

12. Jakarta History Museum, Pieter Erberfelt 1722

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Introduction

We are in the backyard of the old Dutch Town Hall and, standing in front of Mr Pieter Erbervelt's memorial stone, we could learn more about him. This stone is a copy. The original memorial stone was erected on the site of his residence on Jalan Jayakarta, once outside the town of Batavia, featuring his skull on a spike on top. Listen, follow the audio tour or do so later in Café Stadhuis, Café Btavia or in the bar of your hotel.

Pieter Erberfelt

In December 1721 a conspiracy of a certain Pieter Erberfelt in Batavia was discovered just in time. Pieter Erbervelt was accused by Governor-General Zwaardecroon of plotting a revolt with the help of a couple of Javanese. Pieter was arrested in his house with some Javanese men, amongst whom a certain gentleman, named Kartadria. Torturing in the Town Hall led to confessions. Erberfelt and his partisans were sentenced to death by drawing and quartering. The execution took place near the Castle of Batavia on April 22nd 1722. Pieter's arms and legs were attached to horses. Etc. etc. Pieter was in for a hell of a time, as you can understand. After the quartering he received the final blow. It was presumed that the conspiracy had spread widely, even as far as the eastern part of Java, where it was stated that the rebels had entered into relations with the grandsons of the rebel Untung Surapati. Surapati died in 1706. Too late the authorities found out that the accusations were probably (at least partially) false. Erberfelt met obscure characters in his house, but Erbervelt had a conflict with Governor-General Zwaardecroon about a piece of land also. The original monument is to see now on the European cemetery, called Museum Taman Prasasti, in the quarter of Tanah Abang in Jakarta. Maybe this Tanah Abang one is a copy also, like the one you can see in the backyard. Maybe the original one was stolen by the Japanese.

A summary of Pieter's story was chiselled on his memorial stone together with the conclusion that Pieter's residence was destroyed by the government under the leadership of Governor-General Zwaardecroon and that the authorities, in the name of God and with His help, would never allow a new construction of anything there on the spot. The author has been visiting the place in 2002 and he discovered an automobile garage company on the site of the former residence of Pieter Erbervelt. God moves in a mysterious way.

Pictures

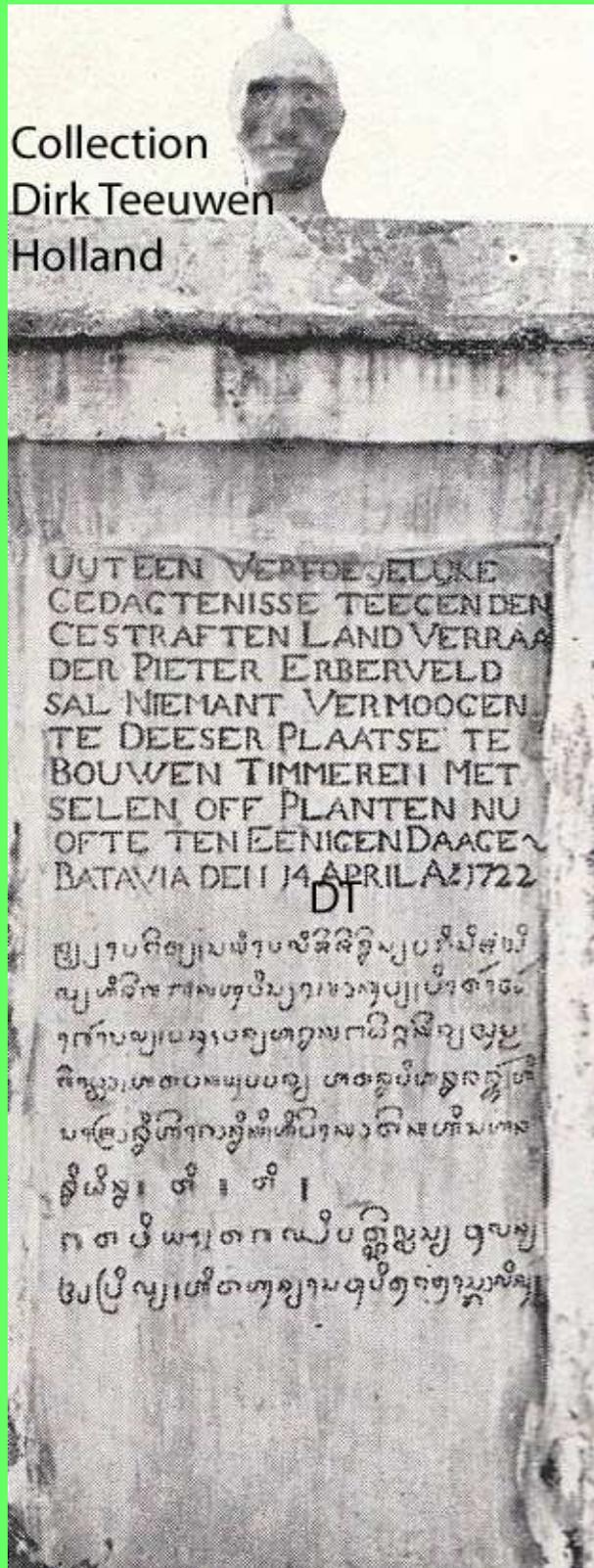


1. The head of Pieter Erberfelt, Batavia 1926
See 2



2. The head of Pieter Erberfelt, Batavia 1926
From > Leufkens, H.: Impressies van Batavia; Batavia 1926, page 11

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3. Pieter Erberfelt Memorial Stone, Batavia 1935

From > Stibbe, prof. dr. D.G. (ed.) a.o.: Neerlands Indië, Land, Volk, Geschiedenis, Bestuur, Bedrijf en Samenleving; Amsterdam 1935, page 329 (detail of the picture)

Processed by Dirk Teeuwen



4. Pieter Erberfelt Memorial Stone, Batavia/Jakarta circa 1880

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:COLLECTIE_TROPENMUSEUM_Het_monument_ter_herinnering_aan_Pieter_Erberveld_Batavia_TMnr_60025920.jpg (public domain)

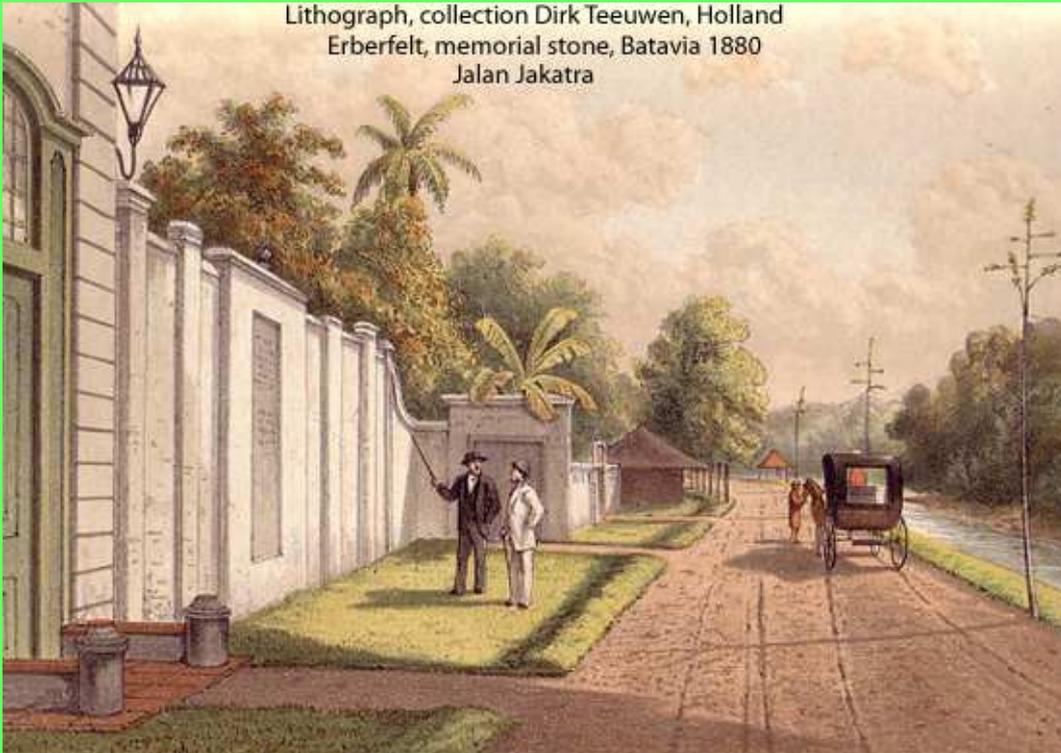


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Pieter Erberfelt, Memorial Stone

5. Pieter Erberfelt Memorial Stone, 1930

From > Stapel, dr. F.W.:*Geschiedenis van Nederlandsch-Indië*; Amsterdam 1930, page 134

Lithograph, collection Dirk Teeuwen, Holland
Erberfelt, memorial stone, Batavia 1880
Jalan Jakatra



6. Pieter Erberfelt Memorial Stone, 1880

From > Perelaer, M.T.H.: *Het kamerlid Van Berkenstein in Nederlandsch-Indië*; Leiden Holland 1888,
page 84, artist Rappard, Esq. J.C.

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