



MAURITS ZUID KAZERNETERREIN

HERITAGE & DESIGN WORKSHOP 2021

**Heritage & Design Workshop 2021: Maurits
Zuid Kazerneterrein, Ede (Netherlands)**

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Introduction

The Heritage & Design Workshop 2021 is part of a long line of workshops organised in partnership with several Dutch universities to give students the opportunity to stimulate and impact a spatial transformation process as well as to work creatively in a multi-disciplinary setting. This time, in May 2021, the students were presented with the case of the Maurits Zuid Kazerneterrein in the town of Ede, Netherlands. The core questions that the workshop was based on included the following: How can the municipality of Ede redevelop Maurits Zuid into a residential

complex while taking into account the terrain's pre-existing cultural and natural values? What does sustainable living mean or look like and what are its preconditions? Although the strategy of the 'tabula rasa' is very often adopted in this type of construction project, the Heritage & Design Workshop sought to question that type of practice and explore the idea that it might be more sustainable, both on a societal and ecological level, to incorporate the past and present into the new design rather than starting from scratch.

The inter-disciplinary workshop was created in the context of the project *Natuurlijk Kapitaal in Projectontwikkeling*, put forward by the Science Shop of Wageningen University. This initiative was taken at the request of a collective of residents living on Ede's other former military terrains who were concerned at how easily the area's natural capital was being pushed aside, ignored, and even destroyed during the redevelopment process. The Maurits Zuid terrain is the last plot of the former military area to be redeveloped and although the municipality has already drawn up some general plans, there are still many aspects of the site that need to be designed

(architecture, materials, layout, recreational facilities, etc...).

While 'wild' nature and arcadian country estates may be the first things that come to mind when thinking about Gelderland, the province also boasts extensive military heritage. Due to Ede's proximity to the Dutch railway network, low population density and varied landscapes, it was designated as the main training grounds for troops a few years after the military service became compulsory in the Netherlands in 1898. The Prins Mauritskazerne and the Johan Willem Frisokazerne, still visible on the Maurits Zuid terrain today, were built between 1904 and 1906 to house the infantry. They were part of a new generation of standardised neo-renaissance style military barracks which were meant to ensure better and more sanitary living conditions for troops. In the mid-1930s, additional barracks were built, and the military terrain was extended following a three-fold increase in the Netherlands' defence budget and a corresponding increase in conscription rates. Fast forward a few decades to 2006: the military barracks are designated as national monuments by the Dutch government. 2010 marks the official

end of the terrain's military life as the ownership of the area is transferred from the Dutch Ministry of Defence to the municipality of Ede. As we had the opportunity to discover throughout the different expert interventions and student presentations, there is a lot more to the Maurits Zuid Kazerneterrein than its military history, of course.

Although the students had to develop their ideas in a very short amount of time (less than a week), we encouraged them to go as far as possible in terms of innovation and creativity. The students profited from a unique positioning in regards to the redevelopment project. Firstly, they benefited from a visit around the site as well as talks with different local experts, giving them a real insight into the project's context and inner workings. Secondly, and perhaps even more importantly, they did not have any legal or financial obligations towards any of the parties involved in the redevelopment project, so they could give free rein to their imagination and be as critical as they wanted, without the pressure of having to fit in a certain narrative. Although the municipality will most probably not be able to take everything on board, all the 'out-of-the-box'

ideas that the students came up with will at the very least be an important source of inspiration for the site's project manager Wiard Ligterink.

Due to the way the Heritage & Design Workshop was conceptually framed, certain recurring themes can be found across several of the student designs such as community living, the integration of nature and culture, sustainability, and health. However, everyone was surprised at how organically and effectively the students managed to sharpen their initial ideas into holistic and original design concepts. Here is how each student group would describe their design in short:

"Veluwtopia: Eden in Ede

Veluwtopia is an organically shaped and community-based neighbourhood which uses the terrain's natural height differences to form a green staircase from Ede to the Veluwe. Organically shaped routes invite the visitor to **explore and experience the site in a playful manner**. Additionally, heritage routes educate the public on the military past in an **engaging** way. Public fire pits and communal gardens stimulate community building. The central place of gathering is the grand pavilion which crowns the visual axis between the

forest edge and the former Kazerne buildings. Veluwtopia stands for: **discovery, connectivity, community**".

"Bridging the gap

We observe the Kazerne-terrain from the perspective of a **formerly enclosed military terrain that will open up** to its surrounding through the development of a mix-use area of working, living and nature development. We explore a design strategy from a point in time when most of the military buildings were still present by building on the concept of heritage as **continuous transformation** (Braae, 2015). The design is based on the idea of **inclusivity and openness** as a way to connect past, present and future in mix-use development. We conclude that taking heritage as a starting point could lead to a design that is **sensitive to the site's history** and provides opportunity for mix-use development. We further suggest introducing smaller infrastructure such as a supermarket, medical clinic, gym or other to increase livelihood, leading to a more open and inclusive design."

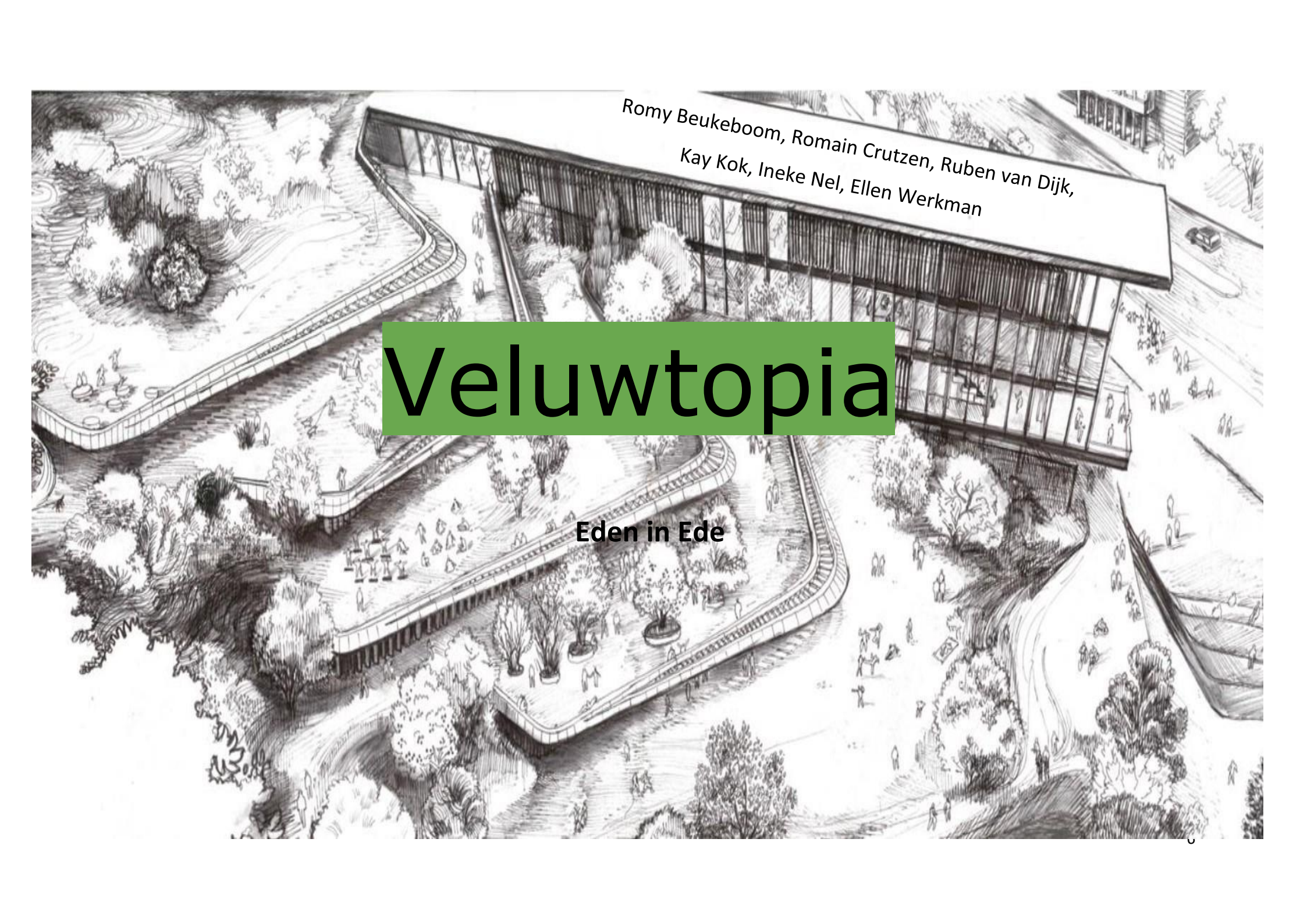
“vrEDE: A Beehive of Self-Organised Communities and Nature-Driven Designs structured within the Green Gateway between Ede and the Veluwe

vrEDE wants to turn around the **focus from wealth to health**, because we believe that well-being and quality of life is only achieved when you connect your designs to nature and the inherited landscape and history. This is what taking care means, and in that sense, it is the only way to really create a sustainable living environment and future. Our design therefore wants to change the definition of profit by establishing a **self-sustaining, organically evolving healthy community of green pioneers**. It wants to be a place where time comes together by integrating the new into the old and translating the old into new forms of usage. It wants to be a place that connects nature and the city, living and working, and people together. **Sustainability, time and connection** drives all forms of design in vrEDE.”

“The Veluwe District provides an integrated design, projecting the future of the area by the hands of a main continuous theme: land-use throughout history. As such, the **biography of the landscape** will be brought forward and implemented in the architectural design of the present and future character of the area. The current emphasis on the site’s military history is disregarded and a more **inclusive narrative on the deep history** is presented instead. The architectural design of the area is strongly inspired by its historical layeredness, which ranges **from the early prehistory until the present**. The Veluwe District is a powerful concept corresponding to a new post-COVID XXI Century lifestyle. Humans will learn to interact and live with nature, while working as a community towards a sustainable future. Core values such as urban farming will connect the future meaning of the area with the already existing World Food Centre narrative.”

“On the road to the wild: A journey through community experience

Social irresponsibility during the second worst ever housing crisis in the Netherlands, the commodification of space and nature, the predominance of upper-class demands, and a dominant historical military narrative. This project attempts to go **beyond a unidirectional narrative of progress**, far from the military past of the area, showing the complexity and richness of the area, offering a biographical approach based on heritage that would **bring together nature and culture** in the future redevelopment of the area. In addition, in this case, the past as well as the **social demands and needs of middle classes** becomes the main driving forces behind the creation of new designs, as opposed to the accommodation and consumption of upper classes. Living in **community** and in balance with nature could be the new way to revitalize Ede and offer new social opportunities. Instead of thinking about wealth, health would be the key for the future.”



Romy Beukeboom, Romain Crutzen, Ruben van Dijk,
Kay Kok, Ineke Nel, Ellen Werkman

Veluwtopia

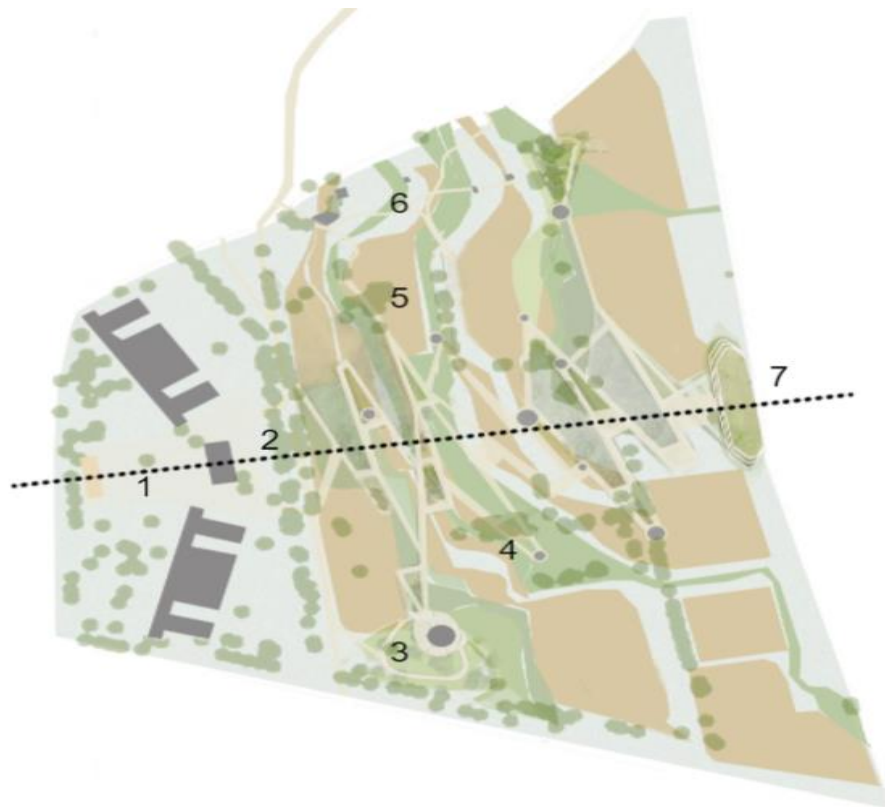
Eden in Ede

Veluwtopia is an organically shaped and community-based neighbourhood which uses the terrain's natural height differences to form a green staircase from Ede to the Veluwe. Organically shaped routes invite the visitor to **explore and experience the site in a playful manner**. Additionally, heritage routes educate the public on the military past in an **engaging** way. Public fire pits and communal gardens stimulate community building. The central place of gathering is the grand pavilion which crowns the visual axis between the forest edge and the former Kazerne buildings.

"Veluwtopia stands for discovery, connectivity and community."

Problem statement

Our project was founded on the ambition of the World Food Center to create a strong community living in an environmentally conscious way. In our opinion, this goal was not incorporated into the new plans as strongly as it could be. There are various **'hard' boundaries** creating separation. Furthermore, there is a lack of integration on two levels: firstly, the engagement with nature is only superficial. However, the creation of environmentally conscious living spaces is likely to attract more environmentally conscious people who require engagement with nature on a deeper level. Secondly, **the link between past, present and future users is not included**, as the creation of a community is forced with top-down planning and has no long-term goals.



Visualisation of the design

- 1 Kazerne buildings
- 2 Central axis
- 3 Stinger dome
- 4 Communal spaces
- 5 Residential areas
- 6 Obstacle course
- 7 Pavilion

Concept

From brainstorm sessions during the beginning of the workshop, three keywords emerged: **discovery, connectivity and community**. Based on these, the concept for our design is to use the natural height differences in the terrain in order to create a green staircase, connecting Ede with the Veluwe. The terraced structure of the staircase facilitates spaces for gardens but also an **experientially interesting landscape**. The radial axis in front of the Kazerne buildings is visually extended to the rear, continuing all the way to the forest edge, where it is crowned by a public pavilion.



Heritage & World Food Center

The design is based on a bottom-up approach and aims to increase community participation. For example, by organizing workshops where the residents can discover the heritage of the site, consequently, it is within their own power to determine which parts of that heritage holds most value for them. Communal gardening connects ancient agricultural practices with the present as well as with the future through food innovation and production at the World Food Center. Temporary events like food truck festivals and workshops will produce Neolithic, Roman and medieval meals from the products of the communal gardens, thereby also linking past and present and allowing people to **experience local history in a multisensory manner**.

Regarding the military heritage, the kazerne buildings and stinger dome (see left image) are kept, the green throughout the site is planted in a way that creates a camouflage pattern. The

stinger dome is transformed into a greenhouse by replacing the top half of the dome with glass (see right image for inspiration).

Some of the communal gardens will link back to the history of the Veluwe by becoming heathland gardens. Other communal gardens will become vegetable gardens, with bottom-up use. Throughout the **organic routes leading up the hill** (2), several places will become **resting spaces where people can experience the surroundings**. The residential areas (1) will be integrated into the sloped terrain, thereby becoming part of the ecosystem. These areas will be clustered between natural landscape elements. When reaching the end of the route and looking back down from the pavilion the houses will be hardly visible due to the integration into the green slope (5).



The pavilion, a public space, is the crown of the central axis. As it is right next to the Veluwe forest, it will have an organic shape and it will be made of natural materials to blend into its surroundings (3).

The military heritage of the site can be explored through **three routes**. These are related to the three army units that were stationed in Ede. **An infantry route** will lead to the obstacle course located in Maurits-Zuid, which is transformed into a training park and playground for all ages (4). **A cavalry route** will lead to the stables in Maurits-Noord, and an **artillery route** will lead to the stinger dome. The pathway of each route will have the corresponding unit emblem incorporated into it in order to visually emphasise where it leads to. At the end of each route information on the structure and history of the unit is provided in **interactive ways**.



“Come see, hear,
smell, taste touch
Veluwtopia...”



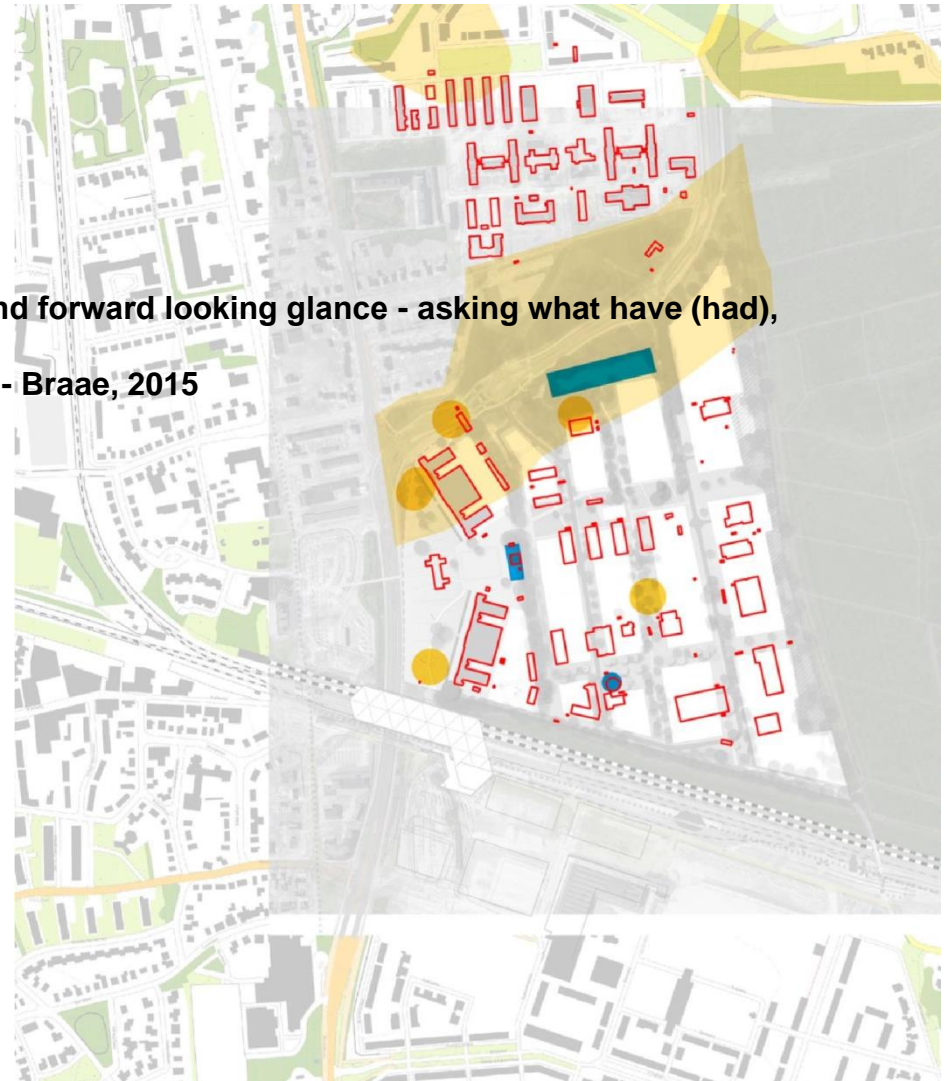
Bridging the gap

“In acknowledging the mutual interchange between the backward and forward looking glance - asking what have (had), and what can it become [...]” - Braae, 2015

We observe the Kazerne-terrain as a **formerly enclosed military terrain that is opening up to its surrounding** through the development of a mix-use area of working, living and nature development. We experience a tension between the public military buildings and private atmosphere present in the completed housing blocks. We explore a design strategy that is inspired by a point in time when most of the military buildings were still present by building on the concept of **heritage as continuous transformation** (Braae, 2015).

The design is based on the idea of *inclusivity and openness* as a way to connect past, present and future in mix-use development. This takes the form of developing a park-like area that is connected to its surrounding and includes a **‘heritage trail’** and built structures, i.e. ‘earth-berming’ that integrates architecture within the slope of the landscape.

We conclude that taking **heritage as a starting point** could lead to a design that is **sensitive to the site’s history** and provides opportunity for mix-use development. We further suggest introducing smaller infrastructure such as a supermarket, medical clinic, gym or other to increase livelihood leading to a more open and inclusive design.



Iris van Eden, Bodine Boin, Sayalee Thakoor & Niek van Gelder

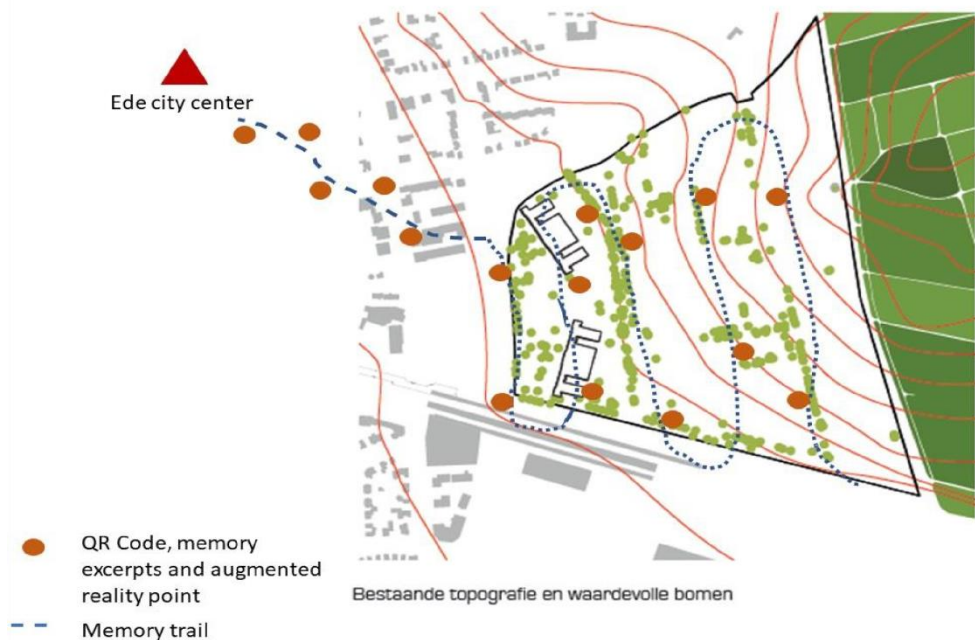
Challenges

After the site visit, heritage quickly became the main topic of discussion. This idea was fuelled by experiencing the structures that were still present but also our team composition which consisted of students from the disciplines of heritage, archaeology, and landscape architecture. We further analyzed the area of Maurits-Zuid as having a close proximity to the city centre, Veluwe forest and train station, making it an interesting area for city expansion. The challenges were framed based on the existing plans, where new housing is placed close to the Veluwe and threatens biodiversity, and the strict organization of the plots pointed towards **little sensitivity of the military history**.

Inclusivity & Openness

During the military occupation the terrain was barricaded and independent from the city. Today the terrain is open and without fences, which allows the residents of Ede to connect with the terrain and forest next to it. Thus, the idea is to make the new development **inclusive of all and opening up to its surroundings**.

The concept of **inclusivity and openness** allows the present to be a **bridge between the past and future** which will then be connected. **Establishing a connection between the site and the residents of Ede allows the latter to be a part of their history**, while keeping the site open to residents and visitors maintains a sense of oneness between the residents and the landscape. Bringing the forest and the residential complex together will remove hard separation between the green and red spaces. The area of Maurits-Zuid, but also the other Kazerne terrains, have the potential to become a large green structure for all residents of Ede. These green structures will be beneficial for increasing biodiversity, living quality and recreation opportunities. This may give the residents a feeling of ownership towards their natural surroundings.



Memory Trail

We propose 'leaving the secrecy behind' by introducing a memory trail from the centre of Ede to the Kazerne terrain. By this we mean to open the history and memories of the military past to the residents of Ede. The trail can host features like QR codes and Augmented reality points wherein the users can not just see photos and 3D reconstructions but also read memory excerpts gathered from the residents and ex-soldiers. This should be viewed as an attempt to include the locals into their heritage as well as educate the tourists about the Ede past and present.

Architecture that connects past, present and future

We want the residents, old and new, to connect to the city's heritage and past as well as to create new bonds with its landscape in the future. The idea behind this proposed design technique is to integrate the existing landscape with the new development which takes the form of 'earth berming', a technique that integrates buildings within the natural slope of the landscape. We further suggest the introduction of small-scale shops in the area to create a lively new atmosphere, increase recreational access points and avoid potential crowding in the city centre.

The plan developed a critique towards the breakdown of many (military) built structures and the introduction of boundaries between new buildings through different stages of development.



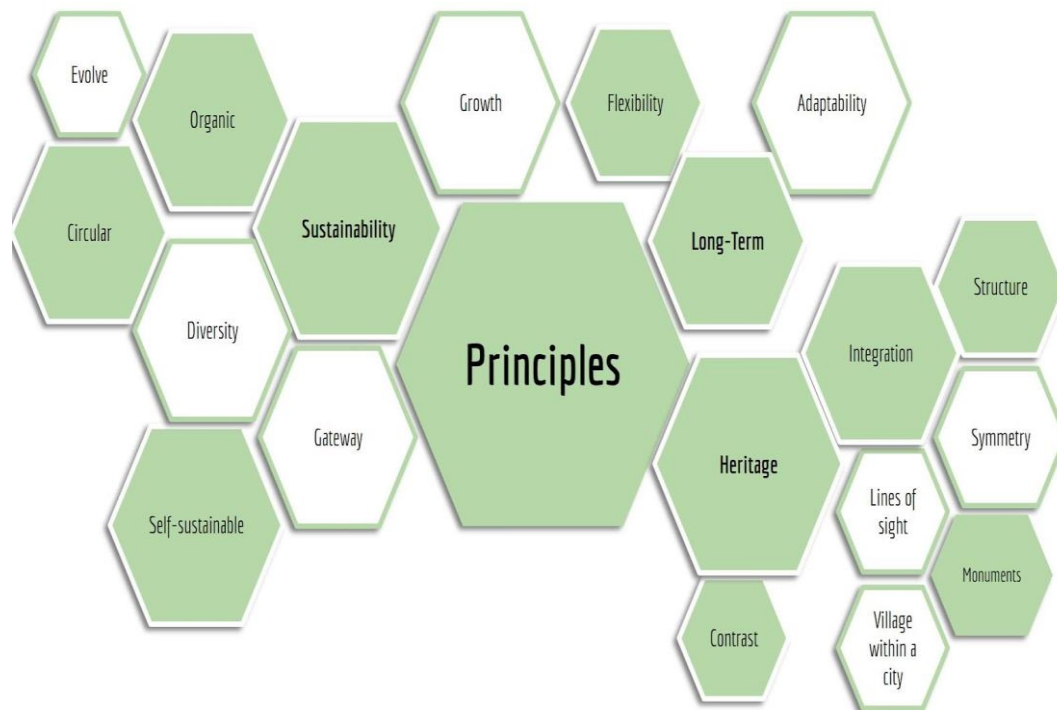
VREDE 2021

A BEEHIVE OF SELF-ORGANISED
COMMUNITIES AND NATURE-
DRIVEN DESIGNS STRUCTURED
WITHIN THE GREEN GATEWAY
BETWEEN EDE AND THE VELUWE



JORIS GEBOERS, MATHILDE KOODJ, JANINE LOUBSER, ANNEFLEUR ZEEUW, KARLA SEMAK FIEDLER

vrEDE wants to turn around the **focus from wealth to health**, because we believe that well-being and quality of life is only achieved when you connect your designs to nature and the inherited landscape and history. This is what taking care means, and in that sense, it is the only way to really create a sustainable living environment and future. Our design therefore wants to change the definition of profit by establishing a **self-sustaining, organically evolving healthy community of green pioneers**. It wants to be a place where time comes together by integrating the new into the old and translating the old into new forms of usage. It wants to be a place that connects nature and the city, living and working, and people together. **Sustainability, time and connection** drives all forms of design in vrEDE.



Our Approach

We think that the existing municipal design uses landscape quality and the location of the Maurits-Zuidterrein merely as an inspiration. The development of the municipal design includes the demolition of original architecture and especially natural structures. It replaces it with as many houses and offices as possible and **does not consider how people will live 100 years from now**. It therefore seems to focus primarily on short-term economic profit development. The municipal design also includes close to no biodiversity, an architectural model based on one group of people (families that own a car), standardised architectural designs (vinex-like), and arranged and therefore controlled strokes of nature.

Our design of vrEDE is guided by three lenses: **sustainability, long-term thinking and heritage**. VrEDE should be sustainable, where **organic growth and evolution** are key and where the Kazerneterrein forms an organically shaped gateway between the Veluwe and the city. We think that sustainability is a

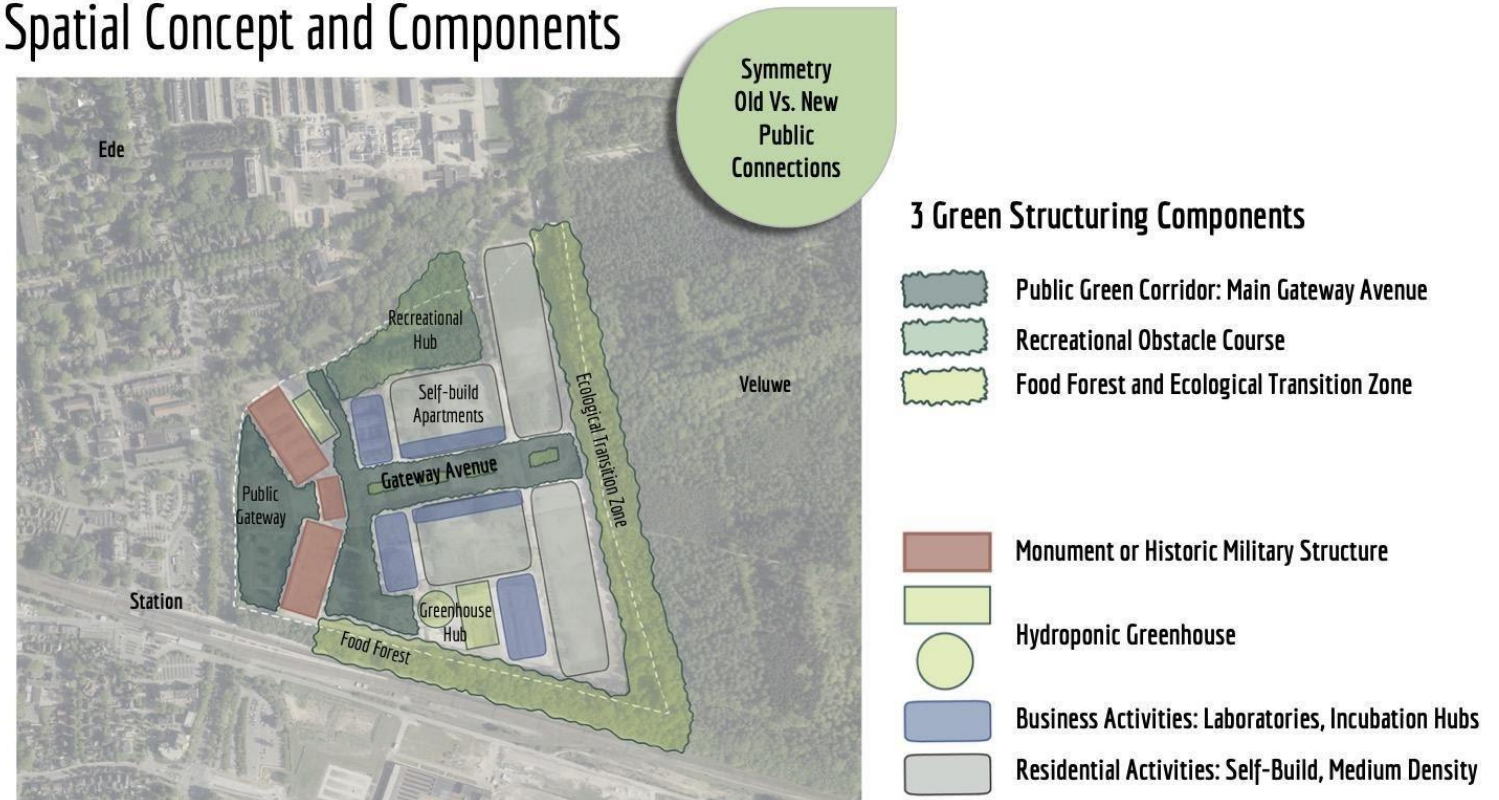
necessary and important lens because it is a new way of building and living in a world that respects the climate and takes care of nature. This perspective connects to the **long-term lens**, that urges us to build with a **sustainable future** in mind. Keywords here are **flexibility and adaptability**. Lastly we want to connect the design to what was already there through preserving the lines of sight, bring back the architectural symmetry of the military past and amplify the narrative of a future village within a city. Besides the approach of integration with heritage principles we want to contrast to make both the past and the transition into a new future stand out.

Imagining the Future Community

Our proposal will attract **green pioneers** that, through their businesses or how they live, will pave the way for others to see the benefits of living more in sync with nature. Our approach will stimulate entrepreneurs, self-builders and in general a group of people who can self-organise and take ownership of their community. Building on the idea of a **self-sustaining community**, people in vrEDE will live in harmony with nature, surrounded by food gardens and active public engagement throughout the area. We acknowledge the need for housing as many people as the site could allow and have gone for a more **medium to medium-high density approach**, sitting within nature, changing in height as we move along the contours. We also see a very open and transparent lifestyle that contrasts to the previous secretive nature of the terrain, illustrated through our architectural guidelines.

Our conceptual spatial approach builds on the idea of vrEDE being a gateway between Ede and the forest through the main structuring element of a green gateway avenue. To the north we propose a recreational hub around the previous obstacle training course, and along the southern boundary we propose a structuring food forest linking to the greenhouse hub that we are proposing at the old Stingerdome. This food forest will extend as a transition zone between the forest and the developed area. Lastly, we see business activities such as innovation hubs and laboratories taking place closest to the monuments with retail, cafes and restaurants along the green avenue. The rest is open to flexible residential development based on the community needs.

Spatial Concept and Components



Architectural guidelines

We propose that architecture is built in accord with the landscape, or in other words, **architecture that is flexible, organic, and transparent**. The main idea is to create a permanent entity that retains its free nature, by allocating space for buildings and setting up a base structure which can then be modified and repurposed based on demand. By **building flexibly**, we want the area to "grow" and develop easily alongside its community. The organic aspect of the project concerns the sustainability of the area, and the materials used in construction. The aim is to use as little concrete as possible and turn to **natural materials such as wood and stone that can be recycled and repurposed at the end of the object's life cycle**, and to participate in natural cycles in general- for example, building roads and pathways from alternative materials such as gravel which does not collect water but lets it flow through and into the ground. We want to keep as little road as possible in order to encourage walking and cycling, so that houses are built without driveways. This does of course not isolate the businesses, because it is taken into account that transporting goods and accessibility are important to them, so there, of course, are parking spaces and access to the buildings.

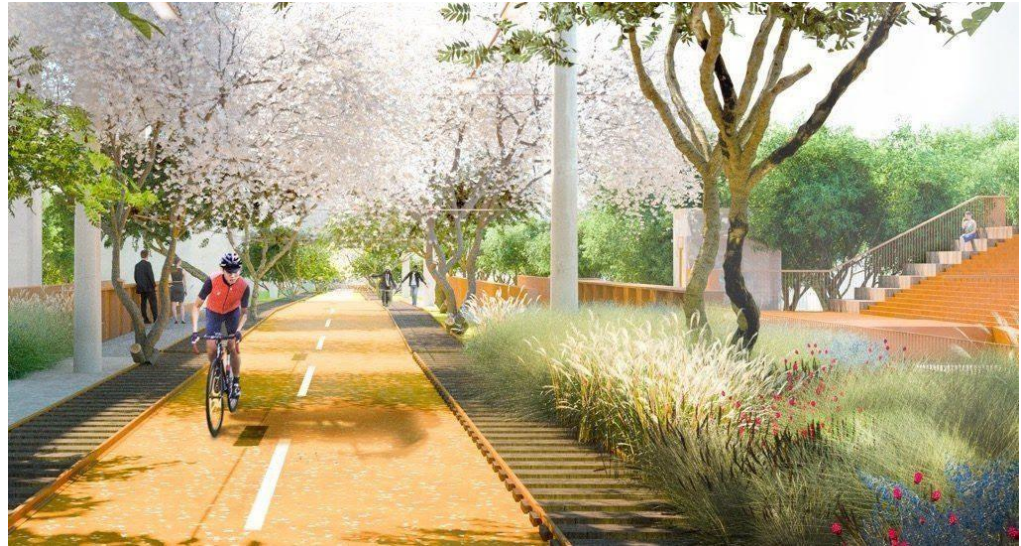
By contrasting with the rigid and permanent historical buildings, we symbolize the moving away from the industrial and stern past into a more sensible and sustainable future. The turn toward nature cannot be complete without letting "the nature in". In transparent architecture the aim is to bring light and air into closed spaces through the instalment of large glass panels. This opens the spaces toward the world outside, also adding depth to the structures themselves. Furthermore, this transparency can also be interpreted as an attempt to build a different society which rests upon trust, openness, and community.



Landscape guidelines

In terms of landscape architecture, we want to create a gateway for the people of Ede towards the Veluwe but also for the flora and fauna of the Veluwe into the built environment. To do that, we want to transform the kazerneterrein into an **ecological transitioning zone**. This starts with a bufferzone without built structures to give full space to the flora and fauna. We will also place a food forest here with exclusively indigenous species for the use of the inhabitants of the area. A second food forest with exotic species will be located along the train tracks to not interfere with the local flora. The use of these food forests connects to the World Food Center at the site. Finally we want to create lots of room for fauna within the built environment, in terms of bird houses and insect hotels. This way the area will be both a transitioning zone and a gateway for people, plants and animals.

Visual inspiration

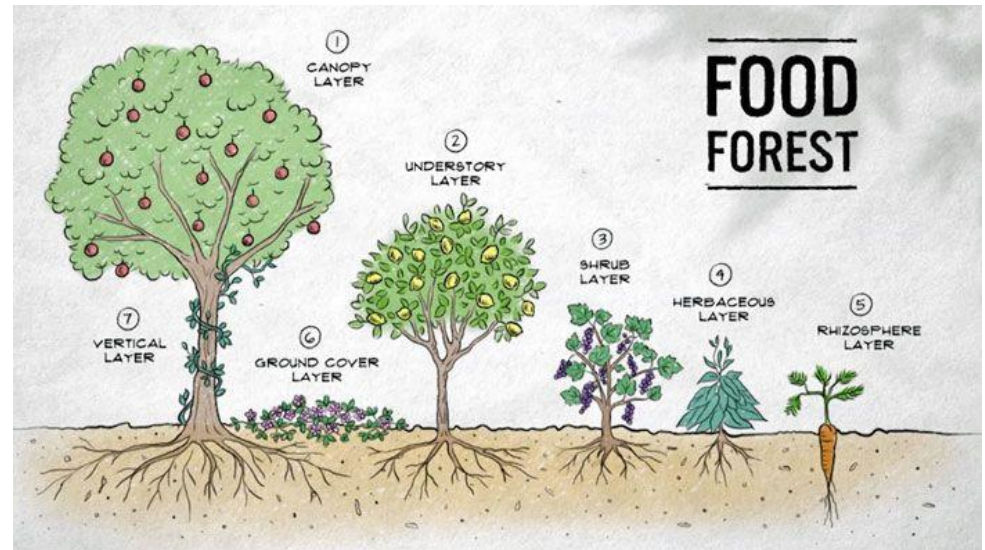


Implementation

We need to tackle the problem and start a new way of thinking, start with a blank slate: change the definition of profit, use a bottom up approach and bring time, nature and business together. The project will bring together a diverse group of people, who care about their eco-friendly sustainable environment and who think about the future. This offers the city of Ede to develop in continuity with the **constantly evolving modern environments**. It will not fall behind but adapt to the many changes which are taking place in our modern times.

In order to attract inhabitants, we offer a self-sustainable community and could initiate self-development in the community, this way people could pitch their ideas on the development of the area, if realistic. It gives the community an opportunity to grow together in changes and adaptations and remain modern.

When looking at the future we look at the 100 year mark. VrEDE could function as one of the pioneers for off grid capable neighbourhoods, even serve as an example for future projects, bring awareness to the history of the site in order to keep the memory alive, be an ever evolving environment and focus on inclusivity of community via self-development such as De Warren in Amsterdam.





The Veluwe District

The **Veluwe District** provides an integrated design, projecting the future of the area by the hands of a main continuous theme: land-use throughout history.

As such, the **biography of the landscape** will be brought forward and implemented in the architectural design of the present and future character of the area. The current emphasis on the site's military history is disregarded and a more **inclusive narrative on the deep history** is presented instead. The architectural design of the area is strongly inspired by its historical layeredness, which ranges **from the early prehistory until the present**.

The Veluwe District is a powerful concept corresponding to a new post-COVID XXI Century lifestyle. Humans will learn to interact and live with nature, while working as a community towards a sustainable future. Core values such as urban farming will connect the future meaning of the area with the already existing World Food Centre narrative.

Ermin Jagurdzija, Javier Lizarzaburu, Maaïke Tenhage, Sem Van Gurp

Problem definition

The current communications and marketing proposal is selling too many things at the same type. The risk is that it may end up creating more confusion than clarity or limit the potential market. Most narratives start and revolve around the idea of the barracks, when there is so much more to tell to make it more attractive to a new, wider public.

Currently, the **main selling points** are a) the barracks and the military history, b) the World Food Centre and diversity, c) the forest and living close to nature. All three have points in common but fit different characteristics. In relation to the military history: given the large number of monuments in the compound that will remain in place, the military history will not disappear. However, it has a disproportionate presence in the current narrative and messages.

What the project seems to be selling is a new version of military-type lifestyle and 100 years of history. But this is an area where there is **evidence of over 5.000 years of human evolution and transformation of the landscape**. Plus, it offers one of the richest geological formations in the country.

The World Food Centre, doesn't seem to have a clear message. What is it? Beyond food businesses, the idea to develop 600 houses under a general umbrella of food does not bring coherence or clarity to the larger project. **The Veluwe**, on the other hand, is a landscape of exceptional beauty, diversity and history going back thousands of years. It is also one of the largest continuous nature reserves in Western Europe. The engaging power of that image can easily tie other related issues like agriculture, urban farming, food and history within one single narrative, making the project more appealing to different publics. In any case, an initial marketing research exploring these issues would be advisable.

Re-focusing the concept

We seek to reorganize the narrative around the idea of 'the green' and sell just one concept, instead of several. A successful business project should have clear messages, clear priorities and proven selling points. **The Veluwe seems by far the strongest selling point**. It is a significant area for the whole of the Netherlands. Apart from its ancient history, it sits at the centre of many contemporary interests: connection with nature, space, sustainability, sports, exploration, etc. It allows for engagement with a new powerful concept: post-Covid changes to urban living habits, leading to new ways of living with more space, closer to nature. In other words, a XXI century lifestyle.

The Veluwe concept can easily fit with different conceptions of what the area is, what lifestyle options it offers and what it means for the future. This way we tone down the over-represented military aspect and tell the deep history of the landscape. The role of nature and humans is placed at the heart of our design, in order to emphasize the **green narrative around the Veluwe concept**, and how this continuity brings **solidity and hope** for the future.



Values

We also believed that a project centred around one specific concept can be linked to a system of values, which makes the idea stronger, clearer and more saleable. For us, using as a starting point 'the green' - the Veluwe, would be associated with:

- Ecological
- Sustainability
- Circular economy
- Green living
- Community
- Deep history

Sub narratives around the Veluwe concept

- A new history starts in the XXI Century.
- New lifestyle in contact with nature.
- Urban farming.
- The Dutch as builders of land and landscape.
- The potential for better living, the opportunities that the green offers.
- A connection with the World Food Centre.
- Sports and activities: walking, running, cycling, tennis, horse-riding, etc.
- Biography of landscape. Evolution through thousands of years.



One strong element out of the value-system we are associating with the project is the concept of the **Circular Economy (CE)**. So far, Amsterdam is the only Dutch city that has already incorporated it in its plans for 2030. This could potentially make this product more attractive, even politically for the Municipality of Ede, which could become a leader in the region in terms of CE development. Some of the practices associated with CE are car-free areas, no individual parking lots, no plastic, the harvesting of water, the use of greywater, vertical solar panels, community farming and shared communal facilities.

The final way to refocus the concept surrounding the Maurits Zuid terrain consists in identifying a potential type of buyer/renter, to whom to address the messages. For example, we would be looking for professionals who are creative, independent, interested in sustainability and open to multicultural and inclusive settings.

Architecture, landscape and design

The design for the site focuses on **the multiple historical layers** that are present in the area and its surroundings. The site is divided into 4 sections where **each section linearly represents a moment in the history of land use**. The overall theme for the green structure is based upon the Neo-renaissance era on which the architecture of the monumental buildings is based. In this era geometrical landscapes were the norm. In the design this is emphasised with exaggerated tree lanes that connect towards the Veluwe.



Colour coding:

Present day:
modern park (1)

Early 20th century:
the military
barracks (2)

The Middle Ages:
courtyards and
narrow streets (3)

The Iron Age: small
scale farming,
hedgerows (4)

**The untouched and
wild Veluwe** (5)

The first section towards the 'Parklaan' is the modern era. A modern park is created to act as a meeting place for the surrounding neighbours and visitors of Ede. The Kazerne terrain will house the World food Center. The cultural historical value of this place is already present thanks to the existing architecture. Food consumption and work will be the main drivers of this area, while having a view towards the adjacent park.

The Middle Ages and its representation of the Veluwe will be incorporated in the third section of the site. Multiple castles and fortifications are found on the edge of the Veluwe and in the design this is translated through courtyard living and

narrow streets. These two elements are re-emerging in the field of urban and landscape design, since enclosed and narrow spaces emphasize the human scale and walkability. The street and building pattern is not new, but it is a forgotten quality that this typology can bring to create lively cities.

On the edge of the Veluwe the Celtic based farms function as a barrier to protect ecological values of the Veluwe. The plot outline is a contemporary translation of the old Celtic farms that surrounded the Veluwe during the Iron-age. The hedgerows surrounding these small scale farms serve as an ecological buffer zone for badgers, butterflies and other small fauna.

The last section is the untouched and wild Veluwe. A piece of rough nature. A lush green forest is planted instead of the pine-trees, since Coniferous trees are not ecologically viable anymore and their use for the coal-mines is not necessary anymore. The trees that are logged will be used in the construction of the houses in the courtyard and public furniture on the site. Furthermore the pine-forest will make place for heatherland and driftsands to recreate the rough landscape it once was, as a reminder of the fear that pushed the Dutch to domesticate the Veluwe.

1.



2.



4.




5.



3.





On the road to the wild

Andrea Solana Muñoz | Anita Halim Lim
Erik Vrielink | Martijn Peetoom |
Sarah van Kooten

*A journey through community
experience*

“Social irresponsibility during the second ever worst housing crisis in the Netherlands, the commodification of space and nature, the predominance of upper-class demands, and a dominant historical military narrative. How can we correct these perspectives towards the new development of the Maurits Zuid terrain (Ede)? What are our responsibilities as designers, spatial planners, architects and heritage professionals?”

This project attempts to go beyond a unidirectional narrative of progress, far from the military past of the area, showing the complexity and richness of the area, offering a biographical approach based on heritage that would bring together nature and culture in the future redevelopment of the area. In addition, in this case, the past as well as the social demands and needs of middle classes becomes the main driving forces behind the creation of new designs, as opposed to the accommodation and consumption of upper classes. Living in community and in balance with nature could be the new way to revitalize Ede and offer new social opportunities. Instead of thinking about wealth, health would be the key for the future.

Problem statement & vision

During our visit to the terrain, we identified two main challenges regarding the current plans for the terrain. The first of these is the intention of the municipality to create an upper-class neighbourhood out of the Maurits Zuid terrain. With the country experiencing a severe housing crisis, this course of action is in our opinion utterly socially irresponsible.

Instead, we imagine the municipality of Ede to become a **pioneer in a new and innovative type of housing**, one that is suitable for the living conditions of the 21st century. We therefore propose that the municipality of Ede should allocate the land of the kazerneterrein to **housing cooperatives**. This type of housing is still quite uncommon in the Netherlands, and it is therefore a unique opportunity for Ede to put itself on the map as a socially oriented and forward-thinking municipality. Moreover, since housing cooperatives are usually informed by socio-cultural motivations and environmental concerns, they also fit in perfectly with some of the other ambitions of the municipality:

- a cultural hub through the Akoesticum
- a science hub through the food centre
- and a springboard to the natural wealth of the Veluwe

This last point brings us to the second issue we’ve identified in the current plans for Maurits Zuid. In these plans, there is no real buffer zone between the Veluwe and the former military area. Our group wants to create a soft boundary in which the urban zone slowly transitions into the natural buffer zone and then into the forest. This means that the space between the buildings will gradually increase as one moves from the Mauritskazerne to the forest.

Archaeological inspiration

In search of inspiration for community housing, we appeal to its archaeological past. The area of the Maurits Zuid terrain and the Veluwe forest have been inhabited since Neolithic times (4900/5300-2000 BC). In this area, there was evidence of burial mounds from the Bronze Age (2000-800 BC), and evidence of Celtic field systems from the Iron Age (800-15 BC) (Flokstra, *et al.* 2012).

Celtic fields (Figure 1) were related **to individual farms located at a considerable distance from one another, where the number of inhabitants could vary from 8 to 20 people** (Exarc.net n.d.). This data gave us inspiration about how to implement the idea of the community and to have green areas around the built structures so nature could be integrated in the living environment, while the cultural landscape is rescued and implemented in the new design.



Figure 2

With this idea in mind, we searched for inspiration in modern architecture, finding really interesting the idea of the Fujian tulou dwellings (China) (Figure 2). With this kind of design, we found the Ecodorp Boekel (Noord-Brabant), which apart from offering some examples for community living, they also allow moving beyond military narrative and linear aesthetics.

Historical Narrative:

The site has a military past that is evident in the grid layout and symmetry of the site. However, we are inspired to move beyond this narrative to find a way of accepting future changes without forgetting the past.



Figure 1

We had created an overlay of the historical maps to show the layerdness of the landscape (Figure 3). By including the pre-1900 maps, we can present the history before the military terrain was created. The result is a rediscovery of the historical pathway that allows for irregular and organic plotting of the land.

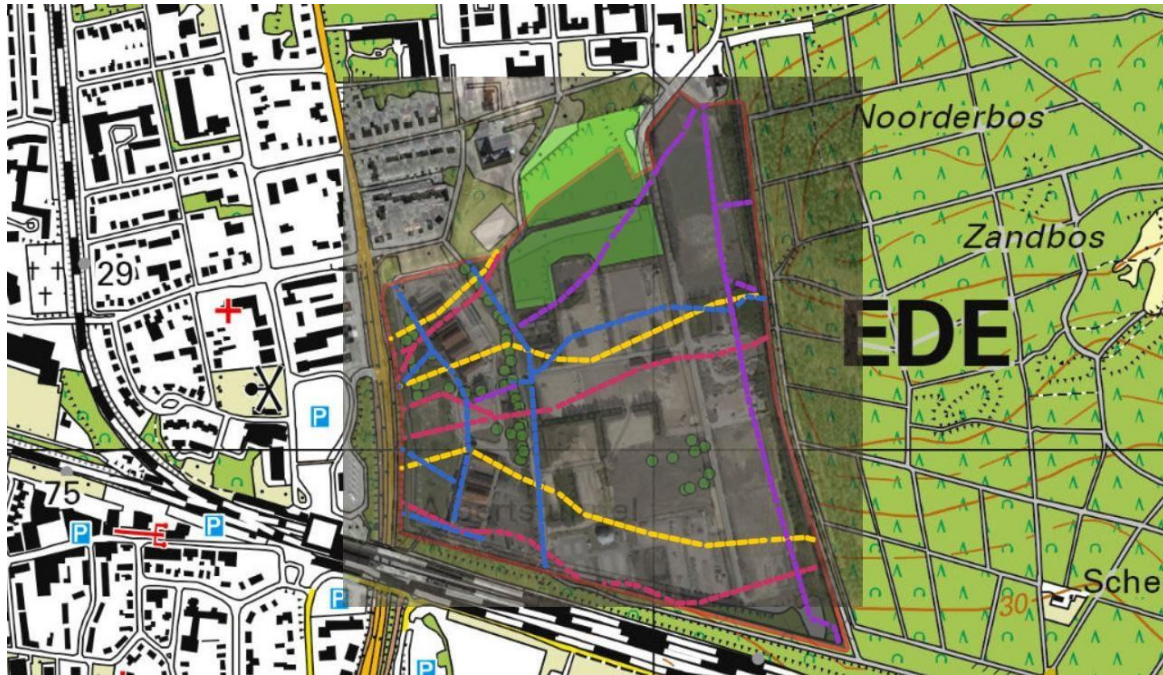


Figure 3 *Superimposed image of historical layers.* Authorship: Anita Halim Lim



Figure 4 *Proposed Site Plan.* Authorship: Anita Halim Lim

Design Proposal – Architectural

The historical pathways then become the basis of our design proposal, where we incorporate the circular masses (Figure 4). Our idea is to make the site into a meeting point for humans and nature in which the community housings gradually open up to the forest while nature is infiltrating them with the green mounds (Figure 5). We also acknowledge that to live side by side with nature, we have to reconsider our way of living – by sharing the communal room with other residents, **the space per capita could be reduced and therefore, we have more space for the greenery.**



Figure 5 *Photo montage of Communal Housing Perspective.* Authorship:
Anita Halim Lim

Design Proposal - Ecological

As stated before, we aim for a more 'natural' transition between the Veluwe and the to-be developed urban environment.

We achieve this organic transition by creating a buffer zone, through decreasing the density of both the urban environment and the trees along the edge of the Veluwe (Figure 6). Furthermore, we re-use historical paths and integrate them with current leisure routes in the Veluwe. Hereby the integration of the urban and natural environment can be experienced to a greater extent.

Furthermore, to limit the impact of the built environment on its adjacent natural environment, we use earth banks found in Celtic fields as inspiration for the design (Figure 5). Those banks can be beneficial for biodiversity and will be replacing the current steep edges of the site.

Lastly, the earth banks will contribute to the stormwater management. The elevation of the area increases the risk of erosion, and the sandy soils complicate water storage. Ditches on the outside of the banks can store water from both within the community and from the surrounding environment. This catchment will allow for infiltration to replenish the groundwater, and the creation of new habitats which might add to the ecological value.

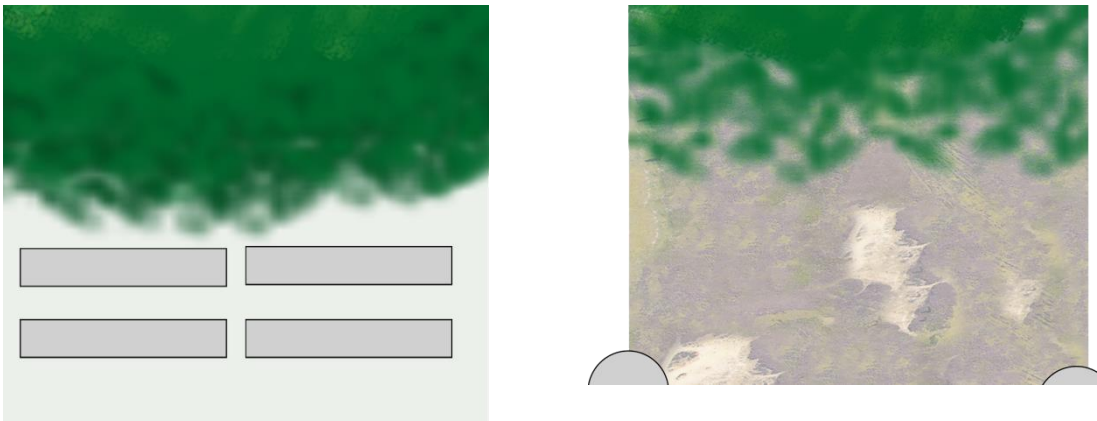


Figure 6 *Decrease of forest and housing density to create a buffer.* Authorship: Sarah van Kooten

Further Reading

Geschiedenis Kazerneterrein Maurits Zuid <https://www.nieuwbouw-world-food-center.nl/omgeving/geschiedenis>

Historische Analyse Kazerneterrein VeluwePoort <https://www.commissiemer.nl/docs/mer/p27/p2722/2722-019historische-analyse.pdf>

Beeldkwaliteitsplan Kazerneterrein Veluwe Poort <https://www.commissiemer.nl/docs/mer/p27/p2722/2722-020beeldkwaliteitsplan.pdf>

‘Ede stemt in met structuurvisie wijk World Food Centre’ <https://architectenweb.nl/nieuws/artikel.aspx?ID=47377>

Veluwe op Kaart <https://www.veluweopdekaart.nl/militair-erfgoed/kazerne-maurits-zuid/pointofinterest/detail>

‘Kazerneterreinen en de stationsomgeving’ <https://www.ede.nl/in-de-gemeente-edebouwprojecten/kazerneterreinen-en-de-stationsomgeving>

Wonen op de Kazerneterrein <https://www.kazerneterreineninede.nl/wonen-op-de-kazerneterreinen/world-food-center/>

Platform Militaire Historie Ede http://www.platformmhe.nl/mve_wo1.php