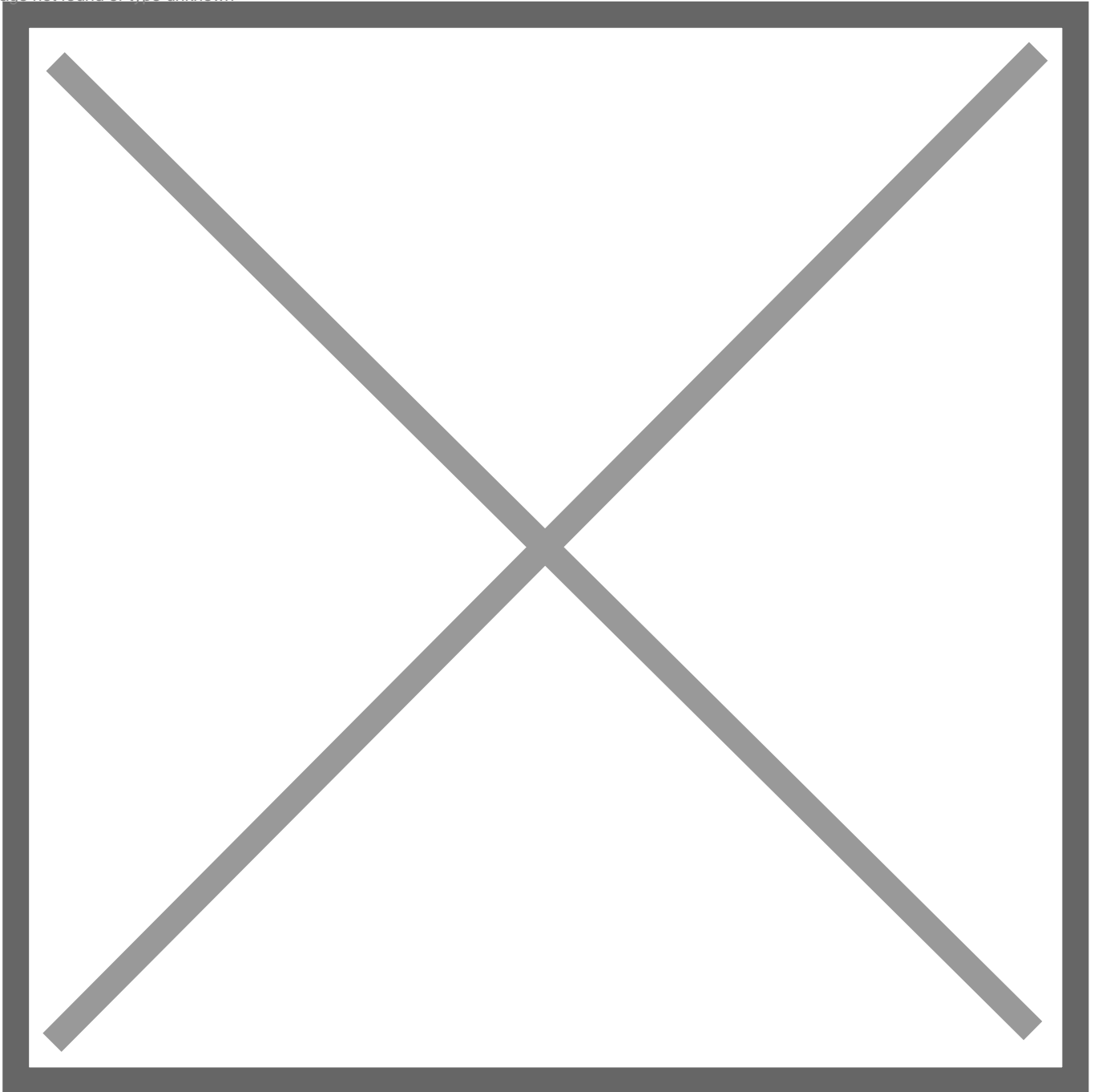


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**Bijlmermeer, DeFlatKleiburg [Bijlmermeer,  
Kleiburg building]**

## Netherlands

Kleiburg 504-601, Bijlmermeer  
North Holland 1104 EA Amsterdam

## Commission

1962

## Completion

1973

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## Original name

Bijlmermeer, Kleiburg building

## Original use

Housing / housing ensemble

## Current use

Housing / housing ensemble

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## Architects

Kamiel Klaasse, Pieter Bannenberg, Walter van  
Dijk, Xander Vermeulen Windsant

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## Concrete by reinforcement

Reinforced concrete

## Construction method

Cast-in-place concrete, in-situ concrete, Facade  
cladding

## Architectural concrete

Architectural concrete

## Structural types

One-dimensional/concrete frame

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## Description

In 2016, refurbishments were finished on the Kleiburg building, one of the largest buildings in the Netherlands. Through this process of renovation and reinvention, the building, designed in 1960, not only reversed the process of physical deterioration and functional obsolescence, it also reverted a very negative social perception. The intervention won the European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture - Mies Van Der Rohe Award, the most prestigious European architecture prize awarded for built work.

The surrounding neighborhood is comparable to many others that sprung up on the outskirts of large European cities at the time: inspired by the principles espoused by the CIAM, they implemented an urban model that, in some cases, accentuated the dynamics of segregation, pockets of poverty, and a marked loss of social prestige.

In the Bijlmermeer neighborhood, a residential area of Amsterdam, the model was pushed to the extreme, with massive buildings built to contain an immense network of hexagonal cells, above an entirely undeveloped urban space. The Kleiburg building is the sole reminder of a neighborhood that was even more dense, as most of the other buildings have been either entirely or partially

demolished. In its current layout, the building is more than 400 meters long and 11 floors high, and it contains more than 500 apartments – all behind a vertical structure of concrete screens. The successful renovation project was buoyed by 25 years of public efforts to dignify of the neighborhood through the construction of public space and social action. The project is based on an innovative approach to housing management: the initial intervention consisted in renovating the structure, façade, building services, access points and common areas, leaving the interior of the dwellings unfinished and the typologies undefined. In a second phase, buyers could acquire the desired amount of living space, both horizontally and/or vertically, and each dwelling became a unique and independent architectural project.

The renovation project by deFlat / NL Architects + XVW architectuur was awarded the EU Architecture Prize Mies van der Rohe Award.

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## Links

[EU Mies Award](#)