

burowitsenburg buro voor stedelijke landschapsarchitectuur

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Pocketparks

- Atjehpleintje, small square in multicultural neighborhood; third 'pocket' of the 'Example Approach' to realize a network of pocketparks; initiative of the Association for Pocketparks together with district Amsterdam East, two housingcorporations and several co-financiers.
- Neighborhood park/vegetable and flowergarden Valentijn; second 'pocket' of the 'Example Approach' to realize a network of pocketparks; initiative of the Association for Pocketparks together with district Amsterdam East, two housingcorporations and several co-financiers.
- Terrace-garden Niasstraat with kiosk; first 'pocket' of the 'Example Approach' to realize a network of pocketparks; initiative of the Association for Pocketparks together with district Amsterdam East, two housing-corporations and several co-financiers.
- Small playground next to public school called J.P.Coenpleintje; wall art of Jan van der Ploeg; commissioned by district Amsterdam East.
- Tiny neighborhood park 'Tuin van Jonker' in the Rozenprieel quarter of the city of Haarlem; commissioned by the housing-corporation Ymere Amsterdam.
- Pocketpark next to local art studios in former public school (SWOK); commissioned by the housing corporation WBO in the city of Oldenzaal. Credo: 'more for less'.
- Pocketpark in housing complex Molkenboer annex art zone, strip with sculptures of local artist Machteld Kuiper. Commissioned by the housing association WBO in the city of Oldenzaal. Credo: 'more for less'.
- Tiny places in neighborhood for residents in Tichelstraat; Commissioned by the housing association WBO in the city of Oldenzaal. Credo: 'more for less'.
- Innergarden of housing-/facilitycomplex De Nieuwe Baten in the city of Nieuwegein; commissioned by the Foundation De Nieuwe Baten and property developer Florie.
- Pilotproject pocketpark West; design proposal for a tiny park in the district Geuzenveld Sloterveer. One of the three experiments in Amsterdam to promote a network of small urban places. Commissioned by the city of Amsterdam and the urban district Geuzenveld Sloterveer. Eventually not executed due to political discord.
- Design proposals for a semi-public space (pocketpark) in the Kerkstraat in Amsterdam. Under commission of ABN Amrobank Amsterdam.

- Design proposal for the Rijksmuseum underpass, in the event of the construction of a tram line through the area; including supplementary proposals for the museum garden: carried out jointly with the architect M.L. Spronck. Under commission of the Amsterdam Municipal Transport Company.
- Design for a public rooftop terrace (pocketpark) on historic warehouses at the Entrepotdok in Amsterdam that have been converted into dwellings. Under commission of Prof. J. van Stigt / Architectenburo van Stigt, Amsterdam.
- Design for a private inner courtyard adjoining a public square at the site of the former Wilhelmina Gasthuis in Amsterdam. Under commission of the Housing Corporation Het Oosten and the Department of Physical Planning in Amsterdam.
- Design for an inner courtyard on the roof of a car parking station. Under commission of the IJsselstraat Owners Association, Amsterdam.
- Design proposals for residual space / light shaft behind an office at the Nieuwe Herengracht. Under commission of Quamas, Amsterdam.

Publications concerning this subject:

- 'Joint Efforts'. The march of pocketparks in Amsterdam and beyond. Journal Stadswerk no: 3 2013
- 'Each neighborhood a party'. Pocketparks in Amsterdam. Journal Stadswerk no: 3 2009.
- 'Steppingstones in the urban area'. Magazine 'Stedelijk Interieur', number 4 August 2006.
- 'Pocketparks. Oases in the city.' Magazine 'Groen', number 1 January 2003.
- 'Fine showing; the upgrading of a scarce article (public space)'. Magazine 'Cement', journal of the concrete sector. Number 8 December 2003.
- Publication entitled 'Postzegelparken' ('Pocketparks') under the authority of the former chairman of Environment, Public space and Green space, Mr. R. Grondel. The first publication of the city of Amsterdam to call for attention for the residual spaces in the city (full colour). Under commission of the Municipal Physical Planning Department Amsterdam.
- An inventory per urban district (14 in total) of the numerous 'Potential Sites' (title) that are qualified for transformation into a 'pocketpark'; over 240 potential sites in Amsterdam without being complete. With an extensive introduction as a sequel to the above-mentioned publication. Under commission of the Municipal Physical Planning Department Amsterdam.

Parks

- Waterpark; design for a stretched park (2000 ft / ca 600m) consisting of isles with reed and willow trees and small dikes to walk along; commissioned by the municipality of the city of Spijkenisse and Hoenders Dekkers Zinsmeister Architects / Delft.
- Orchardpark; design for a stretched park (3000 ft / ca 900m) covered with apple trees and sheep to lease; commissioned by the municipality of the city of Spijkenisse and Hoenders Dekkers Zinsmeister Architects / Delft.

Gardens

- Garden designs (Amsterdam, Overveen, Noordwijk aan Zee, Velp, Bergen aan Zee, Almere) and recommendations (Breda, Wormerveer, Oenkerk, Verbier, Rijssen).
- Advisor at the 'National Garden Day' which yearly takes place at the Central Library in Amsterdam (and in other libraries spread over the country).

Squares

- Pleinenplan Amsterdam Oost; integral design for four squares in the Oosterparkbuurt, including the surrounding walls. Under commission of the urban district Oost-Watergraafsmeer. Co-initiators: two housing corporations Het Oosten and Property Management Amsterdam (nowadays named Ymere). The plan for the Eikenplein has been realized. The plan as a whole was nominated for the (national) Environment Architecture Award 2002.
- 'From The Batau to The Baten'. Proposal to rearrange a shoppingcenter annex housing area in the new town Nieuwegein incorporating five squares. Study commissioned by the three parties involved: the housing corporation Mitros, the shop owners association 'Muntplein and Waardijnburg' and the health care and housing association The Baten.
- Two draft designs for the IJsselplein. Competition contribution to possibly obtain a definitive assignment. Under commission of the urban district Zuider Amstel. Report.
- An inventory of squares, forecourts and possible boundaries in between, in regard to the new head-office of the ABN Amrobank in Amsterdam Zuid. Under commission of the head-office ABN Amrobank.
- Design Maasstraat / Maasplein in Amsterdam as a contribution to the congress 'A Future for Berlage's Amsterdam-Zuid', held at the R.A.I. exhibition centre, Amsterdam. Incorporated in the congress publication; lecture and exhibition posters. Under commission of the Year of Berlage Foundation.

Public space

- Design for the public space of the residential district 'Landgoed' in Spijkenisse, including two parks. Under commission of the Municipality of Spijkenisse, in cooperation with Hoenders Dekkers Zinsmeister Architects from Delft.
- 'Outlook on the open space of Overtoomseveld Noord'; one of three model districts in the Westelijke Tuinsteden / Western Garden Cities of Amsterdam that are to be renovated. Strategic programme for the public space (design principles). Under commission of the urban district Slotervaart Overtoomse Veld.
- Design for a factory site, including the factory walls, of Hoogovens in IJmuiden. Under commission of Grontmij Alkmaar.
- Masterplan for the public area of the Lambertus Zijlplein and surroundings in Amsterdam. Under commission of Grontmij Alkmaar.
- Design (principles) for the layout of the premises of the Medical Centre Slotervaart in Amsterdam. Under commission of the Anthoni van Leeuwenhoek Hospital / the urban district Slotervaart-Overtoomseveld / Grontmij Alkmaar.
- Study assignment Waspik; design for the public area of the future residential site Waspikse Beemd in cooperation with Hoenders Dekkers Zinsmeister Architects from Delft.
- Study of the consequences of a tram line passing through the Museumkwartier for the urban planning, including six designs for the layout of the Museumplein: carried out jointly with the architect M.L. Spronck. Under commission of the Municipal Physical Planning Department of Amsterdam.
- Masterplan for the 'Bijlmermeer central area in Amsterdam Zuidoost. Sub-plans and co-ordination of neighbourhood debates. Under commission of the urban district Amsterdam Zuidoost. Municipal Physical Planning Department Amsterdam.

Policy reports / other

- Study of the consequences for urban planning in case of a planned international rowing course in Nieuw Oost (new city extension nowadays named IJburg). Under commission of the Municipal Physical Planning Department Amsterdam.
- Policy report on the green zoning of the western conurbation of Holland for the municipality of Amsterdam. Under commission of the Municipal Physical Planning Department Amsterdam.
- Plans for Nieuw Oost / IJburg '65-'94. Visual and textual inventory of the plans that have been made until '94 for the urban expansion into the lake IJmeer. Under commission of the Municipal Physical Planning Department Amsterdam.
- 'Three environmental alternatives for Amsterdam Nieuw Oost (first phase)' as a contribution to the Environmental Impact Study / EIS for the urban extension into the lake IJmeer. Under commission of the Municipal Physical Planning Department Amsterdam.
- 'Two environmental alternatives for Amsterdam Nieuw Oost / IJburg (second phase)' as a contribution to the Environmental Impact Study / EIS for the urban extension in the lake IJmeer. Under commission of the Municipal Physical Planning Department Amsterdam.
- 'Environmental impacts of three planning alternatives' for Amsterdam Nieuw Oost / IJburg (second phase) as a contribution to the EIS for the urban extension in the lake IJmeer. Under commission of the Municipal Physical Planning Department Amsterdam.
- 'Environmental alternative for Amsterdam IJburg' (formerly Nieuw Oost) as part of the Environmental Impact Study / (MER in dutch). Under commission of the Municipal Physical Planning Department Amsterdam.
- Landscape advice with regard to the trim of houseboats in Purmerend. Under commission of the Grontmij Alkmaar.
- Policy report entitled 'National Centre for Nature, Environment, Mankind and Technology', in which the cooperation of Artis (Amsterdam Zoo, Botanical Gardens, Zoological Museum, Geological Museum and Planetarium), the Tropical Museum and the Science Museum is expounded, in cooperation with commissioners / directors prof.dr. M.Th.Frankenhuis (Artis), Mr. R.J.Gortzak (Tropical Museum), Mr. J.J. Douma (Science Museum).

Journal publications

- 'Joint Efforts'. The march of pocketparks in Amsterdam and beyond. Journal Stadswerk no: 3 2013.
- 'Each neighborhood a party'. Pocketparks in Amsterdam. Journal Stadswerk no: 3 2009.
- 'Steppingstones in the urban area'. Magazine 'Stedelijk Interieur', number 4 August 2006.
- 'Fine showing; the upgrading of a scarce article (public space)'. Magazine 'Cement', journal of the concrete sector. Number 8 December 2003.
- 'Pocketparks. Oases in the city.' Magazine 'Groen', number 1 January 2003.
- 'Unremarkable remarkable, four squares in Amsterdam Oost.' Magazine 'Groen', number 11 November 2002.

Advisor

- Supervisor Pleinenplan Amsterdam Oost, under commission of the urban district Oost-Watergraafsmeer (October 2000-January 2003).
- Participant in the counselling group of the Environment Centre Amsterdam with regard to the study assignment to KPMG Consulting on the economical importance of the green fingers in between the urban extensions of Amsterdam.
- Participant in the counselling group for the physical revision plan of 'De Hoge Vucht', a housing

estate in Breda from the 1960s. Under commission of the municipality of Breda.

- External expert for neighbourhood groups around the Olympic Stadium site, during the formulation of the municipal Note of Principles. Under commission of the Wijkopbouworgaan Zuid (Local Community Council Amsterdam Zuid) municipality of Amsterdam.
- Intermediary role in the planning proces of the reorganization Apollolaan. Under commission of the Stichting MAO / Mooie Apollolaan en omgeving (Delightful Apollolaan and surrounding area), at the recommendation of The Berlage Foundation.

Contests

Nomination for the Environment Architecture Award 2002, a biennial national prize for realized projects. From the 46 entries, the Pleinenplan Amsterdam Oost (an integral design for four squares and the surrounding walls) of which the Eikenplein has been realized, was nominated in the top three of possible prizewinners. In combination with a travelling special exhibition of all entries through the Netherlands and Belgium.

Congresses / conferences / meetings

- Congres 'The Green City' autumn 2009 / initiator the Municipality of The Hague; presentation titled 'Pocketparks; every city a network, every neighborhood a party'
- 'Forgotten spaces. Arranging pocketparks and leftover spaces'. Meeting for the 14 urban districts of Amsterdam organized by the Amsterdam City Council for Urban Development. Co-initiator and speaker. Autumn 2005.
- 'A Future for Berlage's Amsterdam Zuid', Rai exhibition centre. Case-study Maasstraat / Maasplein. Incorporated in the congress publication, lecture, exhibition posters (also mentioned under 'Designs'). Organized by The Year of Berlage Foundation 1992.
- IFLA congress, 'Paradise on Earth: gardens of the 21th century' in Florence, Italy. Autumn 1996. Publication and lecture on 'residual spaces' in the city as paradises of the 21th century, entitled 'The need for small urban spaces, pocketparks, plaza's and other'.

Sidelines / Other activities

- Founding of the Association for Pocketparks fall 2009 see www.postzegelparken.nl
- Member of the Amsterdam Council for Urban Development, from January 1996 until 2005.
- Workshop director under the authority of the former national Design Institute in Amsterdam and the municipality of Leeuwarden. In a weeks time, a design programme was made for the long axis from the train station until the Frieslandhallen (congress an exhibition centre), in cooperation with a few young dutch designers (meanwhile the Design Institute has been closed down by the Government). Tribute to the publication by the institute: 'Workshop Leeuwarden FEC-City' autumn 1997.
- Technical University TU Delft: lecture and caoching MA students on workshop 'pocketparks' in co-operation with Ir.S. de Wit and Ir.I.Bobbink. Visit to and development of various locations in Amsterdam. Final presentation of all proposals to the Physical Planning Department of the city.

Study Trips

- New York City: visit to the 'pocketparks' (the smallest urban spaces), and to the design offices, municipal and private organizations involved. Visit to the City College University, Department of Landscape Architecture (at that time: Prof. P. Friedberg), Colombia University, Department of

Landscape Architecture (at that time: Prof. Th. Prudon), The Pratt Institute (reference idem).
Correspondence with W.H. Whyte, at that time urban spaces adviser to N.Y.City and tracing of his film 'Social life of small urban spaces', which was the basis for his book of the same name.
Elaboration of a proposal for the layout, financing and management of 'pocketparks' for Amsterdam

- Barcelona: three times to visit public spaces, two times together with the Amsterdam Council for Urban Development.
- South Africa: municipal institutions in Cape Town en Johannesburg.
- Berlin: organized by the Amsterdam Council for Urban Development.

Design philosophy

The office endeavours to achieve original, simple designs in which functionality and convenience of management are considered to be just as essential as the design itself.

To facilitate realistic proposals, one of the most important starting points is the integration of the various disciplines involved in the design.

Apart from the factor of 'space' (styling) there is also an attempt to assign the time factor a role in the design. This means temporarily fluctuating or flexible layout options for example. Another matter which is considered is the question of which senses, in addition to the power of vision (visual aspects), can be involved in the design such as sound, touch, movement and smell.

For example sound in the form of 'antinoise' can serve to reduce traffic noise.

In addition to local planning programmes for public spaces, the office dedicates itself to designs and analyses at local and supra-local level, specializing in the layout of the smallest urban spaces, whether public or private (pocketparks).