Eindhoven - Nederland - europan 11

RE-USE OF SIXTIES ARCHITECTURE

CATEGORY Urban design/architecture

LOCATION Eindhoven - Potentiaal building TU/e
POPULATION 216,000
STRATEGIC SITE 70.4 ha **SITE OF PROJECT** ± 1.75 ha
SITE PROPOSED BY Technische Universiteit Eindhoven
OWNER OF THE SITE Technische Universiteit Eindhoven

COMMISSION AFTER THE COMPETITION realisation in cooperation with future developer

TRANSFORMATION OF SITE
The Potentiaal building is part of an ensemble of buildings designed by architect S.J. van Embden (and partners) for the first building phase (1957–1965) of the TU/e campus. It used to accommodate the Electrical Engineering Faculty and with the redevelopment of the campus into TU/e Science Park it has a new designated use: a University College, a cultural function and about three hundred residential units. The re-designation of Potentiaal incorporates low-rise, high-rise, “Corona” and the immediate surroundings. The architectural assignment requires a solution that correlates to the urban, landscape and cultural-historical qualities of the surroundings. In addition, in technical terms Potentiaal should be sustainable and energy neutral.

CITY STRATEGY
As regards the spatial developments the TU/e and the municipality of Eindhoven have agreed on a cautious approach to the campus’s cultural heritage. The typical qualities and regularity of the ensemble from the reconstruction period defined by means of spatial and cultural-historical study, form the point of departure for further developments. These points of departure have in the meantime become embedded in the zoning plan for the campus. They bring together and increase the building density of various functions on the campus and reposition the campus as a Science Park with an urban profile. Within Eindhoven the TU/e Science Park together with the High Tech campus and “Strijp S” form a triangle of research and technological innovation.

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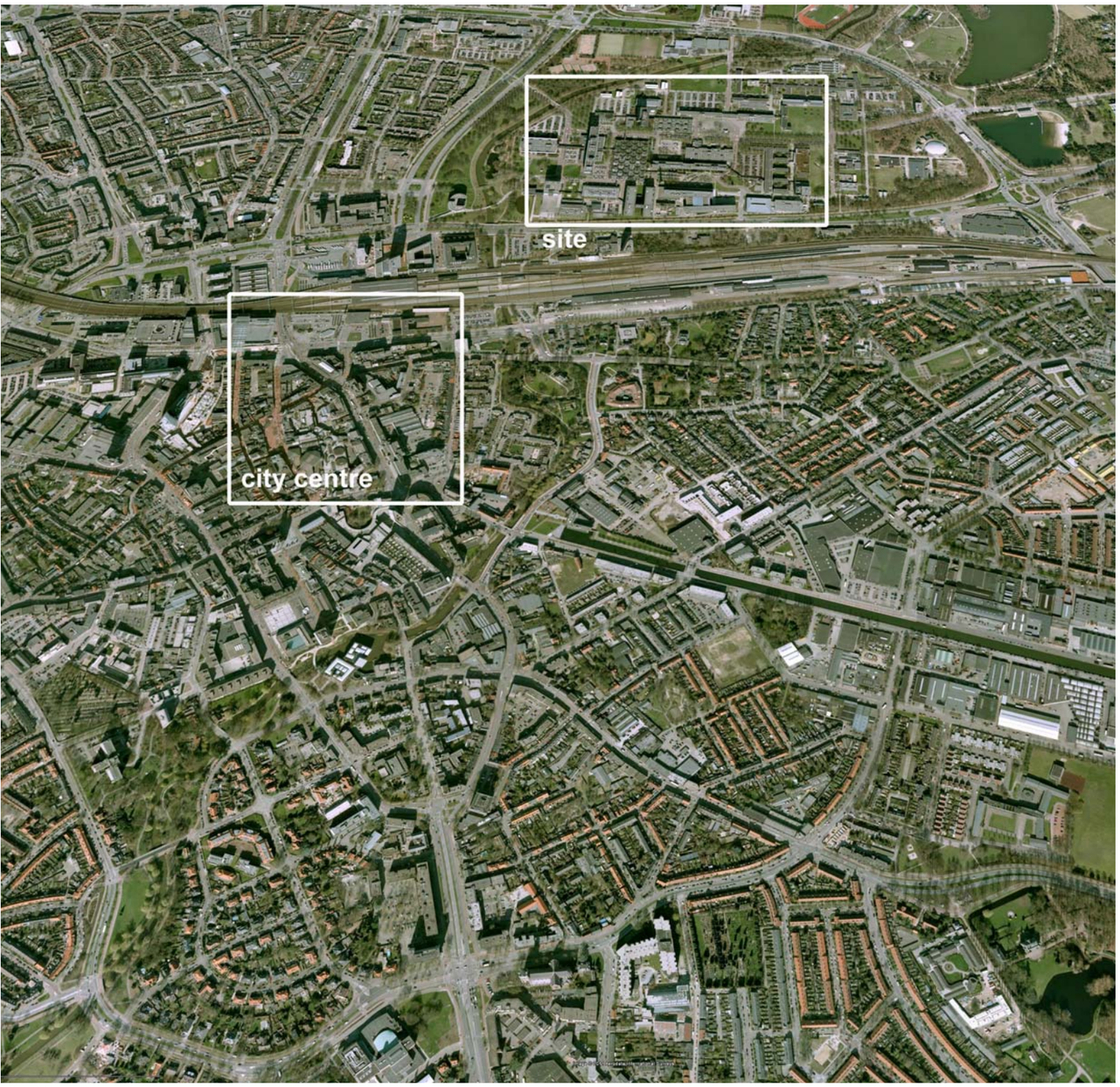

SITE DEFINITION
The foundation, structure and development of the university grounds is one of the large projects that characterise the post-war period of the Netherlands. The Dommeldal provided the space for the realisation of a green campus near the station and the centre. The quality of the modernistic campus is first and foremost the continuity of the landscape: the core of the university grounds is formed by the main structure of buildings as orthogonal elements in the landscape, interconnected by a system of aerial walkways. In addition to their architectural characteristics, flexibility in usage and the “extensibility” of this series of buildings form the starting point for the redevelopment of all the new construction and redesignation on the campus and therefore also for Potentiaal.

NEW MOBILITY
Potentiaal is situated between the green border of the campus and De Zaale – the future main traffic artery. Distinctive features of the university grounds are the differences in level in the separate traffic flows. The redesignation of Potentiaal requires a distinct solution for connecting the building to the various slow traffic flows, both at ground level, at entrance level and at the level of the aerial walkway system.
NEW WAYS OF LIVE
Potentiaal is situated in the heart of the area that, in the planning, includes residential facilities and congress functions. By adding residential facilities, commercial, and cultural functions, the campus should gain an urban character. The enlivening of the campus takes place within the context of the ambiance zones, initially-defined and characteristic external spaces.
NEW SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
In the development vision for the university grounds the preservation and creation of long-term value are the keynote. The character of the campus as a green landscape will remain the point of departure for further developments. The morphological structure and the architecture of notably the first two building phases of the campus are flexible in application and allow for additions: they are an example of cultural sustainability. In addition, technical sustainability is also a spearhead: the redesignation of Potentiaal demands a technological answer to the issue of energy consumption.

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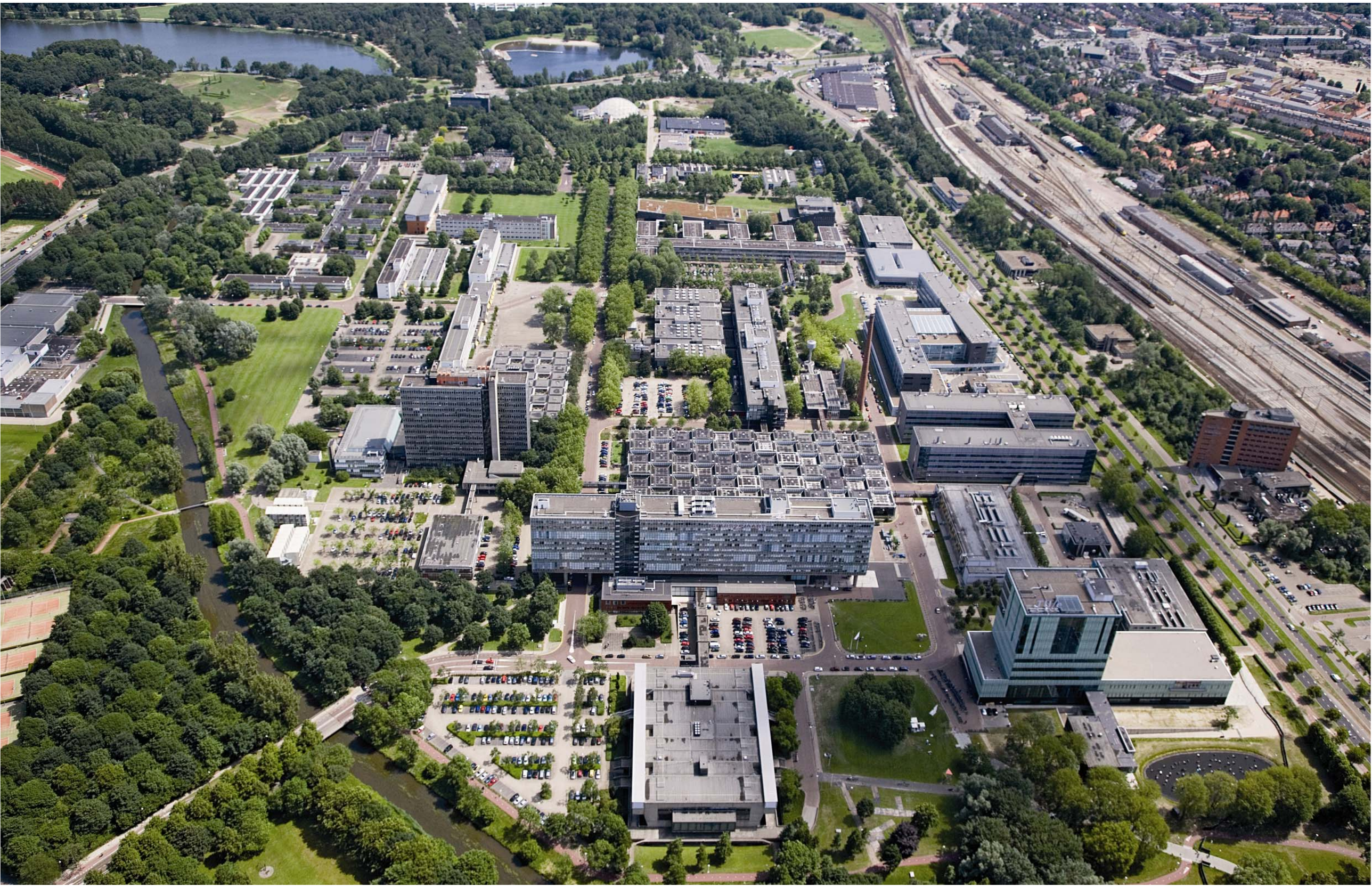

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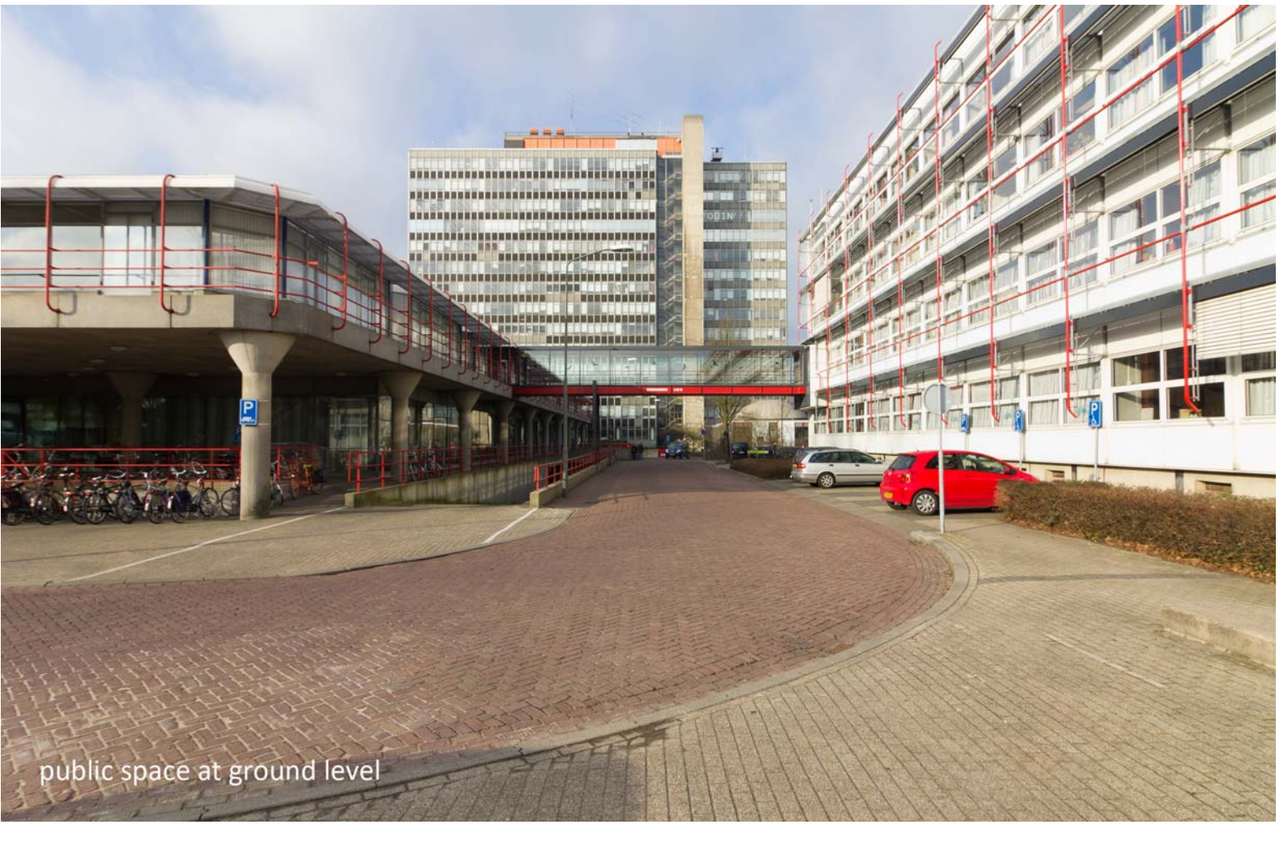
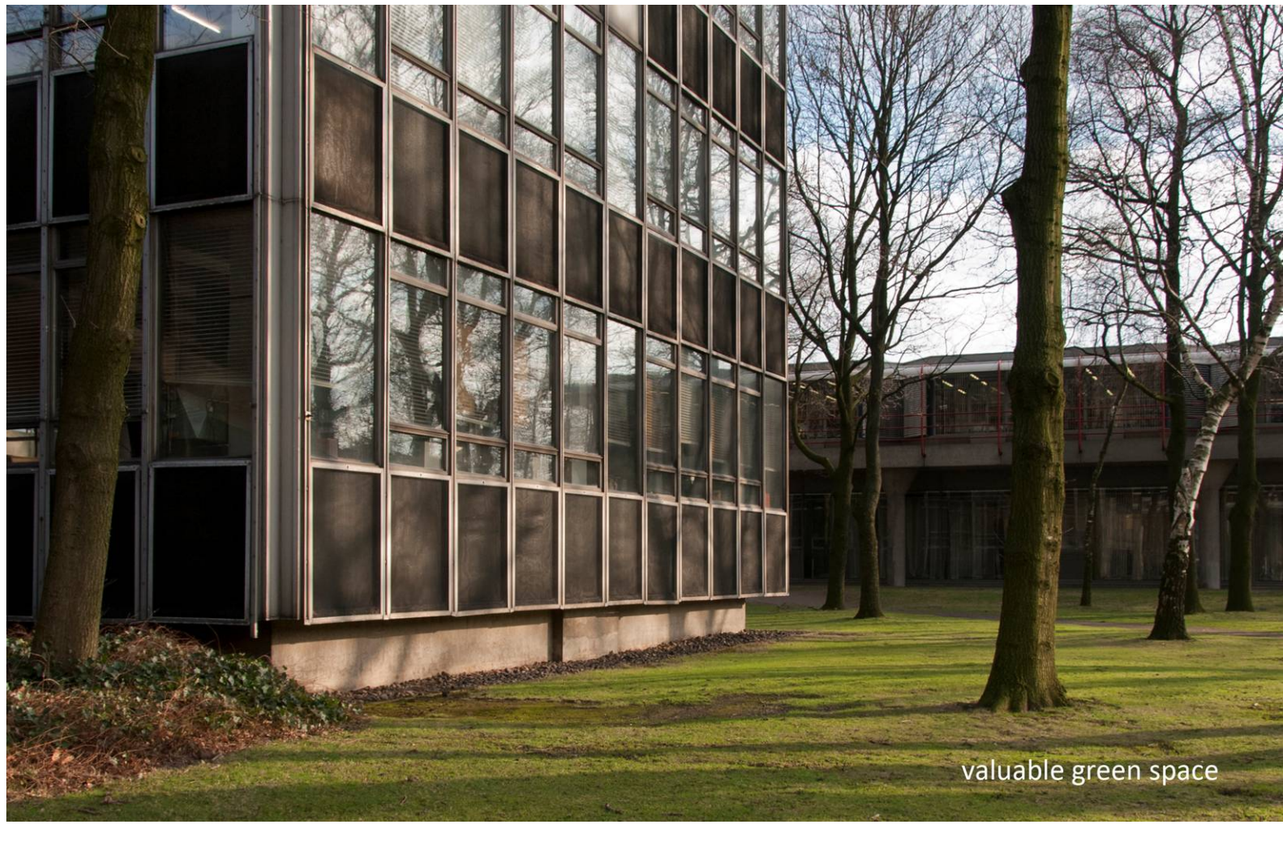
Potentiaal building and walkways

entrance Potentiaal building


public space at ground level


valuable green space