

'De Potvis' Campus



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1 History

1.1 Historical name

'Potvis' is the Dutch word for sperm whale. This name dates back to the year 1937. In this year, the forerunner of NIOZ put out to tender the building of the first guest house, also called 'De Potvis'. This guest house was built for 3501.50 Dutch guilders in Den Helder, and it could accommodate up to 10 guests. The building costs are said to have been covered by the profits of an exhibition in Rotterdam, showing two sperm whales that had been washed up on the North Sea coast. This exhibition was put on by the forerunner of the museum of natural history in Leiden, Naturalis. The entrance fee was 25 cents. The two directors were personally acquainted, and thus the profits of the exhibition are said to have flowed to Den Helder.

The new Potvis campus cost approximately €9.8 million, but it provides accommodation for 125 individuals. An historical gable stone from the very first Potvis guest house and a sculpture of a sperm whale have been incorporated in the building.

A sperm whale gable stone has been masoned into the outer wall. This stone was made by Mr Pelkwijk in 1937 and it was masoned into the wall in the original Potvis guest house in Den Helder.



1.2 Conveyance beneficial to both NIOZ and Woontij Housing Corporation

The former NIOZ general director Jan Smit said that 'NIOZ is the only Dutch oceanographic institute, and it enjoys an international reputation for high-quality research. So, it is essential to have modern accommodation available because international research involves many visits from researchers and students from abroad. The former housing facilities were over 35 years old and no longer up to date. Woontij is a professional housing corporation that can be relied upon to build and manage the new Potvis, so that we can concentrate on our core business, sea research.'

Jan van Andel, director of Woontij, emphasises that 'sea research conducted by NIOZ and ALTEERRA/ Wageningen Marien (in formation) is of great importance to employment. Tourism puts pressure on the rented property market, and the Potvis accommodation, which is tailored to their needs, makes it a lot easier for employees and students to come to Texel. We expect that this will stimulate the number of scientific activities on Texel. As a housing corporation, Woontij can contribute to these developments. Moreover, the new Potvis will help relieve the pressure on the property market for others seeking housing. So there are two reasons for us to invest in the Potvis.'

2 Intended residents

The campus offers accommodation to employees of the research institutes NIOZ and Imares, and of other institutes for science and education.

The Potvis campus consists of 19 single-family dwellings and 68 flats, 30 of which are two-room flats (27 furnished and 3 unfurnished) and 38 are furnished one-room flats.

The single-family dwellings face the village of 't Horntje. These dwellings have been built in two rows around the large yard to preserve the campus atmosphere. This layout was chosen after consultation with local residents. In the original plan, the flats faced the village and the single-family dwellings were on the edge of the village. The final plan is a mirror image of the original. The advantage of this plan is that the campus and the village are more connected. A disadvantage is that the campus does not blend as well into the landscape.



3 Buildings

The campus consists of

- 19 single-family dwellings
- 27 furnished two-room flats
- 3 unfurnished two-room flats
- 38 furnished one-room flats
- 6 dormitories (24 beds in total)
- 1 lounge and recreation room
- 1 laundry room
- 1 general bike shed

The grounds measure approximately 2,400 m² (0.59 acres)

The houses have been furnished by Woon& Interior Design. The decoration plan is based on 'colours and water'. Every wing has its own colour, which corresponds to the colour of one of the oceans.

An example of the The Forel-Ule scale (sea colour comparator scale). To determine the color of the sea F.A. (Forel en W.Ule; 1890):



3.1 19 Single-Family Dwellings

3.1.1 INTERIOR SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLINGS

All single-family dwellings are delivered unfurnished. They are fitted with curtains and carpets on the floors and stairs. The walls have been painted.

The stairs have been fitted with marbled linoleum for reasons of hygiene. Strips have been fitted to prevent slipping.

There are no light fittings in these houses. Residents will have to put the light fittings in themselves.

There is a connection to cable television in the flats and in the single-family dwellings. The subscription fee has been included in the rent of the flats. Residents of the single-family dwellings can subscribe to cable television themselves, if they wish, by contacting Kabeltex, Abbewaal 31 in Den Burg, phone number 0222 – 31 54 11.



3.1.2 THE KITCHEN

The work top is granite-white. The kitchen cabinets have white oak fronts. The handles are made of frosted aluminium. The kitchen walls are tiled up to the top of the cabinets and on both sides of the work top. A cooker hood has been installed.

3.2 Two-Room Flats

Floor	house numbers	
ground floor	14-15-16-17-18-19	all furnished
1st floor	20-21-22-23-24-25	all furnished
2nd floor	26-27-28-29-30-31	all furnished
ground floor	34-37	unfurnished
	32-33-35-36	furnished
1st floor	38-39-40-41-42	furnished
	43	unfurnished

The address of all accommodation is

De Potvis ____

1797 TA DEN HOORN

All walls are painted, and the flats are fitted with carpets and curtains.

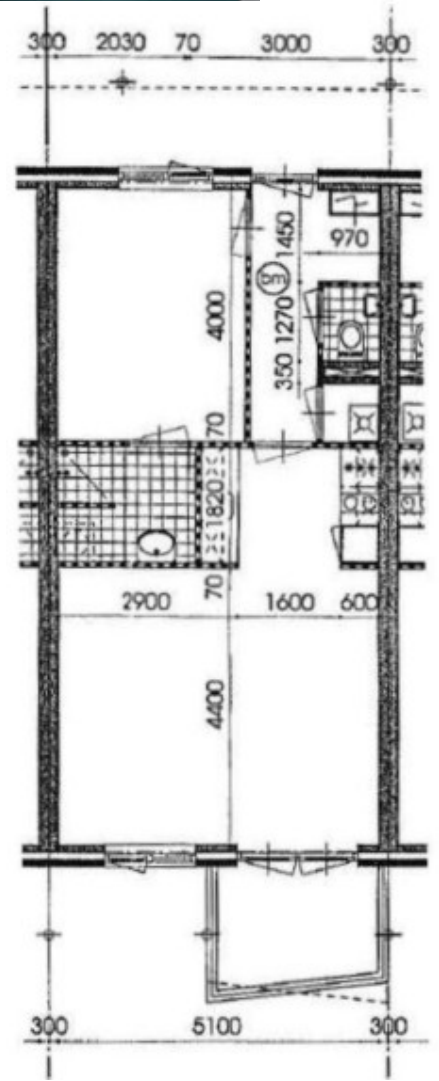
Living room:

table + 4 chairs
two-seat sofa
armchair
sideboard
coffee table

Bedroom:

double bed
2 stools





3.3 One-Room Flats

The 38 one-room flats are on all three storeys.

House numbers ground floor: 13-1 to 13-10

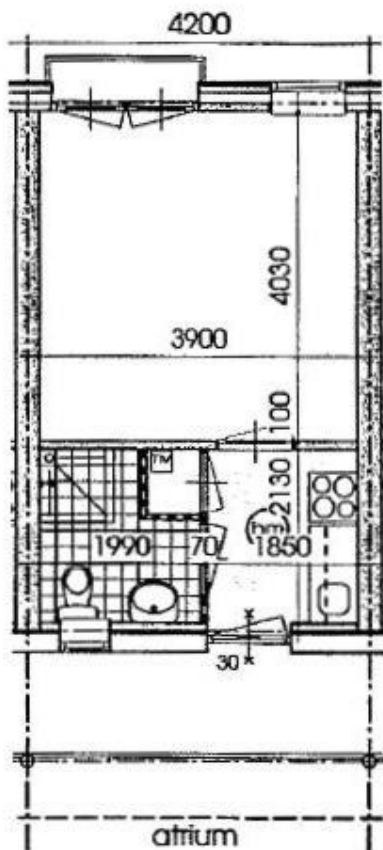
House numbers first floor: 13-11 to 13-20

House numbers first floor: 13-21 to 13-30

House numbers second floor: 13-31 to 13-38

rear view of the one-room flats

table + 2 chairs
two-seat sofa
sideboard
coffee table
wardrobe
single bed
bedside table
TV



3.4 Bike Shed

There is a large bike shed below blocks 1 and 2. This bike shed can be used by all residents of the one-room and two-room flats. There is one numbered bay for each flat.



3.5 Dormitories

There are six dormitories with two bunk beds each. Each dormitory can accommodate up to four people.

The dormitories are mainly used for accommodating groups, such as students from Wageningen University who spend several days at NIOZ or Imares, or groups visiting Ecomare or other organizations for educational reasons.



3.6 Communal Kitchen

The kitchen is a professional kitchen, fitted with all necessary appliances. Although all houses and flats have cooking facilities, Woontij has decided to provide a number of additional facilities such as a communal kitchen and a recreation room, after consultation with a sounding board consisting of students. These facilities provide the students with ample opportunity to meet each other and cook together, which helps enhance the campus atmosphere.



The additional cost for these facilities has been paid entirely by Woontij.

The kitchen is equipped with the following appliances:

- gas cooker with oven
- combination microwave oven
- cutlery, pans
- dishwasher
- refrigerator
- freezer



3.7 Laundry Room

The laundry room is equipped with four washing machines and four dryers. Residents can use this facility free of charge. We have decided not to install coin-operated washing machines on the basis of the past experience of student accommodation offices in for example Amsterdam and Utrecht (much more expensive, more work because of the coins, prone to malfunctioning). These facilities are available 'free of charge'. Residents pay a small sum for the laundry facilities as part of the service charges.



3.8 Lounge and Recreation Room

This is an attractive room where you can meet each other. The residents' bar committee is responsible for co-ordinating the use of the bar and kitchen.



4 Garden

In the yard, there is a large communal garden with a lawn, benches and the letter boxes.

The gardens near the single-family dwellings are part of the grounds. Therefore, putting in plants round the terraces is not allowed.



Underground refuse containers



5 Rent

The **single-family dwellings** are intended for people working at NIOZ, Imares, the town council, schools or other public institutions. Only in exceptional circumstances will these flats be rented to others, at the discretion of Woontij. This will be on a short-term lease only.

The prices for rent you can find on www.campusdepotvis.nl

From 1 June 2009, cats and dogs are no longer allowed. An exception is made for residents who already owned cats or dogs before 1 June.