

Highgrove Housing

Location: London Borough of Hillingdon, UK

Client: Hillingdon Council

Completed: 1977

No. of homes: 113

The Highgrove social housing scheme was **a radical break with the traditional** Local Authority narrow-fronted house.

The Highgrove housing development was designed on an eight acre field on the leafy edge of suburban Ruislip for the London Borough of Hillingdon Council.

Wide-fronted houses were designed in groups of four, wherein each house opened onto a large garden.

The quadripartite houses had garages, bathrooms, cupboards, stairs and landings in the low back of the section. The main room spaces were side-by-side along the garden frontage, with ceilings sloping up to the cill level of the floor above.

The main rooms (cooking, eating, sitting) could be used as open plan, or divided as the occupant chose. These main rooms opened out onto the garden, forming one of its boundaries. The other garden boundaries were hedged-in.

These hedges, with a grid of paths, roads and trees, made a formal landscape with uneven edges.



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