

# Jakarta/Batavia, Lapantang Banteng/Waterlooplein

Dirk Teeuwen MSc

## Around Taman Pejambon/Hertogspark

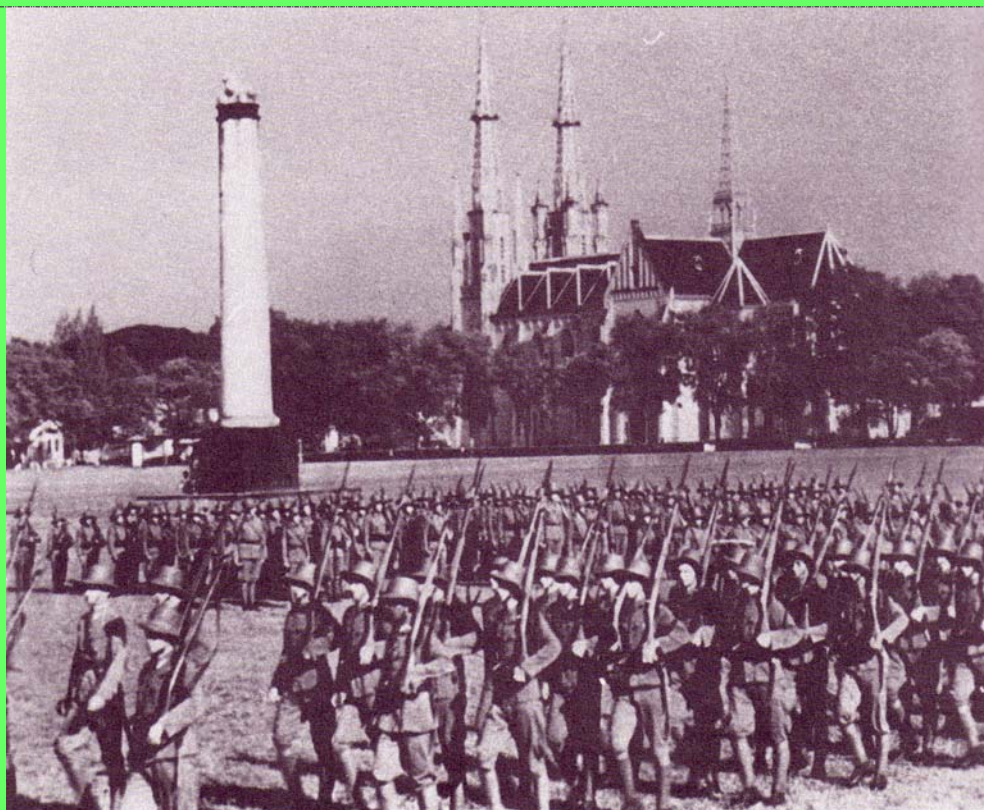


1. Waterloo Square and Catholic Cathedral 1938

Waterloo Square: the most important paradeground of the Royal Dutch East Indian Army/Koninklijk Nederlandsch-Indisch Leger (KNIL) from 1810 until 1942.

The north-eastern part of the square was meant for civilian sporting activities. In case of absence of the military the whole of Waterlooplein was public territory.

Source: C. A. Heshusius<sup>1</sup>



2. Parade on Waterlooplein 30-8-4, birthday of queen Wilhemina of The Netherlands. On the left the Waterloo-monument with the "Dutch Lion", nicknamed "our poodle", on top.

Source C. A. Heshusius

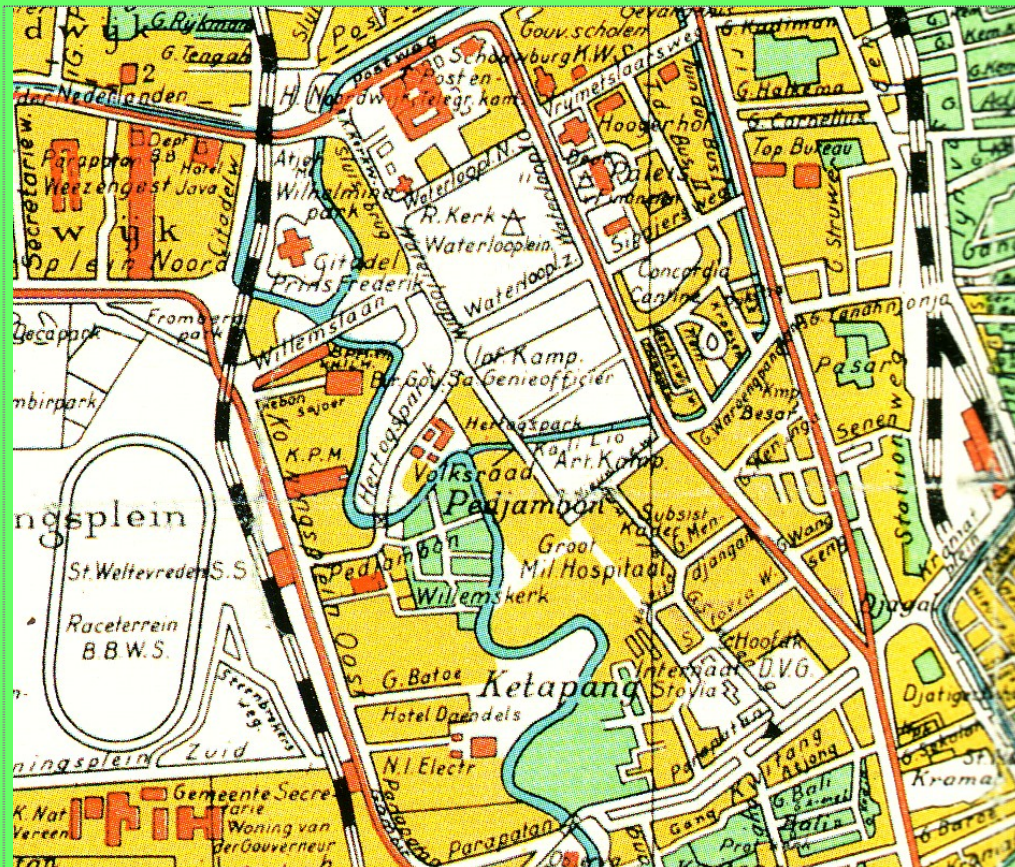
The Dutch took part in the battle of Waterloo 1815. Under the command of the Prince of Orange, the later King Willem II, the Dutch fought very successful.

<sup>1</sup> Pictures 1, 2, 7

C. A. Heshusius, KNIL 1830-1950; Houten Holland 1986

C.A. Heshusius, Het Koninklijk Nederlands-Indisch Leger 1830-1950; 's Gravenhage (The Hague) Holland 1977

C.A. Heshusius, Het KNIL van Tempo Doeloe; Amsterdam 1988



3. Batavia in 1936, Waterlooplein and vicinity

Source: Topografische Dienst, Emmen Holland



4. Istiqlal Mosque on a smog-free day in 1996. Source: postcard-collection D. Teeuwen (DT)

5. Soldiers taking a break in front of Cathedral Katolik, May 2000. Istiqlal Mosque is across the street (Jn Cathedral/Kerkweg). Photo DT

Our short history concerns the area of Istiqlal Mosque. That is: the area of the mosque itself as well as the quarter located directly around this house of prayer. Let us have a look at the map on picture 3!



6. Atjeh-memorial in 1902  
Postcard-collection (DT)

In front of Kathedral Katolik/Katholieke Kathedraal, as we can see, Jalan Cathedral/Kerkstraat (Sluisbrug) leads to the north and Jn Lapantang Banteng Barat/Waterloopleinweg runs to the south. Wilhelminapark (picture 3) is located across Kerkstraat. The Dutch Fort/Citadel Prins Frederik, opposite Katholieke Kathedraal, was constructed in 1830. Leading from Medan Merdeka/Koningsplein to Waterlooplein Jn Perwira/Willemslaan passes the Citadel at the south side. Willemslaan is part of Taman Pejambon/Hertogspark .

Hertogspark is the area between Waterlooplein and Koningsplein. In nowadays Jakarta Taman Pejambon is located between the Department of Foreign Affairs, Jn Medan Merdeka Timur and Jn Perwira.

An **Aceh/Atjeh-memorial** was erected in the center of Wilhelminapark in 1898. From 1880 (?) the **Michiels-memorial** stood on the crossing of Willemslaan and Waterloopleinweg within the limits of Taman Pejambon/Hertogspark.

Both memorials were demolished during the Japanese occupation. After 1950 Citadel Prins Frederik and Wilhelminapark made way for Istiqlal Mosque.



7. Wilhelminapark in 1912  
The photograph was taken from the eastern outer-wall of the Citadel.  
Source: postcard-collection (DT)

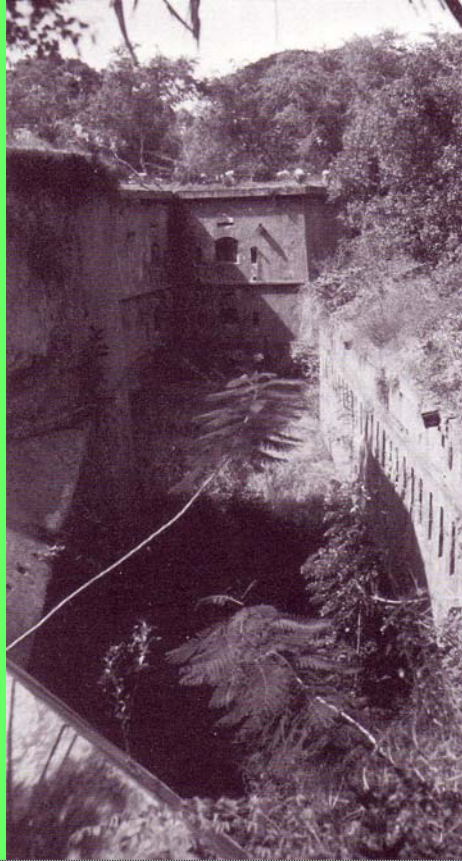


8. Wilhelminapark in 1912  
The same bridge! Pay attention to the W on the railing of the bridge.  
The photographer was standing on the bridge left on picture 7. Taking picture 8 he was looking to the south. On 8 at the right: the outer-wall of the Citadel.  
Source: postcard-collection DT

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The text on the Atjeh-memorial :

“Aan de grondleggers van het Nederlandsch gezag op Noordelijk Sumatra (in honour of the founders of the Dutch authority in Aceh, DT). Heilig is ons de nagedachtenis der gevallen. Schitterend handhaafden zee- en landmagt de eer des lands. Hulde van Koning Willem III, en van Nederland en Nederlandsch-Indië.”



9. (left) Part of the moat of Citadel Prins Frederik in 1932  
Source: C.A. Heshusius

10. (right) Aerial photograph by the RAF in 1945

The “star” is Citadel Prins Frederik. North of the Citadel the location of Wilhelminapark. South of the fort there is a stripe: Willemslaan in Hertogspark. One can see an empty space in both parks: the former locations of the Atjeh-memorial and the Michiels-memorial. The latter one stood in the middle of the rotunda at the right end of the Willemslaan. We can see the Waterlooplein right from the rotunda.

Source: J.R. van Diesen, R.P.G.A. Voskuil, Boven Indië; Purmerend Holland 1993, detail from the photograph on p. 71



11. Hertogspark in 1912, postcard-collection DT  
At the left the residence of the commander of the Dutch East-Indian Army, now Gedung Pancasila.



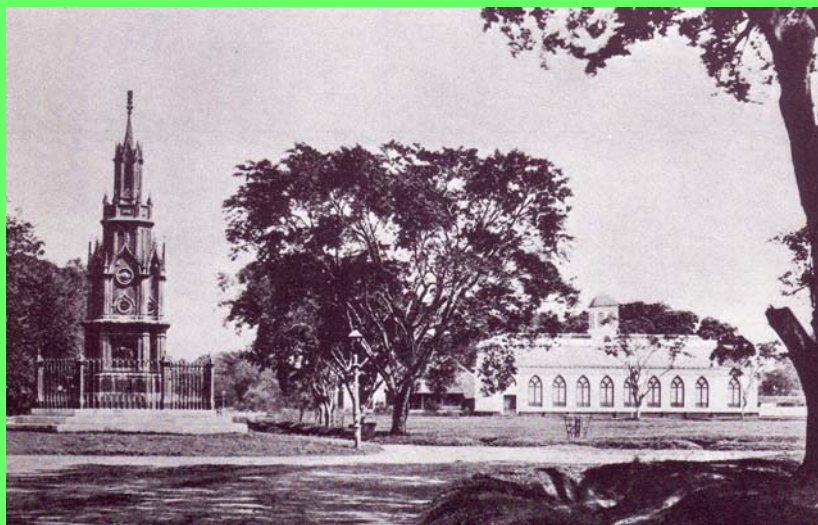
12. Rotunda with Michiels-memorial at the east-end of Willemsslaan.

Source: postcard-collection DT



13. Major-general A. V. Michiels  
Source: Weerzien met Indië, Waanders Uitgevers, Zwolle Holland, 1995

Andreas Victor Michiels was born in Maastricht Holland in 1797. He fought at Waterloo 1815 (eighteen years old!!). In July 1817 he arrived in Dutch East-India. In East-India he joint in at least fifteen military campaigns. He was severely wounded four times. In 1841 he became "Kommandeur van de Militaire Willemsorde". This honour made him one of the most distinguished soldiers at the time. As a talented military man he was promoted major-general. He became civil and military governor of Sumatra's western coast in 1837. As acting commander of the Dutch East-Indian Army he was very succesful during the so-called Third Bali Military Campaign in 1849. Unfortunately he was killed in battle near kampung-benteng Kasumba/Kasoemba (Bali) May 25<sup>th</sup> the same year. Michiels was every inch a soldier.



14. Michiels-memorial in 1880

Source: Breton de Nijs, E., Tempo Doeloe, Amsterdam 1973, p.24

Right: the old Catholic Church from 1828

The church collapsed in april 1890 (not on Sunday).

The text on the Michiels-memorial (in accordance with the “curriculum vitae” of Michiels):



15. Michiels-memorial in 1923  
Source: E.C. Godee-Molsbergen, *Geschiedenis van de V.O.C. en Nederlandsch-Indië*, Batavia 1925

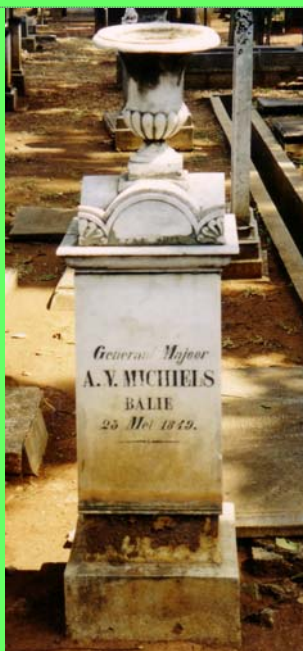
“Het Leger en de ingezetenen van Nederlandsch-Indië aan de nagedachtenis van Andreas Victor Michiels, Kommandeur der Militaire Willemsorde, Ridder der orde van den Nederlandschen Leeuw, Generaal-majoor titulair, civiel en militair Gouverneur van Sumatra’s Westkust, Opperbevelhebber der 3<sup>e</sup> Baliesche expeditie, Gouvernements Commisaris voor Baliesche aangelegenheden. Gesneuveld bij de overwinning van Katoemba den 25n Mei 1849 en te Batavia ter aarde besteld op den 1n Junij daaraanvolgende.”

(Then: in honour of the army and navy in general!)

“Mede ter nagedachtenis gewijd aan de menigvuldige braven der land en zeemagt, die voor de handhaving van het Nederlandsch gezag in Indië den heldendood zijn gestorven, in de verschillende oorlogen welke sedert 1816 in deze gewestengevoerd zijn (Wars in East-India between 1816 and 1849 DT) als:

Krawang 1816, 1832  
Java 1825, 1830  
Molukkos 1817  
Celebes 1824, 1825, 1839, 1840  
Cheribon 1816, 1818  
Lampong 1834  
Borneo 1818, 1822, 1827, 1828  
Balie 1846, 1848, 1849

Palembang 1818, 1819, 1821, 1833, 1849  
Sumatra’s Westkust 1822, 1831, 1832, 1837, 1838, 1840  
Banka 1820  
1841, 1844, 1845, 1847  
Riouw 1820  
Bantam 1845”



16. Tombstone in memory of Major General Michiels, Christian Cemetary/Europese Begraafplaats near Jn Kesehatan/Canna Laan in Tanah Abang/Jakarta (Taman Prasasti)  
Photo DT 2002



17. The residence of the commander until 1918. From 1918 the Huis van de Volksraad/Home of the Advisory Committee (on behalf of the Governor-General). After 1945 Gedung Pancasila.  
Photo: 1936  
Source: R.P.G.A. Voskuil, Batavia beeld van een stad: Purmerend Holland 1997. p. 91

In the area of Wilhelminapark and Hertogspark only the residency of the commander of the Dutch East-Indian Army survived turbulent times. On picture 4 parks and colonial memorials are only a memory.

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End