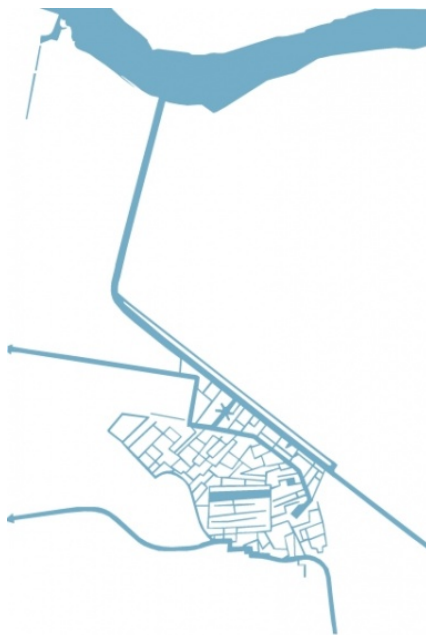
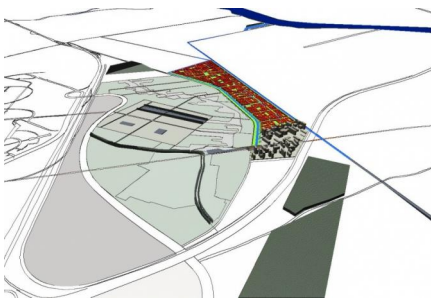


# VATHORST MASTERPLAN

1996-2000, Amersfoort, The Netherlands



Het watersysteem in Vathorst

The site Vathorst is situated on the east side of the A1 highway that forms the border to the last suburban extensions of the city of Amersfoort. West 8 together with Kuiper Compagnons made a masterplan for this **Vinex** site. The plan contains 11000 dwellings, 90 hectare of commercial, industrial and office programs and its required public facilities.

The Vathorst Masterplan has a theme: 'A World of Difference'. It was developed between 1996-2000 by West 8 together with Kuiper Compagnons. The idea is to show how new housing suburban estates can also be varied and exciting, in contrast to the common 90's newly built Vinex estates which many of them are criticized to be repetitive and monotonous.

The masterplan for Vathorst district is a bold design with the residential area consisting of various neighbourhoods each with its own distinctive character. They offer a platform for innovative architecture. The result is an extensive variety of housing types matched with appropriate facilities, while at the same time much attention is also given to the existing surroundings and the provision of arts and cultural facilities in order to create a new community for the residents.

The masterplan is divided into four main zones:

- **Werkstad** (City of Labor): an area with concentration of industrial, commercial and office program at the junction of national infrastructure.
- **De Velden** (The Plains): low-density urbanization respecting the existing rural landscape with tree lines.
- **De Bron** (The Well): high-density cluster around a clean water basin.
- **De Laak** ([The Canal City](#)), a high density housing area (65 houses p/ha) designed as a homage to the tradition of old Dutch canal cities, with a waterways system connected to the nearby IJsselmeer lake.

After the masterplanning phase from 2000, West 8 has been responsible for De Laak (The Canal City) zone as urban planner, landscape architect and supervisor of implementation in order to ensure quality execution of this special area.

For more information please visit also: [Vathorst - De Laak \(the Canal City\)](#)

Related profile: [50 Bridges of Vathorst](#)

#### client

Ontwikkelings Bedrijf Vathorst

#### partners

Kuiper Compagnons

#### consultants

DHV

#### team

Martin Biewenga, Edzo Bindels, Adriaan Geuze