



Dirk Teeuwen

# Nederhemert Castle in The Netherlands

## Dirk Teeuwen MSc, Holland

Sources, references,  
see page 3,4:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/  
Princess\\_Louise\\_of\\_Prussia  
\(1770%E2%80%931836\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Princess_Louise_of_Prussia_(1770%E2%80%931836))  
Public domain >>>



Luise zur Mecklenburg 1801

*Nostalgia! Princess Frederica Dorothea Louise Philippine of Prussia, House of Hohenzollern, 1770-1836, in 1801. She was the second daughter of Prince Augustus Ferdinand of Prussia and Elisabeth Louise of Brandenburg-Schwedt. She has nothing to do with this article. Sure, I know! Whatever, in times past, she was one of those beautiful aristocratic ladies and aristocracy is what this article is going about. Artist: Elisabeth Vigée-LeBrun 1755-1842.*



0.1 Nederhemert Castle



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Elizaveta\\_Esperovna.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Elizaveta_Esperovna.jpg)  
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**0.2 Aristocratic lady in 1859; artist Franz Wintherhalter 1805-1873**  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Elizaveta\\_Esperovna.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Elizaveta_Esperovna.jpg) Public domain

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Belosselskaya-Belozerskaya, Russia 1859  
An impression from the past.**



**0.3 Nederhemert Castle**



**0.4 Old farmhouse near Nederhemert Castle, a dreamy world**

# References, sources and acknowledgements

Account of sources: see text and pictures also!

## a. Acknowledgements

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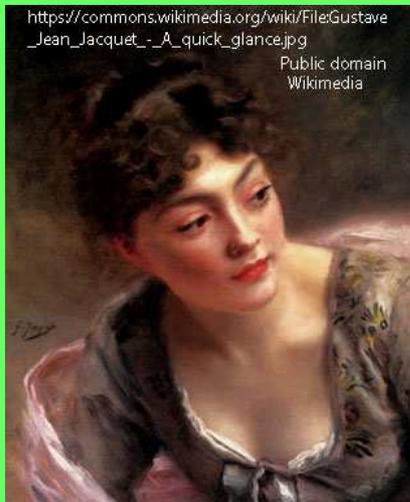
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**0.5 A quick glance, circa 1875; artist Gustave Jean Jacquet 1846-1909**  
**0.6 Meditation, circa 1880; artist Gustave Jean Jacquet 1846-1909**

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Gustave\\_Jean\\_Jacquet\\_-\\_A\\_quick\\_glance.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Gustave_Jean_Jacquet_-_A_quick_glance.jpg)

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Gustave\\_Jean\\_Jacquet\\_-\\_Meditation.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Gustave_Jean_Jacquet_-_Meditation.jpg)

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## Introduction



**0.7 A maid taking soup, ± 1780;**  
**artist Pehr Hillestrøm 1732-1816**  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Paintings\\_of\\_maidservants](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Paintings_of_maidservants)  
*An impression from the past.*

**0.8 Detail of a portrait of an aristocratic lady; artist Wladimir Borovikovsky 1757-1825**  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Borovikovsky\\_maria\\_Lopukhina.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Borovikovsky_maria_Lopukhina.jpg)  
*An impression from the past.*

*Public domain*  
*Her Ladyship Maria Lopukhina, Russia 1797*

>>>>  
*Inspiration by Mona Lisa?*

This article is the result of my research on the historical background of Nederhemert Castle in the centre of The Netherlands and is meant for a "history traveller". The area around the castle, and the castle itself of course, is suffused with an atmosphere of the a part of the Dutch past. The area is an unique remain of the olden days. One can feel the past, while walking around the castle; the landscape is historical experience. The text is as light-hearted as possible and is and larded with many pictures. The pictures are distinguished into two categories:

- concerning Nederhemert Castle and its vicinity;
- concerning an attempt to create a matching historical feeling.



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Joseph\\_Caraud\\_The\\_Levee.jp](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Joseph_Caraud_The_Levee.jp)

Artist Joseph Caraud 1905 Public domain



**0.9 Morning hours, 1905; artist Joseph Caraud 1821-1905**  
**[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Joseph\\_Caraud\\_The\\_Levee.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Joseph_Caraud_The_Levee.jpg)**  
**France 1905 An impression from the past Public domain**

# 1. Johan van Hemert, 1318 AC

In the year of 1318 the nobleman Johan van Hemert dedicated his castle and its village to the Duke of Gelderland, Reinoud I van Gelderland (1255-1324, r. 1271-1324). The castle in those days was a fortified residential tower called Hemert, called so after its owner or the other way around: a mystery indeed. This dedication meant that Johan's castle and its vicinity became a fiefdom of the Duke of Gelderland. From then Johan van Hemert and his heirs were obliged to maintain the fortifications, to offer the Duke free access to the castle and to assist the Duke in times of war. The Duke of Gelderland, from his side, offered military protection, legal support, safety and status.

This Duke Reinoud van Gelderland ruled like an independent aristocrat, which he was not. Legally Reinoud van Gelderland was a fief, a vassal, of the Emperor of the (German) Roman Empire (±800-1648). This Empire did not mean much after about the year of 1.000. The Emperor was just first among equals. Those equals (kings, counts, dukes, etc.) were his fiefs in name only. After the year of (about) 1250 the continuation of this empire was the creation by some Catholic Pope with too much imagination.

We know that the Duchy of Gelderland was first documented in 1096 and we know that Gelderland lost its relative independence little by little to the Duchy of Burgundy. However, the Duke of Gelderland got his renewed independence again in 1492, but Gelderland lost it once more in 1543. From then Gelderland was a part of The Netherlands.

From here we call Hemert "Nederhemert" making an attempt to make this story understandable in modern times.



*1.1 Coat of arms of the Van Lynden family (18<sup>th</sup> century)  
(Nederhemert aristocracy)*

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Lynden\\_wapen.svg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Lynden_wapen.svg)

## 2. Location



*2.1 Western side of Nederhemert Castle in 2017*

**In case you are going to visit the area! Just click "Nederhemert-Zuid" on the internet. Click "maps", then zoom and "Google"! Drive over the N627 and turn to the left. Follow the signs "Ammerzoden". Thereafter you have to follow the road on top of the dike of River Bergse Maas, a road called "Bergse Maasdijk" in Dutch (not so surprising, I suppose). Turn to the left at the sign "Bern". Bern is a local hamlet. This hamlet, called "Berne" once, is a remain of the territory of an important medieval monastery. Leave the remains of the monastery at your right, drive on, see the castle at your left. There is much more! The historic area, which you are visiting now, is officially protected. All the beauty you see and the beauty you are going to see is a rest of history at its best: wonderful of what "old Dutch" was and is in a swampy Hemert area.**

**Nederhemert Castle and its village are located on an island surrounded by rivers. In our modern times the castle and its moats are more than interesting. And much more than that! More than interesting are the very nearby old farmhouses, the lanes, the lovely tea garden, the local church and the, partly aristocratic, graveyard. South-east from the castle, not far from the local tea garden, east-west from the castle you will find the remains of a redoubt (bulwark) from the 16<sup>th</sup> century.**

<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:N831Nieuw.png>  
<http://www.openstreetmap.org/index.html> © OpenStreetMap-auteurs



### **2.2 Nederhemert and vicinity, 2017**

<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:N831Nieuw.png>  
<http://www.openstreetmap.org/index.html> © OpenStreetMap-auteurs

Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland



**2.3 Old farmhouse near the old castle, Nederhemert**

**Now the castle is a property of a private Dutch historical foundation. This foundation rents many of its monuments to individuals as well as to business enterprises. Because of that it is not possible to visit the castle, except for special occasions. Nevertheless: please look around, drive to this area, do it. You will never regret. This how Holland looked like as it has been before.**



Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland

***2.4 The old Nederhemert "castle church"***

### 3. The area of Nederhemert, past and present



**3.1 Renovation of the castle in 2004, artist Kris Roderburg Holland**  
**Tower with the red roof hides an old staircase. This staircase made the brick walls, and later the residential area, accessible. Public domain.**  
**[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Overzicht\\_ronde\\_toren,\\_traptoren\\_en\\_westmuur\\_van\\_d](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Overzicht_ronde_toren,_traptoren_en_westmuur_van_de_hoofdvleugel_-_Nederhemert-Zuid_-_20366454_-_RCE.jpg)**  
**[e\\_hoofdvleugel\\_-\\_Nederhemert-Zuid\\_-\\_20366454\\_-\\_RCE.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Overzicht_ronde_toren,_traptoren_en_westmuur_van_d)**

Until 1480 Nederhemert Castle and its village were situated inside a bend of River Maas. From 1477 until 1482 and between 1494-1499, the noble family - residing in Nederhemert Castle - supported the Duke of Gelderland during his wars of independence against the Duchy of Burgundy. This turned out to be a couple of problems. One such problem was the following. From about 1300 the nearby town of Heusden, ruled by the Lord of Holland from 1357, levied tolls from barge skippers sailing on the rivers around Heusden. Merchants living in another nearby town - called 's Hertogenbosch, part of Burgundy - wanted to put an end to the toll collections.

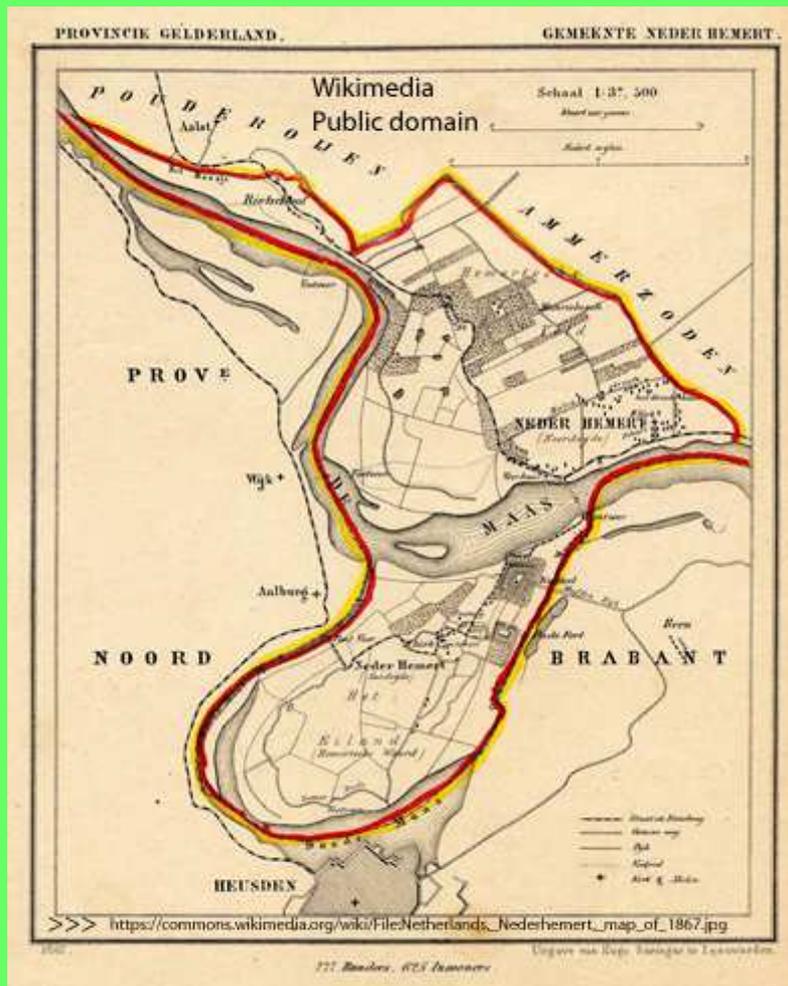
In 1479, as a result, authorities of the town of 's-Hertogenbosch ordered their soldiers to loot the Nederhemert area and to set fire on Nederhemert Castle together with its village. Then, in 1480, the authorities of 's-Hertogenbosch ordered to move the course of River Maas by cutting of the old bend. Because of that the town of Heusden became, more or less, an isolated town for a rather long time. The castle and its village have been rebuilt shortly after the attacks.

In 1945 Nederhemert Castle was partly destroyed again. The Germans plundered the castle in the first place. At the end of World War II the Allies shot the castle on fire, because there were German military present in the fortress. Moreover - during their (German) plunder - all the pottery, china, faience has been smashed into pieces also. A part of the collection of paintings disappeared to Germany. Not even one stolen painting has ever been recovered. The castle has been restored in 2005.

Below you can get an impression of the changes of the landscape around Nederhemert through the ages. My drawings will never become prize winners, I am afraid. See for yourself.



**3.2 Landscape with rivers 1643; artist Aelbert Cuyp Holland, 1620-1691**  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Panoramic\\_Landscape\\_with\\_Shepherds.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Panoramic_Landscape_with_Shepherds.jpg)  
*Impression from the past*

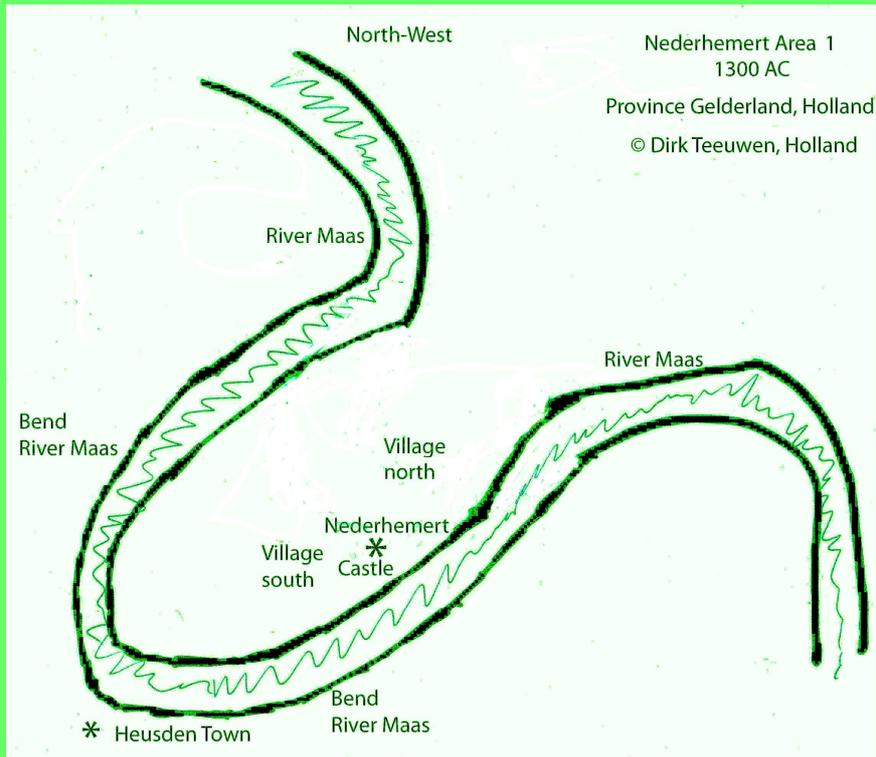


### 3.3 Nederhemert, north and south, in 1867

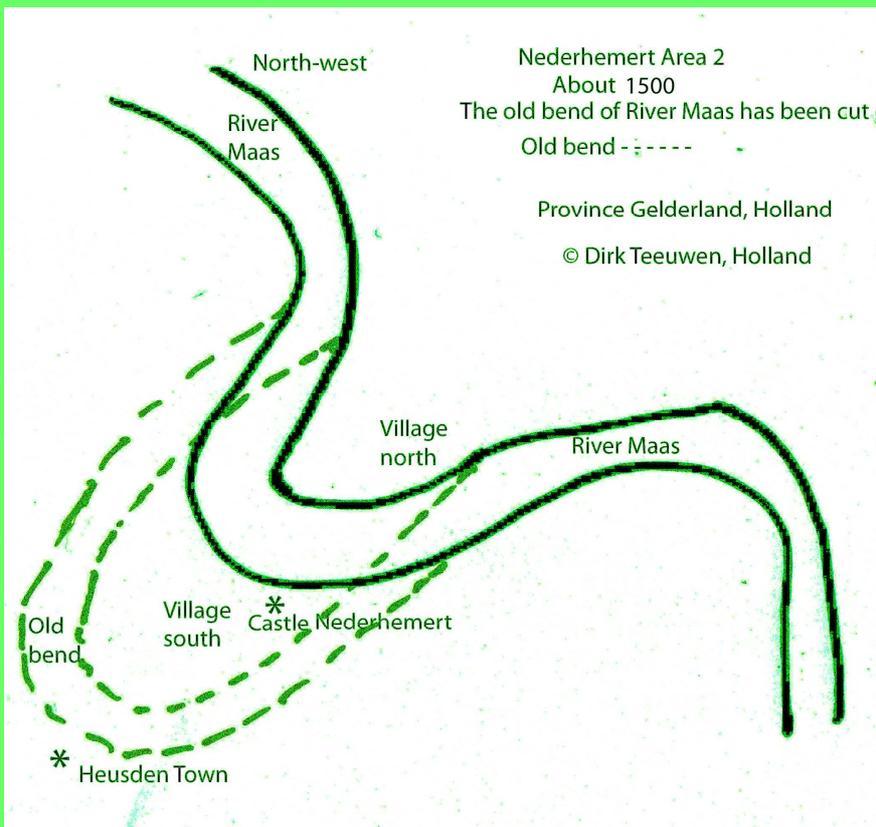
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Netherlands\\_Nederhemert\\_map\\_of\\_1867.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Netherlands_Nederhemert_map_of_1867.jpg)



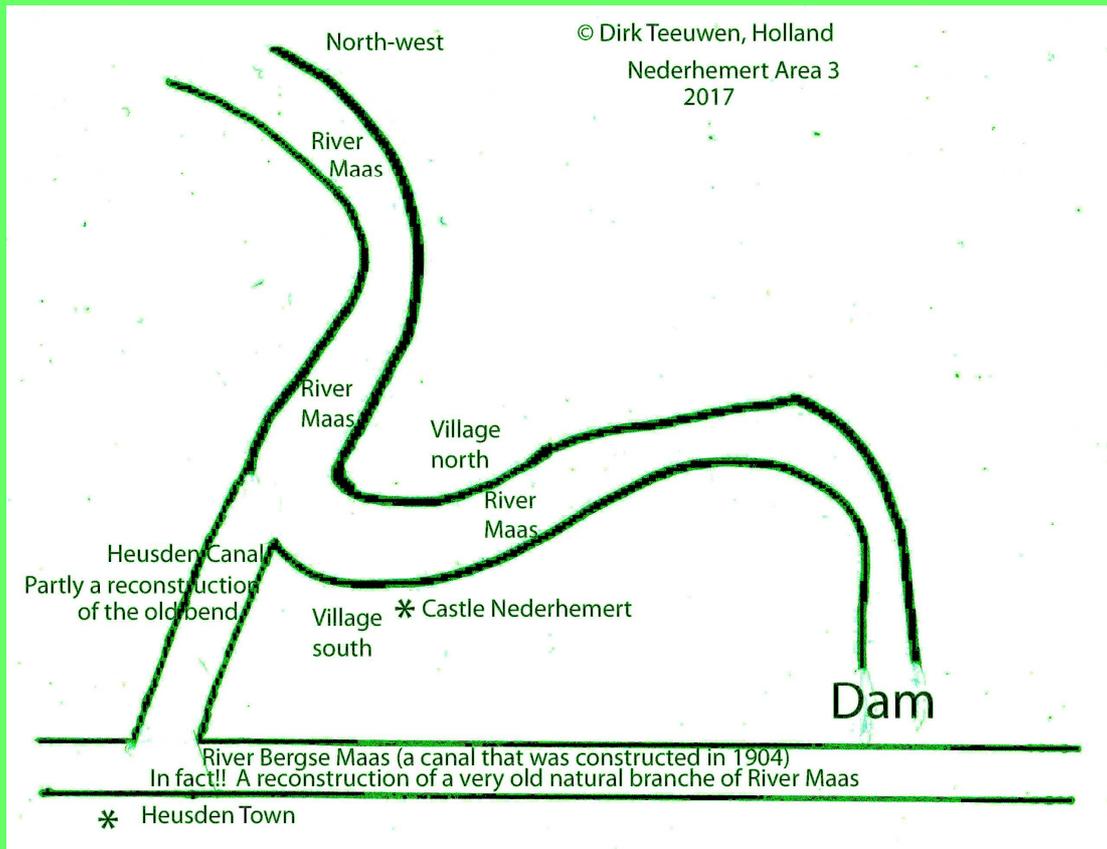
**3.4 Landscape with skaters 1615; Hendrick Avercamp Holland 1585-1634**  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Hendrik\\_Avercamp\\_-\\_Winter\\_Scene\\_on\\_a\\_Canal\\_-\\_Google\\_Art\\_Project.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Hendrik_Avercamp_-_Winter_Scene_on_a_Canal_-_Google_Art_Project.jpg) Impression from the past



**3.5 The Nederhemert area about the year of 1300**



**3.6 The Nederhemert area about 1500**



**3.7 The Nederhemert area in 2017**

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Aelbert\\_Cuyp\\_\(Dutch\\_-\\_A\\_View\\_of\\_the\\_Maas\\_at\\_Dordrecht\\_-\\_Google\\_Art\\_Project.jpg\)](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Aelbert_Cuyp_(Dutch_-_A_View_of_the_Maas_at_Dordrecht_-_Google_Art_Project.jpg)) Public domain Artist Aelbert Cuyp Holland 1646



**3.8 River in Holland 1646; artist Aelbrecht Cuyp 1620-1691**

**[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Aelbert\\_Cuyp\\_\(Dutch\\_-\\_A\\_View\\_of\\_the\\_Maas\\_at\\_Dordrecht\\_-\\_Google\\_Art\\_Project.jpg\)](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Aelbert_Cuyp_(Dutch_-_A_View_of_the_Maas_at_Dordrecht_-_Google_Art_Project.jpg))**  
**Impression from the past**

## 4. Walking around the Castle in 1325

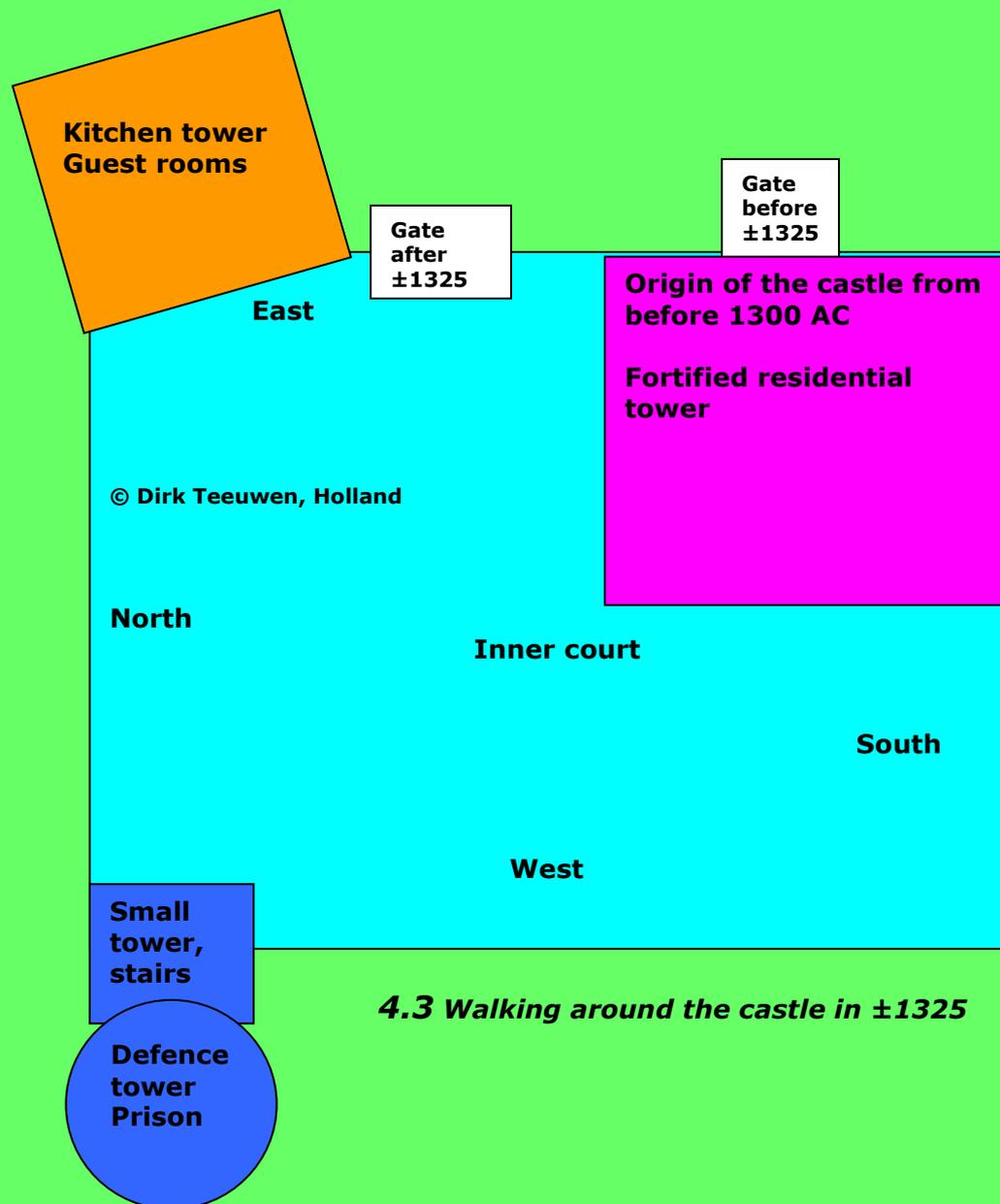


**4.1 Graveyard (nobility and common people): old church, Nederhemert**



Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland

**4.2 Tomb, graveyard Nederhemert**



**4.3 Walking around the castle in ±1325**

The inner court was enclosed by a brick wall, a moat, a fortified residential tower, defence tower (prison), kitchen tower and toilets built in the outer walls.

The brick fortified residential tower, from ±1300, was the first building of the complex and was maybe a remake of an older wooden fortified tower on the same spot. Gradually, after ±1300, a walled court and more buildings have been constructed. Most probably the first gate was a fortified opening on the first floor of the old residential tower at its eastern side. This fortified tower, visible in picture 4.1 (south-eastern corner), is still there in our time and it is a remarkable one because of its, mediaeval, arced Bohemian cellar vault. Left from the residential tower, in the eastern brick wall, a second gate made the area accessible. Then the first (tower) gate had no useful function any more and was converted into a window. The new eastern gate was located more

or less opposite the entrance that was constructed later: at the western side in the 16<sup>th</sup> century.



**4.4 Reconstruction of an early mediaeval fortified, residential, tower made from wood. Museum Stella Maris Oostkapelle Village in Zeeland Province in The Netherlands.**

So, a mediaeval, fortified tower or house was - mostly and for obvious reasons - equipped with a gate on the first floor in combination with stairs to connect the occupants with the outside world.

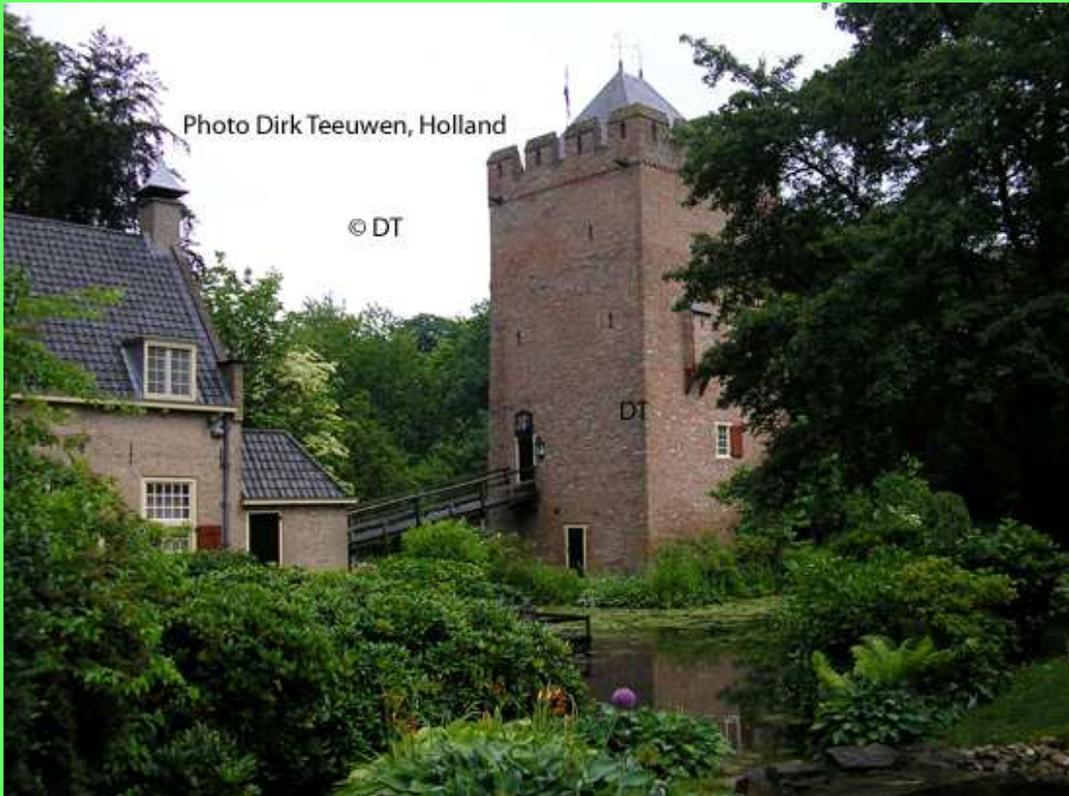
This can be illustrated with a picture of Schierstins Castle (9) in Veenwouden Village in Friesland Province in The Netherlands and also with Luneburg Castle (10), in Langbroek Village, Utrecht Province in The Netherlands.



**4.5 Coat of arms of the municipality of Nederhemert (20<sup>th</sup> century)**  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Nederhemert\\_wapen.svg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Nederhemert_wapen.svg) Public domain



***4.6 Early mediaeval fortified tower, Schierstins Castle in Holland  
Near Veenwouden Village, in the province of Friesland in The Netherlands***



**4.7 Early Dutch mediaeval fortified tower, Lunenburg Castle  
Near the town of Utrecht, in The Netherlands**



**4.8 Coat of arms of the Quadt van Wickraedt family (17<sup>th</sup> century)**  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Quadt\\_Siebmacher123\\_-\\_Rheinland.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Quadt_Siebmacher123_-_Rheinland.jpg)



**4.9 Fishing party with the Lord of Holland, Jan III (third, right from the centre), near The Hague ; artist Jan van Eyck 1390-1441**

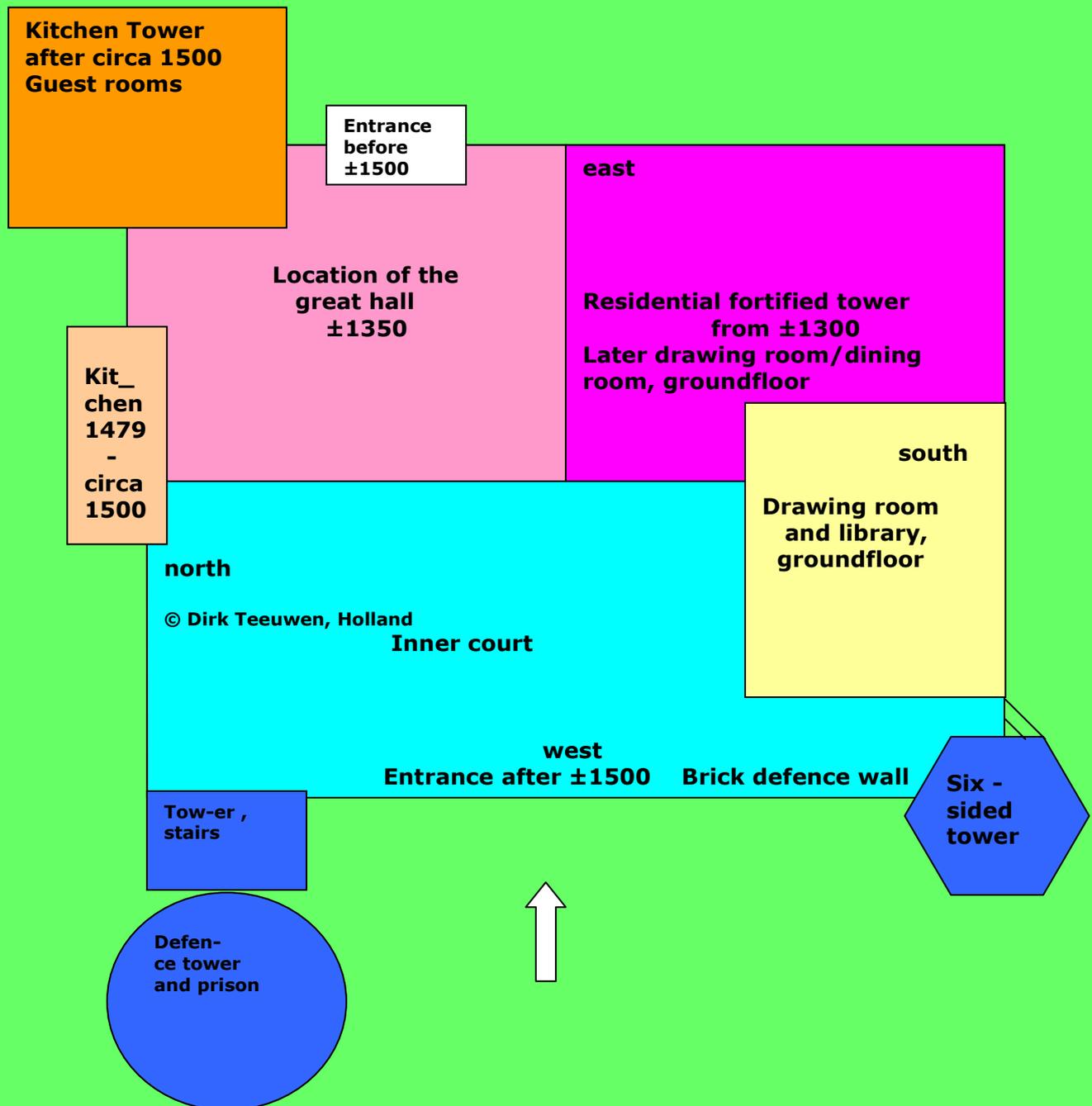
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**Siege in the Middle Ages, 1490; artist unknown**

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Siege\\_of\\_a\\_city,\\_medieval\\_miniature.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Siege_of_a_city,_medieval_miniature.jpg)  
Impression from the past

## 5. Walking around the Castle in 1490



*5.1 See 4.2 Now, walking around the castle in  $\pm 1490$ , after the looting and fire raising of 1479. Proportions in 4.1 and 5.1 are equal.*

**Nederhemert Village and its castle were looted and were set on fire by soldiers paid by the nearby town of 's-Hertogenbosch in 1479 (see paragraph 3). After this catastrophe the castle has been rebuilt and gradually the construction work has been extended. A drawing room and a six-side tower were built on the south-western corner, so we can see on picture 5.1.**

The inner court was enclosed by a brick wall, a moat, a fortified residential tower, defence tower (prison also), a kitchen tower and toilets built in the outer walls. Before 1479 the first kitchen tower, built in an eastern angle of 75°, sank away in the mud, steady but slowly. After 1479 a new kitchen tower has been built, now in angle of 45°.

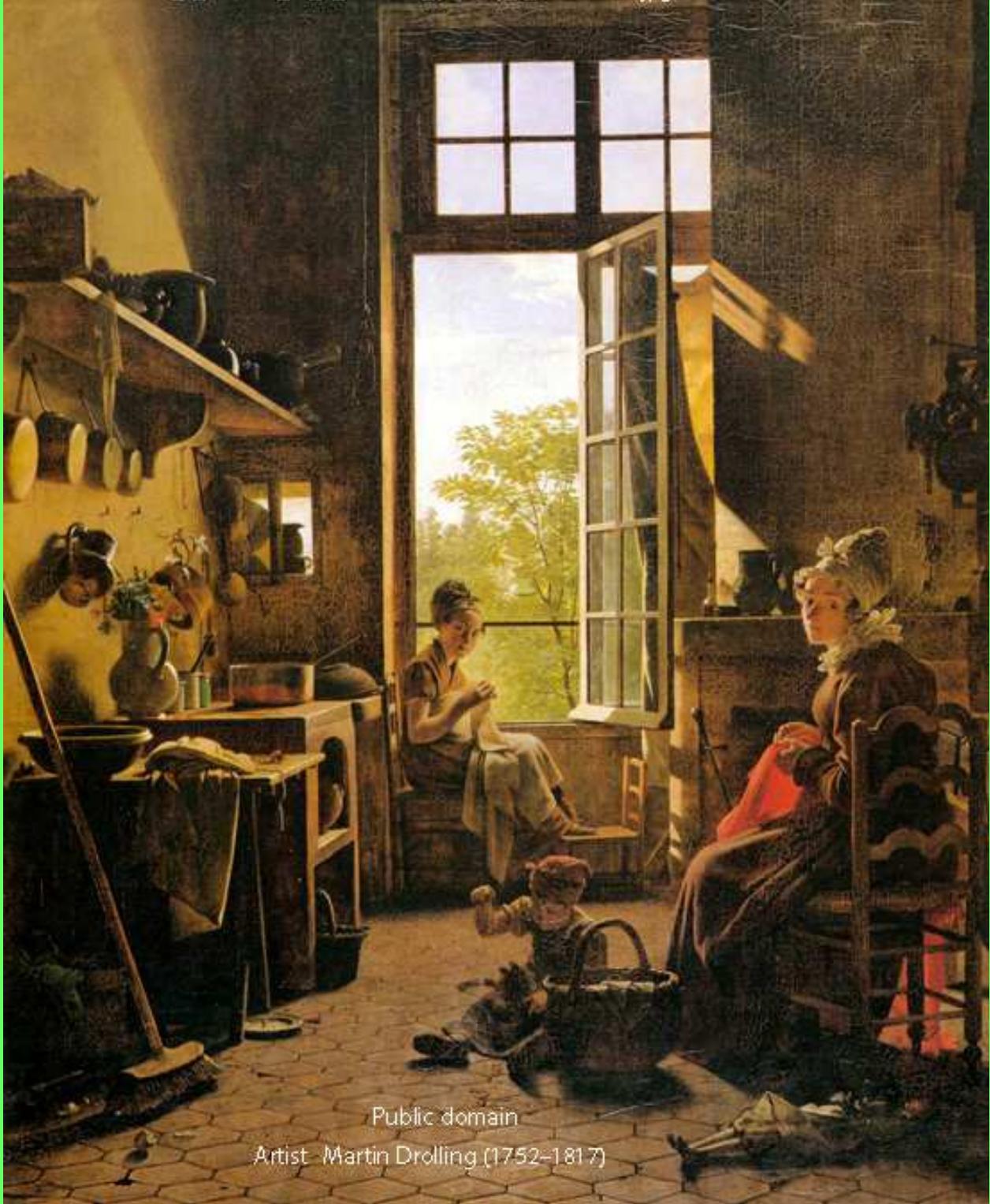
Walking into the castle from the west our visitor stepped into the inner court in the first place and then was received by the baron in his drawing room, casu quo library. Later, in the evening, maybe the guest might enjoy dinner with the noble family in a dining room on the ground floor of the old residential tower. After dinner the guest could admire the tapestry in the great hall while drinking a schnapps or two. At midnight our guest could retire to a guest room on the first or second floor of the kitchen tower. However, mostly in those days, people went to bed with the sun.



**A married couple, Anna Rijks and Pieter Bicker 1529; artist Marten van Heemskerck 1498-1574 Impression from the past, public domain**

**[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Portretten\\_van\\_een\\_echtpaar,\\_mogelijk\\_Pieter\\_Gerritsz\\_Bicker\\_en\\_Anna\\_Codde\\_Rijksmuseum\\_SK-A-3519.jpeg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Portretten_van_een_echtpaar,_mogelijk_Pieter_Gerritsz_Bicker_en_Anna_Codde_Rijksmuseum_SK-A-3519.jpeg)**  
**[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Maarten\\_van\\_Heemskerck\\_-\\_Portrait\\_of\\_Pieter\\_Bicker\\_Gerritsz.\\_-\\_WGA11296.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Maarten_van_Heemskerck_-_Portrait_of_Pieter_Bicker_Gerritsz._-_WGA11296.jpg)**

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Martin\\_Drolling\\_-\\_Interior\\_of\\_a\\_Kitchen\\_\(detail\)\\_-\\_WGA6679.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Martin_Drolling_-_Interior_of_a_Kitchen_(detail)_-_WGA6679.jpg)



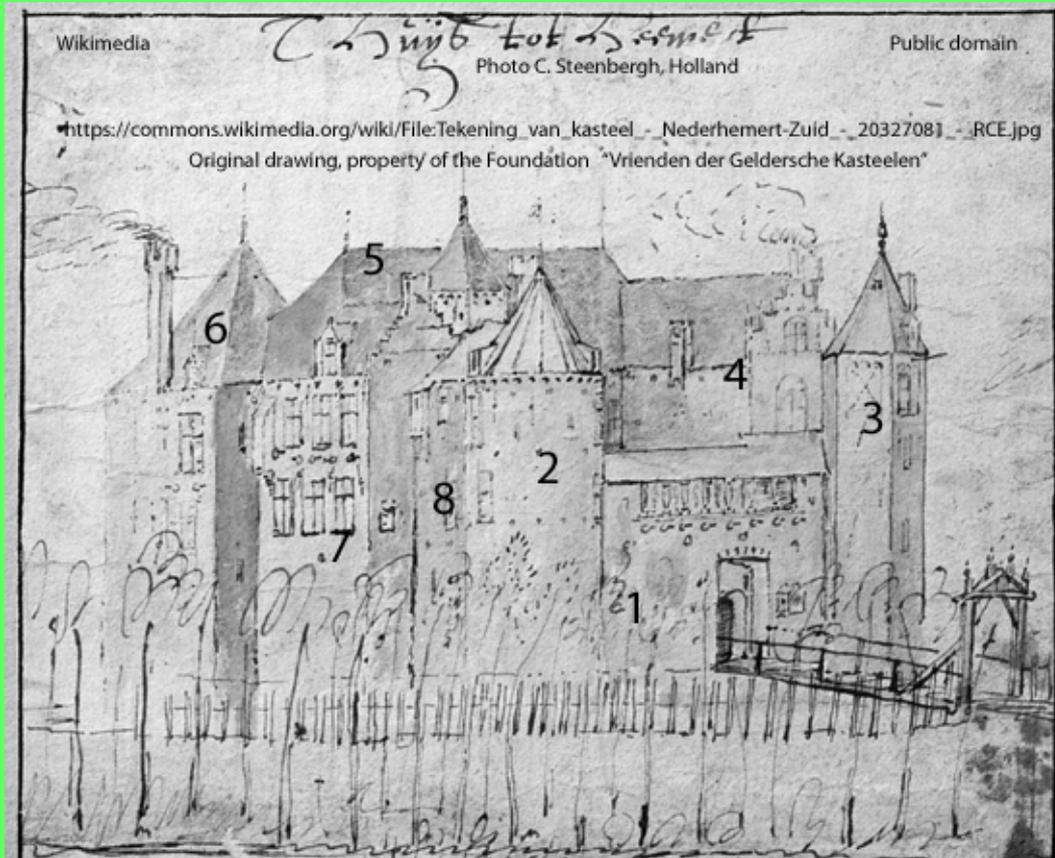
Public domain

Artist: Martin Drolling (1752–1817)

***Interior of a kitchen, 1815; artist Martin Drolling 1752-1817 (Louvre Paris)***  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Martin\\_Drolling\\_-\\_Interior\\_of\\_a\\_Kitchen\\_\(detail\)\\_-\\_WGA6679.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Martin_Drolling_-_Interior_of_a_Kitchen_(detail)_-_WGA6679.jpg)

## 6. A visit to Nederhemert Castle in 1648

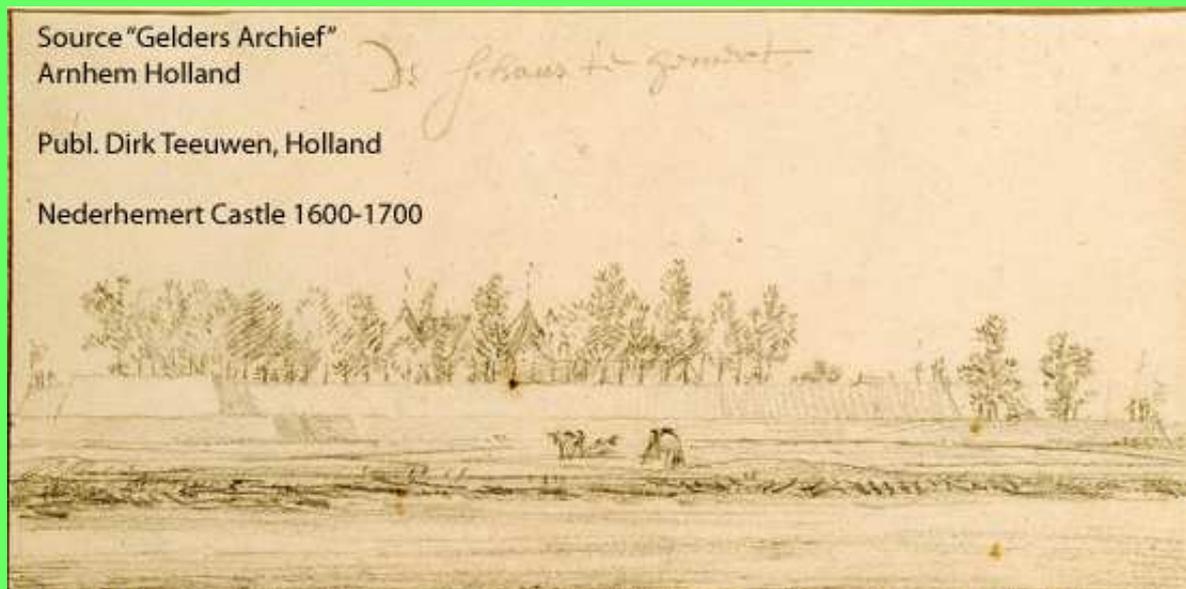
(© text §6, Dirk Teeuwen)



### 6.1 Nederhemert Castle about 1650

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Tekening\\_van\\_kasteel\\_-\\_Nederhemert-Zuid\\_-\\_20327081\\_-\\_RCE.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Tekening_van_kasteel_-_Nederhemert-Zuid_-_20327081_-_RCE.jpg) Provided by the Dutch "Rijksdienst voor het Cultureel Erfgoed"

Also: Vermeulen, F. A. J.: *De monumenten van geschiedenis en kunst in de Provincie Gelderland*; The Hague Holland 1932 p. 114



### 6.2 Nederhemert Castle seen from the south, 1600-1700

<https://www.geldersarchief.nl/obj.nr.1551-1287>

**It is June, the year of 1648; let's venture into the lion's den, let's start our imaginary visit to the Castle.**

**We arrive in front of the fortress and leave our carriages behind for a while. By walking over the bridge (from the north) we enter the castle. Left from us we discover the castle's round defence tower (2 on 6.1), fit for prisoners also. Right a six-sided defence tower (3 on 6.1). After crossing the bridge we pass the gate (1 on 6.1) and a guard. The steward-administrator of the estate tells us that the noble family is expecting us. In the drawing room/library (4 on 6.1) the Honourable Wilhelm Baron Quadt von Wickradt, and her Ladyship Maria, Baroness of Nederhemert, welcome us most warmly by the hand. It is late in the afternoon. So a servant offers us a drink and we are invited to dinner (4 and 5, both on 6.1). There is wine, all kind of meat, fish, even oysters, wheat bread, fresh fruit, etc.**



***Left Wilhelm Thomas Baron Quadt von Wickradt, 1610-1671. In 1646 he married Lady (Baroness) Maria Torck of Nederhemert, 1615-1654. After his wife's death in 1654 Wilhelm Thomas became guardian (until 1671) to their son Willem Bertram, 1652-1713.***

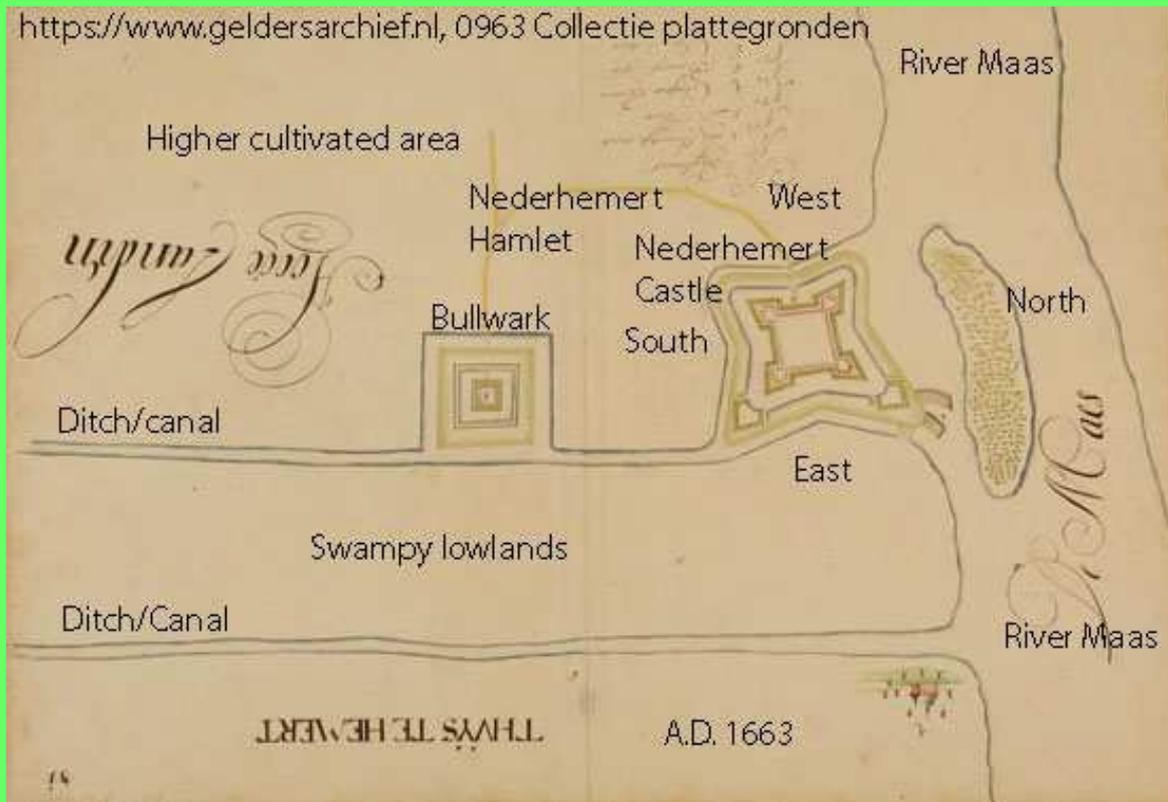


**<<<<Wilhelm Thomas Maria>>>>**

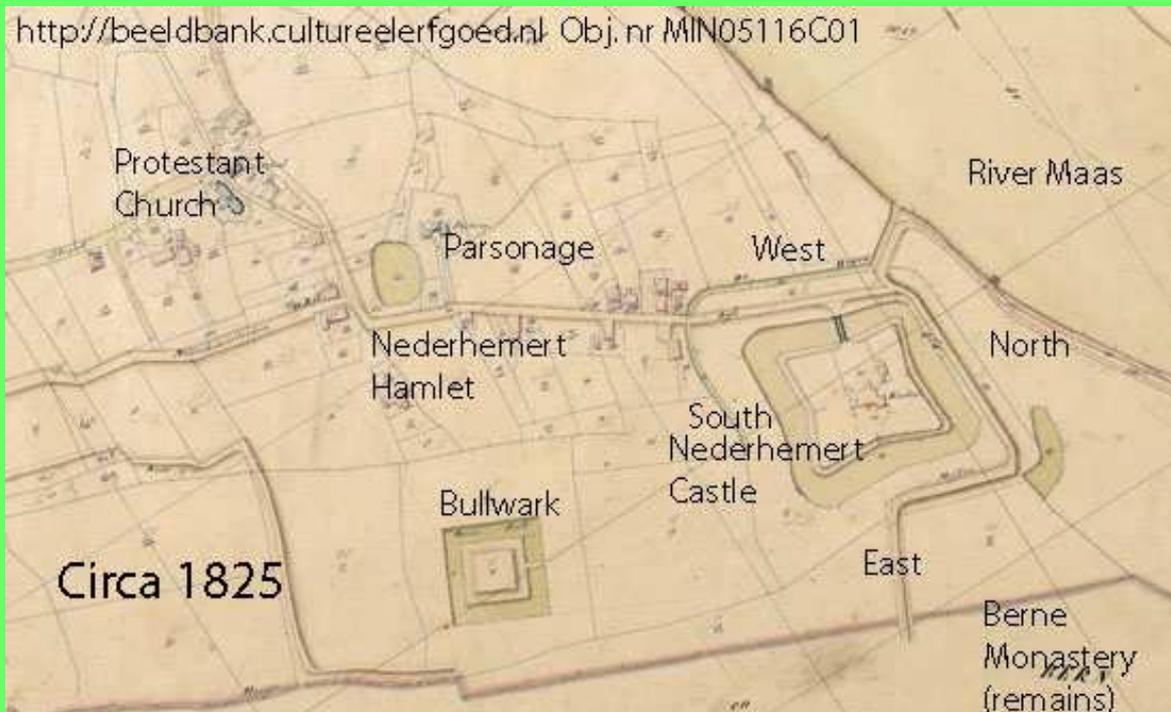
***These awful photographs have been taken by the author from a touristic information sign.***

**After dinner - while smoking a fill of tobacco, drinking a brandy or two and listening to music produced by a harpsichordist - we admire portraits and painted landscapes in the Great Hall (5 on 6.1). Of course we are listening politely to the explanations by the Right Honourable Baron. Then we are going to sleep in one of the guest rooms on the second floor of the living quarters (7 on 6.1). Besides these guest rooms there is more sleeping accommodation in the kitchen tower (6 on 6.1). In case of urgency we are allowed to use a toilet, which consists of a protruding part of the wall with a hole in the floor. The toilet hangs (very practically indeed) over the moat.**

**Next morning a maid awakens us, she sets down a washbasin filled with warm water. The maid kindles the wood in the fireplace and takes away the chamber pots. A bit later another maid helps us to dress ourselves. Then we adjourn to the drawing room / library (4 on 6.1) to enjoy breakfast. The Baron and her Ladyship, the Baroness (she is so beautiful), inquire after our well-being. Servants hand over to us anything we ask for: expensive wheat bread, eggs, ham, cheese, excellent spring water, wine, whatever. (Text continues on page 30)**



**6.3 Nederhemert area in 1663; artist J. Elandt 17th century**  
<https://www.geldersarchief.nl>, 0963 Collectie plattegronden



**6.4 Detail an old cadastral map from 1811-1832; artist Nederhemert Municipality circa 1825 (Rijksdienst Cultureel Erfgoed, Amersfoort Holland)**  
<http://beeldbank.cultureelerfgoed.nl> Obj. nr MIN05116C01

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Steen\\_Oyster-eater.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Steen_Oyster-eater.jpg)  
Public domain



**6.4 Young lady eating oysters 1658, artist Jan Steen Holland**  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Steen\\_Oyster-eater.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Steen_Oyster-eater.jpg)  
Impression from the past, public domain



**65 "Her ladyship" (unknown) circa 1640; artist Michiel van Miereveld 1566-1641 Holland**  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Michiel-Jansz\\_van\\_Mierevelt\\_\(attr\)\\_Bildnis\\_einer\\_jungen\\_adeligen\\_Dame.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Michiel-Jansz_van_Mierevelt_(attr)_Bildnis_einer_jungen_adeligen_Dame.jpg)  
*Impression from the past*



**6.6 Willem Gustaaf Frederik Bentink circa 1800, married to Ottoline van Reede van Nederhemert; artist unknown**  
<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/3f/WillemGustaafFrederikBentinck.jpg>

**Our stay in the Castle is really something else for a change, because - before we arrived here - we stopped off in some good, but simple, inns. In those inns breakfast normally consisted of porridges, black bread, milk, beer. Dinners in the inns were rather rural - black bread, beer, gin, some fruit and hunks of meat – and was eaten at a large table by the use of hands and knives. Our company were too many common people behaving rowdy. Not our noble kind of people, absolutely not!**

**After breakfast the Baron and her Ladyship, the Baroness, see us out. Our carriages and luggage are ready in the inner court. We thank our noble host and hostess (she is so beautiful) for their overwhelming hospitality. We stride to our conveyances between two rows of maids and male servants. They curtsy to us and we nod our heads graciously a couple of times. The steward-administrator of the estate helps us gallantly to get in our coaches. One more farewell and here we go.**

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Pieter\\_Claesz.\\_-Stilleven\\_met\\_kalkoenpastei\\_-\\_Google\\_Art\\_Project.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Pieter_Claesz._-Stilleven_met_kalkoenpastei_-_Google_Art_Project.jpg)  
Public domain



**6.7 Dinner table, 1627; artist Pieter Claesz 1597-1661 Holland**  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Pieter\\_Claesz.\\_-Stilleven\\_met\\_kalkoenpastei\\_-\\_Google\\_Art\\_Project.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Pieter_Claesz._-Stilleven_met_kalkoenpastei_-_Google_Art_Project.jpg) Impression from the past

Artist Johannes Mijtens 1652  
Public domain



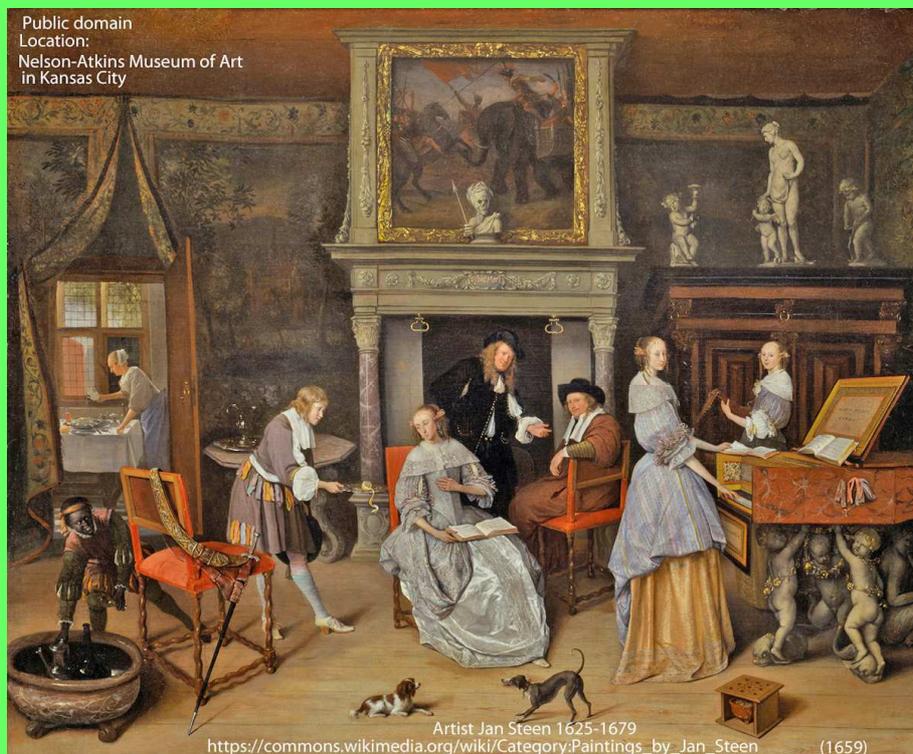
Location The Hague Historical Museum  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Van\\_den\\_Kerckhoven\\_door\\_Jan\\_Mijtens.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Van_den_Kerckhoven_door_Jan_Mijtens.jpg)

**6.8 Rich Dutch family 1652; artist Johannes Mijtens 1614-1670**  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Van\\_den\\_Kerckhoven\\_door\\_Jan\\_Mijtens.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Van_den_Kerckhoven_door_Jan_Mijtens.jpg)  
Impression from the past

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Paintings\\_by\\_Isaac\\_van\\_Ostade](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Paintings_by_Isaac_van_Ostade)  
Artist Isaac van Ostade 1645  
Location "Rijksmuseum Amsterdam  
Country inn with horse and wagon



**6.9 Travellers outside an inn, 1647; artist Isaac van Ostade 1621-1649 Holland**  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Paintings\\_by\\_Isaac\\_van\\_Ostade](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Paintings_by_Isaac_van_Ostade)  
*Impression from the past, public domain*



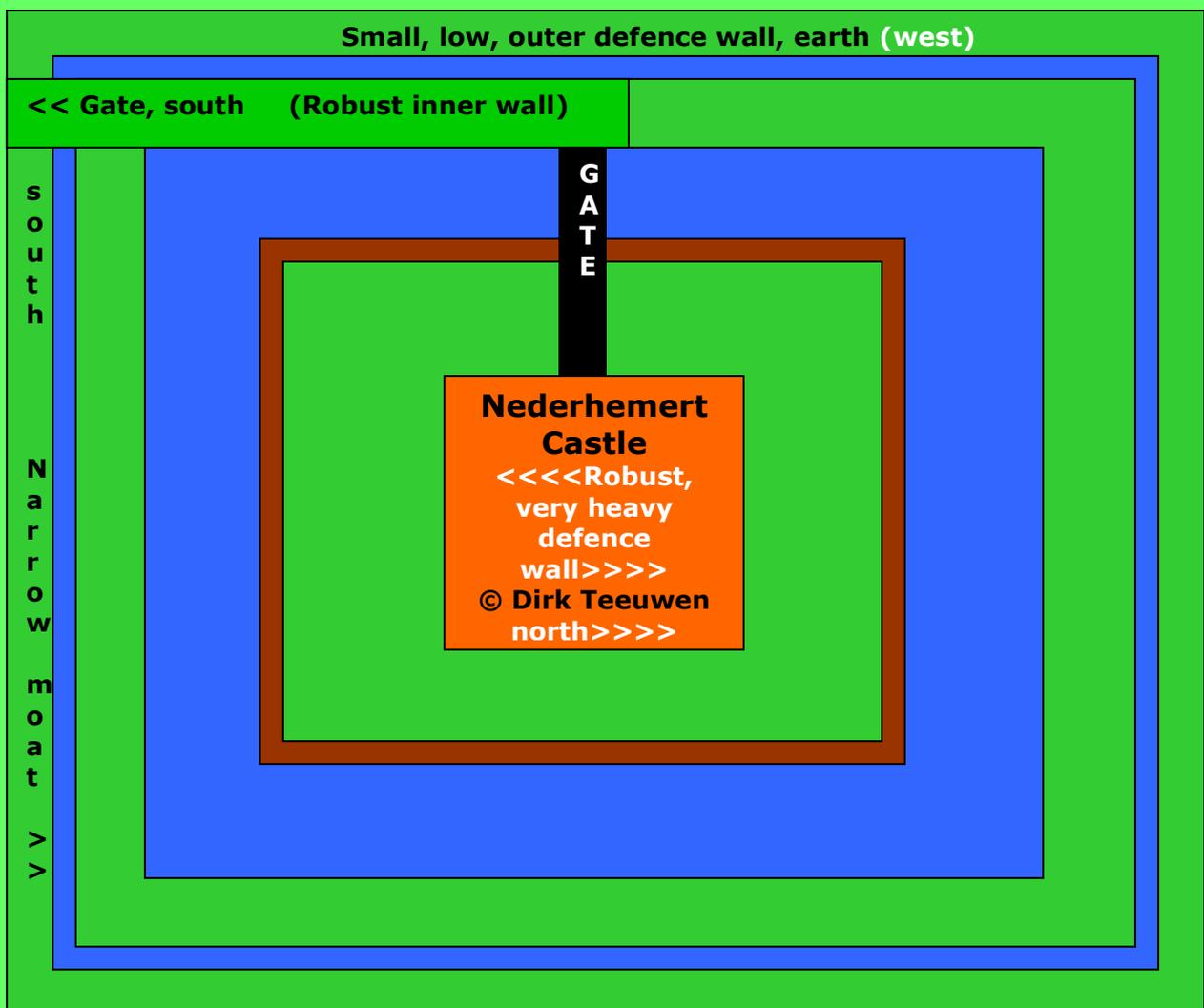
Public domain  
Location:  
Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art  
in Kansas City

Artist Jan Steen 1625-1679  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Paintings\\_by\\_Jan\\_Steen](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Paintings_by_Jan_Steen) (1659)

**6.10 Interior of the house of a rich Dutch family, 1659; artist Jan Steen 1625-1679**  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Paintings\\_by\\_Jan\\_Steen](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Paintings_by_Jan_Steen)  
*Impression from the past, public domain*

## 7. Fortress Nederhemert in 1776

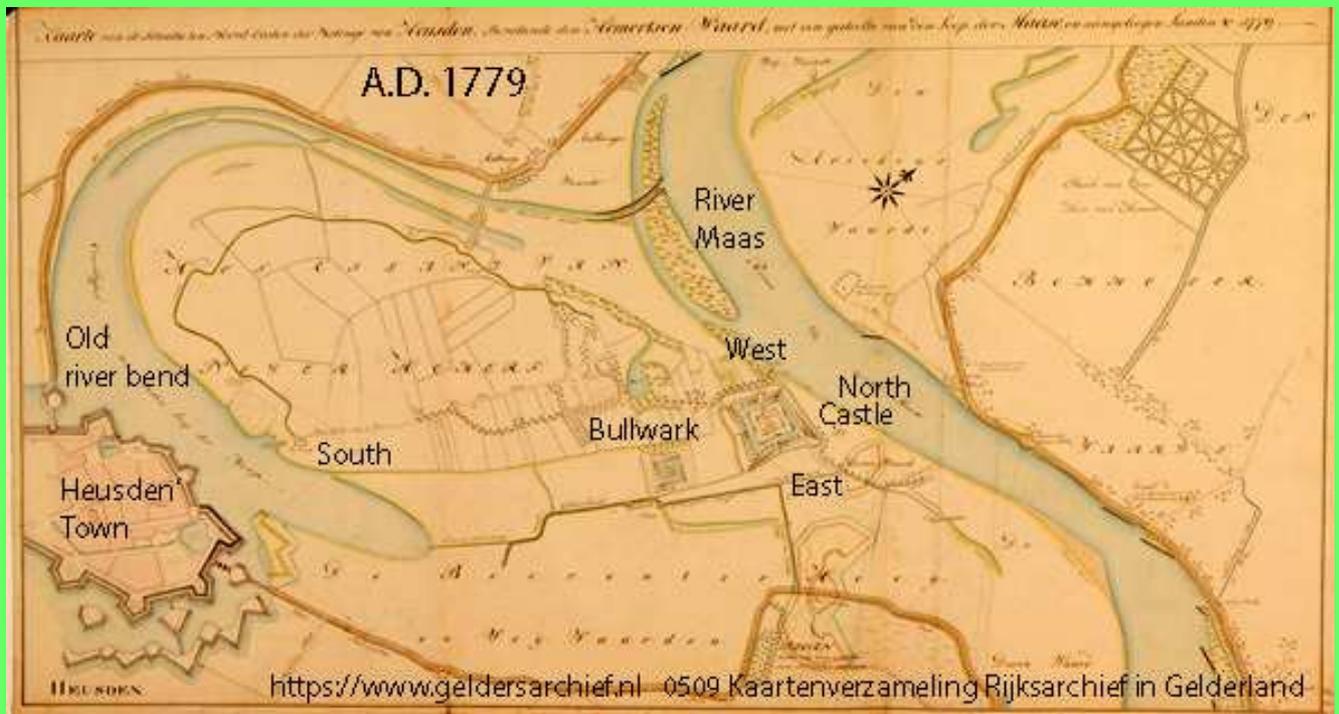
Below the author's study shows the simplified right-angled reconstruction -complete fortress, which once was Nederhemert Castle in the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The west side bordered (and borders) on River Maas. Along the northern side the area was very swampy and a deep natural ditch was located just outside the small, northern, outer defence wall. East from the castle there was (and is) a freestanding large bulwark. Until 1815 Fortress Nederhemert and the, so called, Spanish Bulwark have been an important tactical construction in the west of The Netherlands.



7.1 Sketch of Fortress Nederhemert, Nederhemert Castle in the centre, 1776  
Dirk Teeuwen, Holland, own work

Once the castle was an outpost of an old defence line in the west of The Netherlands. The defence line consisted of a row of fortresses from north to south in a swampy area and so it was possible to inundate the area. Because of that the west of The Netherlands could become an island in times of war.

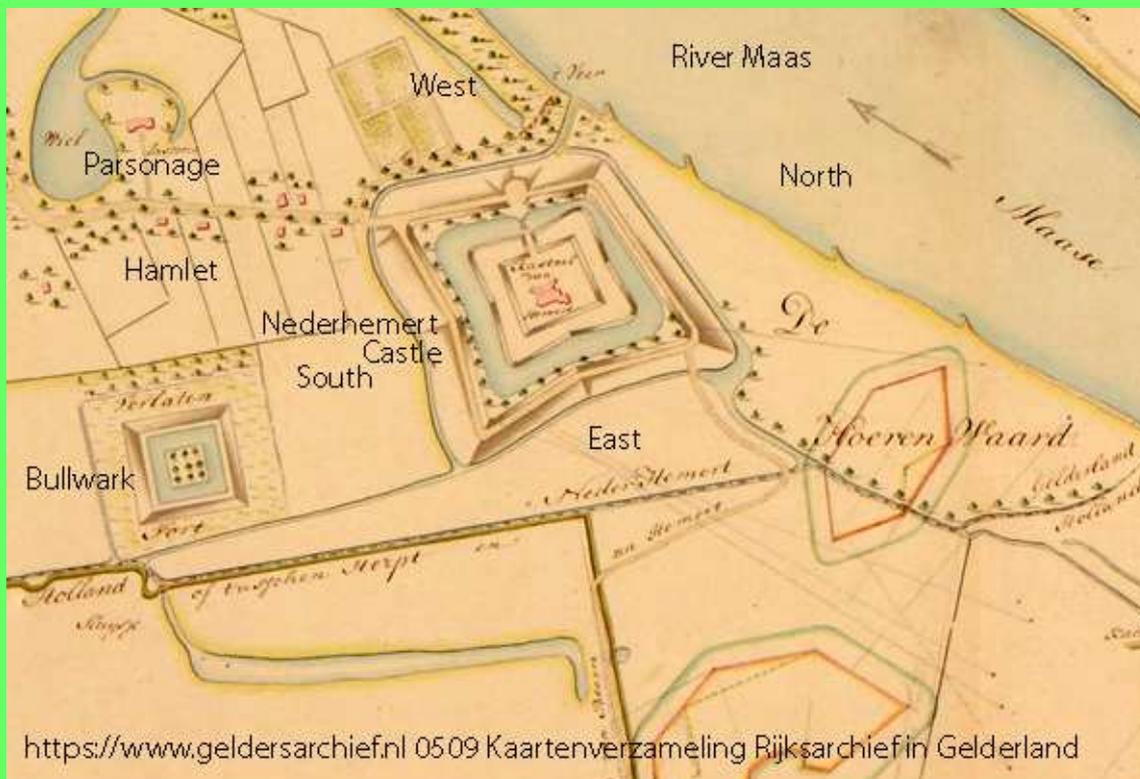
**Locally, after 1672, this outpost of the old dutch defence line included the fortress town of Heusden, the Spanish Bulwark and Nederhemert Castle.**



**7.2 The Castle of Nederhemert and the Spanish Bulwark in 1779**

*Adaptations by Dirk Teeuwen, Holland;*

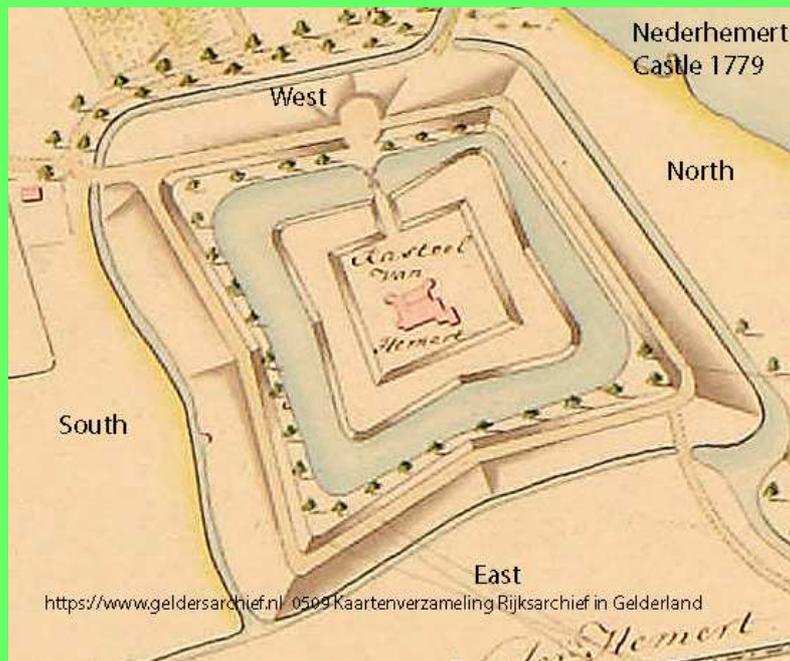
[https://www.geldersarchief.nl/0509/Kaartenverzameling/Rijksarchief in Gelderland](https://www.geldersarchief.nl/0509/Kaartenverzameling/Rijksarchief%20in%20Gelderland)



**7.3 Detail from 7.2. The sketch of 7.1 is based on this picture, 1779.**

*Adaptation by Dirk Teeuwen, Holland*

[https://www.geldersarchief.nl/0509/Kaartenverzameling/Rijksarchief in Gelderland](https://www.geldersarchief.nl/0509/Kaartenverzameling/Rijksarchief%20in%20Gelderland)



**7.4 Detail from 7.2. Nederhemert Castle in 1779**

Adaptation by Dirk Teeuwen, Holland

<https://www.geldersarchief.nl/0509> Kaartenverzameling Rijksarchief in Gelderland

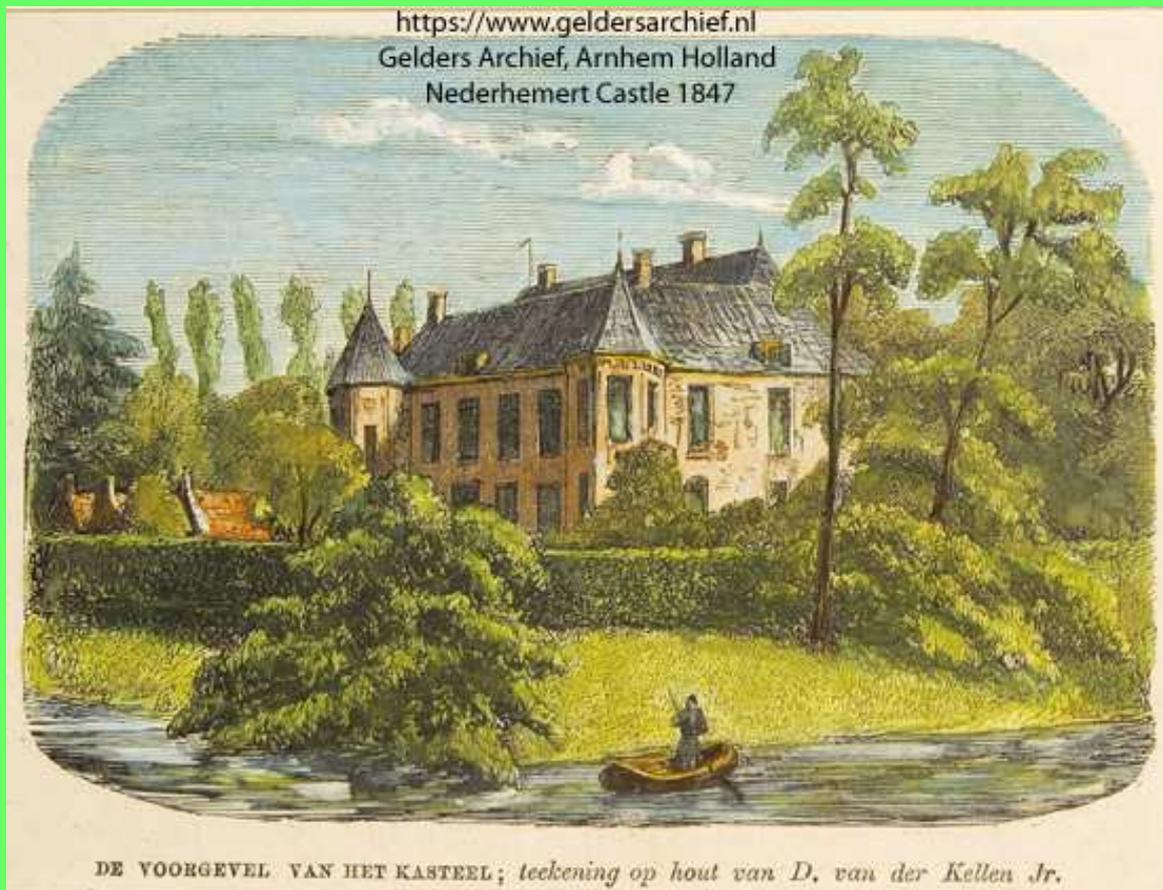


**7.5 Soldiers playing cards, 1618; artist Valentin de Boulogne 1591-1632**

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Valentin\\_de\\_Boulogne\\_-\\_Soldiers\\_Playing\\_Cards\\_and\\_Dice\\_\(The\\_Cheats\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Valentin_de_Boulogne_-_Soldiers_Playing_Cards_and_Dice_(The_Cheats).jpg)

Impression from the past

## 8. Nederhemert Castle in the 19<sup>th</sup> century



### 8.1 Nederhemert Castle. 1847

<https://www.geldersarchief.nl> obj. nr. 1551-1288



### 8.2 Nederhemert Castle, 1843

<https://www.geldersarchief.nl> obj. nr. 1554-1505-S267JRG39

<https://www.geldersarchief.nl>  
Gelders Archief, Arnhem Holland  
Nederhemert Castle, circa 1860-1870



**8.3 Nederhemert Castle, circa 1865**  
<https://www.geldersarchief.nl> obj. nr 1551-1265

Have a look at picture 6.1 (Nederhemert Castle in 1650) again. Between the towers at the front we see the main gate. This gate is a part of a firm, and a rather high, brick defence wall. About 1800 this brick wall has been broken off and the western front, the location of the main entrance, was rebuilt. As a result the west side, in front of the gate, became an open square. In 1870-1880 one more renovation took place. The western front was replaced by a new one: see pictures 8.4, 8.5., 8.6,8.7.





**8.6 Nederhemert Castle after its renovation, 1884**

[https://www.geldersarchief.nl/bronnen/foto-s-en-films?mistart=0&mivast=37&mizig=284&miadt=37&milang=nl&misort=last\\_mod%7Cdesc&miview=gal&mizk\\_alle=nederhemert\\_obj. nr 1551-1292](https://www.geldersarchief.nl/bronnen/foto-s-en-films?mistart=0&mivast=37&mizig=284&miadt=37&milang=nl&misort=last_mod%7Cdesc&miview=gal&mizk_alle=nederhemert_obj. nr 1551-1292)



**8.7 Nederhemert Castle from south-west in 1918; artist C. J. Steenbergh  
Rijksdienst voor het Cultureel Erfgoed, Amersfoort Holland, obj. nr. ST-1.873  
<http://beeldbank.cultureelerfgoed.nl>**

Rijksdienst voor het Cultureel Erfgoed, Amersfoort Holland  
Obj. nr. ST-1.874  
Photo C. J. Steenberg 1918  
<http://beeldbank.cultureelerfgoed.nl>



**8.8 Nederhemert Castle, northern front 1918**

<http://beeldbank.cultureelerfgoed.nl/alle-afbeeldingen/detail/10e6fa36-767b-d226-88bf-b30c5654d887/media/ddf05c06-1b6f-ad3d-66d8-9605fb289181?mode=detail&view=horizontal&q=kasteel%20nederhemert&rows=1&page=39>  
**Obj. nr. ST-1874**

## 9. Nederhemert Castle and its noble families

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Zicht\\_op\\_de\\_voorgevel\\_vanaf\\_de\\_laan\\_naar\\_het\\_kasteel\\_-\\_Nederhemert-Zuid\\_-\\_20162627\\_-\\_RCE.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Zicht_op_de_voorgevel_vanaf_de_laan_naar_het_kasteel_-_Nederhemert-Zuid_-_20162627_-_RCE.jpg)



Obj. nr ST-1.872  
Photographer C. Steenberg, Holland  
Rijksdienst voor het Cultureel Erfgoed, The Netherlands

### 9.1 Nederhemert Castle in 1918

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Zicht\\_op\\_de\\_voorgevel\\_vanaf\\_de\\_laan\\_naar\\_het\\_kasteel\\_-\\_Nederhemert-Zuid\\_-\\_20162627\\_-\\_RCE.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Zicht_op_de_voorgevel_vanaf_de_laan_naar_het_kasteel_-_Nederhemert-Zuid_-_20162627_-_RCE.jpg)

Before 1310 and after, until 1516, the Nederhemert aristocratic families, mostly liegemen, originated from the Houses of Van Hemert. In 1516 the young Lady Hadewij van Hemert-Delwijnen ( $\pm 1500-1548$ ) married Lubbert Godard Torcq van Turksweerd (1480-1546). The House of Torck, liegemen, lived in Nederhemert until 1655. In 1646 Maria Torck married Wilhelm Thomas Quadt van Wickraedt (1610-1669). In 1683 their son Wilhelm Bertram Quadt van Wickraedt (1650-1713) – he was married to Maria Van Gent van Loenen (1654-1682) – was forced to leave the castle because of his many debts. In 1683 the Government of Holland, lent the estate, a liege, to his brother Johann Frederick Quadt (1682-1724) from 1683 until 1691. In 1691 the estate was sold to the widow Wendelina de With-Verhagen (1646- $\pm 1705$ ). She found a buyer and she transferred her legal rights regarding castle and village in 1697. This buyer was Baron Otto Frederick van Vittinghoff (1648-1724).

In 1691, Baron Otto Frederick and Lady Johanna Margaretha van Randwijck (1650-1724) were united in marriage. In 1715 their daughter Stephania Anna Amarantha (1687-1752) married Adriaan van Lynden van Poll-Bering (1674-1754). In 1727 Stephania became Lady of Nederhemert until her death.



**9.2 End of a dinner, circa 1900; artist Jules Alexandre Grun 1868-1934**  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Gr%C3%BCn\\_-\\_The\\_End\\_of\\_Dinner.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Gr%C3%BCn_-_The_End_of_Dinner.jpg)  
*Impression from the past*

**Her son Otto Frederick van Lynden (1716-1788) followed her up in 1752. Otto and his wife - Frederike Louise van der Does (1730-1811, marriage 1754) - adopted Ottoline van Reede (1773-1799). The Government of Holland lent Nederhemert to Ottoline from 1788 until her death in 1799. Her mother Louise enjoyed the usufruct. In 1791 Ottoline married Graaf Willem Bentinck van Rhoon (1762-1835).**

**Their daughter Ottoline Frederike Louise Bentinck was born in 1793 and died in 1868 shortly after the death of her husband Karel Baron van Nagell (1790-1868) to whom she married in 1814. Ottoline left Nederhemert to her son Anne Jan Baron van Nagell (1820-1880) in 1868. Anne Jan married Lady Elisabeth Anna van Kretschmar-Veen (1830-1910) and left her the estate after his death.**

**In 1861 Anne Maurice Adrienne van Kretschmar was born. Anne Maurice has been Lady of Nederhemert from 1910. She died in 1920. She was married to Ernst Willem Baron van Wassenaar (1861-1954) in 1896.**

**At the end of World War II the castle was set on fire by the Germans. In 1957 the noble family Van Wassenaer sold the family's properties to the State/Government of the Netherlands. The Dutch Government sold it to the local, provincially oriented, foundation "Geldersch Landschap".**

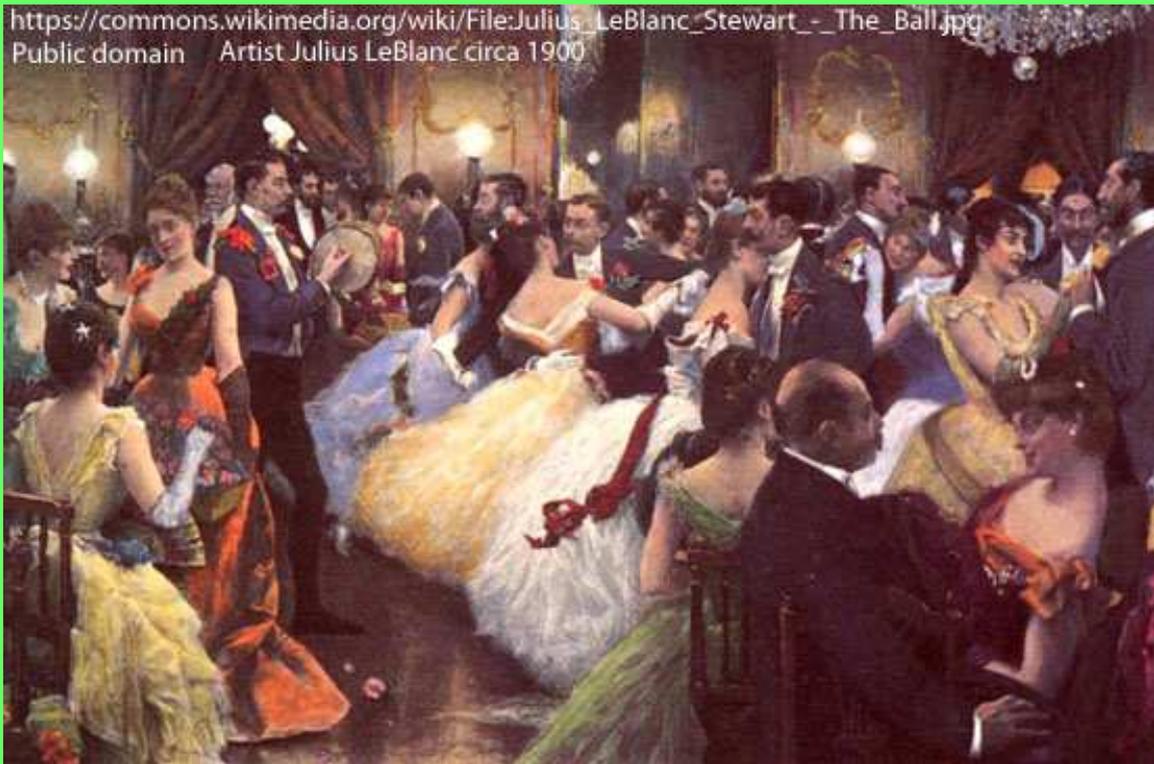
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Kramskoy\\_Portrait\\_of\\_a\\_Woman.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Kramskoy_Portrait_of_a_Woman.jpg)  
Artist Ivan Kramskoi 1883  
Public domain



**9.3 Portrait of a lady, 1883; artist Ivan Kramskoi 1837-1887**  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Kramskoy\\_Portrait\\_of\\_a\\_Woman.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Kramskoy_Portrait_of_a_Woman.jpg)  
*Impression from the past*

## **10. A summary of the family-occupation of Nederhemert Castle**

**1318–1516 De Cocq-Van Hemert**  
**1516–1654 Torcq (Van Hemert in the female bloodline)**  
**1654–1691 Quadt von Wickraedt, (Van Hemert in the female bloodline)**  
**1691–1697 Lady De With-Verhagen**  
**1697–1724 Van Vittinghoff (married to Lady Van Randwijck)**  
**1727–1752 Lady van Vittinghoff–Van Randwijck (married to Van Lynden)**  
**1752–1788 Van Lynden**  
**1788–1799 Van Lynden–Van Reede (married to Willem Bentinck-Van Loon)**  
**1799–1868 Lady Bentinck (married to Van Nagell)**  
**1868–1880 Van Nagell**  
**1880–1920 Van Kretschmar–Veen**  
**1920–1954/1957 Van Wassenaer**



**10.1 The ball, ± 1900; artist Jules LeBlanc Stewart 1855-1919**  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Julius\\_LeBlanc\\_Stewart\\_-\\_The\\_Ball.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Julius_LeBlanc_Stewart_-_The_Ball.jpg)  
*Impression from the past*



**Early morning 1865; artist Joseph Caraud 1821-1905**  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Joseph\\_Caraud\\_Am\\_Morgen\\_1865.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Joseph_Caraud_Am_Morgen_1865.jpg)  
*Impression from the past, public domain*



**10.3 Countess Varvara Musina-Pushkina 1852, 1832-1885; artist Franz Xavier Wintherhalter 1805-1873**

[https://da.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fil:Countess\\_Varvara\\_Alekseyevna\\_Musina-Pushkina.jpg](https://da.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fil:Countess_Varvara_Alekseyevna_Musina-Pushkina.jpg)  
*Impression from the past*

Otto Frederik, graaf van Lijnden 1737



**Otto Frederik Graaf/Count van Lynden 1716-1788; Artist Du Prat (?)**  
*Vermeulen, F. A. J.: Monumenten van geschiedenis en kunst van de provincie Gelderland; The Hague 1932 p. 121 (Also: Wikipedia and RRijksdienst voor et Cultureel Erfgoed, Amersfoort Holland, obj. nr 12.109)*

Frederica Louise van der Does 1730-1788



***Frederica Louise van der Does van Noordwijk ±1760, 1730-1788; artist J. B. Perronneau 1715-1783***

***Vermeulen, F. A. J.: Monumenten van geschiedenis en kunst van de provincie Gelderland; The Hague 1932 p. 123 (Also: Wikipediaand Rijksdienst voor het Cultureel Erfgoed, Amersfoort Holland, obj. nr 12.110)***

Adriaan, Graaf/Count van Lynden 1674-1754



**Adriaen, Graaf/Count van Lynden van Poll Behring ±1715, 1674-1754; artist  
Antonio Rossi 1700-1773**

**Vermeulen, F. A. J.: Monumenten van geschiedenis en kunst van de provincie Gelderland; The Hague  
1932 p. 124 (Also: Wikiedia and Rijksdienst voor het Cultureel Erfgoed, Amersfoort Holland, obj. nr.  
12.108)**

Baron Charles van Nagell van Nederhemert  
1790-1868



**Baron Charles van Nagell van Nederhemert ±1850, 1790-1868; artist unknown  
Gelders, Archief Arnhem Holland obj. nr. 0894-1603-0005, collection Ruurlo Castle Holland**

Ottoline Frederike Louise van Nagell van Nederhemert-Bentinck  
1793-1868



**Baroness Ottoline Frederike Louise van Nagell van Nederhemert-Bentinck**  
**±1850, 1793-1868; artist unknown**  
*Gelders, Archief Arnhem Holland obj. nr. 0894-1603-0004, collection Ruurlo Castle Holland*

## **11. Conclusion, past and present** ***Nederhemert Castle, risen from its ashes in 2005***

During early spring 1945 Nederhemert Castle was overtaken by catastrophe. World War II was still going on and the Allies tried to shoot the Germans out of the castle with a lot of artillery from the other side of River Maas. The result was excellent, but the castle was destroyed. The fortress was burnt down. The inventory - all of its furniture, all of its remaining art – was gone forever. Before the disaster the Germans stole a lot of art and smashed most of the faience to bits.

In 1960 the noble family Van Wassenaer sold the castle to the Dutch government. In 1962 the Foundation "Vrienden der Geldersche Kasteelen" ("Friends of Castles in Gelderland Province") leased the castle and later the Foundation became the owner of it. From 2002 until 2005 a renovation took place. As a result Nederhemert Castle can be admired in its Medieval glory.



***Nederhemert Castle in 1943; artist J. P. de Koning Holland***  
***Rijksdienst voor het Cultureel Erfgoed, Amersfoort Holland***  
***<http://beeldbank.cultureelerfgoed.nl> obj. nr. 260.321***

<http://beeldbank.cultureelerfgoed.nl> Obj. nr. 260.320  
Photographer, Koning, J.P. de,  
Holland



Rijksdienst voor het Cultureel Erfgoed, Amersfoort Holland  
***Nederhemert Castle in 1945; artist J. P. de Koning Holland***  
Rijksdienst voor het Cultureel Erfgoed, Amersfoort Holland  
***<http://beeldbank.cultureelerfgoed.nl> obj. nr. 260.321***



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***Nederhemert Castle in 2017***

**The old six-sided tower, right from the main gate is gone forever  
And so is the main gate itself. The defence walls have been  
levelled already before World War II, but not completely. The  
moats are still there. Walking around could give you an excellent  
impression about the local past as well as an impression of a  
typical Dutch atmosphere from bygone eras.**



***Nederhemert Castle, old moat, 2017***



Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland

***Nederhemert Castle, part of the old defence walls, 2017***



Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland

***Nederhemert Castle, its hamlet, 2017***



***Nederhemert Castle, its hamlet, 2017 (parsonage)***



***Nederhemert Castle, its hamlet, 2017***

**The end**

