### Amsterdam, Nederland

theme

conurbation / site

programme / issues

#### screens 1 / 2 / 3 / 4

### Population 730,000 (120,000)

#### Location

Western Garden Cities

Study area 5.8 ha

### Site area 1.2 ha

## Theme

Proceeding from the motto "urban-suburban" opportunities are sought for increasing the building density so that ground-level housing can be added in other locations; a suburban environment with an urban density.

Sustainable building, both material usage and energy-saving designs, are integral parts of the assignment.





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## Conurbation

Amsterdam is the capital of the Netherlands and up to 1950 it was developed concentrically with closed building blocks. Between 1950 and 1970 the General Extension Plan was implemented; a change-over to a city with added suburbs according to the principles of new construction and functionalism: light, air and space with open parcelisation (strip building, L-shaped buildings with courtyards. The largest development was the Western Garden Cities (Westelijke Tuinsteden). For residents from the old districts this area was a respite. Spacious housing, ideal sunlight and an abundance of public space and green areas. In short, the suburbia of the fifties and sixties.

## Site

The study area is a residential area in Geuzenveld Zuid with 582 flats accessed from a common entrance hall, gallery flats and maisonettes, designed by a leading firm of architects of the day, Van den Broek and Bakema and built in 1957. It comprises publicsector rented accommodation. A shopping street in the district is losing its function. New housing developments are being built to the south and west of the district on a former arterial road. To the north and the east the area is bordered by a park and a canal. The intervention area is in the Southwest of the neighbourhood.

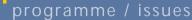
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## Programme

The housing stock is in need of regeneration. The housing has become outdated and has technical defects (thermal bridges). Part of the stock may be preserved, the gallery flats and maisonettes, and part is due for replacement, the flats accessed from a common entrance. In terms of spatial quality it is debatable whether it would be wise to combine old and new.

The southwest side of the district is a challenging intervention area where the current flats are to be demolished and a low-density, attractive residential climate is to be created.

## Issues

functional : The possibilities of developing a coherent neighbourhood integrating the existing 'green' qualities should be studied and the relation between the site and the new housing developments on the west and south side have to be restored.

SOCial : The quality of the public-sector should be improved through rented accommodation, adding housing suitable for the elderly, and giving a social impulse to greater variation in price and type of ownership and enlarging the support base for facilities.

perceptual: The regeneration should lead to a socially safe district with an attractive (green) public domain and space for both young and old.



