

# The Phaidon Atlas

**Publicatie**  
Phaidon Atlas



Europe		Netherlands		
3419	Amsterdam, Netherlands	De Loodsen - Towers 1 & 6	Wingender Hovenier Architecten	2006 RES



**3419** Amsterdam's nineteenth- and twentieth-century dockside warehouse buildings, like many others in Europe, are now redundant and overdue for redevelopment. These two towers are part of a group of six eleven-storey and two five-storey buildings in the centre of the eastern harbour district of Oostelijke Handelskade. They sit on a thin strip of land with the harbour on one side and the railway and main road to Amsterdam's new eastern housing districts on the other. On either side of the site, new buildings are mixed with old warehouses to create housing, offices,

shops, a concert hall, a hotel and restaurants. Three architects collaborated to design this group of buildings. Towers 1 and 6, designed by Wingender Hovenier Architecten, are situated at opposing ends of the site on the side facing the road. They are separated from each other by public squares and other buildings in the scheme. Despite this separation and their different sizes, their distinctive facades of brick with horizontal concrete bands give them a close visual link. The brickwork pattern between the uniformly spaced aluminium-framed windows shifts



part way up the tower, breaking up what could otherwise be monolithic facades. The exterior of the buildings makes no reference to the use of the buildings but instead is designed to fit in with the surrounding dockland warehouses. Internally, provision is made for commercial spaces on the ground floors with parking beneath and 85 social housing apartments on the floors above. The housing association owners envisage that the present configuration of the apartments will change in time. A construction system which consists of a central concrete core and shafts, more

usual in office buildings, enables future alterations to the plan to be made with minimum disruption.

- 1 View of complex from southeast
- 2 Courtyard outside tower 6
- 3 View of tower 1
- 4 South facade of tower 6
- 5 Site plan



**Client**  
Ymere Ontwikkeling, Amsterdam;  
Hopman Interneem, Gouda

**Area**  
12,070 m<sup>2</sup>/129,920 sq ft

**Cost**  
Confidential

**Coordinates**  
52.3783 4.9293