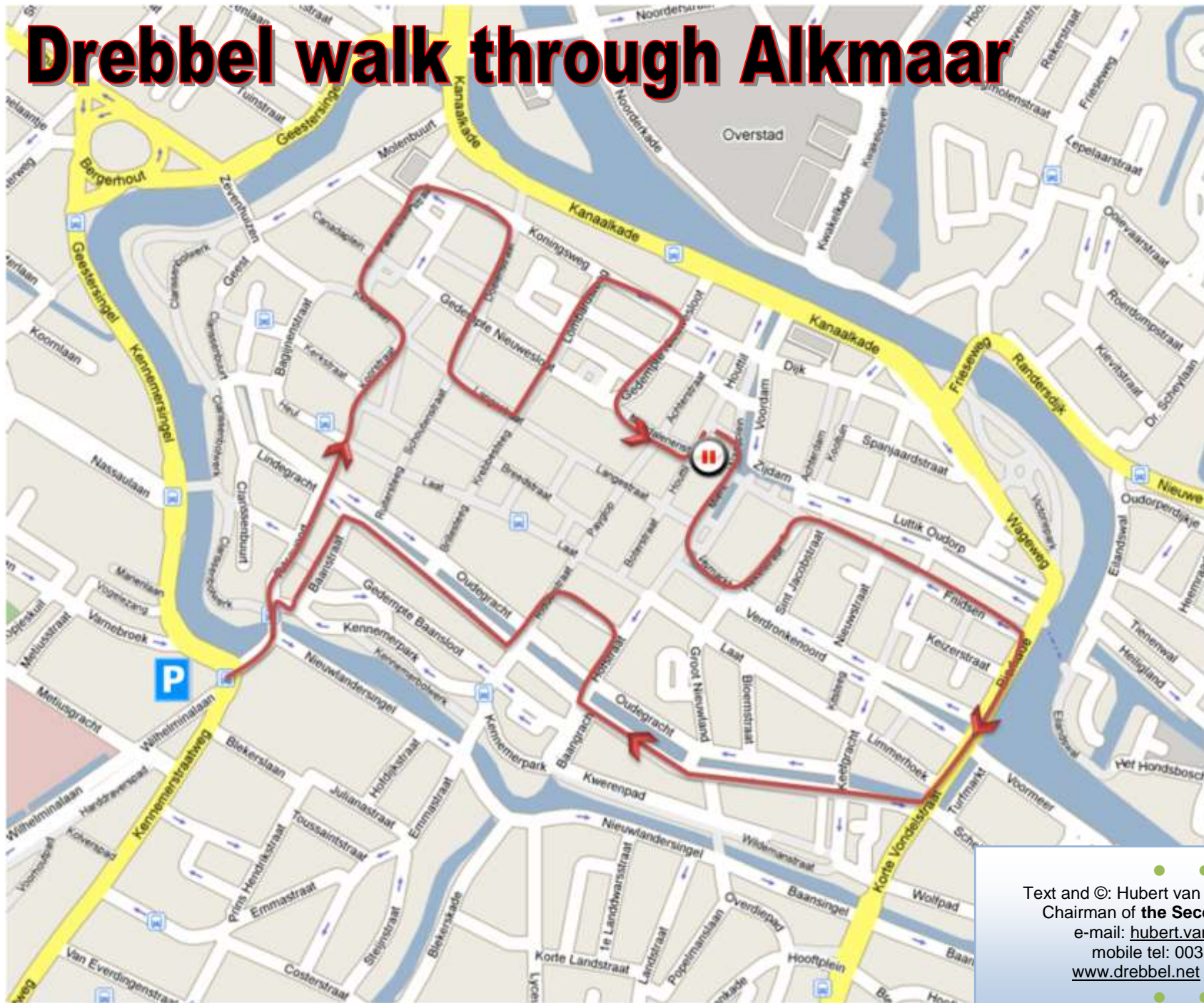


# Drebbel walk through Alkmaar



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# Drebbel walk through the City of Alkmaar in North-Holland



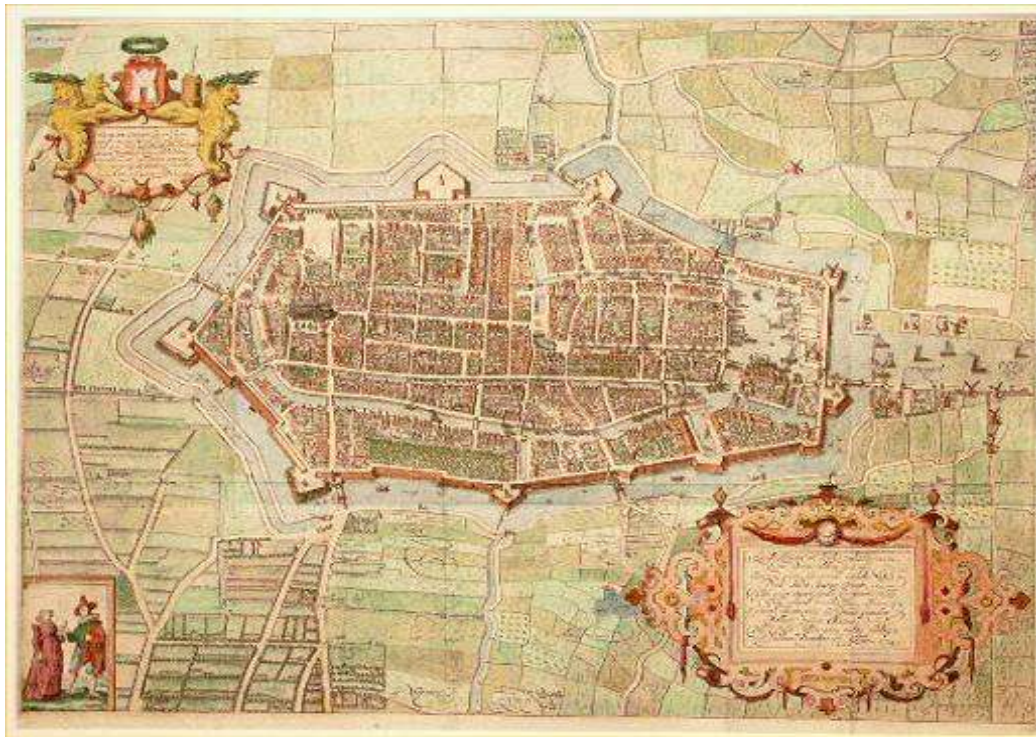
**1572**, Cornelis Drebbel, born in Alkmaar. (He died in 1633 in London)

On June 28 1573, the City of Alkmaar joins the Staten General. That year, October 8, at Alkmaar, victory starts. Inglorious withdrawal of the Spanish troops after a seven week siege. That same month, Admiral Count Bossu with his Spanish fleet lose an important battle from the rebellious Dutch corsairs, nicknamed the Beggars (les Gueux in french, de Geuzen in Dutch) at the Zuiderzee.

1576: the Staten of Zeeland join the rebellious Staten of Holland. The Union of Utrecht, January 23 1579 the Republic of the Seven United provinces – the Netherlands – emerges.

1581: the Apology or Placate of Abandoning (Plakaat van Verlaetinghe), the Spanish King is dismissed as sovereign of the Dutch Provinces.

**1597 Map of Alkmaar**, etched in copper by **Cornelis Drebbel**, designed by Anthonisz Anthoniszn from Alkmaar.



*ALCMAER vermaert, leyt wel bewaert  
Rondt om met Meeren seer pleyasant:  
Oock met schone weyden, zaedland va[n] beyden  
En veel treffelycke dorpen wel bemant  
Van elcker cant, comt lyftocht in over vloet:  
De Soutnering die Stadt oock florere[n] doet*

*Famous Alkmaar, situated well preserved  
surrounded by lakes, very pleasant  
and beautiful meadows, fertile land  
and many excellent villages  
from everywhere; alimention in abundance  
the Saltrade that also makes the city flourish*



**Cornelis Jacobszoon Drebbel**  
1572 Alkmaar 1633 Londen

**Parking:** car in the Singel Garage near the Molen van Piet (Mill of Piet) at the Singelcanal, close to the Alkmaar city center.

**Walking Route:** Start the trip at the Parking garage exit 'City' and walk through the Ritsevoort, Koorstraat and Cultuurplein, visit the Municipal Museum Alkmaar (Stedelijk Museum Alkmaar - closed Mondays), continue via the Koningsweg, Doelenstraat, Hoogstraat, Langestraat, vdBoschstr, Nieuwe Sloot, Lombardstraat, Koningsweg, Korte Nieuwe Sloot, Magdalenastr., Houutil, Waagplein, a 30 minutes Break in Pub de Boom, an old brewery, than continue via the Mient, Visbanken, Hekelstr. Appelsteeg, Fnidsen, Bierkade, Oude Gracht, Hofstraat, Vijvertje, Ridderstraat, Oude Gracht, back to the Molen van Piet - Parking-garage.

Source: Pictures a.o: from the book the History of Alkmaar, www.alkmaar.nl/monument; text: **Hubert van Onna**, Drebbologist , mobile tel: 0653 996 111

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### **Molen van Piet (Mill of Piet)**

Clarissenbuurt 4 (Bolwerk) This characteristic mill-monument is officially called Mill de Groot. Predecessor of the current one was a standard mill, build in **1605**. Old maps show over ten mills on the walls around the city. They all disappeared except for this one.

After the conquest of the City of Haarlem in 1573 by the Spaniards, it was Alkmaars' turn. With all resources the defense walls around the City were improved and strengthened. By means of a new ring of van fortified defense structures. The old ring, at the Oudegracht was replaced by a bulwark at the Kennemerpoort; right here.

The previous 'bastion' was at the Ale house **The Golden Fleece**, Koorstraat / Oude gracht. Father Jacob Drebbel, who had the name Dremmel in those days, worked at the defense line that was designed by Antonis Anthoniszoon, father of the Metius brothers. The Hofje van Splinter is from 1646; after Drebbel.



In the year 1470 the building of the **Grote** or **Sint Laurens church** started. Completed in 1520. The church is built on an old sandy ridge. Nearby, at the beginning of the Langestraat, the highest level of that area is indicated by a half moon of grey stone in the pavement. The Grote Kerk, was meant for the Roman-catholic service, built in a Brabant gothic style. After the Reformation in **1572**, the Calvinist took over the building, as well as the Kapel Kerk and the monasteries.



In **1595**, Drebbel marries Feijtge Jansdochter (**Sophia Goltzius**), a sister of the famous etcher/engraver Hendrik Goltzius from Haarlem. They get 6 children. The first two, twins, pass away soon after their birth and are buried in the Grote Kerk.



The current **Hooge Huys**, corner Koorstraat / Langestraat, dates from 1930-1931, traditional style, based on the medieval form language, designed by A.J. Krophöller. In the facade, a small terracotta memorial stone with two fish, a reminder of **Jacob Cabeliau** (cod), commander during the siege of Alkmaar in **1573**, who dies in this building in 1574. In Drebbels' days, the **Prince's Court** was here located. In 1587/6 Robert Dudley, Count of Leicester (1532-1588) and his retinue is welcomed by the City of Alkmaar. Leicester, a favorite and 'possible' lover of Queen Elizabeth (the Virgin Queen) was here, representing the queen. England then supported the Republic of the Seven United Provinces in its resistance against the Spaniards. When Leicester starts to behave 'too royal', the queen – not amused - recalls him back to England.

- >> **Municipal Museum Alkmaar** at the Cultuur Plein.  
Visit the exposition of **Alkmaar in the Golden Age**, Panorama 1 en 2.



New or St. Sebastiaan Doelen-Doelenkluft corner Koningsweg: Has Drebbel lived here? 'there where „the Horn” hangs out. ?

**New or St. Sebastiaan Doelen** was the building of the civic guard of the city. A typical example of Dutch Renaissance and, according to the **stone in the gable, from 1618**.



From Doelenstraat, around the corner to Kingsroad -Koningsweg- 78. This house is over 400 years old, build in **1598**. The facades and the ceiling, including the woodwork, are genuine. In the backyard, a water cellar and - well. The current gable is from 1787 and 1925.

In the Doelenstraat, after the year 1595, the Latin school was established in the church of the monastery the Young Begijnhof. During Drebbels youth, the school was behind the city hall in de Broadstreet, nicknamed the shit-trench.

Drebbel probably attended this school for some years. Next to the building the Jonge Hof -New Court- that in 1567 was changed into an Orphanage and Lepers house (interesting combination).

1606. The church of the Minstrel Brothers in the Doelenstraat is made into a Gunnery storeroom. In the façade, a stone shows the year 1604 with the armor of the city and a lion and a soldier with two drums. The Gunnery – Artillerie huis – is located opposite the Hofje van Bijleveld.

>> Through Doelenstraat and Hoogstraat to Langestraat (Longstreet).

Letter of Jan Claesz for the children of the deceased Floris van Teylingen, showing an amount of 2648 carolusguilders, because of the purchase of the house where Floris used to live in, located at the northern side of the Langestraat, opposite the City Hall on the corner of the Hoogstraat, february 4 1586.



Langestraat: City Hall

The City Hall was build in 1509-1520 in gothic style, with its slim corner tower and open pear-shape spire at the top. In 1911-1913 a radical restoration was carried out under supervision of the architect Jan Stuyt (1868-1934). Than, unfortunately, the façade was restored with ‘modern’ materials but according to the old example. The stone that was used is ‘dead’ material; the original medieval stone had a different color and was hand shaped.

In Drebbel’s days, **Mrs Maria Tesselschade Roemersdr’ (daughter) Visscher** (1594 –1649). lived in the **Langestraat**. Her middle name Tesselschade, refers to the damage her father’s fleet suffered at the shore of the island Texel in the north of the province. This daughter of Roemer Visscher, and sister of eleven years younger sister Anna Roemersdr. Visscher. Maria „poet and engraver”, corresponds wiht the leading poets of those days: Hooft, Vondel, Brederode and Constantijn Huygens, who writes frequently about his meetings with Drebbel in his diary,. These men all seem to have been attracted to her. In one of his poems, dedicated to Tesseltje, Brederode starts with the following sentences: *Goddess named after the ship-rich Island and noble soul, sublime, magnificent and beautiful’.*

Maria marries Allart Janz. Crombalch from Alkmaar and moves from Amsterdam to Alkmaar, where her husband, former officer in the army, dies in 1634. Within one day she loses her eldest daughter, the nine year old Teetgen and her husband: Teetgen dies from smallpox, Allart vomited blood. A note in the family diary says: niece maria tesselschae Salgr. died June 20 1649, R.I.P., and the Register of burials of the Old Church: 24 Juni 1649, Tesselscha Roemer Visschers, wid. of Allart Crombalck, from the Nieuwe-Zijds Colck (in Amsterdam); the large clock rang for 2 hours. Her most famous work is called: Distinction between a wild and a tame singer.... .

>> From Langestraat through Van den Bosch straat, through Lombardsteeg, where in 1544 on January 31 the Bank van Leninge (the Credit bank), started. Along Doelenveld (field), to Koningsweg.

Perhaps Drebbel was anabaptist, as he never carried a weapon. Nevertheless, in 1625/27, in order of George Villiers - Duke of Buckingham, (1598, murdered in 1628, favorite of homosexual King James I – VI, Commander of the English marine-, Drebbel constructed mine, torpedo and other gear, meant to murder. These weapons were put into action with the two attempts by the English fleet to liberate their coreligionist, the Huguenots, in the city of La Rochelle, that was besieged by Cardinal Richelieu and the French catholic troops.

The **Baptist church**, built in **1617** at the initiative of the famous preacher Hans de Ries, is one of the eldest stone Baptist churches in our country. Initially it was a 'secret church' In the 19th century the building and its interior were totally changed.



Now, Gedempte Nieuwesloot (New Ditch Filled). At this location, currently named **Hof (Court) van Sonoy**, in the past named, the White Court also named the Saint Maria Magdalena Monastery (Klooster) was situated. The monastery became property of the city, after the reformation, and was used to take in citizens, that had lost their house because of the siege and the new bulwarks. After the siege, the Court was sold to Diederick Sonoy, governor of the Northern Province, who lived here several year. Sonoy played an important role in the victory on the Spaniards in 1573. Under his leadership, the Roman catholic churches and the monasteries in Bergen and Egmond were ruined and plundered. He also terrorised the catholics and was responsible for the cruel death of several priests from Alkmaar, who were hanged at the Platte Steen Bridge (end of Langestraat at Mient). Sonoy associates himself with the English protector Robert Dudley, Count of Leicester. After Leicester had left the Dutch Provinces in 1587, Sonoy opposed the policy of the Staten of Holland. After a 6 week siege by the army of Count Moritz, the city of Medemblik, where Sonoy was located, surrendered in august 1588. In 1597 Diederik Sonoy dies.

>> Through Magdalenastraat (Schapensteeg) to Houttil and Waagplein

1606, May 31. Harck Claesz. Boonstoppel and Cornelis Heyndricxsz. Boom, Aldermen in Alkmaer, declare that Jan van Teylingen has sold to the Burgomasters, a house at the west side of the Mient, from the south, adjacent to the Waech house, from north, bordering the house of Teet Mielis, from the west, the room of Gerrit Jansz. Cramer, with a charge of 600 Carolusgulden borne by Jacob Maertsz., to be paid by the seller with the purchase amount of 3700 Carolusgulden, to be received in 6 annual installments. Jan Jacobsz. Stoop, his brother in law, will guarantee this money. Attached a note: 'The house of Jan van Teylingen, by the side of the Waech is demolished. The Waagh square used to be much smaller.



Formerly, the Waag-building was used to show and sell drapery, meat and also as a hospital and for religious services. In 1581, the title to exploit the Scales is returned to Alkmaar, as a 'thanks' for the bravery in 1573. Originally, the chapel of the Holy Ghost with at its side a hospital was here;. In **1582**, an extension was added in renaissance style and so the building was transformed into the current **Waag building**. After a design of Pieter Cornelisz, on the overlap of the former chapel and the new extension, a tower was raised. Ludolf Potter, headmaster of the Latin school in the Doelenstraat, devises the epigraph „in gold, at the facade: *S.P.Q.A. restituit virtus ablatae jura bilancis (Regering en Volk van Alkmaar. Dapperheid herstelde de ontnomen waagrechten)*

A remarkable building: at the Houttil-side, Gothic style, build in 1300/1400, at the side of the canal, Dutch renaissance. The first floor of the extension from 1582, houses a large room were Drebber and contemporaries might have gathered. The eldest regulation of the cheese barriers, "Ordonnantie opte caesdragers" dates from June 17 1593, the official date of the foundation of the Cheese barriers Guild. The motto of the Guild: "*Counterfeited scales are a horror to the Lord; an honest and full weight is his pleasure*". "*Een valse waag is de Heer een gruwel en daarentegen een vol gewicht is zijn welbehagen*".

In the 17th century, cheese was traded from the May till All Saints Day, on Fridays and Saturdays. Every group of Cheese barriers - Dock Company - has its own scales.



Gerrit Pieterszoon Schagen, (1573-1616) from Alkmaar, bookbinder, scientist, alchemist, astronomer and philosopher, publishes in 1607 Drebbel's essay over the perpetuum mobile, titled: The Miracle-invention of the perpetual motion by the Philosopher Cornelis Drebbel from Alkmaar/ by means of an always moving spirit/ sealed in a ball/ which has been demonstrated and dedicated to the all mighty King James of Great Brittain. (King James I – VI of England/ Scotland)

*'Wonder-Vondt van de eeuwighe bewegingh die den Alckmaersche Filosooph Cornelis Drebbel/ door een eeuwich bewegende gheest/ in een Cloot besloten/te weghe ghebrocht heeft/ welckers toeeygeningh (in't vereeren desselvigen aen den grootmachtigen Coningh Jacob van Groot Brittangen) alhier naecktelijck vertoont wordt.*

His essay is printed in Alkmaar – 'Ghedruckt tot Alckmaer-', by Jacob de Meester, at the order of Gerrit Pietersz. Bookseller/living at the corner of the Mient/at the Waegh/ (Boeckvercooper/ woonende op den hoeck van de Meent/op de Waegh/) tot Alckmaer/ anno 1607'. Printer De Meester lives in the Langestraat. In 1610 he also prints 'Den Nederduytsen Helicon', with a.o. a poem of Scaghen.

**BREAK** and refreshments: *Cafe de Boom*

In Drebbels days, quite some breweries were active in Alkmaar, such as De Gryeckse (the Greek), de Witte Leeuw (the White Lion) , de Boom (the Tree) (from 1647 to 1749) and the Lamb. In 1614 the beer-pluggers, who looked after the distribution of beer from outside the city, are forced to settle at the recently -in 1612- reclaimed Veneetse island. And, mandatory, they have to construct a cellar under their home or warehouse. A façade there says: '*when they wrote 1614, we were forced to this island.*' ("als men 1614 schreef, ons alhier op dit eylandt dreef"). This measure was meant to get a better control on the collection of the beer-duties.

In 1577, the first wooden drawbridge between the Voordam and the Waagplein was built. Because of the constant quarrel about its location, the bridge was called the '**Brawl-bridge**'. Later, renamed **Sheep-bridge**. In 1912 the current, iron bridge was placed.



>> Along Voordam with a view on Luttik (=little) Oudorp, since 1573, part of Alkmaar. Where the Vegetable market took place, supplied by ship from the area around the city. Then, Alkmaar was nick-named 'The Capital of Groceries' because of its 70 groceries in 1630, with most of them located at Luttik Oudorp.  
Barley from Alkmaar (gort) was much in demand throughout the country.

>> Now to the Mient

Via the Mient and Platte Stenenbrug (Flat stone bridge), along the **Visbanken** (Fishbanks/market), going back to the 1600-s. Through the doors in the back of the building, freshwater fish, hang in baskets in the water. In around 1755 the original wooden columns were replaced by stone pillars. Since 1900-s the columns are of cast iron.

>> Via the Hekelstraat,

Before the Reformation named St. John street and before those days, a curved dike of the Voormeer, which was filled with garbage. In 1606 the island opposite the Venitsen is won, were later the beer-pluggers were forced to live.

>> from Fnidsen to Appelsteeg.



The **House with the Bullet** - het Huis met de Kogel - Appelsteeg 2 - got its name when during the Spanish siege –1573- a bullet hit. Probably, the house was built shortly before the siege, a  $\frac{3}{4}$  stone-wooden house. The bullet, at the left on the facade is a remembrance of the battle against the Spanish rule. This war was won because of the water. By opening the sluices, the country side around Alkmaar drowned. The Spaniards, from their waistline in the water, retreated and so 'at Alkmaar Victory started', as this was the first city to resist the Spaniards.

>> Back to Fnidsen, along the Remonstrant secret-church to Achtervenisse (backFnidsen) (1659) to the Beer quay (Bierkade)



Verdrunkenoord Bierkade: The Guildhouse of the Shippers is probably built around **1607**. In those days, at the place of Verdrunkenoord 4, a building with a renaissance façade with gables was located here. It was one of the largest Guild houses in Alkmaar. The corner-part was used as Ferry departure place, with a beerhouse. In 1607 the City council decided that the departure of the Ferry to Amsterdam should be located at the Excise Duty Tower.



Bierkade 23. The Accijnstoren – Excise Duty Tower - was build in 1622. These duties were an important source of revenues for the city. The Tower's ground plan is almost a square and the structure is build of brick with ribbons of natural stone. Above the trans (= omgang) an elegant wooden tower with bells. The tower is crowned with a pearforme pinnacle with a gilded ball and as weathervane, a barge. On a ness at the tower stood a crane, a wooden structure used for lifting, with treadmill, heavy loads ashore. The crane is once moved to the other end of Verdronkenoord, than called Crane quarter, with, at nr. 2, a picture of the crane.

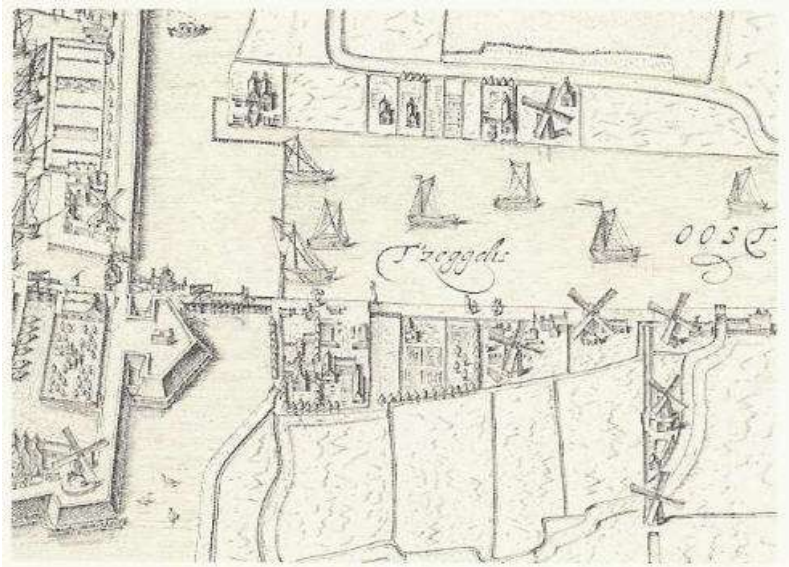
In the year 1622, Alkmaar has ca. 12500 inhabitants, living in around 2600 houses. A bit less than Enkhuizen with over 20.000 and Hoorn with around 14.000 citizens.

From this corner, at the Accijnstoren, we have a good view of the Zeglis. This was the first industrial area of Alkmaar around 1600. With mills, shipyards, saltworks, etc.

#### Alkmaar Industrial city:

1604, september 16. Cornelis Heyndricxsz. Boom and IJff Maertsz. Laeckencooper, Aldermen of Alcmaer, declare that Willem Biesman, mocking velvet manufacturer, testifies to have received from Nanning van Foreest, secretary of the city, two hundred Carolusgulden, which is half of the amount, promised by the Burgomasters, for which he has promised to stay four years with eight looms for weaving mocking velvet, damask, bombazine and other cloth.

1607: March 5. An agreement was reached between the Burgomasters of Alkmaar and Pasquir Lambertijn (who had around 1607 a house in Haerlem) that Burgomaster promised him and before '5 Juny' of the same year have paid 3000 gulden, on the condition that he will continue his 'fabricq' in Alkmaer. He was offered the brewery 'the Fish - t Visje - and his children were released from the mandatory membership of the civic guard. In that way, the city of Alkmaar tried to stimulate its cloth industry. In 1591 a roofed in drapery-, flax and yarn market began. By the introduction of damask weaving, a better paid and qualitative better product was introduced. Lambertin –Lammertijn- originates from Kortrijk in Flandres, where damask-weaving was already at a high level. He developed an improved procedure that made it possible to weave complicated patterns. Rijksmuseum has work of Lammertijn in its collection, a damask napkin, in 1613 given as present to count Moritz.



detail Map by Drebbel, 1597

In 1582, the Fleming Andries van Moerbeek gets permission to build a wind-oil mill. The machine is imported from Flanders in small parts and located at Ooster bolwerk. Maybe this first mill inspired the development of a large series of industrial windmills. In 1586, Alkmaar had the premier wind-paper mill and wind-wood saw mill. The paper mill was build by the Fleming Jan Jacobszoon du Bois, and Cornelis Corneliszoon from Uitgeest builds - in 1585 – the first wood saw mill on the northern side of Seggels.



At the Schelphoek in some sheds, the saltworks were located. The production of *fine salt* was an important activity in Alkmaar. Seawater was so long boiled -seethed- until just salt remained.



The **City Carpenter Yard** was probably built as a warehouse around the year **1602**, extended in the period 1723 en 1726. The Keetgracht was formerly called the Saltkeet canal, named after the salt works the Unity (de Eenheid). This little canal connected the Laet and the Oudegracht.



Hofstraat. The former Synagogue. **Did Drebbel live here?** There is no evidence. The Hofstraat is built in 1582, when a house at the Laat opposite the Huigbrouwerstraat was demolished. A passage to the bulwarks at the Oudegracht was made. Since 1611 the water was filled, bit by bit. Oudegracht dates from 1536 and was dugged through the Bagijn-meadows along the Laat. In 1570 this water becomes the Stads singel (city girth).

The Vijvertje (little pond) was part of the old bulwark. Its watercourse ran in a curve to the Oude Gracht through the city walls to the Ritsevoort. In 1600 a house is demolished in order to realise a passage from the Vijvertje to the Ridderstraat. In 1610 the Vijversloot (ditch) is filled up and became a street.

>> Via Vijvertje to Ridderstraat:

On august 30 1575 the Alkmaar Archive makes mention that „Jan Jacopsz. Brouwer and Claes Heyndricxsz. Eedam, Alderman in Alckmaer, declare that Jan Jacopsz. Boerman sold to the Burgomasters an orchard at the west side of the Ridderstraet, next to the eastern area of the Ridder straet, west from Willem Lambertszoon 's orchard, south of the old bulwark or street, north from the courtyards of Jannitgen Heynsoon, Pieter Cluyt and Guurt de Wever, with as security his house and courtyard at the northern side of the Langestraet, adjacent at the eastside to the heirs of Matheeus Claesz., at the westside Franchoeys van der Cruyssen, for which transaction Jacop Jansz. **Dremmel**, son in law of the seller, acts as bailsman of the seller. Jacop Dremmel is probably Cornelis father and son in law of Jan Jacopsz. Boerman, Alderman of Alkmaar in the period 1574/75. The citizenship –burgher- of Alkmaar costs in the period 1594 till 1643, 3 gulden, of which half was paid to the Groote Kerk. In the Ridderstraat was the Mennonisten-schuyr; the entrance is still visible.



Oudegracht 239-241 Built in **1623**. At the tail ends of the frieze we see two carved lion mask. In the facade of the building at the right, two canon-mouth and two carved sailing ship are applied. In the middle of the building, a rich decorated brick in the façade is visible in which a weapon with above it, a helmet and helmet-cloth is applied. According to tradition these attributes refer to the admiralty of West-Friesland and a former sponsor of the building, a captain from Alkmaar.





around 1600

### Cornelis Jacobszoon Drebbel; "*a Bold Mind*"



around 1628

- 1572 This year (or some years earlier), born in the city of Alkmaar or its surroundings.
- 1573 October 8. The liberation of the Seven United Provinces from Habsburg Spain starts at Alkmaar. The Spanish army withdraws from Alkmaar; the end of the siege of the city.
- 1577 Staten-General, the governing body of the United Provinces, invites Matthias, brother of the Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, Rudolph II, to become sovereign of the Seven Provinces.
- 1579 January 23, signing of the Union of Utrecht treaty. The independent Republic of the Seven United Provinces, later the Netherlands, is a fact.
- 1584 Philips II calls Wilhelm von Nassau "*the pestilence of Christianity and enemy of all humans*". Wilhelm is also known as William the Silent, Stadtholder in service of the Staten-General, murdered in Delft.
- 1585 Drebbel, pupil of the Latin School of Rector Potter in Alkmaar.
- 1593/95 Apprentice of the engraver, painter, publisher and humanist Hendrick Goltzius, a pupil of the humanist Dirck Coornhert (1522-1590) in Haarlem,
- 1595 Feijtge Jansdochter (Sophia) Goltzius (youngest sister of Hendrick) and Cornelis Drebbel marry. They have a son, Jan Cornelisz, first, two daughters, Anna and Catharina, another son, Jacob.

- 1597 Drebbel engraves a beautiful map of Alkmaar, a design of Adriaen Thönissen "Stercktebouwmeester der Vereenighde Nederlanden", architect of many new fortresses in the United Provinces in these years.
- 1598 Staten-General grants two "Octroy for Cornelius Jacobsz. Drebbel: *the first, an instrument which enables to raise great quantities of fresh water, by means of a fountain from 'low' till XXX, XL or L or more feet, floating through leaden pipes. The other, a time piece or clockwork which is able to show the time for over fifty, LX, yes even more than a hundred years, without winding a spring or other action, at least as long as the wheels or clockwork is not worn out.*
- 1600 Drebbel designs and builds a fountain –fresh water supply- at the Noorderpoort in Middelburg.
- 1602 Another Octroy for Drebbel: *invention of a chimney system, as never constructed before, that draws and dispatches the smoke in a convenient way.*
- 1604 autumn; the Drebbel-family travels to England and is housed at Eltham Palace. Francis Bacon, philosopher and statesman is one of the quarter makers. Drebbel demonstrates his Perpetuum Mobile at the court of King James I-VI. And becomes one of the tutors of Prince Henry. Develops and builds theatre requisites, automata; he designs fire works, fountains and virginals that play on solar energy. Works probably with Shakespeare and Jonson.
- 1607 Gerrit Pietersz. (Schagen), Boekvercooper/ publishes Drebbel's essay, titled: 'Wonder-vondt van de eeuwighe bewegingh, (The Miracle-invention of the perpetual motion). The essay is dedicated to King James I – VI of England/Scotland.
- 1607/8 Publication of Drebbel's book: *"Profound solution of the Nature and the characteristics of the Elements, and how they cause the wind, rain, thunder and lightning, and why these are useful".*
- 1610 The Drebbel family arrives in October at the court of Emperor Rudolph II in Prague. Demonstrates his Perpetuum Mobile, executes chemical tests and works on project for the mining sector
- 1612 Rudolph II, Drebbels sponsor in Prague, dies in January. In November Crown prince Henry, Drebbels sponsor in England, suddenly passes away, 20 years old. In a letter to the King, Drebbel emphasises his lack of money; offers to develop several optic instruments, asks for permission the exploit the silver mines, with a new technology and asks permission to organise a lottery.

- 1613 In February, Drebbel and family return from Prague to England.
- 1613-1630 *In England, Drebbel, a real experimentalist in the Baconian tradition, develops an improved versions of the telescope, (verre gesigt), barometers, camera obscura, microscopes ('lunette de Dreubells'), an incubator for chicken, a solar powered energy system for London (perpetual fire); he executes the first air conditioning demonstration – is able to vary the temperature within an hour from freezing cold to hot – and to demonstrate lightning and rain on command, develops a transportable high efficiency oven with circulating hot air and a smart regulator/thermostat. Drebbel, a pioneer in the area of Control and Measurement systems, Optics, etc.*
- 1620 Drebbel's first submarine demonstration in the Thames; with 12 oarsmen. In his diary, Isaac Beeckman says on the 15th of March (new time) anno 1620: *"Some days ago I received a letter from my father in London. He mentions a ship that Drebbel constructed, with which he is able to navigate above and in-between the waters as he likes."* (Dilatation from the diary of Isaac Beeckman (1588-1637) Drebbel meets his future sons-in-law, the Kuffler brothers. They travel through Europe, selling Drebbels telescopes and microscopes. Later on they will start a dye work –based on a new technology, developed by Drebbel around 1606, to make scarlet-red; the royal colour.
- 1621 Various reprints of Drebbel's booklet: *"Secure solution of Nature and the characteristics of the Elements Now with the following tractates: A clear description of the Quinta Essentia, never printed before and a Dedication of the Primum Mobile"*.
- In his new booklet, Drebbel describes a process that looks like the production of oxygen (the body of Saltpetre is broken by the power of fire and changed in the nature of air) Some people claim, that Drebbel learned to make oxygen from Michał Sędziwój (*Michael Sendivogius*) (1566 -1636) a Polish alchemist, philosopher, medical doctor. Constantijn Huygens (1596 -1687) meets CD regularly during his stays in England. In his autobiography, Huygens writes: *'when I placed this moon (Drebbel) next to this sun (Bacon), I was in particular interested in physics. This modest man, a citizen from Alkmaar, had an amazing experience in this area, as I have noticed with my own eyes. Huygens about Drebbel's microscope: 'Not only from his hands but also from his miraculous brain comes, what I call the standing telescope. Had Drebbel during his life done nothing else than this miraculous tube, he had acquired immortal fame forever.'*
- 1626 Francis Bacon, Baron Verulam (geb.1561), Statesman, philosopher, dies in London  
 "For all knowledge and wonder (which is the seed of knowledge) is an impression of pleasure in itself."

- 1627 Publication of Bacon's last book, Nova Atlantis. A description of an ideal utopian society, peaceful and technologically advanced. Drebbel creates many of the constructions described in the book
- 1626-27 At the mandate of the English marine, Drebbel constructs special weaponry, such as torpedo's, firebombs, etc. The Huguenots entrenched in La Rochelle; defend themselves against the army of the catholic king of France. The English marine tries to relieve them. Drebbel's machines have no effect. According to the English because they do not work; according to Drebbel; the English were not courageous enough to approach the French army near by enough.
- 1633 In his final years, Drebbel runs an Alehouse at the quay of the Thames near The Tower. Is also involved in the draining of the moors (Fens) around Cambridge.  
November 8 1633, Cornelis passes away.
- 1994 At -40,9 degrees latitude and 49 degrees longitude in the Clementine system, a crater is named after Drebbel, the first citizen of Alkmaar on the moon.

World fame: Disneyworld, at Epcot Pavilion the Living Seas, Orlando, Florida, a portrait of Cornelis Drebbel used to greet you at the entrance.

*Startrek: His name is **Drebble**, Captain **Drebble**. He travels the galaxy in his ship*

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