

# residential

Crescent housing, Nieuw Vennep





The brief for this project, located in a vast new development near Haarlem, was to design an outstanding housing ensemble that would add value to its surroundings. Using the archetypal housing crescent as a starting point, an enclosed public space with a unique identity was created. The crescent park is identified within the development as the "Winter Park" and accommodates 42 generous family row houses and one villa containing two houses. The design development focussed on the quest for an integrated solution to three important aspects of the scheme: making a transition between public (park) and private (house), optimising sun orientation for both garden and house, and giving each house a stately appearance towards the park. The solution was found in turning the houses half way into the crescent. This allows sufficient sunlight into the gardens and creates a dynamic exchange between inside and outside. The two arcs of the crescent are shifted, creating a clear entrance to the park. The edge of the park is lifted, strengthening the park's identity and creating a natural division between public and private. In concept as well as in detail the overall image is a perfect match between private and public and enclosed and open. Inclusive rather than exclusive, the ensemble is a desirable addition to the Dutch housing market.

#### client

VOF Jacobswoud (Slokker Vastgoed bv,  
Huizen and Timpaan Hoofddorp bv, Rijsenhout)

#### project

country: Netherlands  
city: Nieuw Vennep  
category: residential  
status: completed  
gross floor area: ca. 8230 m<sup>2</sup>  
design: 2001  
completion: 2005

designed by  
*Dirk van Egeraat*