

**Group of Experts on
Geographical names**

Twelfth Session
Geneva, 29 September - 7 October 1986

WORKING PAPER No. 5

1 July 1986

Agenda Item 7

NATIONAL STANDARDISATION

TOPONYMIC GUIDELINES

Toponymic Guidelines for map and other ^{editors} authors — *Netherlands*

JUNE 1985

Submitted by Ferjan Ormeling, The Netherlands

NATIONAL STANDARDIZATION

TOPONYMIC GUIDELINES FOR CARTOGRAPHY - THE NETHERLANDS

A. Languages

1. The Netherlands are a unilingual country, Dutch being the only nation-wide official language. The Frisian minority language has an official status in the province of Friesland only.

National language

2. The national language is Dutch in its standard form, written in the Roman script.

The Dutch alphabet

A a	H h	O o	V v
B b	I i	P p	W w
C c	J j	Q q	X x
D d	K k	R r	IJ ij
E e	L l	S s	Z z
F f	M m	T t	
G g	N n	U u	

3. In addition to the normal alphabetical sequence, some foreign or archaic influences on geographical names have led to the incorporation of non-standard letters as E è, E é, è, Ö ö, Ü ü and Y y in some geographical names. In the Dutch alphabet these come under E, O, U and IJ respectively. Hyphens and blanks are disregarded in the alphabetical order.

The letters -i- and -j- that together form the Dutch letter ij are not separated from each other in spaced-out lettering. This applies to both capitals and lower case.

Spelling rule for Dutch geographical names in the Netherlands

4. The rules given below have been in use by the "Survey of the Netherlands" (Topografische Dienst), the "Hydrographic Office" (Dienst der Hydrografie) and Rijkswaterstaat since 1969.
5. Geographical names are as yet not subject to the general spelling rules. They are, rather, spelled in the customary form approved by local government. However, in the following respects Dutch geographical names comply with the general spelling rules for the Dutch language, except for individual cases where deviating officially approved versions occur.

Capitalization

- i. Articles and prepositions at the beginning of geographical names are capitalized, unless abbreviated.
Examples: Grote Meide, Blauwe Kei, Het Loo, Den Helder, Ter Aalst. But: 't Harde, 's Gravenmoer ('t = het; 's = des).
- ii. The incipients of all other disconnected name parts, with the exception of articles, prepositions and conjunctions, are capitalized.
Examples: Nederhorst den Berg, Kanaal van Gent naar Terneuzen, Millingen aan de Rijn.
- iii. When names written in one word are divided, because of lack of space, the incipient of the second and following parts are not

capitalized.

Example: Noorhollandschkanaal - Noord-
hollandsch-
kanaal

- iv. The grapheme IJ ij is regarded as one letter, so when capitalized should be written IJ instead of Ij.
Examples: IJsselmeer, IJmuiden.

Use of one or more words and hyphenization

In principle, current Dutch orthographic practice aims at joining the parts of compound geographical names, unless ensuing excessive length would raise readability problems.

A hyphen is used when words are divided and when the meaning 'from-towards' (as for example in Amsterdam-Rijnkanaal) should be conveyed or: when a municipality name is a combination of two place names.

Name parts are not joined in the following cases:

- i. When adjectives ending in -e are followed by name elements beginning with a vowel.
Example: Kleine Es, Oude IJssel
- ii. When one of the parts of a compound name is an article.
Example: Den Helder, De Zilk, Het Loo.
- iii. With ordinals or superlatives.
Examples: Eerste Valthermond, Achterste Diep.
- iv. With suffixed adverbs
Example: Amsterdam Zuid
- v. With conjunctions and prepositions that connect name parts.
Examples: Bergen op Zoom, Val van Urk.
- vi. With proper names and numerals preceded by ~~generals~~ ^{des gendarmes} denoting the kind of geographical object.
Examples: Ambt Delden, Boswachterij Schoorl, Fort Rammekens, Sluis Drie.
- vii. With derivations of wind directions ending in -elijk or -elijke.
Example: Westelijk Kanaal
- viii. When the first part of a compound is a personal name written in two words.
Examples: Anna Jacobapolder, Sint Annaland.
- ix. With geographical uninflected adjectives ending in -s(ch) or -isch.
Examples: Belgisch Limburg, Zeeuws Vlaanderen.
- x. With weak past participles.
Example: Verlengde Hoogeveensevaart.

At present this orthographic practice is not yet universally accepted throughout the Netherlands, and deviations occur frequently, sanctioned by official use.

Examples of deviations of spelling rules are:

In province names with non-inflected wind directions, these are joined by hyphen.

Examples: Zuid-Holland, Noord-Brabant.

- ad i: Non-geographical adjectives in most cases are joined by hyphen to the proper nouns in toponyms
 Examples: Nieuw-Buinen, Nieuwe-Pekels, Oud-Zuilen. But: Blauwe Sluis, Dude Rijn.
- ad ii. Abbreviated articles are usually joined by hyphen to the proper nouns in toponyms.
 Examples: 's-Gravenhage, 's-Hertogenbosch.
- ad viii Sint-Michielsgestel, Sint Oedenrode
- ad ix. Often also inflected adjectives of this class are not joined to the proper nouns in toponyms.
 Examples: Delftsche Schie, Groenlosche Slinge.

Pronunciation of Dutch geographical names

6. Accents in Dutch geographical names fall on the first syllable, generally.

7. Pronunciation key

spelling	pronunciation IPA alphabet	spelling	pronunciation IPA alphabet
a	a, a:, ɑ	ng	ŋ
aa, ae	a:	nj	ɲ
ai, aai, ay	ai	o	o, ɔ
au, auw	ɑu	oe	u
b	b	oi, oy	o
c	k, s	oo	o
ch	x	ooy	oi
ck	k	ou, ouw	ɔu
cq	kk	p	p
d	d, t (end of word)	ph	f
e	ɛ, e:, ə, ɛ	q	k
ee	ei, e:	r	r
eeuw	eu	s	s
ei, eij, ey	ei	sch	sx
eu	ø, ø:, œ	sj	f
f	f	t	t
g	g, x	u	Y, Y:, Yu
h	h	ui	œi
i	i, i	uu	Y, Y:
ie	i	v	v
ieuw	iu	w	w
isch	is	x	ks
j	j	ij	ɛi
k	k	y	i, ɛi
l	l	z	z
m	m		
n	n (n after e is often not pronounced)		

The use of dialect

8. Only dialect spellings codified before the general acceptance of the Dutch standard language are recognized. All other dialect names are converted into the standard language.

Minority language

9. Frisian is a Germanic language akin to Dutch and English. It is spoken by about 400,000 inhabitants of the province of Friesland, used and taught officially in educational and religious institutions and in local and provincial government. It is written in the Roman script. Figure 1 shows the area with a majority of Frisian-speaking inhabitants.

10. The Frisian alphabet

A a	G g	M m	T t
B b	H h	N n	U u
C c	I i	O o	V v
D d	J j	P p	W w
E e	K k	R r	Y y fariant fan i
F f	L l	S s	Z z

11. In addition to the normal alphabetical sequence in the Frisian alphabet, the letters \AA \aa , \E \e , \O \o and \U \u occur. In the Frisian alphabet they come under A, E, O and U respectively.

12. Pronunciation of the Frisian alphabet

Pronunciation of the consonants in Frisian does not differ markedly from that in English.

spelling	pronunciation IPA alphabet	spelling	pronunciation IPA alphabet
a, ar	a, ɔ	ng, nk	ŋ
aa, aar	a:	o	ɔ
â, âl, al	ɔ:	oa	o.ə, ʊa, ʊɔ
aai	ɔ:i	oar	o.ə
au	o.ʊ, ɔ.ʊ, ɔ:	oarn	om
ch	x	oe	u, u.ə
d	t, d	tg	tx
dg	tx	u, ur	ʊ, ü, ü., ə
e, er	ɛ, ɛ	û	u.ə
ea, ear	je, ie	uo	ʊɔ
ei	ai, ei	w	v
ee	e:	y	i
i	i, e, ə, ɪ	ij	ɛi
ie	i.ə, jɪ		
lo	lo.ʊ		

13. Frisian geographical names

Minor topographic objects are nowadays rendered bilingually or in Frisian only on topographic maps 1:25,000 and 1:50,000. All major objects named on the map retain their Dutch orthography.

B. Names authorities and names standardization

14. In 1947 the Netherlands government delegated the task to compile a normative list of geographical names to the joint Netherlands-Belgian Orthographic Committee (Nederlands-Belgische Woordenlijst Commissie). The Netherlands delegation in this committee started work in 1962 and finished its endeavours in 1973 when a list with proposed normative spellings for about 40,000 toponyms was presented to the Minister for Education, for official endorsement, which has not been effectuated yet. The Netherlands delegation to the joint Netherlands-Belgian Orthographic Committee has in itself no official authority in toponym orthography. It can be reached at the P.J. Meertens Institute, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, Keizersgracht 569-571, 1017 DR Amsterdam.

15. In its list the committee also covered the Dutch versions of geographical names in the province of Friesland. Frisian versions of geographical names in Friesland have been standardized at the behest of the Frisian provincial government by the Toponymic Working Group of the Frisian Academy (Nammejouwingskommisje, Fryske Akademy), at Doelestrjitte 8, Ljouwert/Leeuwarden 8911 DX. A list with all toponyms in the province of Friesland, that occur on the map 1:100,000, in their correct Frisian spelling has been published in 1982.

Only minor terrain elements such as roads and farmsteads have bilingual or exclusively Frisian names on the topographic maps 1:25,000 and 1:50,000, published by the Survey of the Netherlands. The provincial Government issues a bilingual map on the scale 1:100,000, Kaart van Friesland/Kaart fan Fryslân, 's-Gravenhage/Ljouwert 1978.

16. Until the Minister for Education sees fit to officially endorse either of these name lists, the Survey of the Netherlands and the Hydrographic Office will continue to present on their maps the customary spellings used in local government and official acts.

C. Source material**17. Maps**

Topographic maps at the scale 1:25,000, published every six to ten years by the Survey of the Netherlands. See figure 2 for index sheet of this map series.

Hydrographic charts of Dutch coastal waters, published annually at scales between 1:20,000 and 1:150,000.

18. Gazetteers**Official list of names**

Lijst van geografische namen voorkomende op de overzichtskaarten van Nederland 1:250.000. Topografische Dienst, Delft 1979.

D. Glossary of appellatives, adjectives and other words necessary for the understanding of maps

19. Dutch language words

(based on glossaries on the pre 1980 and post 1980 editions of the military topographic maps 1:50,000, and appellatives/designations of the post 1980 1:25,000 series)

Aardgasstation	natural gas pumping station
Aardgaswinning	natural gas field
Automobiefabriek	motorworks
Baan	way, road
Beek	brook
Bejaardencentrum	old people's home
Berg	hill
Bootsdienst	ferry to....
Brouwerij	brewery
Chemische fabriek	chemical works
Conservenfabriek	cannery
Eendenkool	duck decoy
Elektriciteitscentrale	power station
Fabriek	factory
Gasbedrijf	gas works
Gemaal	pumping-station
Gevangenis	prison
Goederenspoorweg	freight train track
Golfbanen	golf course
Graansilo	(grain) elevator
Hangar	hangar
Haven	harbour
Heide	heath
Helihaven	heliport
Helling	slipway
Hoeve	farm
Hoogovens en staalfabrieken	blast-furnace and steel-works
Hoogspanningsleiding	power line
Houtzagerij	saw-mill
Hulpsekretarie	town clerk's branch office
In aanleg	under construction
Industrieterrein	industrial area
Jachthaven	marina
Jeugdherberg	youth hostel
Kabelfabriek	cable-works
Kalkovens	lime-kiiln
Kanaal	canal
Kapel	chapel
Kindertehuis	children's home
Klooster	monastery
Koelhuis	Cold storage building
Kunstijsbaan	skating rink
Laan	avenue
Loop	watercourse
Machinefabriek	engineering-works
Meer	lake
Metro	underground station
Meubelfabriek	furniture works
Molen	mill (windmill, watermill)

Natuurreservaat	nature reserve
Olieraffinaderij	oil refinery
Papierfabriek	paper-mill
Peil	water level
Plas	lake
Pompstation	pumping-station
Pontveer	ferry
Recreatiegebied	recreation-area
Recreatieoord	recreation-site
Reddingsboot	life boat
Remise	tramway depot
Renbaan	racecourse
Reservaat	nature reserve
Ruïne	ruins
Schouwburg	theater
Slikken	mud-flats
Sodafabriek	soda-works
Sportterrein	
Sportpark	sportsfield
Sportvelden	
Spuisluis	sluice
Stadion	stadium
Steenfabriek	brick-works
Suikerfabriek	sugar-mill
Straat	street
Stuw	weir
Toren	tower
Uitzichttoren	observation-tower
Vaart	canal
Veen	peat
Veerhuis	ferry-house
Verpleeghuis	nursing-home
Vliegveld	aerodrome
Vloelvelden	sewage-farm
Voorm. fort	former fortification
Vuilverbrandingsinstallatie	refuse incinerator
Waterleidingbedrijf	Waterworks
Watertoren	water-tower
Weg	street
Werf	shipyard
Wetering	watercourse
Winkelcentrum	shopping-centre
Winterpeil	winter level
Woonwagencentrum	caravan-camp
IJbaan	skating rink
IJsstadion	skating stadium
Ziekenhuis	hospital
Zomerpeil	summer level
Zuivelfabriek	dairy factory
Zuiveringsinstallatie	purification plant
Zweefvliegtuigen	glider air field
Zwembad	swimmingpool

20. Frisian language words

Aaster, Easter	east	ny, nij (e)	new
âlde	old	paed	path
brêge	bridge	read	red
broek	marsh	sân	sand
buorren	hamlet	sleat	(brook), ditch
dyk	dike	sud, sur	south
ein	end	syl	sluice, lock
fean	peat, bog	terp	mound
gea, kea	region	tsjerk	church
hûs, huzen	house, village	wâlde	wood, forest
kleaster	monastery	wester	west
lân	land, area	wier, wierrum	mound
mar	lake		
mole, mûne	mill		

E. Abbreviations used in the official topographic maps of the Netherlands

21 (based on lists on pre 1980 and post 1980 military editions of topographic maps 1:50,000)

Br	brug	bridge	P	Parkeerplaats	Parking site
Bask br	baskuulbrug	bascule bridge	PK	Protestante kerk	protestant church
Begr pl	begraafplaats	cemetery	Pl	paal	post pole
Or br	draaibrug	swing-bridge	RD	Rijksdrie-hoeksmeting	state survey
Fabr	fabriek	factory	RK	Rooms-Katholieke kerk	roman-catholic church
Gd	gronduiker	culvert siphon	Sch sl	schutsluis	lock
Gem	gemeente	municipality	Trafo	Transformation	transformer
Gem huis	gemeentehuis	town hall, municipality hall	Statn	station	station
Gp	grenspaal	boundary post	Statn	station	station
Hp	hoekpunt-paal	point of triangulation	Vbr	voetbrug	footbridge
Inr	inrichting	institution	Wm	watermolen	water-mill
Km	korenmolen	corn mill	Wt	watertoren	water-tower
Oph br	ophaalbrug	draw bridge			

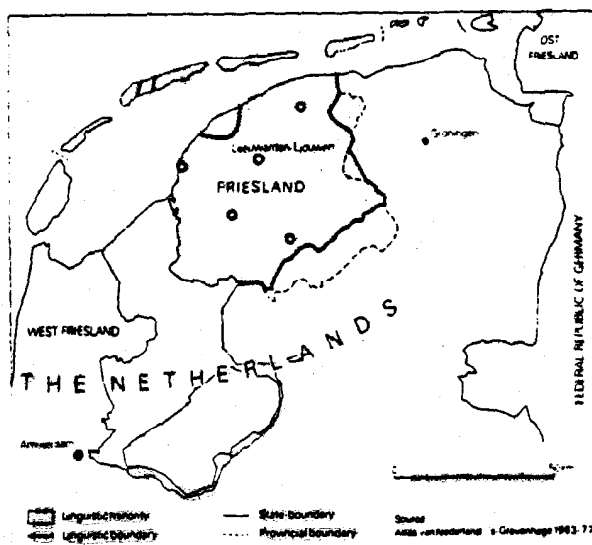


Figure 1 The Frisian linguistic minority in the Netherlands

Figure 2 - Sheet index of the map series "Topografische kaart van Nederland 1:25.000"

