

Provinciehuis of North-Brabant

Location

's-Hertogenbosch, NL

Client

Provinciehuis Noord-Brabant

Initiated

2012

Completed

2016

Size

28.000 sqm

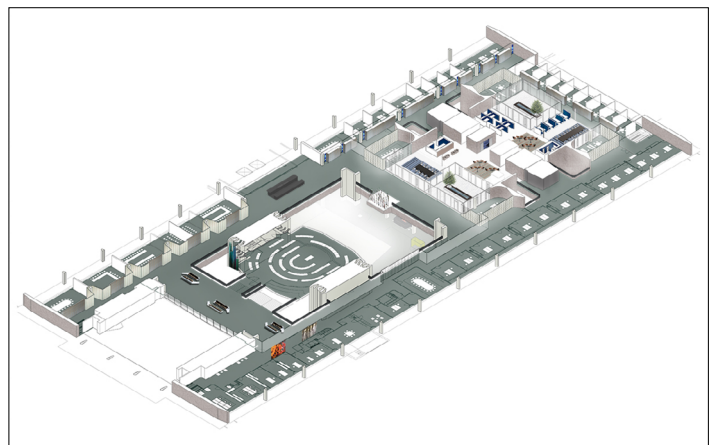
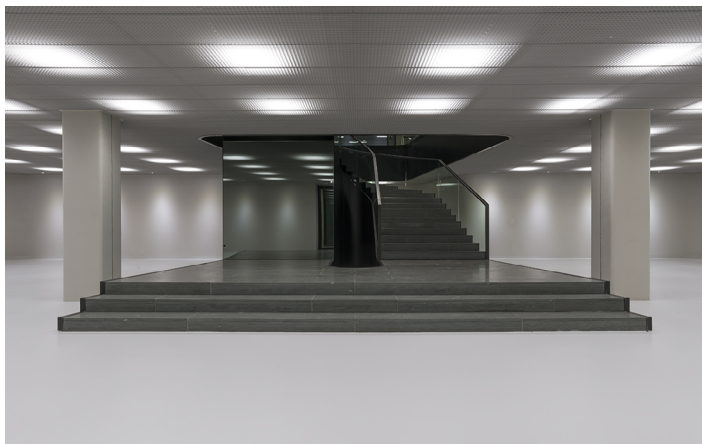
Project Team

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The Provinciehuis of North Brabant, located in 's-Hertogenbosch, was originally designed in 1971 by Dutch architect Hugh Maaskant. With the modern industrial nature of its concrete architecture, the building quickly became a symbol for active public service as well as a striking landmark in the landscape of Brabant. The strong character of Maaskant's architecture spoke through generous spaces intended to encourage interaction among politicians, administrators, civil servants and citizens. Yet the potential for interaction was gradually lost over time. The challenge of the renovation project was in the correct reading of the original spatial quality of the plan. It meant that the base of the building would have to be freed of the security barriers added at some later date and the rest of the building would need to be updated for contemporary use. The intervention involved opening up the interior of the 3-storey low-rise and replacing the compartmentalized rooms of the 18-storey high-rise with flexible work spaces that are clustered as units of three floors. So, lifts stop at every third floor and two flights of stairs link the three levels of each cluster – an aspect that also serves the desired sustainability goals.

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