

## Groningen Sports Block

Architectenbureau Marlies Rohmer

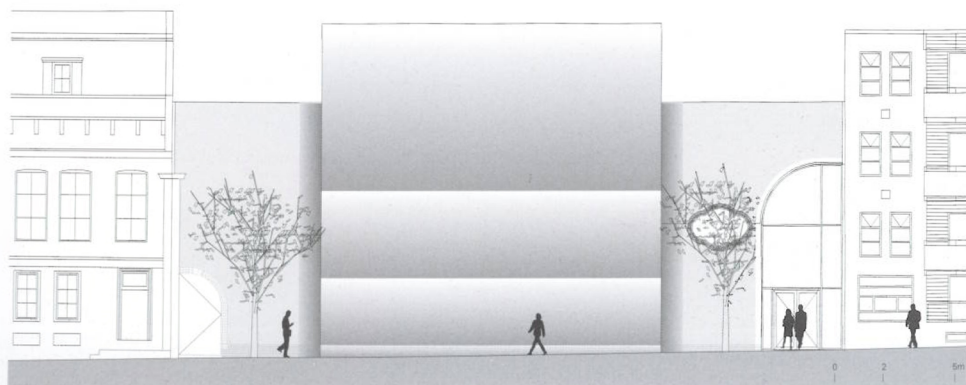






Violins street, Groningen, is a fine-grained city street which is now the site of a relatively self-enclosed complex with two sports halls. The potential conflicts between the zoning plan and the functional specification dictated a multistory solution. Alignment of the block of two sports halls proved to have several advantages. It resulted in the block having a relatively modest impact on the street scene, and made it possible to build the volume detached from the adjacent properties thereby making a less massive impression. Two small squares with a tree – on both sides of the building – strengthen the urban embedding of the complex. An arched gate gives access to the rear area where the bicycle shed is located. Schoolchildren can assemble in these spaces before entering the gyms. The sports block thus adapts without contrivances to the fine-woven urban fabric.

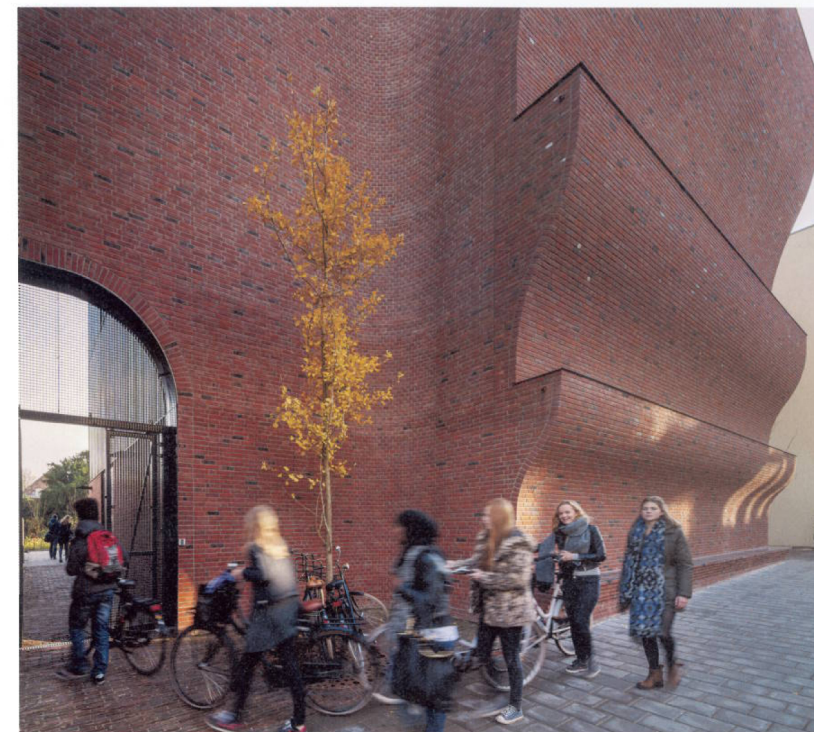
A sports hall is in principle an opaque box. Direct daylight is usually regarded as a disadvantage in a sports hall, owing to its potential for dazzling the users and facilitating visual intrusion. On the other hand, operating without daylight is unhealthy because it contradicts the natural biorhythm.



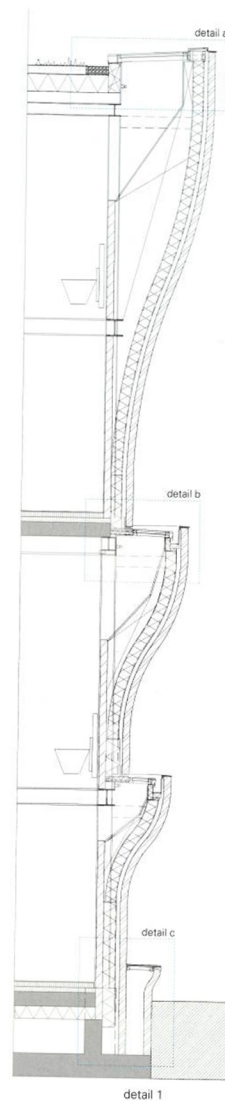
north-east elevation

The block has therefore been designed with an undulating brickwork facade which admits indirect daylight to each of the sports halls.

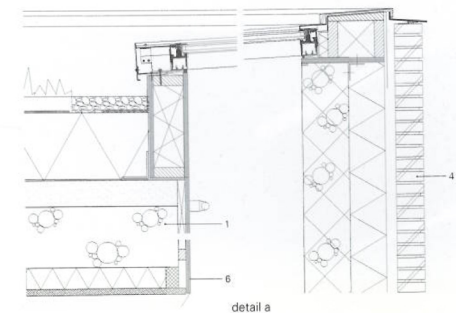
The substantial, relatively opaque volume of the sports block was prone to come across as something of an exception to the existing street architecture. It was therefore obviously desirable not to depart too far from the general surroundings as regards the building materials used: an undulating skin of red "Groninger" brick. When the sports halls are used in the evening, the facade glows on using the indirect light lines. A spacious, double height and transparent staircase with a large atrium connects the different spaces and offers a lively image of the coming and going athletes. The facade terminates at ground level in a long bench, which adds a new dimension to the intimate, public-friendly environment of the city street. The rear elevation consists of a patchwork of aluminium panels in several tints that match colours already occurring on the inner site. This adds character to the blocky volume of the sports complex while also articulating it, so harmonizing with the fragmented image of the inner zone.



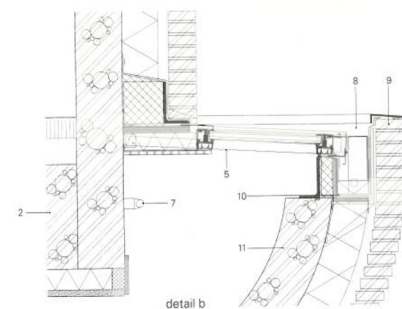




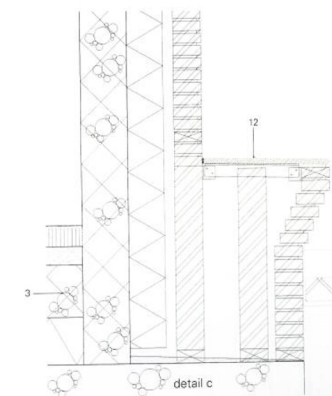
1. moss sedum roof / grindkoffer / 260mm tapered insulation / 100mm pressure slab / 400mm concrete hollow-core slab / 80mm insulation / 25mm acoustical ceiling Rc-warde>5.2m<sup>2</sup> K/W
2. 11mm sports floor gymnasium / 70mm screed / 100mm pressure slab / 400mm concrete hollow-core slab / 80mm insulation / 25mm acoustical ceiling
3. 11mm sports floor gymnasium / 70mm screed / 70mm pressure slab / 200mm concrete hollow-core slab / 180mm EPS insulation / foundation beam with catch for bench Rc-value>5.0m<sup>2</sup> K/W
4. 108mm brickwork / 40mm cavity / 140mm insulation / 180mm cambered prefab concrete wall / facing concrete wall / Rc-value>5.2m<sup>2</sup> K/W
5. glass roof
6. 15mm plywood
7. lighting fixture in full width gymnasium
8. aluminum grille
9. zinc roof gutter
10. water resistant plywood
11. steel baluster for anchorage brickwork
12. ashlar bench



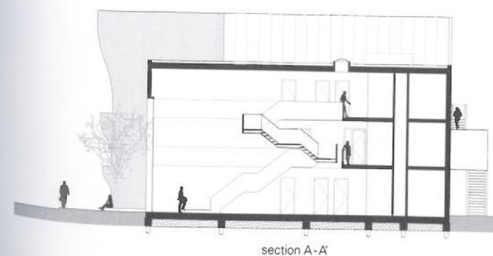
detail a



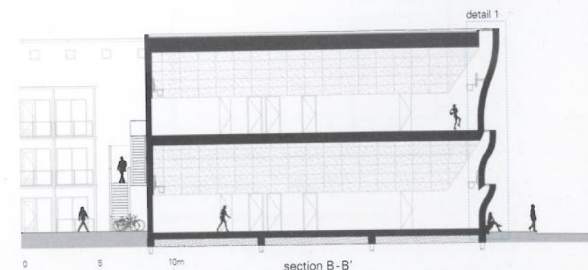
detail b



detail c



section A-A

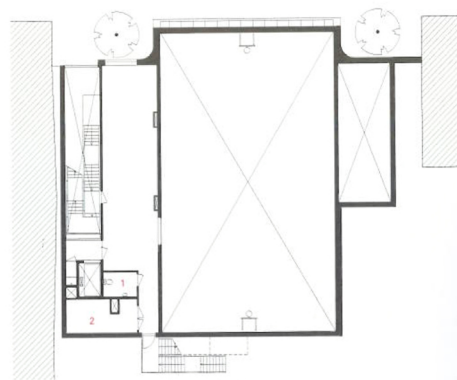


section B-B





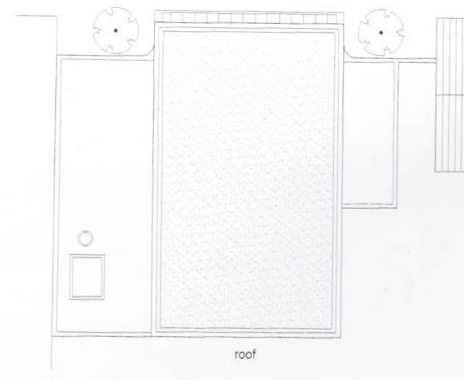
1. entrance hall 2. dressing room 3. showers  
4. teachers room 5. gymnasium 6. storage appliances  
ground floor



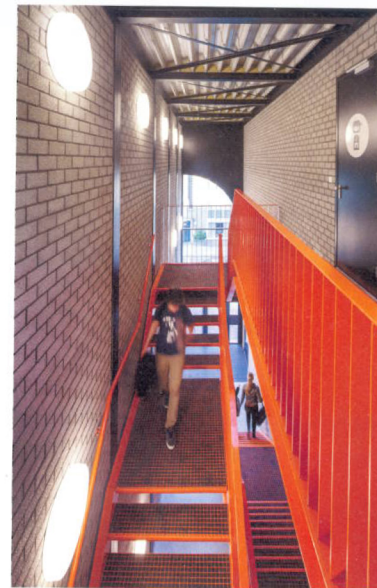
1. accessible toilet 2. technical  
mezzanine



1. entrance hall 2. dressing room 3. showers  
4. teachers room 5. gymnasium 6. storage appliances  
first floor



Project: Sports block Groningen / Location: Groningen, Netherlands  
Architect: Marlies Rohmer  
Project team: Fabian van den Bosch, Ronald Hageman, Thomas van Nus,  
Begoña Masia Albelda, Cor Martis  
Constructor: BREED integrated design / Climate advisor: Nieman Raadgevende  
ingenieurs B.V. / Installation advisor: E&B engineering  
Client: Dienst OCSW, Gemeente Groningen  
Bldg. area: 510m<sup>2</sup> / Gross floor area: 1,139m<sup>2</sup>  
Design: 2010 / Completion: 2014  
Photograph: ©Daria Sciogliola (courtesy of the architect)



### 호로닝언 스포츠 센터

네덜란드 북부 도시, 호로닝언 거리를 걷다 보면 물결이 일렁이는듯한 독특한 입면의 건물을 만나게 된다. 최근 완공된 호로닝언 스포츠 센터다. 유려하게 굽어진 입면은 평범한 거리 풍경 속에서 사람들의 눈길을 단번에 사로잡는다. 그러나 다른 한편으로는 이 특이한 건물이 주변 풍경과 의외로 편안하게 뒤섞여 있다는 느낌을 받게 될 것이다. 도시의 흐름을 이어가기 위해 예전부터 호로닝언에서 종종 사용하던 붉은 벽돌을 주재료로 활용한 덕분이다. 그 결과, 자칫 이질적인 존재가 될 뻔했던 스포츠 센터는 자신의 정체성을 뚜렷이 드러내면서도 시간이 빛어낸 호로닝언의 도시 구조 속에 자연스럽게 편입된다. 센터 양쪽 끝 부분에는 아치형의 유리문이 나 있다. 오른쪽 문은 센터 안으로, 왼쪽 문은 건물 뒤편의 자전거 주차장으로 이어진다. 도시의 통로가 되는 셈이다. 또한, 정면부의 아래쪽 굴곡은 그 구조를 그대로 살려서, 벤치처럼 활용할 수 있게 했다. 길과, 그리고 길 위의 사람들과 보다 직접적으로 관계 맺는, 새로운 공공공간을 제공하는 것이다. 센터 안으로 들어가면 길게 뻗은 철재 계단이 나타난다. 많은 사람들이 수시로 지나다니는 계단은 이 공간에 활기찬 이미지를 불어넣는다. 한편, 굴곡진 입면은 기능적인 면에서도 긍정적 역할을 한다. 대개 체육관은 선수들이 직사광선의 영향을 받지 않도록 폐쇄적으로 설계되는 게 보통이다. 하지만 이는 자칫 인간의 생체 리듬에 반하는 건강하지 못한 공간이 될 가능성이 있다. 때문에 이 스포츠 센터에서는 물결 형태의 입면을 통해 천창처럼 간접 채광이 이뤄지게끔 했다. 전면에서 강하게 드러나던 육중한 매스감은, 이용자들을 배려한 섬세한 공간적 장치로 인해 조금씩 완화된다. 그리고 마침내 건물 뒤편에 이르면, 다양한 색의 알루미늄 조각들이 입면을 뒤덮으며 육중함은 완전히 사라지고 가볍고 경쾌한 느낌만이 남게 된다. 두 개의 전혀 다른 얼굴이 대조되면서 더욱 강렬한 인상을 형성한다.