

ATELIER PRO

Opdrachtgever
Koninklijke
Nederlandse
Akademie van
Wetenschappen,
Amsterdam

Project type
architecture

Functies
renovation & re-
use

Kosten
€ 4.349.619,-

14.435 m²

Project status
completed

Periode
1987 - 1989

Oplevering
1989

Locatie
Cruquiusweg 31
Amsterdam
Netherlands



beeld: hans van beek

International Institute of Social History (IISG), Amsterdam

In the run-up to the first phase of the redevelopment programme for the Eastern Docklands in Amsterdam it transpired that the sturdy concrete warehouse built in 1961 was ideal for accommodating the archives, weighing many tonnes, of the International Institute for Social History (IISG). But to make the building attractive for staff, students and visitors, the hermetically sealed block needed literally prising open. Removing sections of floor and facade allowed both space and light to make their way deep inside the warehouse.

At the front of the building the facade has only small openings to show, so that the entrance at first exhibits a certain containment. On entering, however, and proceeding in the direction of the rear facade the void becomes steadily more generous. Off this void, which terminates at a gigantic window overlooking Entrepothaven, are amongst other things offices, the reading room, the restaurant and the congress hall. On the two uppermost

storeys, where the storeroom is, the original warehouse has largely been kept the way it was.

As the ground floor of the warehouse was seven metres up, an intermediate floor could be inserted below it. The solution here was found in the building's sturdy construction: the extra level could simply be hung from the existing columns. The former loading bay facing the docks supports a cantilevered portion of the library on the first floor. These days it is knowledge, not goods, that is transferred here in the reading room.

Awards and nominations:

- Waarderingsprijs Gepleisterd Bouwen 1991
- Betonprijs 1989

Publications IISG

- 'Institut für Sozialgeschichte in Amsterdam', Baumeister, nr. 5 (1990), p50-52
- Internationales Institut für Sozialgeschichte in Amsterdam', Bouwelt, nr. 6 (1990)
- Ficher, A., Neue Architektur durch Umnutzung alter Gebäude und Anlagen, Stuttgart, 1992, p138-141

Ontwerpteam
project architect
Hans van Beek,
Henk van der Leeden

projectleider
Leen van de Vooren

site supervision
Cees Nieuwenkamp

opzichter
Dirk de Knecht

Projectteam
general contractor
Heddes Bouw

