and structures
- Is the plan reversible?

Wind energy

- Preventing that NIMBY becomes the most important principle

GOOD PRACTICES

- Sustainable castle and country estate of Hackfort: Natuurmonumenten (a national nature trust) works on sustainable solutions in an historic context.
- Spring source woodlands at Middachten estate: preventing dehydration through water retention
- Soerens Beekdal – the brook as connector. Initiative of Bockhorst estate, Gelderse Toren estate and Natuurmonumenten, with municipality of Rheden. Exchange of landed property to create more logical areas, that can be better management, leading to an increase in spatial quality and helping to realise climate targets.
- Het Lankheet estate (Lochem/ Haaksbergen): historic water management (wet meadow restoration practices) in a new context: water retention and nature qualities.
- Baakse Beek in village centre of Vorden: municipality and water board bring the brook back to life. Received Spatial Quality Award Gelderland.
- Het Beloofde Land estate (Voorst): estate that is reintroducing historic water management. Private landowner with water board Vallei & Veluwe.
- Medler and other estates look at biomass-cooperation: business case for individual estates is vulnerable. Can a cooperation of country and landed estates be a solution? Can exchange of landed property be a tool? Solar fields combined with historic, esthetic landscapes is a danger as well as a opportunity.
- Keppel estate: biomass (realised): for own energy and several buildings in the village. Biomass is largely retrieved from the management of own woodlands and park, simultaneously contributing to landscape management. It's a small-scaled biomass project, in direct combination with estate management.
- The processes involved with projects can be good practices, such as Baakse Beek area, Gelders Arcadië projects, actionplan for estates in municipality of Rheden.

Pleas and tips

- In water projects it is important to think of ground water
- Make a timeline for country estates and water management (look at the formula of National Heritage Agency)
- On the scale of Achterhoek: use the approach of professor Verdonshot (Wageningen)
- Governments: take your roles seriously

SHORT LIST OF POSSIBLE LEARNING CASES:

1. Baakse Beek: heritage values of landed estates and modernisation of water management

The process is running at the moment: water board, together with municipalities and estate owners. Particularly an estate zone such as this has many opportunities to combine and connect various themes: nature, heritage, water management, exchange of landed property. Quality is a primary condition in present-day challenges at estates. Make a direct connection with design. There is also an opportunity for tourism and recreation.

Focus: water retention, restoration of historic water management structures in the park landscapes

Area: Baakse Beek, with focus on several landed estates, such as Wildenborch and De Wiersse. Perhaps Onstein and Het Medler in a later stage.

2. The use of historic structures for climate adaptation

- Wet meadow practices (*vloeiweiden*), wet woodlands (*rabatten*)
- Former brooks
- Solar fields: small scaled designs combined with historic landscape features
- Opportunity to enhance the landscape experience.

Theme A	What?	Where?	Who?
Case 1	Heritage values of landed estates as an asset for renewing water management on regional scale	Baakse Beek HCME zone	Waterboard, municipality, owners, province
Case 2	Use of historic landscape structures for climate adaptation	Old landscapes that are rich in HCME (IJssel & Berkel, Guelders Arcadia)	Owners, municipalities, province

B. Heritage tourism



Impression of the tourism group discussion. Photo by Paul Stein, 2019.

CHALLENGES

A large number of present-day challenges have been identified with the groups of owners and governments.

Strategy

- The heritage qualities of HCME on a regional level prove to be interesting for tourism and recreation, but there are limits. How far will you go, depending on the location etc. The challenge is to differentiate in various functions and on various levels, for example with routes. Could you think in multiple scenarios? What kind of impact will tourism have?
- Gateway concept with visitor centre, transferium, parking possibilities, refreshments, network of routes and junctions.
- Crowds on pathways and roads have consequences for maintenance and adjustments. Same goes for the interiors of castles and country houses.
- Name possible target groups and find ways to connect with them: young and old. Reaching young people can be difficult, challenging

Traffic and routes

- Where should parking be located, within the historic estate? What impact does it have?
- Possible solution is to charge a small fee for parking at the estates, to support estate management.
- There should be bikes for hire at railway stations. Now this is often not the case, which doesn't help making castle bike tours
- Do we also have to provide electricity charging points for e-bikes? It seems simple, but you need extra insurance and leads to greater expectations of help (what if the charger doesn't work?)
- At Beekvliet estate there are many opportunities for nature and heritage, but there is no recreational network.

Tourism and finances

- Castles and country houses and their estates are popular for tourists, but the estate owners don't always profit from tourist incomes.
- Tourism could be a good source of income, but it means opening up the estate, the house. Not every landowner wants to do this.
- Refreshments/ restaurant etc: where do you make a café or restaurant and how can it be a profitable addition to the estate?

Events

- Increasing number of events can damage the historic park, for instance at Sonsbeek, Arnhem. The municipality is working on a new event policy for the country estate of Sonsbeek and neighbouring estate Zypendaal. According to some participants the events should be dispersed, using a larger number of estates; however, various estate owners prefer focusing on one (or a small number of) estate(s), which has the facilities and where the infrastructure is laid out for events.
- Sometimes an owner might want to organise a small event, but tourists expect refreshments. Owners need help with catering.

Expectations and new ideas

- Castles and country houses are hotspots, for instance the 8 castle route in Vorden, but people can't visit those castles. There are tourist apps that help to sort of 'look inside' without entering the house (for instance for Gelders Arcadia). However, such apps require internet with heavy processing and are often quickly outdated or old-fashioned.
- The heritage project Gelders Arcadia came with the idea of organising a country house cinema, for instance at Rosendaal estate. However, in reality it turns out to be difficult to get the needed permits, as many country houses are located in protected natural areas, or close to such areas.
- Estate festival in Gelders Arcadia in 2019: five municipalities, five country estates. How do you ensure continuation if the municipalities step back as organisers? Will cultural firms continue this new festival?

GOOD PRACTICES

- Use of castles and country houses as gateways for heritage tourism, such as done by Gelderland Trust (Geldersch Landschap en Kasteelen; at Doorwerth, Rosendaal, Verwolde) and Natuurmonumenten (at Hackfort)
- National Park Hoge Veluwe is a good practice (with Kröller Müller museum and white bikes), but is also a continuous challenge
- Intensely used places as Sonsbeek estate are both a good practice and a challenge. The use of asphalted pathways ensures that everyone can make use of the park (also with wheelchairs), but is less fitting in the historic landscape.
- Middachten estate, De Steeg. Public access to historic gardens, events in buildings and gardens, small scale accommodation
- Marketing at 32 HCME that offer touristic services by tourist board on the basis of HCME-quality
- Art walking tour at Enghuizen estate, Hummelo. Parking is at nearby restaurants

SHORT LIST OF POSSIBLE LEARNING CASES:

- Sonsbeek park, municipality of Arnhem: the recreational use is so high that it damages the historic values. Are there possibilities to look at other estates?
- 8 Castle Route Vorden: busy bike route, but not all the castles are possible to visit. How can we satisfy the heritage tourist, respect the privacy of the owners and use tourism as a source of income for the estates?
- Gelders Arcadia festival: cooperation of 5 municipalities and 5 owners. How do we deal with visitors and how do we ensure continuity? What is the spin-off of this event?

Theme B	What?	Where?	Who?
Case 1	events cause pressure on heritage-qualities	Sonsbeek, Arnhem	Governments, event organisations, public, etc.
Case 2	Recreation and tourism vs privacy	8 Castle Route, Vorden	Multiple estate owners, various municipalities, province, tourist agency, visitors
Case 3	Long term spin-off of theatre festival	Gelders Arcadia	Municipalities, estate owners, theatre groups, visitors.

C. Theme: spatial fragmentation and multiple-ownership

Particularly processes in the 20th century, such as succession taxes and lower income, lead to the breaking-up of a large number of landed properties, for instance at the noble estates of Rosendaal, Klarenbeek and Avegoor. Rosendaal, once founded by the Duke of Gelre, was an important and large estate with a castle. The last family at Rosendaal was the Van Pallandt family. From the end of the 19th century, with each new succession taxes had to be paid, enormous taxes that the family could not pay, except by selling off plots of land. In the 1970s the last piece of the family's estate, the centre with the castle, was transferred to the Gelderland Trust. Now, the former Rosendaal estate is owned by this trust, but also Natuurmonumenten, Staatsbosbeheer, two municipalities and several individuals. This multiple-ownership with differences in management has led to spatial fragmentation, sometimes very bluntly through the erection of fences splitting lanes in two, sometimes through lack of knowledge and cooperation. Spatial fragmentation has also occurred through infrastructural and urban expansions, even dividing an estate in two, for instance at Middachten estate where a 1950s motorway cuts right through the middle. As a result, one of the oldest tenant farms could no longer maintain its agricultural function.

Related to this theme is also the uniqueness of individual estates. Especially when several neighbouring estates are owned by the same organisation, there is a danger of creating an amorphous landscape where each estate looks similar. Thus, in the process of defragmentation one should take account of the unique characteristics of the individual estate.

Furthermore, it is important to analyse, approach each country estate as an heritage ensemble, with a coherence in physical landscapes, but also – or more so – in functions! Particularly when looking at various new possible functions it is wise to look at the functional coherence of the estate as a whole.



Impression of the spatial fragmentation group discussion. Photo by Paul Stein, 2019.

LONG LIST OF PRESENT-DAY CHALLENGES

- Zone of smaller country estates in and around Twello (Voorst)
- Zone of smaller and larger country estates in and around Oosterbeek (Renkum)
- Renkums Beekdal with various country estates, situated between Renkum and Wageningen
- The King's roads: stadtholder king William III constructed long roads on the Veluwe, his hunting grounds, to connect various hunting lodges and castles. Now these roads (pathways) are owned by multiple owners and are situated in various municipalities.
- Rosendaal estate, Rozendaal (Rozendaal)
- Avegoor estate, Ellecom (Rheden): 13 owners, including a hotel and a football club.
- Soerens Beekdal, Laag Soeren and Spankeren (Rheden)
- Groot en Klein Engelenburg, Brummen (Brummen)
- 't Zelle estate, Hengelo (Bronckhorst): search for new economic functions
- Beekvliet estate, Borculo (Berkelland): estate divided in three after inheritance. The centre with country house is still owned by the family, other parts are owned by Staatsbosbeheer and Natuurmonumenten. The latter two organisations are making a ground exchange, resulting in 2/3 of the estate in ownership of Natuurmonumenten.
- Verwolde estate, Laren (Lochem): the family sold, out of necessity, the country house with park to the Gelderland Trust, but kept the economic lands (forestry, arable lands etc)

- Ruurlo castle and estate, Ruurlo (Bronckhorst): castle is a museum now, including garden and park. The rest of the former estate is owned by Staatsbosbeheer. There is little cooperation to strengthen the coherence of the estate as a whole, such as the designed park by Carl Eduard Petzold.
- Groot en Klein Noordijk, Twello (Voorst): multiple owners
- De Voorst and 't Velde, Eefde (Lochem): owned by Gelderland Trust but rented out. There is little cooperation, although at 't Velde it is better.
- Nettelhorst ruin and estate, Lochem (Lochem): new road, with attention for historic landscape.

GOOD PRACTICES

- Gelders Arcadië project and Langs IJssel & Berkel project: bringing different kinds of stakeholders together to work on present-day issues together. For Gelders Arcadië a regional, spatial vision has been made.
- Estate visions for estates in municipality of Rheden (promoted and partially funded by municipality)
- Storytelling: 8 or 12 castle route around Vorden, telling the story to a larger audience. It helps to connect, to bridge the gap.
- Estate Cooperation Veluwezoom: several estate owners work together with green schools/ universities, for instance for maintaining monumental parks and trees.
- Hof te Dieren, Dieren (Rheden): construction of Traverse Dieren ensured that the park on both sides of the road was visually reconnected and strengthened.
- Klarenbeek estate, Arnhem (Arnhem): after the breaking-up of the estate the municipality of Arnhem purchased large parts of the former estate, thereby creating parks for the people of Arnhem and simultaneously built new schools and houses on former estate wastelands. The municipality is the largest landowner within its boundaries.
- De Poll estate, Voorst (Voorst): 1000 hectares large, the estate is still privately owned. Good cooperation with municipality concerning larger infrastructural elements, etc.
- Ampsen estate, Lochem (Lochem): a large part has been transferred back to the family
- Rheden: heritage award.
- De Wiersse estate, Vorden (Bronckhorst): the house and parkland is privately owned, but parts of the former estate are owned by the Gelderland Trust. Recently a ground exchange has meant that all of the parkland came into private ownership.

SHORT LIST OF POSSIBLE LEARNING CASES:

- The King's roads, Gelders Arcadië and the rest of the Veluwe
- Keeping it together: maintaining and strengthening estate coherence. For instance, through ground exchange projects, such as Beekvliet, Soerens Beekdal and others. Or through, setting up a joint visionary tool for multiple owners, i.e. Rosendaal, Verwolde, Ruurlo, etc.
- A zonal approach: a zone with various smaller and larger estates, such as around Twello, Oosterbeek and Arnhem. Issues of upholding the overall landscape qualities, while keeping the uniqueness of the individual estates. Looking at urban and infrastructural expansion.

Theme C	What?	Where?	Who?
Case 1	The King's roads (stadtholder landscape)	Gelders Arcadia and the rest of the Veluwe	Governments, estate owners, forestry commission, etc.
Case 2	Keeping it together <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ground exchange • Joint visionary tool 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beekvliet, Soerens Beekdal, Rosendaal etc. • Rosendaal, Verwolde, Ruurlo, etc. 	Multiple estate owners, various municipalities, province
Case 3	A zonal approach	Twello, Oosterbeek or Arnhem	Municipality of Voorst, Renkum or Arnhem, various owners.