

WATER MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS ON IJSSELMONDE IN THE LATE 18TH CENTURY

Introduction

This attachment provides an overview of the water management arrangements on IJsselmonde at the end of the 18th century. As explained in the main text, there were two types of water management entities on IJsselmonde: polders, which were responsible for the upkeep of the polder infrastructure, and local jurisdictions, which had a regulatory and judicial function. In addition, individual land users had maintenance obligations. In many cases these were limited to maintaining the small ditches on their land, but in the Zwijndrechtse waard individual land users were still responsible for the regular maintenance of the main dyke. The role of the province of Holland was limited: the Court of Holland acted as a court of appeal for the local jurisdictions, as well as a court of first instance for cases that could not be handled by the local jurisdictions.

The core of this attachment consists of a list of the local jurisdictions and a list of the polders on IJsselmonde. The list of polders also gives information on the common arrangements that existed between different polders and between different local jurisdictions.

Local jurisdictions

The list of local jurisdictions is based on a detailed contemporary description of Holland (van Ollefen 1993, Bakker 1798). For the western part of IJsselmonde this source gives both the number of houses and the population of the different jurisdictions. For the central and south-eastern part, however, it gives only the number of houses. These have been translated into population figures, using an average of 7.3 inhabitants per house, based on the data for the western part. This average may be a bit high. It is not clear whether always all houses have been counted or only the taxable houses and whether all inhabitants have been counted or only those above a certain age.

The surface area of the different local jurisdiction given by van Ollefen and Bakker is ultimately based on tax registers, hence on taxable land. This does not include public roads, open waters and possibly land that was exempted. Moreover, accuracy is unknown. Especially in the Zwijndrechtse waard, where most jurisdictions consisted of two or even more isolated parts (see the map in Jorissen 1955), it is not certain whether always the whole territory has been taken into account.

Polders

Listing the polders on IJsselmonde is less straightforward than listing the local jurisdictions. A polder in a technical sense is an area hydrologically isolated from its surroundings by means of dykes or low embankments. A polder has its own drainage system, usually discharging its excess water through a culvert or sluice by means of gravity or using a wind mill or pumping station. The problem is that the drainage systems of different polders may be connected with each other, permanently or temporarily, and sometimes it may be questionable whether they should still be considered as separate drainage systems and hence the polders as separate polders.

An administrative polder is a management unit with its own polder levy, officers and personnel, such as a treasurer, a secretary and a miller. Usually, administrative polders coincided with polders in a technical sense, but some polders in a technical sense were managed by more than one administrative polder and there were also administrative polders managing more than one polder in a technical sense. In the latter case, separate books were kept and the polder levies differed. It is sometimes hard to tell whether there

was one administrative polder with separate bookkeeping or different administrative polders with for instance a common secretary.

The list of polders given below is primarily a list of polders in a technical sense. The list gives the surface area, the date or period of reclamation and the local jurisdiction or jurisdictions in which it was located. Moreover, it gives information on the administrative polder if this did not coincide with the polder in a technical sense; on supervision of the dykes if this was not the responsibility of the local jurisdiction; and on any common arrangements with other polders concerning drainage.

The dates of reclamation given are not always exact. Dated concessions of several polders exist, but not of the oldest polders and some of the newer polders did not need a concession. Moreover, reclamation works did not necessarily start immediately and could take some years. In a few cases polders could be dated because temporary tax exemptions were granted to promote reclamation (and future tax income) or because reclamation works are mentioned in a tax register (Tuijn s.d.: Buitenland van Rhooen). Often, areas were first surrounded with relatively low and cheap dykes, so-called summer dykes, that were allowed to be overtopped during winter floods. This resulted in new land that could be used as pasture. Only later were stronger "winter dykes" created to protect the land also against winter floods, allowing more profitable crops.

The most important source for the list of polders is Teixeira de Mattos (1920), which describes on 842 pages the polders on IJsselmonde, their surface area, the existing water management infrastructure, the management arrangements in 1920, and their historical background. However, this source often gives limited information about polders that had already been swallowed up by the harbor of Rotterdam. Teixeira de Mattos (1920) has been complemented with more recent literature, most notably Hoek (1969, 1973), and with information from the inventories of different polder archives. These inventories often contain informative introductions on the history of the polder concerned and sometimes provide summaries of the oldest charters in the polder archive (Ommeren 1964, Duinker 1965, Brilman 1967, Poelstra 1967, Streefland 1970, Nieuwenhuis 1980, Hordijk, 1983, Wouda and Vermeer 2008, *Inventaris van het archief van het Waterschap De Oude . . .* date unknown, *Inventaris van het archief van Waterschap De Koedood*, date unknown). Some additional information was derived from van Ollefen (1993) and Bakker (1798) and van der Aa (1839-1851), especially on surface areas of polders not given in Teixeira de Mattos (1920).

It may be clear that the list of polders is not the definitive list: more detailed research on individual polders could result in more accurate information on reclamation dates, surface areas, drainage system and management arrangements.

List of local jurisdictions

Western part

1. Pernis

- 187 ha. (1732)
- 703 inhabitants
- Part of Putten

2. 's-Gravenambacht or Heyde en Boudewijn Hartsland

- 170 ha.
- 87 inhabitants
- Part of Putten

3. Langebakkersoord met Oud- en Nieuw Smaland
 - 266 ha.
 - 14 inhabitants (2 houses)
 - Part of Putten
4. Poortugaal
 - 597 ha.
 - 548 inhabitants
 - Part of Putten
5. Hoogvliet
 - 234 ha.
 - 446 inhabitants
 - Part of Putten
6. Lokhorsterland or Oud- en Nieuw Engeland
 - 110 ha.
 - 26 inhabitants
 - Part of Putten
7. Albrandswaard met de Kijvelanden
 - 185 ha.
 - Ca. 160 inhabitants
 - A so-called, "high jurisdiction" with its own bailiff, appointed by the Lord of Albrandswaard

Former Riederwaard (central part)

8. Rhoon
 - 736 ha.
 - 650 inhabitants
 - A so-called, "high jurisdiction" with its own bailiff, appointed by the Lord of Rhoon and Pendrecht
9. Pendrecht
 - 90 ha.
 - 18 inhabitants
 - A so-called, "high jurisdiction" with its own bailiff, appointed by the Lord of Rhoon and Pendrecht
10. Ridderkerk
 - 1490 ha.
 - 2920 inhabitants
11. Oost-IJsselmonde
 - 500 ha.
 - About 1170 inhabitants (including West-IJsselmonde)
12. West-IJsselmonde
 - 514 ha.
 - Inhabitants: see Oost-IJsselmonde
13. Charlois
 - 1422 ha.
 - Ca. 1500 inhabitants
 - Part of Putten
14. (Oud-)Katendrecht
 - Ca. 85 ha.
 - Ca. 350 inhabitants (1749)
 - Part of Putten

15. Oost-Barendrecht
 - 540 ha.
 - Ca. 525 inhabitants
16. West-Barendrecht
 - 355 ha.
 - Ca. 500 inhabitants
17. Carnisse
 - 370 ha.
 - Ca. 500 inhabitants
18. Alblasserdam
 - Mostly located across the river Merwede: only polders 44-46 became attached to IJsselmonde when the river changed its course

Zwijndrechtse waard (south-eastern part)

19. Schobbelandsambacht or Zwijndrecht
 - 147 ha.
 - Ca. 880 inhabitants
20. Molenambacht or Meerdervoort
 - 73 ha.
 - Ca. 500 inhabitants
21. Groote Lindt
 - 266 ha.
 - Ca. 400 inhabitants
22. Kleine Lindt
 - 202 ha.
 - Ca. 220 inhabitants
23. Heer Oudelands Ambacht
 - 202 ha.
 - Ca. 150 inhabitants
24. Kijfhoek
 - 295 ha.
 - Ca. 220 inhabitants
25. Heerjansdam
 - 253 ha.
 - Ca. 700 inhabitants
26. Rijsoord
 - Ca. 190 ha.
 - Ca. 100 inhabitants (together with Strevelhoek)
27. Strevelshoek
 - Ca. 190 ha.
 - Ca. 100 inhabitants (together with Rijsoord)
28. Sandelingenambacht
 - 295 ha.
 - Ca. 230 inhabitants
29. Hendrik-Ido-Ambacht
 - 295 ha.
 - Ca. 1280 inhabitants

30. Schildmanskinderenambacht

- About 155 ha.?
- Population unknown but small

31. Heinenoord

- Mostly located across the river Oude Maas: only polder Lage Nesse (nr. 66) attached to Zwijndrechtse waard

List of polders

Western part

1. Land van Poortugaal

- 847 ha.
- Ca. 1180 (Welhoek), before 1295 (Oud-Pernis), between 1180 and 1295 (1e uitleg) and ca. 1295 (Ommeloop)
- Poortugaal, Hoogvliet and Pernis
- Three separate administrative polders: Welhoek en het Ambacht van Poortugaal (532 ha.). Het Ambacht van Hoogvliet (274 ha.), and Oud-Pernis (41 ha.)
- Dyke management by water board Gemeeneland van Poortugaal, which was also responsible for the polder mills and some drainage canals

2. Nieuw-Pernis

- 40 ha.
- Around 1300 (after Ommeloop and before 3)
- Pernis
- Dyke management by water board Gemeeneland van Poortugaal
- Common polder mill with 3, 4 and 20

3. Lombardijen

- 57 ha.
- Ca. 1300, 1357
- Pernis
- Dyke management by water board Gemeeneland van Poortugaal
- Common polder mill with 2, 4 and 20

4. Deijffel

- 82 ha.
- 1318
- Dyke management by water board Gemeeneland van Poortugaal
- Common polder mill with 2, 3 and 20

5. Roozand

- 90 ha.
- 1357
- Poortugaal
- Dyke management by water board Gemeeneland van Poortugaal
- Based on an agreement of 1645, this polder drained for free onto 1.

6. Oud-Engeland

- 15 ha.
- 1415
- Lokhorsterland
- Dyke management by water board Gemeeneland van Poortugaal

7. Oud-Smalland
 - 60 ha.
 - 1487 (together with 8 and 9)
 - Langebakkersoord
8. Langebakkersoord
 - 170 ha.
 - 1487 (together with 7 and 9)
 - Langebakkersoord
9. Nieuw-Engeland
 - 120 ha.
 - 1487 (together with 8 and 9)
 - Lokhorsterland
10. Deijffelsbroek
 - 75 ha.
 - Before 1611
 - Pernis
11. Madroel
 - 17 ha.
 - 17th century?
 - Pernis
12. Nieuw-Smalland
 - 22 ha.
 - Before 1686
 - Pernis
13. Polder Jaagin en Hoge en Lage Gorzen
 - 64 ha. (Jaagin 17 ha., Hoge en Lage Gorzen 47 ha.)
 - Before 1812 (Jaagin possibly oldest part)
 - Pernis
 - In 19th century two separate administrative polders, but at the time within one dyke
14. Elderspolder
 - 31 ha.
 - Late 18th century or later, but before 1809
 - Hoogvliet
15. Albrandswaard
 - 227 ha.
 - 1411
 - Albrandswaard en de Kijvelanden, Poortugaal (Volgerlanden) and Rhoon (Binnenland Buitendijks, 11 ha.)
16. Binnen Kijvelandse polder
 - 30 ha.
 - Between 1561 and 1663
 - Albrandswaard en de Kijvelanden
17. Buiten Kijvelandse polder
 - 33 ha. (including Slobber gorzen)
 - Between 1561 and 1663
 - Albrandswaard en de Kijvelanden

18. Slobber gorzen
 - 33 ha. (including Slobber gorzen)
 - Possibly 17th century
 - Albrandswaard en de Kijvelanden
19. Geneverpolder en Kooipolder
 - 52 ha.
 - Before 1777?
 - Albrandswaard en de Kijvelanden

Former Riederwaard (central part)

20. Boudewijn Hartsland
 - 110 ha.
 - 1455
 - 's-Gravenambacht
 - Common polder mill with 2, 3 and 4
21. De Kiesheid
 - 163 ha.
 - Shortly after 1580
 - 's-Gravenambacht, 14 ha. in Rhoon (Rhoonse Kiesheid and Buitenland buitendijks)
 - Since 1654 drainage onto the Koedood
22. Zwaardijk
 - 65 ha.
 - 1382, 1423
 - Poortugaal
 - Common polder mill with Binnenland van Rhoon (23-29)
23. Oud-Rhoon
 - 33 ha. (together with 24-29 404 ha.)
 - 1368/ 1369
 - Rhoon
 - Administrative polder Binnenland van Rhoon, which has a common dyke reeve and dyke council with Buitenland van Rhoon (30). It is unclear whether in 1795 Oud-Rhoon could still be considered a separate polder in a technical sense.
 - Drainage onto the Koedood
24. De Huiters en Kortambacht
 - 1411 and 1423
 - See further under Oud-Rhoon, but Kort ambacht in Poortugaal
25. Klein Kijfhoek
 - See under Oud-Rhoon
26. Kijfhoek
 - 58 ha. (possibly including Klein Kijfhoek)
 - Before 1556
 - See further under Oud-Rhoon
27. Ghijsseland
 - 55 ha.
 - Before 1556
 - See further under Oud-Rhoon

28. Jan Cornelis polder
 - 27 ha.
 - Before 1556
 - See further under Oud-Rhoon
29. Polder Jaagin
 - See under Oud-Rhoon
30. Het Buitenland van Rhoon
 - 401 ha.
 - Some already reclaimed in 1556, but reclamation works ongoing in 1556
 - Rhoon
 - Common dyke reeve and dyke council with administrative polder Binnenland van Rhoon
 - Polder mill drains 36 as well. Drainage onto the Koedood
31. Molenpolder
 - 121 ha.
 - 1642
 - Rhoon
 - Common polder mill with 32
32. Zegenpolder
 - 150 ha.
 - 1675
 - Rhoon
 - Common polder mill with 31
33. Portlandse Polder
 - 160 ha.
 - 1769
 - Rhoon (and Pendrecht?)
34. Oud-Pendrecht
 - 38 ha.
 - Between 1461 and 1539
 - Pendrecht
 - Drainage through 53 onto Koedood
35. Nieuw Pendrecht
 - 136 ha.
 - Ca. 1580
 - Pendrecht
 - Drainage onto Koedood
36. De Stee van Pendrecht
 - 50 ha.
 - Ca. 1580
 - Pendrecht
 - Drainage by polder mill of 30
37. Binnenland van Barendrecht
 - 758 ha.
 - 1484. Previously partial reclamation works within jurisdictional boundaries.
 - Oost-Barendrecht, West-Barendrecht, Carnisse and Ridderkerk (Veren-Ambacht, 46 ha.)
 - Drainage onto Koedood. Supervision of the polder infrastructure by representatives from the first three jurisdiction, presided by the dyke reeve of the jurisdiction in which the infrastructure was located.

- 38. Ziedewij
 - 126 ha.
 - Between 1484 and 1496
 - Oost-Barendrecht
- 39. Buitenland van Barendrecht
 - 454 ha.
 - Concession 1551, ready 1555
 - Oost-Barendrecht, West-Barendrecht and Carnisse
 - Since 1661 drainage through 40. Supervision as 37.
- 40. Zuidpolder
 - 464 ha.
 - 1650, except for 13 ha. that were reclaimed before (Onderende van Nieu Liesvelt)
 - Oost-Barendrecht, West-Barendrecht and Carnisse
 - Supervision as 37
- 41. Vredepolder
 - 37 ha.
 - 1712/ 1713
 - West-Barendrecht
 - Owned by the Zuidpolder
- 42. Oud-Reijerwaard
 - 546 ha.
 - 1404
 - Ridderkerk
- 43. Nieuw Reijerwaard
 - 1081 ha.
 - 1442
 - Ridderkerk, Barendrecht (Cornelisland, 36 ha.)
 - Supervision of its dykes together with 47
- 44. Woude
 - 52 ha.
 - Ca. 1500?
 - Ridderkerk
- 45. Voor-Donkersloot
 - 65 ha.
 - Before 1491
 - Alblaserdam
 - Originally not a part of IJsselmonde, but became attached to IJsselmonde after the River Merwede changed its course in the late 14th century
- 46. Ronde Zand
 - 77 ha.
 - Ca. 1500
 - Ridderkerk and possibly Alblaserdam
 - See under 45
- 47. Oost-IJsselmonde
 - 535 ha.
 - 1436/37 (part called Oude land (old land) possibly older)
 - Oost-IJsselmonde
 - Supervision of its dykes together with 43

48. Dirk Smeetsland en Mr. Aernt vander Woudeland
- 366 ha.
 - Originally two polders: Dirk Smeetsland, reclaimed 1432, 1468, Mr. Aernt vander Woudeland 1444, 1468
 - West-IJsselmonde and Charlois
 - Complicated arrangements with 49 and 50 on drainage
49. De laagjes of 68 morgen
- 66 ha.
 - Before 1505
 - West-IJsselmonde
 - Complicated arrangements with 48 and 50 on drainage
50. Klein-Nieuwland of de 51 morgen
- 48 ha.
 - Before 1505
 - West-IJsselmonde
 - Complicated arrangements with 48 and 49 on drainage
51. Varkensoord and Karnemelksland
- 257 ha.
 - 1566: agreement on summer dyke, 1694: winter dyke
 - West-IJsselmonde (Varkensoord) and Charlois (Karnemelksland)
 - Two separate administrative polders that held joint meetings, plus a water board in charge of, among others, the dyke.
52. Zomerland
- 20 ha.
 - Before 1733
 - West-IJsselmonde
53. Polder (Oud-)Katendrecht
- 85 ha.
 - In or before 1394, 1410, 1446
 - (Oud-)Katendrecht
54. Polder Charlois
- Ca. 1000 ha.
 - 1462
 - Charlois
55. Hille
- 233 ha.
 - 1529
 - Charlois
56. Robbenoord en de Plompert
- 472 ha.
 - Robbenoord: 1493, 1535, 1581 (winter dykes), Plompert: 1581
 - Charlois
 - Drainage onto Koedood

Zwijndrechtse waard (south-eastern part)

57. Polder Hendrik-Ido-Ambacht
- 640 ha.
 - 1332-1336

- Hendrik-Ido-Ambacht plus parts of nearly all other jurisdictions in the Zwijndrechtse waard ("Volgerlanden": plots of second-class agricultural land in the north-eastern corner of the Zwijndrechtse waard)
 - Supervision of the dykes by water board Zwijndrechtse waard
 - Drainage on the Waal with 58, 59 and 60 ("Waalpolders")
58. Polder Sandelingen-Ambacht
- Ca. 300 ha.
 - 1332-1336
 - Sandelingen-Ambacht
 - Supervision of the dykes by water board Zwijndrechtse waard
 - Drainage on the Waal with 57, 59 and 60 ("Waalpolders")
59. Polder Heerjansdam
- Ca. 200 ha.
 - 1332-1336
 - Heerjansdam
 - Supervision of the dykes by water board Zwijndrechtse waard
 - Drainage on the Waal with 57, 58 and 60 ("Waalpolders")
59. Polder Rijsoord en Strevelshoek
- Ca. 230 ha.
 - 1332-1336
 - Rijsoord, Strevelshoek
 - Supervision of the dykes by water board Zwijndrechtse waard
 - Drainage on the Waal with 57, 58 and 59 ("Waalpolders")
61. Polder Zwijndrecht
- Ca. 320 ha.
 - 1332-1336
 - Zwijndrecht, Meerdervoort, Kortambacht
 - Supervision of the dykes by water board Zwijndrechtse waard
 - Drainage onto the Devel, joint management with other Devel polders of wind mill draining the Devel
62. Polder Heer Oudelands-Ambacht
- Ca. 225 ha.
 - 1332-1336
 - Heer Oudelands-Ambacht
 - Supervision of the dykes by water board Zwijndrechtse waard
 - Drainage onto the Devel, joint management with other Devel polders of wind mill draining the Devel
63. Polder Kijfhoek
- Ca. 230 ha.
 - 1332-1336
 - Kijfhoek
 - Supervision of the dykes by water board Zwijndrechtse waard
 - Drainage onto the Devel, joint management with other Devel polders of wind mill draining the Devel
64. Polder Groote en Kleine Lindt
- Ca. 320 ha.
 - 1332-1336
 - Grote Lindt, Kleine Lindt

- Supervision of the dykes by water board Zwijndrechtse waard
 - Drainage onto the Devel, joint management with other Devel polders of wind mill draining the Devel
65. Westeinde van de Hooge Nesse
- 71 ha.
 - Before 1665, possibly 1435
 - Kleine Lindt
66. Oosteinde van de Hooge Nesse
- 56 ha.
 - Before 1665, possibly 1435
 - Grote Lindt
67. Lage Nesse or Polder Buitenland
- 60 ha.
 - Possibly 1435
 - Heinenoord
68. Groot Noord
- 16 ha.
 - After 1783 but before 1812
 - Hendrik-Ido-Ambacht
69. Noordpolder
- 24 ha.
 - Before 1812
 - Probably Heer Oudelands-Ambacht and Schildmanskinderenambacht

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