

### **Province of Zeeland Archive, Middelburg**

A mansion designed in 1765 by J.P. van Bourscheit in the old town centre of Middelburg was chosen to house the new Province of Zeeland Archive. The historic interior was restored and primed to receive the documentary and administrative part and the restoration divisions. In the garden behind the building is a three-level underground repository, and in a new-build pavilion in the garden are the public zone, reception, reading rooms, meeting/exhibition room and coffee corner. The pavilion's triangular form derives from the yards between houses that are a characteristic feature of Middelburg. A staircase and lift in the central void connect all repositories with the reception and reading rooms and with the passages on the three floors. Like the historic part the new-build portion is a solid affair, though the toned-down finish of metal and concrete contrasts with the interior of the old mansion.

#### **Client**

Rijksgebouwendienst, directie Zuid West

#### **Architect**

Bentham Crouwel Architecten

#### **In cooperation with**

Architectenburo Verlaan & Bouwstra

#### **Artists**

Frans Franciscus

Lydia Schouten

#### **Gross floor area**

7800 m<sup>2</sup>

#### **Start design**

1994

#### **Start construction**

1997

#### **Completion**

1999