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## Chosen Legacies

Egberts, L.R.

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The urge for regional identity has not declined in the process of globalization. Rather, each region uses heritage to develop its own distinctiveness. Heritage is utilized to charge these regional identities with a past. Particularly helpful for this aim are creational stories, Golden Ages or recent, shared traumas. Some themes — such as the Roman era or the Second World War — appear easier to appropriate than, for example, prehistory.

This book assesses the role of heritage in the construction of regional identities in Western Europe. It contains case studies on early medieval heritage in Europe, industrial heritage in the German Ruhr area and competing memories in the Arnhem-Nijmegen region in the Netherlands. By combining literature research, interviews and fieldwork, it offers new insights in each of these regions and also presents these regions to an English-reading audience.

The book offers new insights into the process heritage production on a regional level in relationship to processes of identity construction. It also offers insights into policy, tourism, spatial development and regional development to policy-makers, politicians, designers and professionals in

the heritage and tourism industries. The theoretical analysis of 'heritage' and 'regional identity' is innovative as these concepts were hardly analyzed in relation to each other before.

Linde Egberts studied Heritage Studies (MA) at VU University Amsterdam and Liberal Arts (BA) at Utrecht University. Her research and her teaching activities focus on the fields of heritage, landscape, spatial transformations, mobility and tourism in an international perspective.

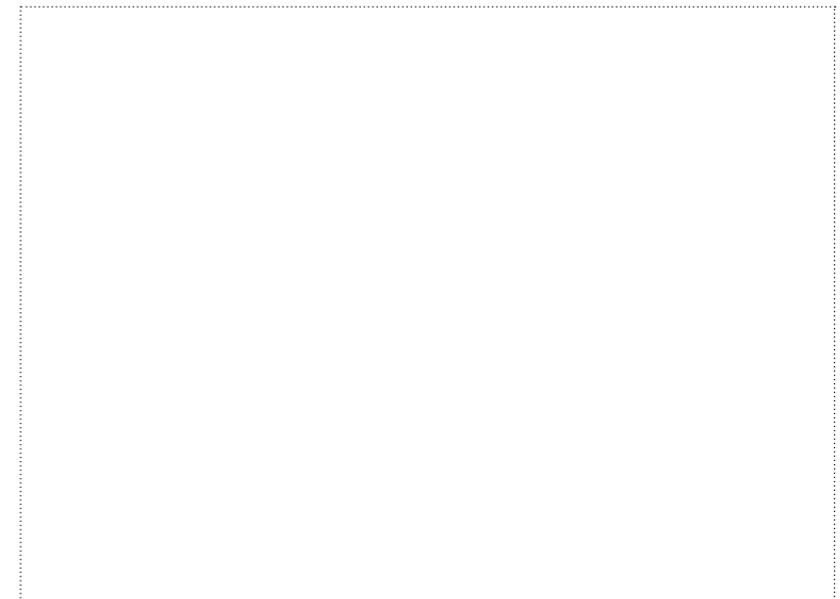


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*Heritage in the Construction of Regional Identity*



Linde Egberts

