

# A FARM – A STRONGHOLD OF RESISTANCE

The nostalgic looking little farmhouse at 1253 Rijnlanderweg (formerly: Sloteweg) situated in Nieuw Venneep, Haarlemmermeer, dates back to 1868. However small it was, and still is, it contains a great history under its roof. It was a stronghold of resistance

Its original name: “De Zorg” (which means The Caretaker) could not have been more adequate, be it that at that time, the owner couldn't have had any idea what the future had in store for the little farm. It became a listed historical monuments after 125 years and received a special status. Although the building was renamed “t Sunneke” in 1950, it remains connected to the heroic part the Bogaard family and their farm ‘De Zorg’ played during the Second World War.



The 75 year old grandpa Hannes Bogaard lived in the small house together with his daughter Aagje, his sons Antheunis (Teun) and Willem and granddaughter Metje (daughter of Hannes jr.). From 1939 till 1943 they hid more than 150 Jewish people who went into hiding there. Besides that it functioned as a kind of intermediate hiding place for about 3.000 Jews who the Bogaard's sent into hiding at other places.

Unfortunately this could not remain unnoticed. The place was known to the people in the area as the “Jews' farm” and it was raided several times. Generally this was done by mainly Dutch policemen. At a first raid nobody was found but at a second raid on November 11th, 1942 which lasted from 13.00 hrs till well into the evening, a brickwork cellar was discovered, and subsequently 12 adults and a 4-year old girl. During the skirmish in the house the girl ‘Leny’ was “spirited away” by Metje. Thanks to Metje's action Leny survived the war.

The other people were deported and grandpa Hannes was run in. He was released after ten weeks. But still grandpa Hannes Bogaard considered it his duty as a Christian to rescue Jews.

In the Autumn of 1943 a third raid took place by Dutch WA members and a couple of SD men. In spite of threats to shoot down Antheunis and to set fire to the farm and also thanks to the inexorable attitude of the Bogaard's, the hidden people were again saved from arrest and deportation by the Germans.

The menace became ever so much heavier. Unfortunately a completely false story by someone who was apprehended for illegal slaughtering with 25 kilograms meat in his possession, would mean the end of the heroic actions of the Bogaard family. At October 6th, 1943 the fourth and fatal raid took place.



Henk Rebel, the founder of the Crash AirWar and Resistance museum, dedicated himself to a complete historical account and formulated it as follows in October 1999:

'When Cor van Stam, during the war Commander of the Interior Armed Forces and three decades later the burgomaster of Haarlemmermeer, opened our first exhibition in 1991, he told us the story about the 'resistance farm' of the Bogaard family at the Sloteweg. He wanted to make a museum of the little farm. The entire municipality backed up this plan in 1992. August 20th, 1995 Cor van Stam passed away and from then on the drive behind this initiative stopped.

The history of the farm "De Zorg" and of the Bogaard family kept playing through my mind. I wanted to know everything about it, collected pictures, reports and all publications about this brave family and their farm that saw the light in the past. Besides that I contacted the people who went 'underground' at that time. All this material and the interviews gave me such a clear picture of what the farm must have looked like in those years that I was able to make an architectural model of the farm as it must have looked like in 1942.'



The model is built to scale and is exhibited in the museum supplemented with authentic photographic material.

During World War II the day-labourer's house of Sam and Antje Breijer at the IJweg 1742 in Nieuw Vennep was also a well known hiding address in the Haarlemmermeer.

Between 1943 and 1945 eighteen to twenty people lived in this small house, its dimensions 6 x 4 metres (18 x 12 ft) - .

Neighbours only discovered about the hidden people when Sally Cohen (pseudonym 'Uncle Henk') and the others appeared from

the house bearing the Dutch flag on VE-Day.

On August 22nd, 2003 it had to be torn down to make way for a new house. Crash took the initiative to record and preserve its history. Some typical parts of the small house were saved to put on display in our museum