



HILDE-DOMIN SCHOOL

HERRENBERG, GERMANY, 2005-2007

Client

Landratsamt Böblingen

Architect

Behnisch Architekten, Stuttgart

Planning and construction

2005-2007

Gross

1.200 m² / 12,916 sq.ft.

Volume

5.690 m³ / 200,940 cu.ft.

Address

Längenholz 8

71083 Herrenberg

Germany

The original school complex for domestic economics and agriculture designed by Behnisch & Partner was completed in 1983. In 2004 Behnisch Architekten were commissioned to design a new, independently accessible annexe that was to function autonomously.

The new building is sited immediately to the south of the original accommodating six craft workshops and two classrooms with ancillary rooms, a small assembly hall, offices for staff and the pupils' council, a doctor's surgery and a room for meetings with parents. The tranquil, single-storey, flat-roofed annexe is firmly integrated into the school complex. The new building respects the style and character of its larger neighbour without reverting to simply copying; the choice of materials provides a distinct contrast to its larger neighbour. The

proximity to the original building creates a series of differentiated interstitial spaces. Subtle modelling of the landscape serves to tie the two structures together.

From the main entrance to the north the visitor reaches a generously glazed lobby with beautiful views across meadows and orchards towards the Schönbuch Nature Reserve and the Swabian Mountains. The lobby serves to separate the assembly hall from the classrooms; from here pupils can access a recreation yard sheltered by the projecting form of the roof. The hall, used for events outside school hours by the local community, is oriented towards a small pond / bio-top which characterises the approach to the new building. Classrooms and several offices are situated in the west wing of the building.



The annexe is primarily a timber structure, comprising a timber frame visually enhanced by distinctive overhanging eaves and timber terraces. With its projecting horizontal forms the annexe appears to almost hover above the ground. In contrast all ancillary rooms are housed in seemingly hermetic timber 'boxes'; the positioning of which serve to structure the interior with the open forms of the classrooms / workshops largely free of constraints.

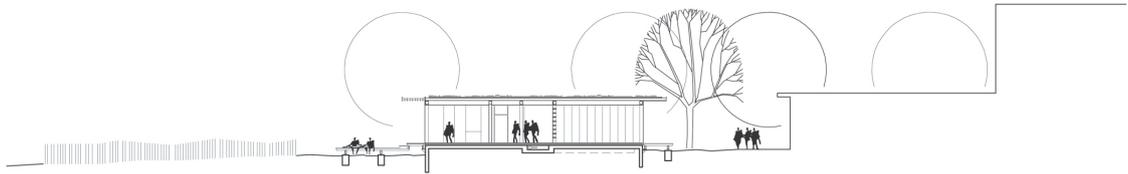
Classrooms / workshops are extensively glazed to both the façade and corridors creating airy, open perspectives, promoting visual contact between the school community and allowing natural light to flood the inner circulation areas.



Site plan



Section



Level 1

