



revitalising industrial sites

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## Report on the Industrial Heritage Promotion Conference



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This report is part of the REVIT selfguiding trail.

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**Report on the Industrial Heritage Promotion Conference**

**Hengelo**

**18 & 19 May 2006**



The preliminary program was set up by Gerard Jilleba and Michael Haase and was approved in the Steering group of 6 December 2006. In this meeting an amateur photo-competition in all partner cities was added to the program, with an exhibition during the Hengelo Conference.

After the preliminary program was approved, a first announcement was produced, which was widely spread during the Marketing Event in Nantes, in the Region of Hengelo and in partners cities.

The preliminary program was worked out by Michael Haase and Frank Ankersmid into the definite program (see annex 1, the Invitation to the Industrial Heritage Event including the definite program). 1500 invitations have been sent to all different addresses in the Netherlands and all partner countries. The focus for this event was on brokers, house construction corporations and Industrial Heritage related associations, next to our Revit partner cities. In total about 80 persons attended the meeting (see annex 2, list of participants).

### ***Plenary session***

Presentations on a number of subjects were given. The first one was Mr. Peter Nijhof (Rijksdienst Monumentenzorg), about Industrial Heritage in the Netherlands. The second speaker was Mr. Dirk Baalman (het Oversticht), who talked about Industrial Heritage in the region, and after that Mr. Evert Jan Krouwel (Hart van Zuid, Supervising team) showed everyone the Industrial Heritage in Hart van Zuid. After a small coffeebreak Evert Verhagen (Creative Cities) started with a best practice example in the Netherlands: The Westergasfabriek in Amsterdam. Mr Edward Sargent held a presentation about the Industrial Heritage in the UK, and showed a best practise case "Chatham Dockyards". Andrew Gray (Torfaen County Borough) presented the results of an expert meeting about Industrial Heritage, which was held in Torfaen at the end of March. Thomas Zuegler closed this session with a presentation on the venue for the Final Conference in Stuttgart on the 25th - 27th of April 2007. All presentations are included on the CD.

#### *Workshop 1 Economical aspects (project management / finance / public-private partnership / risk allocation)*

A presentation by Jan Nieuwenhuizen and Fons Kurvers about the Public Private Partnership between the municipality of Hengelo and Van Wijnen N.V. was followed by a vivid discussion about the sharing of risks and benefits. In general, Fons and Jan found that the basis for a good PPP are faith in each other, clear goals and participation from both parties from the start. In the discussion that followed made clear that there has to be a clear understanding about sharing the risks and the profits.

#### *Workshop 2 Temporary destinations and cultural functions*

This workshop was held in 't Heim (a technique museum) . After a presentation from Peter Nijhof about the importance and use of temporary and cultural functions in Industrial Heritage, including good and bad examples and discussion, a guided tour through the museum was given by Toon de Boer. Attendants of this workshop had the opportunity to see the museum and do things with old machinery. The building 't Heim itself is part of the Industrial Heritage of Hengelo, it's the former factory school of Stork.

#### *Workshop 3 Design (public space, architecture)*

In this workshop a presentation was given by Harrie Abels (Architect ROC) and Radbout Seckel (Architect Fire station). They explained the idea behind the design, and what to take in to consideration when an old building is combined with a new design. After the presentations the group was taken to, and into, the buildings where they were led around by the two architects.

### *Exhibition 'Factories'*

The workshops were followed by the opening of the photo-exhibition "Factories", an exhibition of ten photos about Industrial Heritage with a size of 4 X 6 meters, displayed in a former factory Hall.

The festive opening of this exhibition was part of the Industrial Heritage Conference. More information about this exhibition can be found on [www.factories.nl](http://www.factories.nl). In the same hall, 10 photos of Industrial Heritage of each Revit partner were displayed. Torfaen held a photographic competition for amateurs for their own workshop, and brought the 10 best pictures with them to Hengelo. Hengelo gave the order to an amateur photographic class from CREA. The rest of the partners used already existing photos of their Industrial Heritage. After the exhibitions, a guided walk through the Hart van Zuid area was on the program, showing all special sites in Hart van Zuid, like the former Foundry Hall, the "Weverij", Tuindorp, and a.o. the Fire station. They also took a look in the "Gieterij" where the "zuidertoneel" was practising for their performance on stage.

In the evening a dinner for all conference attendees was held in the "Houtmaat" a venue in a beautiful green environment near the citycenter of Hengelo.

### **Forum**

On the second day a panel discussion was organised, led by Mr. Gerard Jilleba and facilitated by Mr. Henk Nijhof. Panel members were Mr. Peter Nijhof, Mr. Edward Sargent, Mr. Evert Jan Krouwel, Mr. Evert Verhagen and Mr. Andrew Gray. A full transcript of this panel discussion is available.

Most important conclusions of the panel discussions are:

- 1 The private partners have to be involved with the project in the earliest stage. This has the advantage that knowledge is used at the right time at the right place. The private parties have knowledge about the market, the public party has knowledge about the procedures etc. If you want to keep Industrial Heritage as part of your culture and history, public and private partners need each other.
- 2 There are no good guys and bad guys if it comes to preserving Industrial Heritage. Often the real estate brokers get the image of bad guys, and the governments are the good guys. This image is not true! There are just good and bad practises!
- 3 In Britain, there are three parties for funding Industrial Heritage; public, private and the charitable trust (like the lottery funds). Still the government has to take lead in redeveloping Brownfields. The risk of doing nothing is too big, because real estate brokers choose the easier to develop sites, and will leave the government with the lands that are very difficult or very expensive to redevelop, if there is no regulation about the entire redevelopment of all sites.
- 4 Preservation of Industrial Heritage asks for creativity in all ways and for all parties involved.

All workshops from day 1 were repeated again, to give all attendees the chance to visit at least two workshops on different topics, and to give people the chance to visit only one of the conference days.

In the afternoon 17 persons made a visit to the "Roombeek" area in Enschede. This is the area where the SE-fireworks factory exploded in 2000, leaving a big disaster area. This area has now almost been redeveloped and rebuilt. A presentation and tour was given by a representative of the projectbureau "Roombeek". After that a visit to the "Rijksmuseum" in Enschede was the end of this conference.