Karim van Knippenberg - Community-led adaptive re-use of heritage sites (PhD)

The objective of this research is therefore to find an approach to heritage time that is adaptive and open to change in order to deal with complexity which arises from the involvement of communities and the increasingly complex contexts this brings. Besides, such a heritage management approach has a strong focus on community involvement. The aim is to go beyond the heritage-as-thing-approach or heritage-as-construction-approach, and instead to elaborate on a kind of ‘evolutionary heritage approach’ which addresses adaptability and flexibility in order to deal with an ongoing heritage valuation process by communities and other stakeholders. Such an approach would be beneficial for adaptive heritage re-use processes and as such it could help to turn cultural heritage re-use into an important vehicle of economic regeneration and social integration.