

Design Institute, Amsterdam

The Netherlands Design Institute was established in premises designed in 1861 by Cornelis Oudshoorn. During restoration the foundations and all wall, floor and roof structures were repaired and the extant historical details reinstated. The basement and main level of the rear annexes of two adjoining houses were combined and part of the floor of each upper level was removed. The resulting tall, narrow space now houses the 'Collector', a steel framework containing the library, the collection and the equipment. All work and conference rooms are linked directly to this Collector. A new staitower at the core of the building replaces the entrance stair designed in 1954 by Mart Stam. A steel stair links the boardroom with the main events hall, the reception hall giving on to the garden, and the entrance with the aid of footbridges in blue glass. The interior is kept subdued. On the original parquet floors stand large tables, with the Collector obviating the need for storage units.

Client

City of Amsterdam

Architect

Bentham Crouwel Architekten

Gross floor area

935 m²

Start design

1989

Start construction

1993

Completion

1994