



## MOMAr On-Line Thematic Seminar 2 "Heritage further than tourism"

Good and Challenging Practices Groningen Challenging practice 1 Groningen: industrial heritage

Short
summary of
the practice
(160
characters)

Industrial heritage sites in the province of Groningen are of great value since they tell the story of the history of people and place. And they are often landmarks in the landscape, being a an important part of the region's identity. On the other hand they are often extensive buildings, with a lot of maintenance issues and difficult to make environmentally sustainable. Also they are a challenge according to find new uses and being economic profitable.

## Detailed information on the practice (1500 characters)

One of the industrial sites with a long history in redevelopment is one of the carton factories in the east of the province. Being a landmark and surviving witness of a lost industrial past, these kind of factories are an important part of the identity of the region. Over time the building luckily has been rescued and restored but several good attempts to find new uses for it stranded. The size of the building and its location, a 30 minute drive from the city of Groningen towards the German border, have proven to make it difficult to find a permanent solution. At this moment a new plan is in development to turn it into a large music hall, hotel/bar and restaurant. Since temporary solutions like a cultural festival have proven to be very successful, this looks like the way forward.

From a heritage point of view, keeping balance with the history of the building and its surroundings is highly recommended. How to do this will be one of the challenges, next to creating an economic profitable model.

## Resources need (300 characters)



Since 1968 the production of cardboard stopped and the building was sold to different private owners during the next decades. In 1997 it was appointed as a National Monument.

2005 - the factory in a terrible state.

As a ruin the factory also became a health hazard due to asbestos. Local and regional government

took the responsibility for clearing the site for an estimated 2.6 milj. Euro which was supposed to be recovered on the previous owners.

In 2009, the Simon Benus company started the restoration of the remaining buildings. This was done in the context of a work experience trajectory. The first phase of the restoration, in which the hull was made wind and watertight, cost seven million euros. Four million euros of this amount was made available from the "Kanjerfonds" for large national monuments. The province of Groningen and the municipality of Scheemda each donated 300,000 euros; the





	municipality of Oldambt then gave another 500,000 euros. To complete the restoration it was believed that they needed another five million euros.  The factory after restoration 2010
Time scale (start/end date)	Ongoing 1968 - today
Evidence of success (result achieved) 500 characters	The large industrial heritage site is restored and kept safe for the future.
Challenges encountered (optional) (300 characters)	To find a long-term and sustainable solutions for the re-use of this large site, it's buildings and it's surroundings. While respecting and using its historical value and the story it tells about the industrial past of the region.
Potential for learning or transfer (1000 characters)	<ul> <li>How to cope with large heritage buildings</li> <li>How to cope with industrial heritage</li> <li>Sustainable future with long term solutions in purpose and maintenance</li> </ul>
Further information (website)	
Keywords related to your practice	Industrial heritage, sustainable, re-purpose.