



NEDERLANDS
INSTITUUT VOOR
ACADEMISCHE STUDIES
DAMASCUS

المعهد الهولندي
للدراسات الأكاديمية في دمشق



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Synopsis introduction to “Voorland”

Voorland is a documentary, which illustrates the modern change of land use in the Netherlands around the Rhine River and the hazards of living near an important river, which at any moment can flood the land surrounding it. The scenes of the film take place around a farm called Voorland, near an old dilapidated brick factory in the flood plain of the river used for brick manufacturing, and grazing cattle over the last centuries.

As a result of urbanization, modernization and increase in traffic, there is a growing need for walking in nature and observing wild life. The area is changed into a recreational one where not long ago wild horses were introduced. The train rails and roads are constructed underground in order to avoid disturbing the flora and fauna. School children come to spend a day registering their observations on insects, birds and plants. People demonstrate against the construction of a railway, municipalities discuss plans of road construction keeping in mind the conservation of nature.

It is a film for those interested in the development of rural life in the last number of decades, change of priorities in modern times and the trends of nature conservation in developed European countries, especially in the Netherlands.