

Penitentiary Lelystad

new-build

archivolt architecten bv

photography Jan Derwig / Colt International / Sky Pictures luchtfotografie



The facility establishes itself as a closed complex. At the front, the concrete ring wall is fused with a wide building in which the access in the shape of a segmented arc is a distinctive feature that has been marked on-site due to the increased building mass. The entire programme is divided over three buildings with room for a separately realised fourth building in the original plan.

The front building houses the management wing, the service centre, work areas with warehouses, the facilities services, the solitary confinement wing, the separation area, activities areas and sports area. For the most part, the building part is two building layers high with four building layers in the middle area. The fully enclosed transport courtyard is made accessible through a vehicle passage, which is organised as a lock.

Horizontal lanes predominate the exterior architecture. Lines that emphasise the horizontality of the wall. On the interior of the front building, stairwells have been designed explicitly as additions to the volume.

The two cell buildings counting 192 cells each are entirely separated from the front building. For each cell building, a connection is made between the front building and the cell buildings through the exterior space. The cell buildings have been inspired by the prison

construction ideal of the 19th century with a clear-view panopticon and a vaulted central room, while still meeting the contemporary need for compartmentalisation into controllable living units. The cells are located along the façades of the squared cell buildings, placed on top of each other in two layers.

The cells on the first floors can be accessed by means of galleries. The cell blocks have been divided into quadrants by means of a cruciform insert of two building layers which house the communal areas per group. The central control room is situated on the crossroads.

The 'plane' has been made spatially distinctive by means of the vaulted ceiling with a circular base that is supported by the central control room through an umbrella construction.

A horizontal strip of windows on the base of the roof provides more than sufficient lighting. The spacious, clear plane lighted with daylight is of great added value to the facility. Space has been reserved between both domed buildings for a third similar building.

Fine arts contribute to the quality of experience in a distinctive manner both within the facility on the exterior grounds (gilded clocks by Bas Maters) as well as on the front premises (cats lying down by Axel and Helena v.d. Kraan).



panopticon

+



cruciform

=



PI Lelystad





Colofon

Penitentiary
Gross surface area 23.600m²
Location Lelystad
Client Burgholding
Type of assignment design incl specs and
construction management-advise
Plan preparation 1992-1993
Plan execution 1994-1995

Projectarchitect Hans Putter
Team Mino Bonin, Gerard Versteeg