## EUROPAN 6 - GRONINGEN - NEDERLAND

Location: Groningen, Oosterhamrik strip

Population: 170,000 inhab.

Study area: 8 ha | | Site area: 2 ha



### CONURBATION

Groningen is situated in the north of the country, its town centre having attractive shopping and entertainment facilities. The town can be defined as a centre of history, tradition and innovation. A university town, it is also a source of inspiration for education, research and culture. EUROPAN 3 winners were involved in the development of an urban plan for the town's CiBoGa site and have been commissioned to design projects for two sub-sections. The building of these projects started in 2000.

### SITE

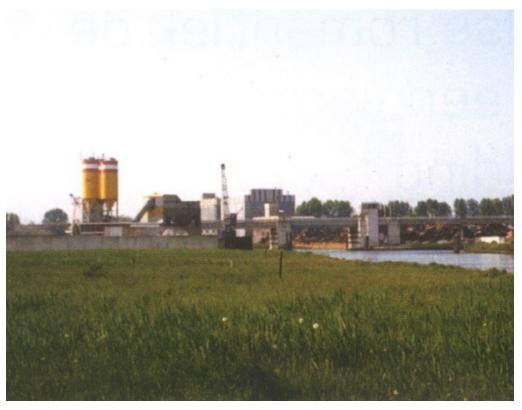
The site runs along the Van Starkenborgkanaal and on both sides of the Oosterhamrikkanaal, which forms a radius out from the town centre. The site is a transition area between two 1930s housing estates. The zone along

the Oosterhamrikkanaal is important in that it functions as a public transport route between the town centre and the Kardinge sports and leisure complex. In future it will carry slow moving traffic and possibly car traffic from the ringroad to the north entrance of the university teaching hospital.

### **FUNCTIONAL ISSUES**

A programme must be formulated that mixes, but differentiates, small business units and a diversity of housing, and forms physical, social, and economic links with the neighbourhood's overall regeneration.

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### **SOCIAL ISSUES**

Intervention on the site must act both as a catalyst and a generator for the immediate neighbourhood and ultimately the east side of town.

## **PERCEPTUAL ISSUES**

The Oosterhamrikkanaal must fulfil a recreational function, and the zone along the Van Starkenborgkanaal play a role as a public space for people from the nearby neighbourhoods, linking them to the presence of a waterway.



### **PROGRAMME**

Housing is to be programmed, some accessible from the street and with a garden; the remainder, apartments with large outside spaces. In addition there are to be small business units (100 m2 to 500 m2).

## **THEME**

On a site where various urban structures converge: some existing, some planned, the proposal must be a symbiosis of a concrete plan and intelligent strategy, capable of accommodating future evolutions and so deal with the result of processes yet to come.