

Bentham Crouwel

Biology Lab University of Amsterdam

The laboratory building housing the department of Biology at the University of Amsterdam is part of Amsterdam Science Park, an international knowledge centre. Sited between two existing university buildings, the new Biology Lab contains research and teaching laboratories and workrooms. It stands on stilts to allow traffic into its grounds, though the entrance tower descends to street level. Aerial walkways are to connect the new building to its neighbours. The lab building has two levels of usable space with above these a 'technical' level somewhat detached from the main mass and housing among other things an extract system for removing noxious fumes. All vertical technical infrastructure is hidden away in a hollow service wall slicing through the building from end to end and from top to bottom. The corridor on the upper floor acts as both a circulation 'artery' and as social space. Corrugated metal sheet cladding and eye-catching fire escapes lend the whole an industrial air.

Client

University of Amsterdam

Architect

Bentham Crouwel Architekten

Gross floor area

3.015 m²

Start design

1993

Completion

1995