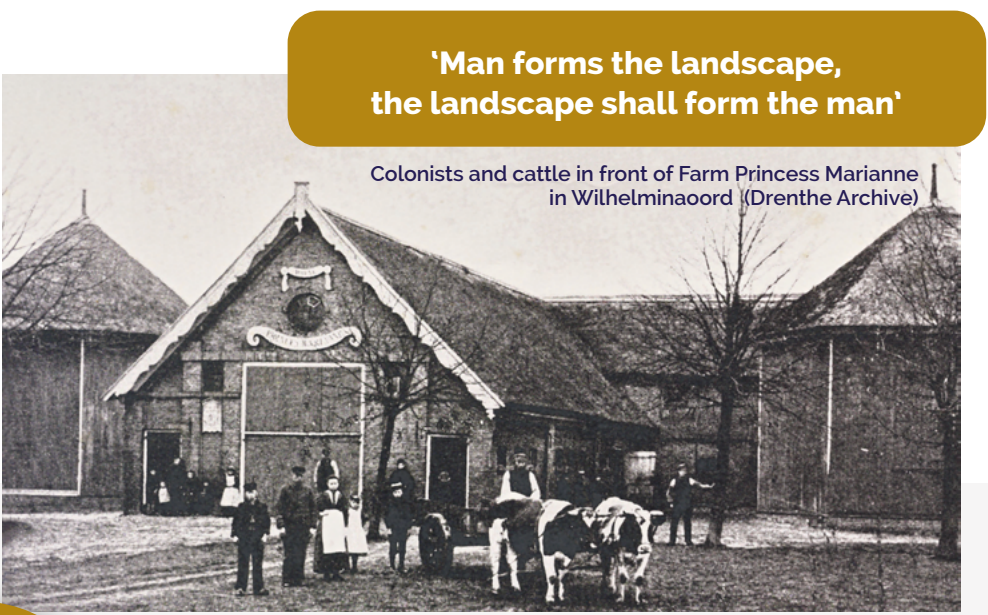




THE LANDSCAPES OF THE COLONIES OF BENEVOLENCE

Nominated as UNESCO World Heritage site

The Colonies of Benevolence are an innovative and highly influential 19th-century model of poverty relief in agricultural settlements. These agricultural domestic Colonies are a radical, large-scale experiment in social reform, rooted in the ideas of the Enlightenment. Deliberately cultivated as 'islands' in remote domestic heathland and peatland areas, the Colonies of Benevolence implemented the ideas of a panoptic disciplinary system for the poor in their functional and spatial organisation which is still recognizable in the landscapes. They pioneered a model that attracted international attention as an example.



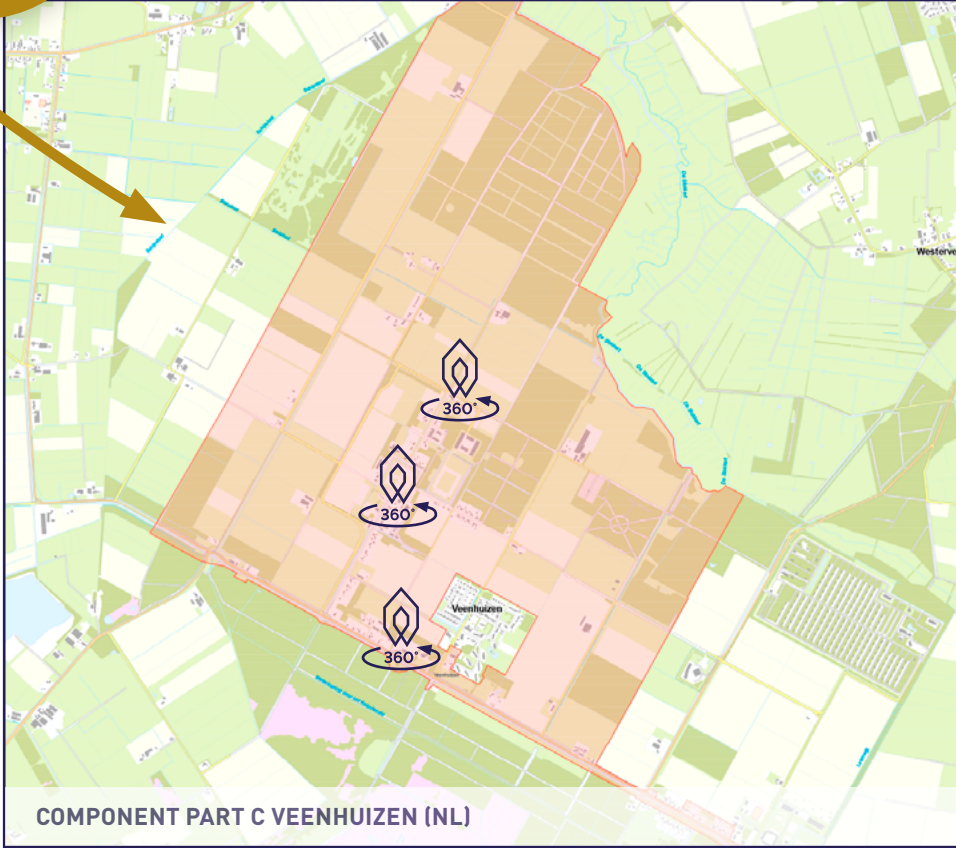
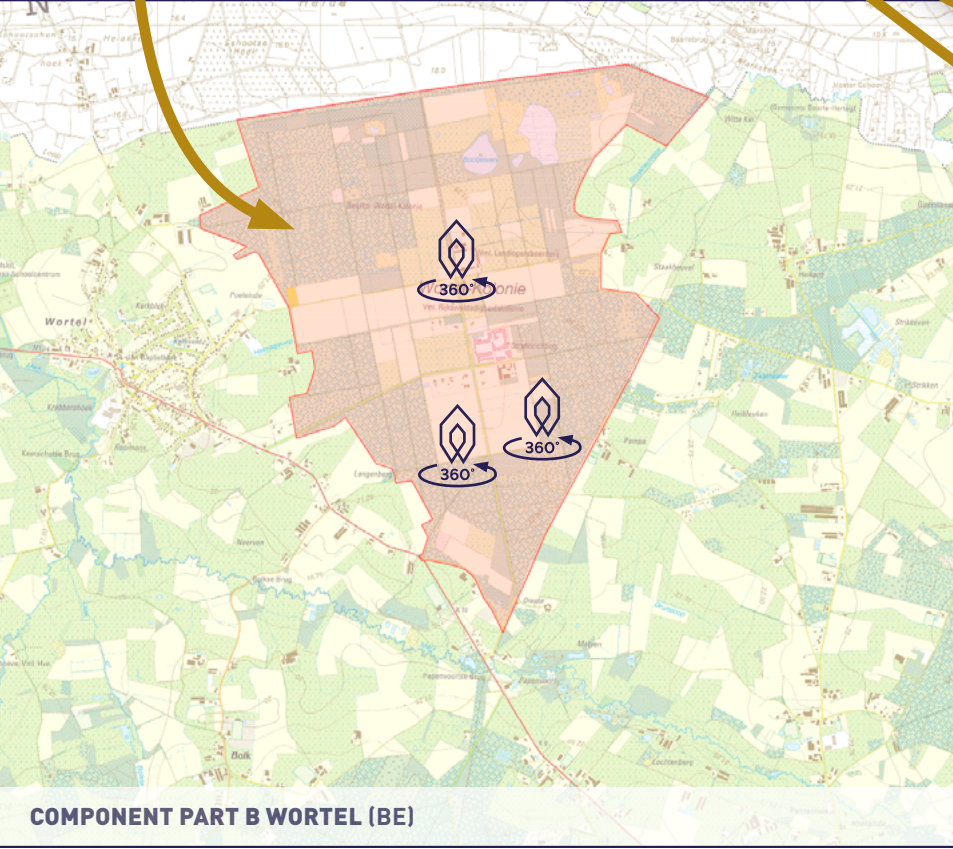
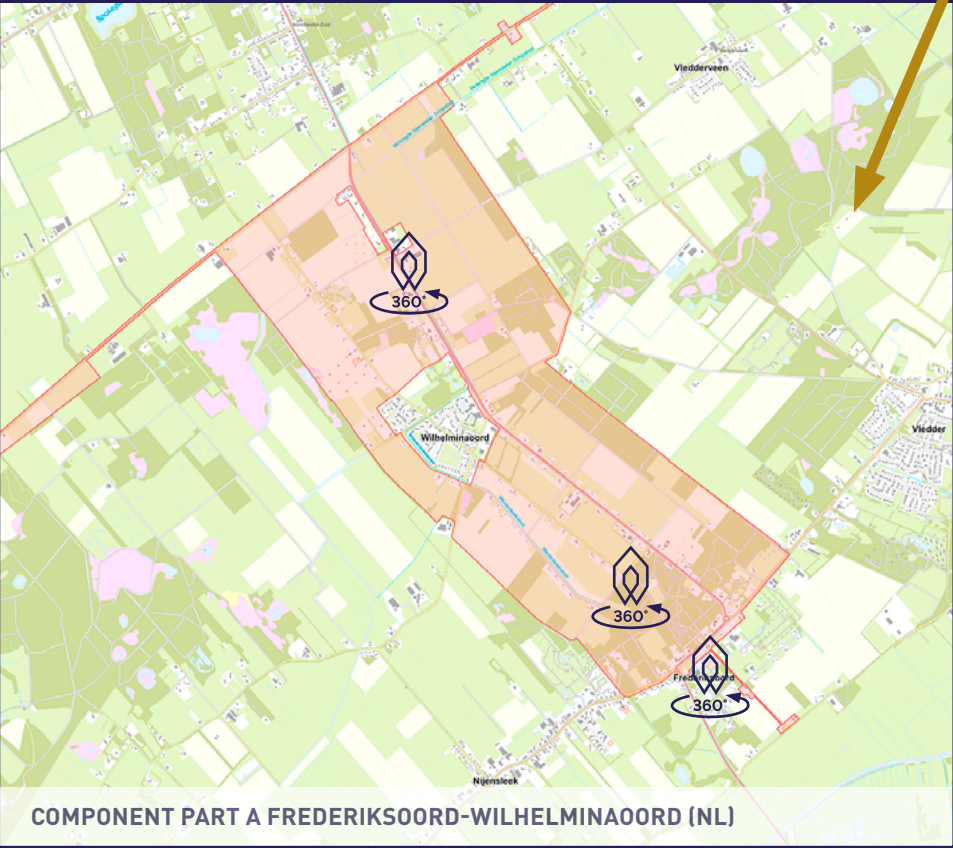
'Man forms the landscape, the landscape shall form the man'

Colonists and cattle in front of Farm Princess Marianne in Wilhelminaoord (Drenthe Archive)

The current landscape reflects the disciplining and social improvement of large groups of people with work, training and (moral) education. The Colonies have different landscape-typologies, linking to the distinctive groups of poor that lived there.

Take a look at their disciplined layout and features

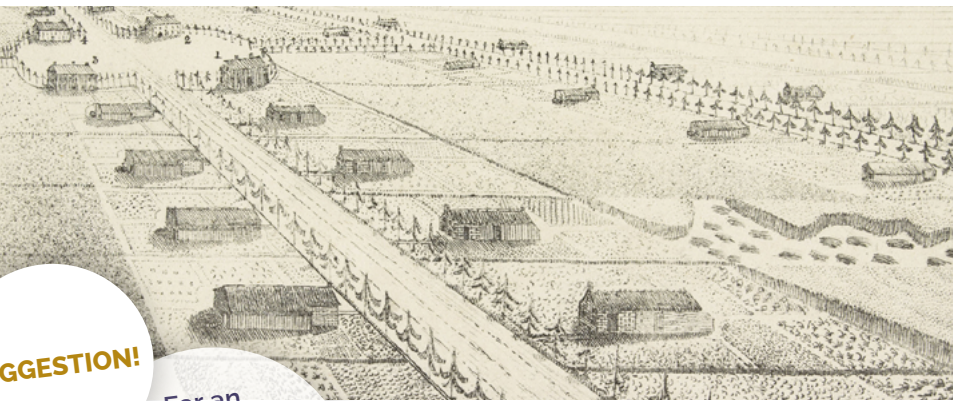
www.kolonienvanweldadigheid.eu/en/world-heritage



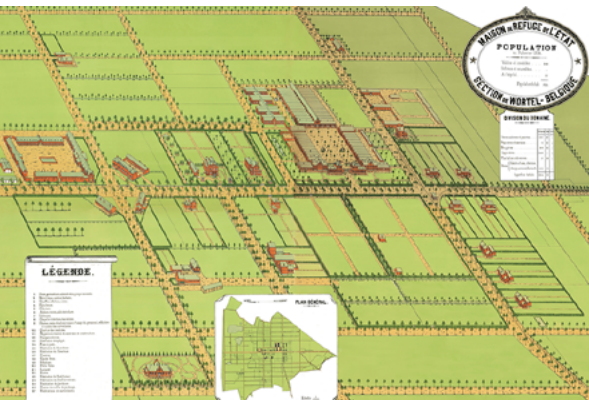
Staffhouses Frederiksoord (Miranda Drenth)

The central crossroads in Wortel (James van Leuven)

Second Institution and canal in Veenhuizen (Miranda Drenth)



Print of Frederiksoord, 1819-1821, Rijksmuseum Amsterdam



Coloured lithograph of the Colony in Wortel, L. Gorby, 1904 (E.N.)

The Colonies of Benevolence were domestic colonies. They were established by the United Kingdom of the Netherlands on its own territory for its own people. Their aim was poverty reduction.



Old print of the Second Institution Veenhuizen (Alexander Boëns and Hendrik van Geelen), 1827 (R.L.)

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT THE PERMANENT DELEGATIONS OF **BELGIUM, FLANDERS** OR **THE NETHERLANDS**
KINGDOM OF BELGIUM AND KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS, 2020

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