



garden+place

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LANDSCAPE DESIGN

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EDITORIAL

Dear reader,

The public space has always been a vital part of the city and, in connection with the quality of life, its importance is increasing. It is, after all, an area where a large part of social life happens. The public space is always a place of encounters and activities: it is a sports ground, a playground, a place of integration and tradition, of art and culture. Regardless whether large squares, parks or pedestrian zones, they all should be centres of attraction and invite people to linger, but they should at any rate perform their function. However, public places are, not always planned or implemented well, even though the approach is well-intentioned.

FRANZ KOLNERBERGER

Head of International
Product Management Clay
Building Envelope and
Landscaping Solutions

In the Garden & Place issue at hand, we have again compiled beautiful examples which illustrate how functional, sympathetic, practical, and inviting public as well as private open spaces can be. This time, the variety of projects demonstrating the aesthetic and warmth of pavers, not to mention the practical advantages of the natural building material, ranges from the USA to England, Germany, Poland and as far as Australia. Pavers are not just beautiful to look at, they are also extremely robust, durable and maintain their appearance even after decades.

With a vast range of formats, surfaces and colours, Wienerberger offers a suitable solution for each utilisation and demand, as with the prestige project around the new Birmingham Library. All in all, four different products were applied here to create an unmistakable pattern.

We are particularly pleased to present a solution by Pipelife in this issue, which – invisibly – protects against flooding of roads, squares or even airstrips.

I hope you enjoy reading our always interesting and hopefully inspiring issue.

Franz Kolnerberger

P.S.: Have you discovered or designed a well-made open space you would like to see on our blog “architectum.com” or in the next Garden & Place issue? Make us aware of your discovery and write to marketing@wienerberger.com.

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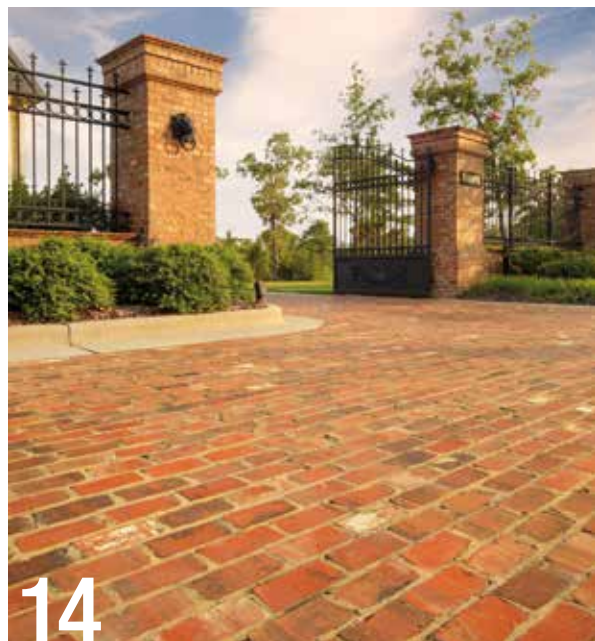
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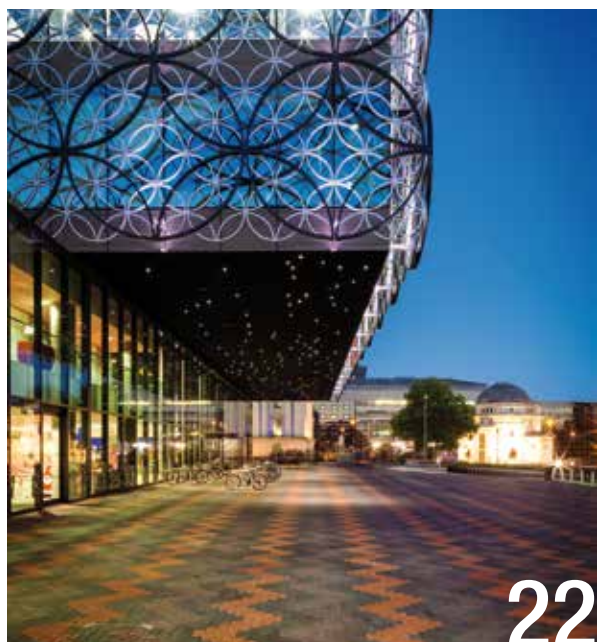
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NEW MIX OF FORMATS IS WELL RECEIVED

On the popularity scale of products from the Penter landscaping range by Wienerberger, the red blue multi paver ranks highly due to its warm, animated play of colours. At the most recent NordBau construction trade fair in Neumünster last September, Wienerberger Germany presented the so-called "Mix of Formats" of this paver version for the first time. A new feature is the combination of various formats in one area. The paver is available in three sizes (300 x 100, 200 x 200, 200 x 150 millimetres), with a standard cutting height of 52 millimetres. It is delivered on single palettes sorted by size. Before the laying process, one can make sure that the paver quantity is exactly defined depending on the floor area and laying method. This makes it easier to mix the formats during the laying process and saves valuable time. The result is a highly individual covering for walkways, terraces or squares – an additional advantage of the red blue multi paver, besides its durability, strength of colour, frost resistance, and beautiful appearance. The trade visitors to NordBau responded accordingly: the "Mix of Formats" was received with great interest, especially since it allows design solutions outside classic paving bonds.

www.wienerberger.de



A particularly lively, warm play of colours characterises the red blue multi paver by Wienerberger. The "Mix of Formats" provides an even greater design variety. The mix is exactly defined depending on the site area and assorted accordingly. This saves the construction company time needed for laying.



STREET FURNITURE AS ART OBJECT

WHY DOES A SPECIAL OBJECT NEED TO BE STANDING AT AN ORDINARY PLACE? TO MAKE THIS ORDINARY PLACE A SPECIAL LOCATION.

Dirk Melzer



The corner bench at the 'Randkanal' is located in Köln-Worringen alongside a cycle route, which makes a sharp right-angled turn at this point, and serves as a new rest place and point of orientation. The street furniture has a base of 2 x 3 metres and is 3 metres high. The bench folds upwards from a base plate to provide one side and one rear panel supporting the roof. Since two load-bearing walls for the roof are missing, the supporting structure had to be made of 18mm steel. The corner bench has a weight of approx. 5 tons; it was completely pre-fabricated and transported to its final position at 'Randkanal' in one piece. The two open sides of the bench make it possible to push wheelchairs and walking frames under the table, thus making the object "barrier-free". The lasered perforation in the side panels represents motifs from the location's history: for example the 'Randkanal', the harbour or civil liberties connected with this place.

www.dirk-melzer.de



SPECTACULAR GARDEN WORLD IN SINGAPORE

Singapore's "Gardens by the Bay" are among the most spectacular garden worlds around the globe. Works on the park lasted for several years, since Singapore's government took up the course of converting the metropolis into a green city. The whole park extends over an area of more than 100 hectares and is located only five minutes from the coast.

Two enormous futuristic greenhouses, which even accommodate a 50-metre high waterfall, are located in the centre of the park. Both halls span an area of more than two hectares and class among the world's largest air-conditioned greenhouses. More than 130,000 plant species from different climatic zones – from baobab to aster – can be viewed here.

However, the highlight of the park are the so-called Supertrees. These huge, artificial trees made of concrete and steel rise to heights between 18 and 50 metres and are planted with 200 different plant species. The exotic plants grow up vertically on the struts. Not only visually, the Supertrees are an eye-catcher, they are also used to collect rainwater, and solar collectors provide sufficient power for the impressive night-time illumination.



In 2012, "Gardens by the Bay" in Singapore was awarded the "World Building of the Year Award"; one year later, it won the "Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) 2013 Lubetkin Prize".

www.wilkinsonseyre.com



Wienerberger starts cooperation with NL Greenlabel, fltr.: Luut Zuidema (WB), Harry Mounoury (WB), Lodewijk Hoekstra (NL Greenlabel), Ruud Knipping (WB)

UNDER HAND AND SEAL

Most recently, the Dutch Institute for Building Biology and Ecology (NIBE) awarded five paver factories of Wienerberger with a DUBOkeur certificate. The certificate applies to the entire range of pavers manufactured in the Netherlands and includes the entire range of moulded, water-struck and extruded pavers by Wienerberger. With DUBOkeur Wienerberger demonstrates that the pavers are produced in an environmentally friendly way and that they distinguish themselves with environmentally sound properties, among them freedom from maintenance, colourfastness and a scientifically proven lifespan of minimum 125 years.

On top of that, Wienerberger Netherlands entered into cooperation with NL Greenlabel, an independent organisation pursuing the aim to promote a sustainable development through the use of sustainable materials.

www.wienerberger.nl

STAIRWAY TO GARDEN PARADISE

From his charming house and office “Horti Concept” in Bas-Oha, in the Province of Liège, young Wallonian garden designer Yves Debouny enjoys a unique view of the River Maas, which runs only a few metres from his house. In this inspiring environment, Debouny demonstrates his proficiency in planning mainly private gardens – for example the design of an existing facility in nearby Couthuin, where several challenges had to be met.

The private garden in Couthuin that Yves Debouny was asked to develop, was already laid out. A large terrace located at the back of the house bordered on an almost two-metre high slope and formed the transition to the lower part of the garden. Owing to this great height difference, the lower patch of grass was rarely ever used.

TRANSITION WANTED

“It was my task to smooth away the height difference and make the lower part of the garden accessible. To make this possible I designed monumental stairs, which integrate into the surroundings in a playful and nonchalant way and easily wind down. This effect demanded the solution of several constructional challenges in the forefront. Numerous formworks had to be produced and filled with gravel and concrete. Only then we were able to lay the Wienerberger pavers,” Debouny reports.

The used paving material is Wienerberger’s “Oud Hollands Oud Schiedam” paver, which was chosen because its colour and texture perfectly match the building’s façade. Of course, properties like sustainability, colour fastness, dimensional stability, water and moisture resistance also played an important role in the selection process. All in all, about 150 square metres of pavers were finally installed.

THE PERFECT SOLUTION

“I have deliberately chosen the Waal format because it perfectly works with the concept,” the garden planner said. The steps should not be too high. The pavers were laid in stretcher bond, whereas Debouny opted for a row of glued pavers for the upstands and edgings. “The specific height of the Waal format allowed me to produce steps with a height of approximately 10 centimetres – ideal for walking up and down the stairs without too much effort,” he continues to explain. Even though a height difference of more than two metres had to be bridged, and the low steps give the transition a delicate and light appearance.

Both sides of the stairs were filled up with earth. In order to create a harmonious transition to the existing planting of the original garden, honeysuckles (Lonicera) were generously planted. Stairs and house form a perfect symbiosis because the private home is optimally integrated into the garden and the surrounding landscape. The apparently irregular and edgy shape of the stairs generates an attractive contrast with distinctive lines of sight, which conveys an equally plain and yet organic impression.



Redesign of a private garden in Couthuin, Belgium

Architect	Horti Concept, Yves Debouny	
Used pavers	Oud Hollands, Oud Schiedam	WF
Available formats	202 x 50 x 88 mm	WF
	202 x 67 x 88 mm	DF
Paved area	approx. 150 m²	
Completion	2011	



”I DELIBERATELY CHOSE THE WAAL FORMAT BECAUSE IT PERFECTLY CORRESPONDS TO THE CONCEPT.

Yves Debouny

Perfect symbiosis: lined by plenty of ground-covering honeysuckles, it almost seems as if the stairs from red pavers have always been part of the garden.



As if it had always been part of this private park landscape, the paved driveway made of 48,000 pavers with warm red shades leads in gentle curves right up to the Georgian-style home.

AN AMERICAN DREAM

More than 48,000 pavers were used to create a one-of-a-kind driveway at this home in Rose Hill, N.C. The amount of pavers used increased nearly 25 times after the initial order once the family saw the potential beauty of a paver driveway.

It began as a way to spruce up the Johnson's home for their granddaughter's birthday party. Luanne Johnson wanted clay pavers for the pavements leading from the new pool to the house. A relatively small job, the first order of Phoenix clay pavers from General Shale included about 2,000 pieces. Phoenix bricks and pavers are made at the Brick Haven plant in Moncure, N.C., not far from the Johnsons' home – so this was no major issue at all.

FACELIFT NEEDED

After the completion of the pavements, the Johnsons were so pleased with the result that they decided the front driveway needed a facelift, too. Their home, built in 1969, had an asphalt driveway that never really matched with the Georgian-style brick home. Initially, the Johnsons just wanted to do the parking area in front of the house, but they soon realised they needed to expand the project.

"We just thought doing one little section didn't look right. We didn't really know just how many pavers it was going to require," says homeowner Bob Johnson, "But I knew it would be a lot." The final number of pavers required was 48,000!

A VERY LARGE ORDER

The order was so large, it made Terry Wright, General Shale District Manager in Wilmington, N.C., take a second look. "When I first saw the order, and realised this was a residential order, not a commercial one, I actually called back the customer to double check the amount. And the Johnsons confirmed and said yes, it's 48,000 pavers!"

It took more than a month for installers to complete the massive project. And the final look is beautiful. "We love it, really," the Johnson Family says. "Guests pull up and just want to stand there and stare at it and walk around on it. Everybody just loves it."

Bob Johnson says he's looking forward to seeing the look of the pavers over time as they age and weather a bit. He feels the driveway will eventually look like it's been there since the home was originally built. And although there is still a bit of asphalt driveway at the home, Johnson laughs and says he thinks 48,000 pavers is enough for now.

Design of a private driveway in Rose Hill, USA

Client	Bob & Luanne Johnson
Used pavers	Phoenix
Available formats	Engineered Modular
Paved area	985 m ²
Completion	June 2013

TIMELESS BEAUTY

Natural, timeless beauty and high mechanical resilience were the demanding challenges for the exterior design of this private home in Poland. This also led to the decision to use pavers. The style of the paving should after all match the style of the building's typically German architecture. Garden & Place spoke with Andrzej Bednarz, who was in charge of the laying works.





Classic, plain and timeless: not only the used format but also the red shaded pavers matching the traditional style of the new building and blending perfectly with the surrounding. Not least, in the elaborate way that the laying reflects the professional competence of the executor.

When Andrzej Bednarz was commissioned with the design of the outdoor area around the new building, he explicitly recommended using pavers. Since the area also had to be accessible for cars, the paver height of 52 millimetres was chosen. Equally important was the selection of a variety of shades. Corresponding to the private residence, the decision fell in favour of red shaded pavers, which have a particularly natural appearance and pleasantly integrate into the surroundings. In addition to the driveway, the homeowner also wanted the pavements and entranceways paved in a herringbone design. Even the garden design worked with pavers to add several highlights – in the form of edgings to the flowerbeds and gravel pathways.

Why have you recommended pavers to your client?

About 25 years ago, I already had the opportunity to implement my first projects in Germany, and I remember the typical German style of houses and gardens. This experience made it easier for me to come to a decision when I first visited the property and the homeowner expressed his wish for a high-quality design of the outdoor surfaces. Right from the start, pavers were my absolute favourite because the format is and always will be both classic and timeless. It makes it possible to lay the pavers in an incredible number of variations, and yet the result will always be unassuming in its overall appearance.

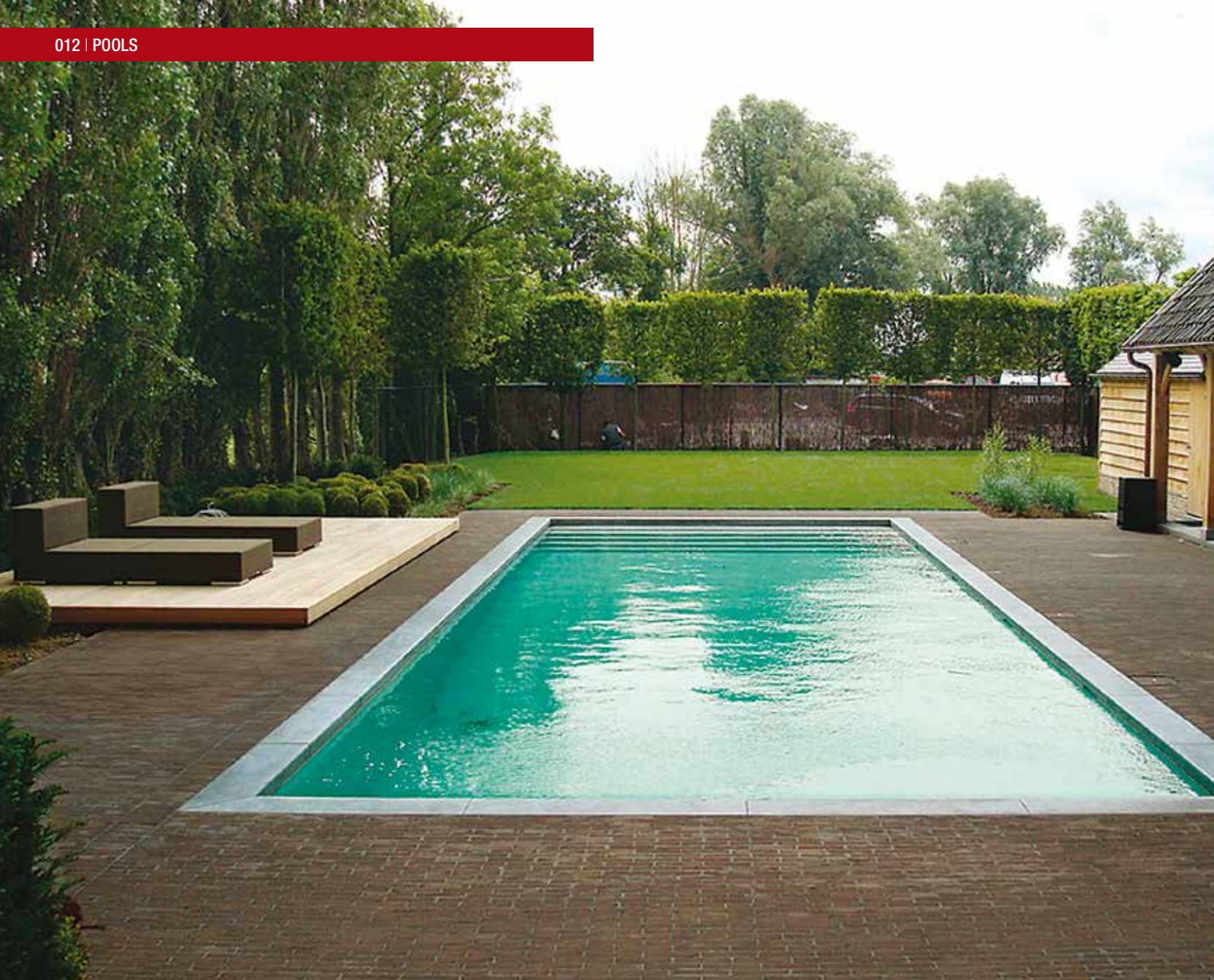
What is your experience with laying pavers?

The laying itself is done relatively easy and presents no problems. Only cutting is rather complicated as compared with other materials and requires a professional hand. However, this also speaks for the high product quality.

How satisfied were you with the collaboration with Wienerberger and Semmelrock?

For me as a brick layer, availability and quick delivery of paving materials are of particular importance. Initially, this project only comprised the design of the driveway. During the project, however, the client took more and more pleasure in the beautiful design and decided to extend the paved area. This made me fear that the project expansion might cause delays. Far from it: the additional pavers were promptly delivered, and we were able to easily complete the project according to the intended schedule.

Design of a private driveway in Tomaszów Lubelski, Poland	
Laying	Andrzej Bednarz
Used pavers	Alt Schwerin
Available formats	200 x 100 x 52 mm
Paved area	300 m²
Completion	2010



Swimming pool edgings built of pavers help to keep the pool clean, are low-maintenance and insensitive to detergents and chlorine – more importantly, they are a real eye-catcher.





UNMISTAKABLE FLAIR IN THE GARDEN

Every water feature gives the garden an additional dimension and creates a relaxing environment because it is both animating and calming at once. That is why water is used in various forms in newly laid out gardens, either as pond, fountain or pool.

In this process, the pool inevitably becomes a central aesthetic design element. Its size alone makes it not only an eye-catcher but frequently the focal point of a garden. The design of the pool and its edging is all the more important since it shall perfectly blend in with the garden landscape, and it needs to be equally appealing and practical.

Pavers make it possible to fulfill all design wishes – regardless whether it's a Mediterranean oasis, children's paradise or plain elegance that is required. Pavers are products of character, which mature with age and become more and more beautiful over time. Neither UV radiation nor heat or frost can damage them. Moreover, pavers don't fade like wood or concrete surfaces. And wherever wet feet and water come together, one property is especially important: pavers are slip-resistant.

Swimming pool edgings built of pavers also help to keep the pool clean, they are low-maintenance and resistant to cleaning agents and chlorine.

Pavers generate a special, unmistakable charm and convey a feeling of summer, sun and Mediterranean flair – in particular when water is a component of the design.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT PLACE – TIPS FOR CORRECT PLANNING

- The sun is the best energy source for heating the pool water. Therefore ensure the longest possible and intense exposure to sunlight.
- Wind cools down the pool water more than the surrounding soil and brings the largest amount of dirt, such as dust, leaves etc., into the pool.
- Bushes, trees, flowers should not be anywhere near a swimming pool since they make it dirty and additionally reduce the exposure to solar radiation.
- A swimming pool is more easily installed on a plane site than on sloping terrain, which frequently necessitates the construction of retaining walls.
- A pool should not be located at the lowest point of the site because this is a place where rainwater accumulates.

COASTAL BEAUTY

Venue: an upscale subdivision in a North Carolina coastal community. Here, General Shale's Phoenix bricks and pavers were used to create a bold statement of durability, beauty and elegance, from the entranceway to bridges and even spillways throughout the neighbourhood.



Tone in tone: The man-made park in the middle of an upscale residential neighbourhood emphasises the natural beauty of the surroundings. Besides old English bricks, Phoenix bricks and pavers are the undisputable stars of this successful design.

Brunswick County, North Carolina, is a holiday makers paradise. The salty air and warm temperatures attracts thousands of visitors each year. And those who call it home want subdivisions that reflect the area's natural beauty. At Rutledge Park, a mix of water features, vegetation and man-made infrastructure featuring General Shale's Phoenix brick does exactly that.

UPSCALE STATEMENT

Rutledge Park is an upscale community of nearly 250 residences ranging in size from 2,200 to 5,000 square feet. Purchase prices range from \$650,000 to more than a million dollars. These prices are justified as they come with unmatched attention to detail in the common areas. Developer H.L. Holmes envisioned an entryway that would make a clear statement, but it wasn't until he discovered the Phoenix line by General Shale that he knew that he would be using it throughout the neighbourhood. By the way, Phoenix bricks and pavers are produced at the Brick Haven plant in Moncure, North Carolina.

VARIABLE DESIGN ELEMENT

"The property itself is located in a very natural setting, with water features and large trees, and it needed to have a complementary brick. Phoenix products meet exactly this demand with their look of old English brick," Mr Holmes explains. Fortunately you never tire of seeing the same colour brick because it's used so differently in many areas, such as for the lattice around the pool and bridges, and in many special designs.



MULTIFACETED OFFER

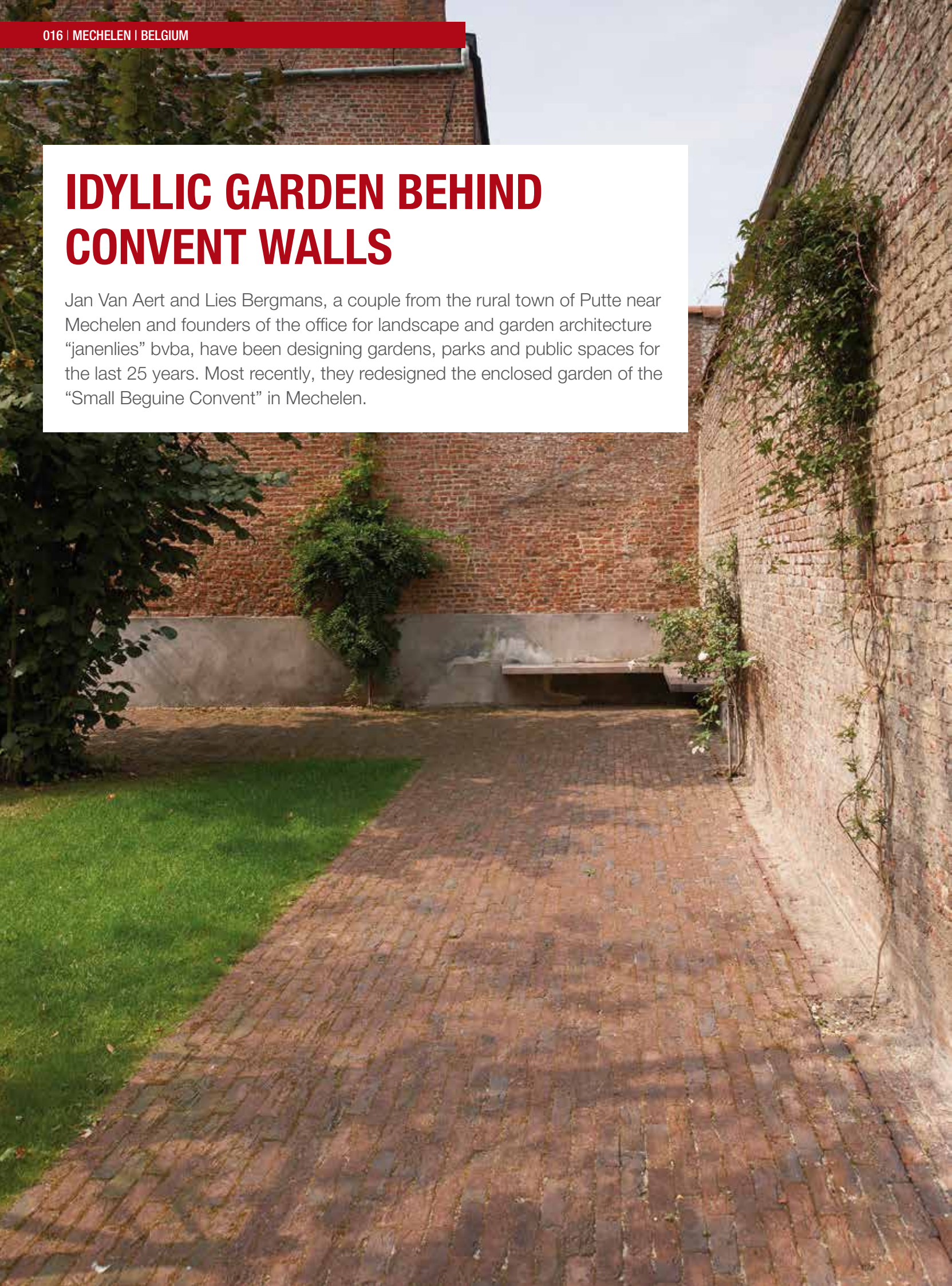
One reason that drew Holmes to General Shale is the fact that you can find a great variety of product options in the same colour. Holmes worked with Terry Wright, General Shale District Manager in Wilmington, North Carolina. Wright explains, "H.L. Holmes had the vision, and we as brick experts let him know what specific capabilities General Shale could provide for the implementation. So we jointly worked out this magnificent project." Construction on Rutledge Park began in 2005. The third phase of the neighbourhood should be completed by 2015.

Redesign of an entryway to a residential neighborhood in Rutledge, USA

Client	Holmes Development
Architect	H.L. Holmes
Used pavers	Phoenix
Available formats	Engineered Modular
Paved area	516 m ²
Completion	2012

IDYLIC GARDEN BEHIND CONVENT WALLS

Jan Van Aert and Lies Bergmans, a couple from the rural town of Putte near Mechelen and founders of the office for landscape and garden architecture “janenlies” bvba, have been designing gardens, parks and public spaces for the last 25 years. Most recently, they redesigned the enclosed garden of the “Small Beguine Convent” in Mechelen.



Landscape designers Jan Van Aert and Lies Bergmans prefer to use sustainable and natural materials that are robust and timeless. The pavers laid in plain stretcher bond in the historic context of the Beguine Convent seem to have always been part of the surroundings.



The design philosophy of Jan Van Aert and Lies Bergmans is to give space, take space and sometimes leave space untouched. The couple preferably works with sustainable, natural materials because they are robust and timeless, age in an attractive fashion and can be reused. Even though both partners are very interested in architecture, they made a deliberate decision in favour of garden architecture in order to be able to work with living matter.

SMALL BEGUINE CONVENT STEEPED IN HISTORY

Since the early 14th century, the “Small Beguine Convent” has been located inside the town walls of Mechelen. Originally, it was an infirmary for old priests and Beguines. In the garden, Beguines once grew medicinal herbs and healing plants for the infirmary. Today, the “Small Beguine Convent” is a public space and part of a walking route through the Beguine Convent quarter with its buildings characterised by a traditional brick and sandstone architecture. Within the scope of a regeneration project, several buildings were recently restored, and “janenlies” redesigned the enclosed garden on behalf of A2D Architects.

VENETIAN ARCHITECTURAL TRADITION AND HERB GARDENS

“The architectural style and the atmosphere of the “Small Beguine Convent” and the whole Beguine Convent quarter are reminiscent of the cityscape of Venice where brick and sandstone were widely used. Thus it became quickly apparent to me that this tradition had to be cherished and the enclosed garden should be paved with natural materials,” Lies Bergmans explains her planning approach. “We decided in favour of Wienerberger’s ‘Hortus Althea’ paver – owing to its sustainable character and the perfect colour harmony with the historic buildings. The pavers were laid in a plain stretcher bond and look as if they have belonged to the surroundings for centuries. Furthermore, this Wienerberger paver is fired until it is hard, and consequently, it is very robust. The Hortus Althea paver was not only used for walkways on various levels but also for numerous upstands and low walls – in total we needed about 500 square metres of pavers for this historic enclosed garden.”



WATER AS AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT

To their surprise, Van Aert and Bergmans discovered the remains of an old watercourse in the garden during the preparatory earthworks. Further examinations revealed that it was once part of a comprehensive and highly important irrigation system in Mechelen. “From an historical point of view, this was an essential element for us and we decided to adapt the original plans according to this find,” Bergmans reports. “The old watercourse was reconstructed in its original condition, remained visible and was turned into an eye-catcher of the enclosed garden. Additionally, the element of water perfectly corresponds to our vision of environment, nature and living matter. To further illustrate this symbiosis, we created a biotope with aquatic plants, which will attract other life forms and ensure a new biological variety. We managed to easily compensate for the height difference towards the watercourse on a lower level by means of low walls and paver walkways.” The result is a restoration of historical value, which is another proof of the significance of pavers for the preservation of authenticity.

Redesign of a public garden in Mechelen, Belgium

Client	City of Mechelen
Architect	janenlies bvba
Used pavers	Hortus Althea
Available formats	208 x 48 x 98 mm WF 178 x 43 x 85 mm KF
Paved area	approx. 500 m ²
Completion	2012

COLOURS OF SUSTAINABILITY

“Ligue du Nord contre la Tuberculose”, founded in 1900, is today called “Santély”. This non-profit-making association specialising in home health care marked its 110th anniversary by moving into a new building with two landscaped and carefully laid out interior courtyards.



The organisation was initially founded for tuberculosis treatment and currently employs about 400 people looking after 18,000 home-care patients every year. Additionally, about 1,000 students and interns work for the organisation in the nursing sector.

ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE CONCEPT

Rémy Quenon and his office Urbaline from Lille were commissioned with the design of the urgently needed new building. The new two-storey complex with a floor area of 4,200 square metres was inaugurated in June 2012. About 200 employees working here now benefit from the amenities of the ecologically sustainable building concept. The load-bearing structure, the properties in terms of heat and sound as well as the cladding consisting of large glass surfaces, and the coloured zinc plates testify to an

architectural concept that does justice to the historic origin of the location – whilst simultaneously complying with all current building standards.

BETWEEN CONTINUITY AND MODERNISM

The A-shaped building encloses two interior courtyards, where mineral elements and lush green areas harmoniously merge to form a therapeutic and conclusive whole. François Haering, architect and planner responsible for the project, elucidates the motives behind his choice of paving: “The shape of the building induced us to lay out two interior courtyards with individual designs on an area of 1,000 square metres: the courtyard with a southward orientation opens up towards the outside and has a rather botanical character. The other one has an inward orientation, is dominated by



Virtuoso play of colours: generating contrasts with three different materials and three different shades was the planning requirement specified by architect François Haering. Blue paving, green plants and red façades form a perfect composition.

”PAVERS ARE 100-PERCENT NATURAL AND REMAIN BEAUTIFUL. THEY CREATE A PERFECT CONNECTION BETWEEN TRADITION AND MODERNISM, AESTHETICS AND SUSTAINABILITY.

François Haering

a mineral appearance and was adapted to the building's resonant behaviour. At the same time, it was important to integrate the existing pathways. This was the reason to design the blue paving using 'Blenheim Terca' by Wienerberger, which perfectly fulfilled these requirements. This paver, which is 100-percent natural, unvarying and low-maintenance, suggested itself for the creation of a link between tradition and modernism, aesthetics and sustainability. Furthermore, we used the Blenheim paver to generate a contrast arising from three materials and three colours: the mineral element with blue paving, the metal one with red façades and finally the botanical element with green vegetation.”

Design of two courtyards of Santély's Headquarters in Loos, France

Client	Santély's
Architect	Urbalinéa
Used pavers	Bleu Blenheim 52
Available formats	200 x 100 x 52 mm
Paved area	480 m²
Completion	May 2012

IN THE COURSE OF TIME

Box Hill Gardens is a mature park within the rapidly transforming urban centre of Box Hill, a suburb of Melbourne. The Master plan put forward in 2011, proposed the installation of new recreation elements and the rejuvenation of existing park spaces. This approach should do justice to the growing population and provide new recreational facilities, and would also reflect Box Hill's contemporary cultural mix.





The result is impressive: the team from Aspect Studios created an innovative multi-purpose space for a variety of recreational activities and events. The former tennis club building and courts were reinterpreted and converted into a contemporary design incorporating existing historic elements.

SYMBIOSIS OF OLD AND NEW

A main feature of the project is the re-use of the former tennis club building and its original terraces. A part of the clubhouse was maintained and converted into seating platforms, from which, the complete playing area can be overlooked. Box Hill Gardens functions as a community space, providing courts for multiple sport and recreational activities, including tai chi and table tennis as well as ball sports, cycling and skateboarding. Graphical floor elements, which are clearly identifiable, define the different play areas. The result is a popular and unique place for a growing community, which will shortly be complemented with a one-kilometre long walking and running track. This track will surround the park, with the start and finishing line being located in the multi-purpose area.

IN CONFORMITY WITH THE GENIUS LOCI

The selection of bricks required much sensitivity. The chosen product with its warm shades perfectly matches the character of the location and also blends in with the style of the original brick clubhouse. The pavers also meet all requirements regarding slip-resistance that are necessary to design surfaces in public areas in a both appealing and safe fashion. When dismantling the clubhouse old bricks stamped “Box Hill” were discovered; so as a historic reference, these bricks were used within the areas of the seating platforms and laid with the text face up.



Old bricks stamped “Box Hill”, which were discovered during the dismantling of the former clubhouse, were reused as a historic reminiscence. They now give the location a very special character.

A combination of “Red Face” bricks, glazed bricks and old bricks from the existing tennis club building was used for the paving. The unrendered brick walls were constructed from a “wheelbarrow mix”, consisting of reused “Red Face” bricks, white painted, recycled bricks obtained from the former tennis clubhouse, new glazed bricks as well as new “Red Face” bricks.

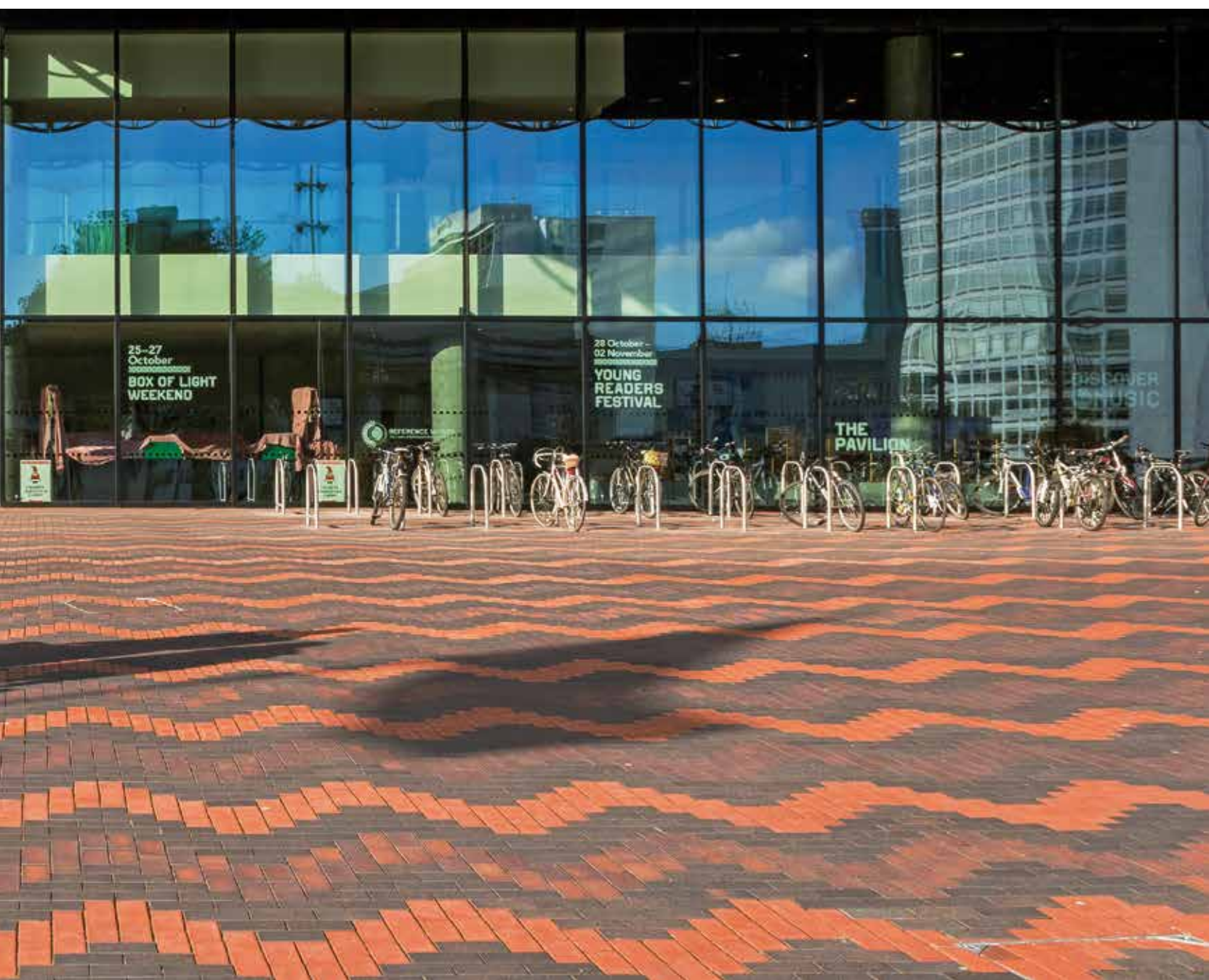
Design of a multi-purpose area in Box Hill, Australia

Client	City of Whitehorse
Architects	Aspect Studios (aspect.net.au) NMBW Architecture Studio (nmbw.com.au)
Area	3,000 m ²



PRESTIGE PROJECT WITH SYMBOLIC POWER

Centenary Square, the largest public square in the heart of Birmingham, together with the library's unique architecture has been given a new appearance. When choosing the clay paver, Wienerberger had the quite complicated task to establish an aesthetic balance between the old and the new, past and present, future and heritage.





”IT IS AN HONOUR FOR WIENERBERGER TO BE INVOLVED IN SUCH A MAGNIFICENT PROJECT – COMPREHENSIVE CONSIDERATIONS AND THE ATTENTION TO DETAIL, WHICH WERE DECISIVE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PROJECT, WERE THE REASONS WHY WE WERE KEEN TO CONTRIBUTE.

Keith Barker, Wienerberger Commercial Director

From the moment that it was unveiled in September 2013, the Library of Birmingham at Centenary Square has captured the imagination of the British public. The challenge Wienerberger was confronted with in this prestigious project wasn't simply a matter of choosing the right paving to suit purely practical demands on the area, but it was a process that had to consider a whole gamut of geographic, architectural and historical requirements.

SYMBIOSIS OF FUTURISM AND TRADITION

The paving of the square required a solution that would provide a link between the modernist external appearance of the library itself and the proud architectural heritage of the region, the Victorian red clay brick and terracotta building stock, which is synonymous with Birmingham's inner-city of centuries past. Despite its futuristic appearance, the design of the Library by Mecanoo Architects offers subtle references to the past in terms of both material and structure. With this in mind, it was crucial that the paving in Centenary Square was able to maintain this delicate aesthetic balance.

RED LINES PROVIDE ORIENTATION

The style of pavers chosen needed to mesh with the design of the square into three distinct realms: monumental, cultural and entertaining. Dragfaced Chamfered Blue and Multi Brindled pavers by Wienerberger were selected along with the Essen Red and the Hannover Buff Brindled paver to create what Mecanoo calls the 'red line', which leads pedestrians into Centenary Square. The colours have also been carefully selected to match, contrast and cohere with the building. Combined with the different surface finishes of the pavers and the variation of bonds, including stretcher and herringbone bond, the intention was to maintain a vivid sense of textural depth.

HARMONY INSTEAD OF COMPETITION

Meanwhile, the project is firmly established as a major architectural landmark in Birmingham and indeed in the United Kingdom. Perhaps the greatest strength of the paving is that, despite the many important considerations of old and new, past and present, future and heritage, it has played the delicate supporting role that it needed to.



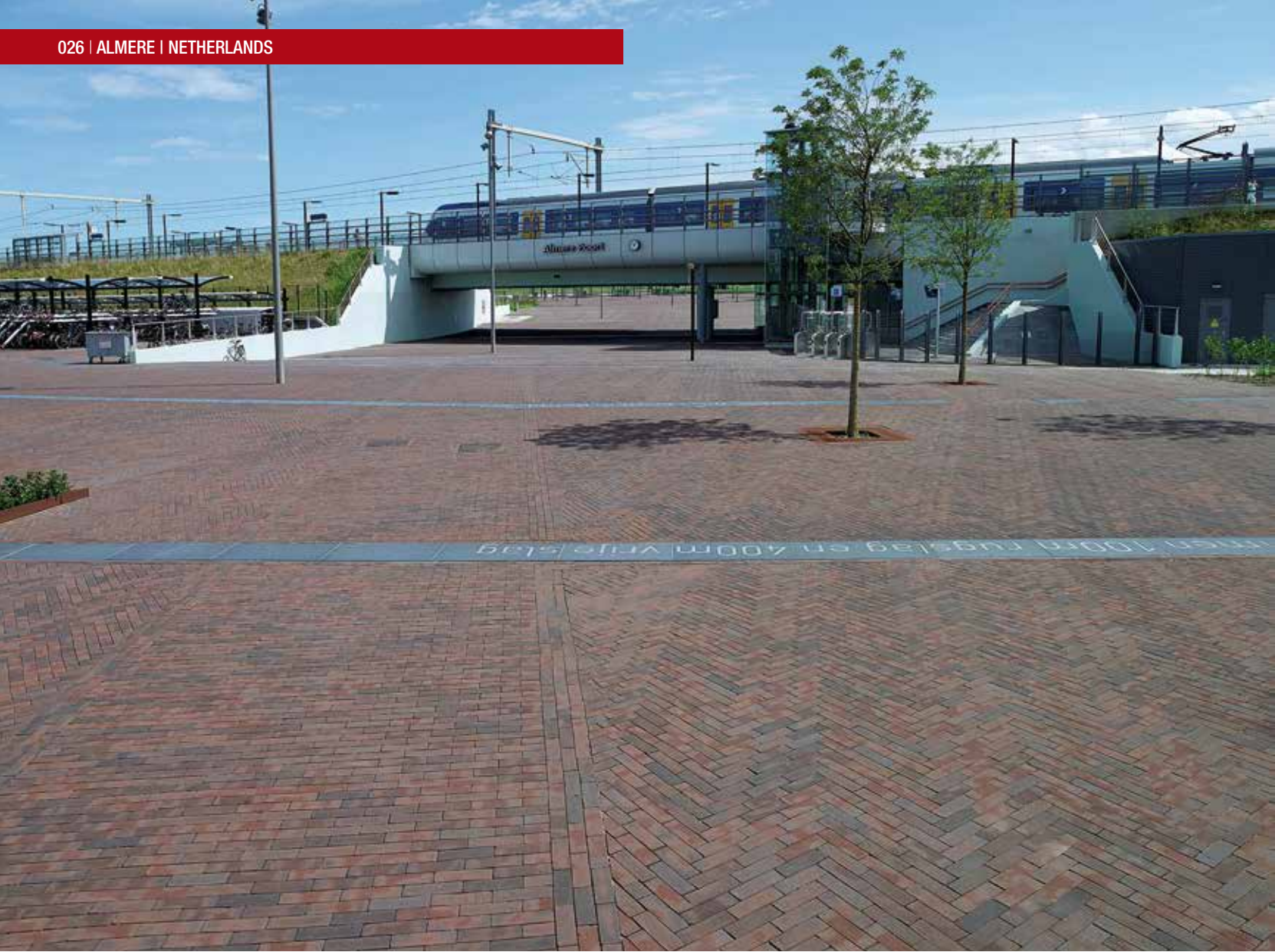
In harmony: the pavers with three different and vibrantly contrasting shades become the connecting link between contemporary architecture and the Victorian heritage of the historic city core.

The material variety of Chamfered, Multi and Buff Brindled pavers made it possible to compliment the architectural statement of the Library.



Redesign of the library square in Birmingham, United Kingdom

Client	City of Birmingham
Architect	Mecanoo
Used pavers	Dragfaced Chamfered Blue Multi Brindled Essen Red Hannover Buff Brindled
Available formats	200 x 100 x 62 mm
Paved area	3,600 m²
Completion	September 2013



WINNER ALL ALONG THE LINE

Almere is well on the way to becoming the Netherlands' fifth largest city. The polder and the city were, and still are, dreams for engineers, urban designers and architects. Internationally renowned architects such as Francine Houben, Rem Koolhaas, Teun Koolhaas, and Herman Hertzberger have left their signatures on the new city built from the ground up. The city's most recent development is called Olympic Quarter.

Almere occupies third place for architecturally interesting new towns in the Netherlands and is even at number one in the European ranking of 'European New Towns'.

ALMERE PRINCIPLES

The Olympic Quarter with over 50 hectares, approximately 2,000 homes and 160,000 square metres of office space is the city's most recent development project. Here, too, the city planners apply the 'Almere Principles' as guidelines for a sustainable and responsible development. Liveability, sustainability and economic vitality form the cornerstones that underlie every expansion. The Almere Olympic Quarter has been laid out with intelligent community parking facilities, reducing the predominance of vehicles in the streetscape. By combining work and living locations, traffic congestion is reduced to a minimum. The Quarter is anticipating the future by fragmenting urban blocks of unique character. The ground levels are given a minimum height of four metres to allow

their function to change if necessary. The Quarter must create 12,500 jobs by 2018, the majority of which will be located within 800 metres from the railway station.

EMPHASISING THE DESIGN

The high-quality city quarter is intended to combine living, working, shopping and public facilities. The urban planning structure incorporates roads and thoroughfares, squares and parks. A shopping centre and the Almere Poort railway station will be situated along a central pedestrian boulevard, which will feature urban planning accentuations with building heights of up to 90 metres to clearly mark its city centre function.

OLYMPIC STANDARD

Opting for superior clay for the paving around the railway station and the adjoining bus stop was as natural for the planners as was the decision to use a predominance



The use of a consistently light-coloured material mix gives the Olympic Quarter its special dynamic appearance.



A subtle, perfectly balanced shade ranging between red-purple and brown-aubergine characterises the colouring of the specifically developed mix of pavers called "Olympiton".



Names and athletic disciplines of numerous Olympic medallists adorn natural stone bands, which add a rhythm to the paved areas.

of brick materials in the neighbourhoods around the new centre. The station square at the Olympic Quarter was built from brick pavers and wide bands of natural stone. After creating six sample surfaces in a variety of shades, the choice fell on a mix of pavers with a subtle transition from red-purple to brown-aubergine. The mix was given its own, fitting title: Olympiton.

Redesign of the station square in the Olympic Quarter in Almere, Netherlands

Client	City of Almere
Architects	Ria van Dijk, Annet Hospes and Michel Pfeiffer
Used pavers	Mix Olympiton
Available formats	LF60, LF65, WF und DF
Paved area	approx. 14,800 m ²
Completion	2013



DESIRE FOR NON-SLIP FLOORS

The redevelopment of the old town of Ludwigslust involved the paving of roads and footpaths. Local residents and tradesmen attached great importance to both a high visual standard and non-slip safety – in a direct comparison pavers by Wienerberger performed better than other materials.



The Baroque town of Ludwigslust, which is located south of Schwerin and attained supra-regional importance in the 18th and 19th century, is regarded as the gateway to Mecklenburg. The castle, the unique landscape garden and the historical old town attract hundreds of tourists every year.

BAROQUE GENEROSITY

To this day, Ludwigslust is characterised by its baroque town structure with generous axes and squares and the gradual urban redevelopment of public spaces started in 1994. From the start, the restoration efforts relied on the use of the Husum yellow multi paver from the Penter line – a distinctive product which worked as part of the overall concept, which in combination with a material mix and new urban furniture aimed to create fresh public spaces. In this context, criteria such as economic efficiency through durability, colourfastness and frost-resistance play a fundamental role.

PLACE TO LINGER

In the area of Lindenstraße/Breite Straße, a welcoming square with character was envisioned and the result is very impressive. Multi-functional areas with an embedded footway made of pavers were created. The challenge here was the layout of the different routes, partly located below the road level, and house entrances that were subject to preservation orders. Nonetheless, individual solutions were provided, laying pavers on end in difficult places made it possible to provide security against shifting, and a mix of formats allowed custom-made laying solutions in front of single properties.

CONVINCINGLY SLIP-RESISTANT

For residents and tradespersons the material selection was primarily a question of non-slip safety – the subject emerged during several appointments on site and with the municipality. This was an issue where the Wienerberger product management team was able to eliminate reservations through informative meetings: certificates issued by the Independent Material Testing Institute in Wismar provided evidence that Wienerberger pavers achieved the highest slip resistance class: U3. Additionally, the manufacturer provided a special service, an on-site testing of the pavers used in the first construction phase. Ultimately, a combination of bright concrete paving and yellow multi pavers was used and the result is clear: after more than 15 years, the pavers show no abrasion and no reduced slip resistance – all in all, these are convincing arguments for the safety and durability of this paving material.

An inviting view along Breite Straße: the Husum yellow multi paver from the Penter product range visually marks the pavement and entrances to properties and buildings.

INTERVIEW

ON A BROAD DEMOCRATIC BASIS

Three questions to Jens Gröger, Head of the Urban Development and Civil Engineering Department, Town of Ludwigslust:



Jens Gröger, Head of the Urban Development and Civil Engineering Department of the Town of Ludwigslust.

Public squares and paths in Ludwigslust have been redeveloped since 1994. What is the role of pavers in this process?

In the long-term redevelopment plan, the Husum yellow multi paver by Wienerberger was one of the decisive products we worked with from the very beginning. Councillors and planners wanted to ensure a high-quality design of the respective areas. Pavers were primarily used in pedestrian areas, in and next to house entrances and for the access to individual premises. In the inner-city zones of Lindenstraße and Breite Straße, numerous shop owners use the multi-functional areas with embedded pavements to encourage people to stop and linger and it was therefore possible to improve the quality of the experiencing our old town. Visitors comment on a pleasant ambience with plenty of green areas and a successful material mix. The colour scheme of the urban furniture including new benches, seating bollards, bicycle stands, and waste bins has been colour coordinated.

You banked on broad civic involvement. Why?

We wanted all citizens to actively engage in the decision-making, especially since the construction works lasted over a long period. Previously, water pipes, exhaust gas lines, gas and telephone lines had been renewed and digging up the roads and pavements meant considerable restrictions for the residents. Issues of implementation and procedures were discussed in several committees, along with issues of non-slip safety of surfaces, height of kerbs, monumental protection of house entrances, replanting with linden trees or standard cross sections. We finally succeeded to upgrade the historic character through a calm redevelopment of open areas in the old town. The broad civic involvement was worthwhile because today, the residents take great pride in the outcome.

Was non-slip safety a key concern?

The majority of our residents are elderly people as younger people have migrated to metropolitan areas. That is why we have given serious consideration to all non-slip safety concerns and were – thank to the special commitment of Wienerberger – able to quickly settle them.



Husum yellow multi pavers have been an integral part of the gradual redevelopment of open spaces in Ludwigslust since 1994. Laid as part of a material mix, they ensure special colour highlights.



Redesign of the city centre in Ludwigslust, Germany

Client	City of Ludwigslust
Architecture	Merkel Ingenieur Consult, Platz der Jugend 1, 19053 Schwerin
Used pavers	Husum yellow multi, laid on end
Available formats	200 x 100 x 52 mm 200 x 100 x 62 mm
Paved area	Several hundred square metres, spread over various construction phases since 1994
Completion	Final construction stage, autumn 2012



The Lindenstraße in Ludwigslust wasn't really inviting before its redevelopment.



Almost 90 percent of house entrances were individually paved. The reasons for this were monument preservation requirements or special solutions like this granite slab in front of an entrance area.



A deep brick-red colour dominates the polder villages because the use of brick and clay is typical for the area. It was therefore obvious that the planners Luc Wallays and Peter Seynaeve chose the attractive red-brown 'Arte' paver with its splendid texture for the design of the ground around the church of Nieuwmoer-Kalmthout.

WORTHY SETTING

"Omgeving" is a renowned office working in the fields of spatial planning and development, architecture and public space design – a complex range of services entailing a multi-disciplinary approach. Some time ago, the office was afforded the opportunity to completely redevelop the area around the Church of Nieuwmoer-Kalmthout. "Garden & Place" spoke to the two managing directors of the planning office, Luc Wallays and Peter Seynaeve, about the implementation of this project.

FROM A MINOR PROJECT TO CONCEPTUAL APPROACH

"Omgeving" already worked for the municipality of Kalmthout in 2008, when a ramp for people in wheelchairs had to be built in front of the church in Nieuwmoer. "After this first, almost 'trivial' commission it soon became apparent that the ramp was not the only thing missing: in recent years, the intensifying roundabout traffic circling around the church had led to increasingly dangerous situations. Both local and through traffic, including numerous busses and agricultural vehicles, had to pass the roundabout. The confusing situation in this area had even caused one casualty. That is why we considered the request by the community of Nieuwmoer from a broader, conceptual perspective and submitted the proposal of how the roundabout could be redeveloped additionally," Luc Wallays summarises the start of the project.

CHURCH IN THE CENTRE

"The Church of Nieuwmoer was situated on a slightly elevated position in the centre of the roundabout and accessible via a few steps at the front side. The open space in front of the church was very confined, a circumstance hampering social contacts. The large paved square located behind the church was, however, restricted to public service vehicles – at the expense of pedestrians and cyclists," adds Peter Seynaeve and explains the task to be solved in more detail, "The complex traffic situation around the church has developed in the past in consequence of agricultural vehicles using the roundabout that had become necessary. Our concept equally considers the housing structure and the economic situation, public transport as well as landscape aspects."

2,200 SQUARE METRES OF PAVERS

After the redevelopment, the surrounding area of the church appears in a completely different light. The roundabout can now also be used by larger vehicles, and an additional parking lane was provided. All around the church, several green areas and one-way roads provide visual balance and a larger stair landing and a ramp were laid out in front of the church.

The context and authenticity played a fundamental role for the proposal submitted by the planning office and its material choice, as Luc Wallays continues to explain: "Brick and clay simply are characteristic construction materials of polder villages, and that is why we decided in favour of the red-brown 'Arte' paver in the thin Waal format. This Wienerberger paver features an attractive colour and splendid grain and texture, which will develop an even nicer patina in the course of time. Furthermore, we prefer to work with materials that are as uniform as possible, and so in addition to the paver, we only used blue limestone in blocks for the edgings. They are intended to prevent illegal parking."

The positive effects of the redevelopment were apparent soon after the completion in 2012: the traffic flow is a lot smoother, calmer and safer. Social encounters can again take place on the church square – livelier than ever before and even the terraces of nearby restaurants are enjoying an undreamt-of rush.

Redesign of the church square in Kalmthout, Belgium

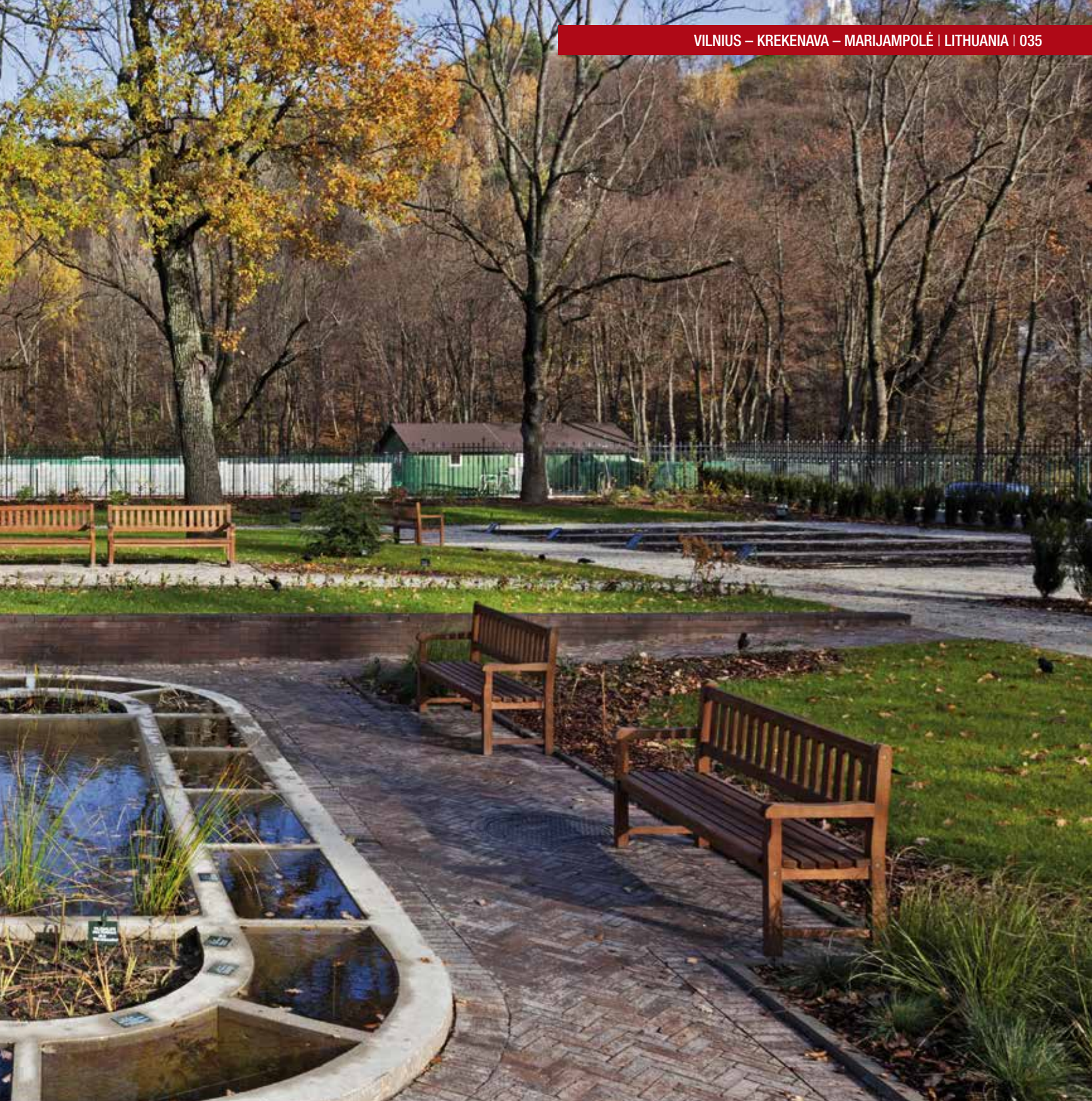
Client	Municipality of Kalmthout
Architect	Omgeving CVBA
Used pavers	Arte red-brown DF
Available formats	WF 202 x 50 x 88 mm DF 202 x 67 x 88 mm
Paved area	approx. 2,200 m ²
Completion	2012

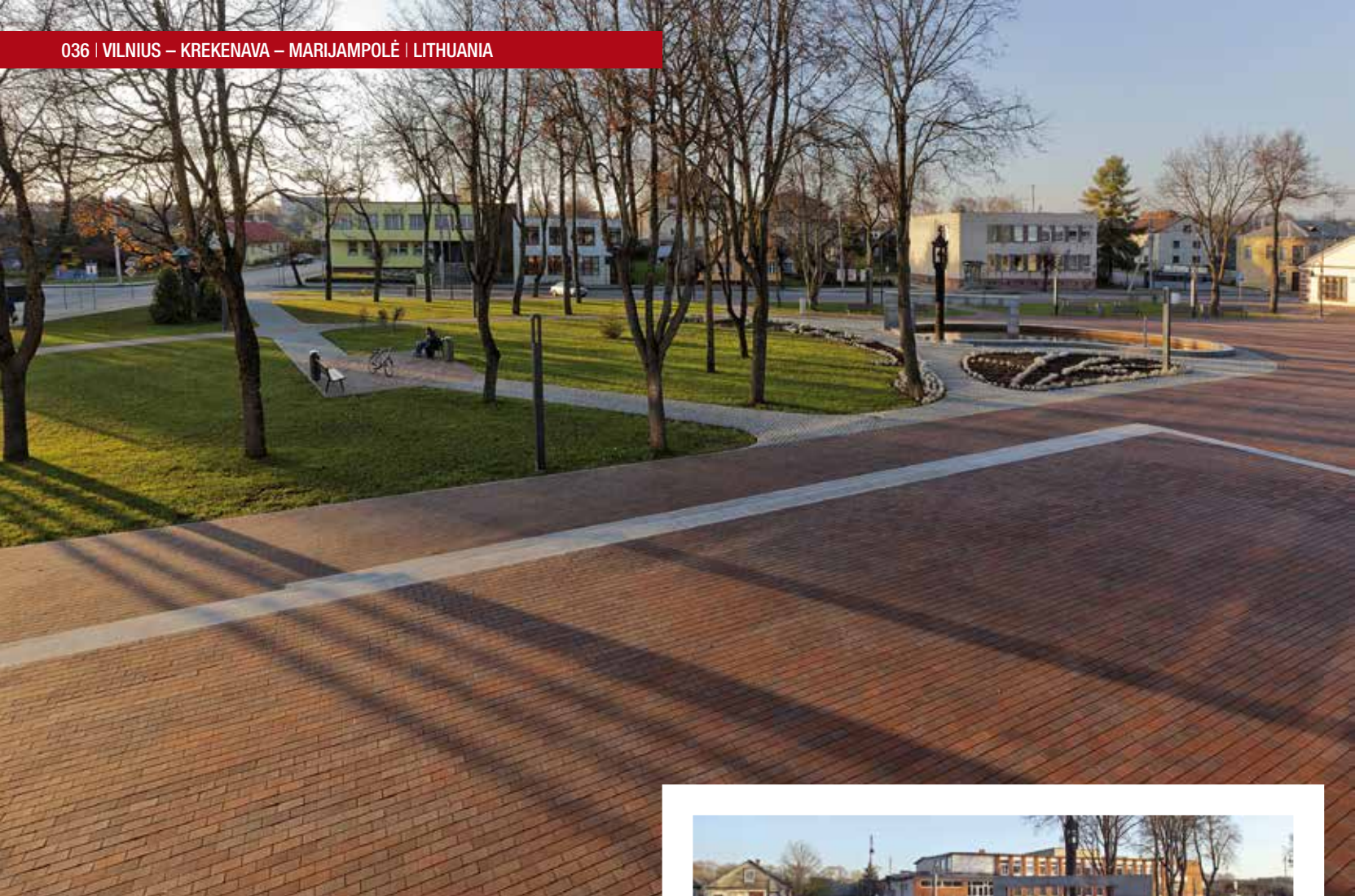


Unique architectural solutions characterise the oldest public square of Vilnius, Lithuania's capital: paved walkways lead to green open spaces, their boundary walls also serving as benches.

PLACES OF ENCOUNTERS

Projects were undertaken in three towns in Lithuania, where pavers have transformed three public squares: the public hub in the small town of Krekenava was given a dignified appearance, in the city park in Vilnius, the capital, the historic ambience was restored, and the reconstruction of a system of public spaces and walkways in Marijampolė has enhanced the surroundings, preserving the city's visual identity.





The formerly inaccessible green space overgrown with bushes at the Birutes Square in Krekenava was divided into two zones: the lush green in the southern part now invites people to enjoy the surroundings, whereas the northern part was entirely designed with pavers to provide an event location.



Whilst the living room defines the atmosphere of a home and reflects the life of the occupants, the identity of a city and its society originates in public spaces. What does it take to create a public space, which with its inviting atmosphere becomes a place of encounter?

RELAXATION OR STIMULATION

Rational solutions and universality of a space were the fundamental demands specified for the reconstruction concept of the Birutes Square in Krekenava, which was developed by architects Andrius Daujotas and Valdas Klimavičius. The square, previously a bushy, inaccessible green space, surrounded by the most important public institutions (House of Culture, municipality, library), was divided into two zones. In the southern part, green lawns, flowerbeds and winding pathways now invite the citizens to relax. The northern part, on the contrary, was homogeneously designed with pavers and is now perfectly suited for events of various kinds. According to the architects, they chose the reddish paver to achieve the desired visual contrast with the greenery.

FOLLOWING THE TRACES OF THE MONKS

Unique architectural solutions characterise the oldest public space in Vilnius, the capital city. The Bernardines' Garden is located in close vicinity to the Old Castle and the cathedral and it dates back to the 15th century, the time when monks built the monastery as well as a system of ponds and gardens. Over the centuries, the park has undergone various transformations; however, the architects most recently commissioned with the redevelopment of the park (Jurga Silvija Večerskytė Šimeliūnė, Modesta Duderytė Mazūrienė) and the municipal enterprise "Vilniaus planas" opted for the adaptation of the 19th century scheme and implemented various areas for leisure and games.

Two spaces implemented at the main entrance allude to the themes of the former monastery garden as well as the botanical garden of the Vilnius University. Small plots of soil were laid out with an array of different potherbs, flowers and aquatic plants. These flowerbeds can be accessed via paved paths, whilst the retaining walls serve as benches. "These small cosy gardens are an interpretation of 19th century traditions,"



Since red brick characterises the colour scheme of Marijampolė's old town, a paver was selected accordingly in the course of modernising the central area.

explains architect J. S. Večerskytė Šimeliūnė. "That is why the paver for pathways and retaining walls was chosen as a characteristic material of those times," he continues. The redesigned Bernardinai Square in Vilnius has made a fundamental contribution to the capital's positive image.

FROM INEFFICIENT SOVIET DESIGN TO WELCOMING AMBIENCE

Meanwhile, the modernisation of the central area of Marijampolė (architects: Gintautas Vievysys, Reda Marcinkevičienė, Algirdas Marcinkevičius, Arvydas Bekeris, Tomas Eidukevičius, Donatas Valiukas) has an enormous local effect: the creation of a new infrastructure considerably promoted communal life and excited the residents.

Created in Soviet times, the public spaces of Marijampolė were characterised by an almost hostile appearance and were bereft of infrastructure. The architects' task did not involve the creation of new public spaces – instead, they had to achieve an improvement of the existing ones. For this purpose, street paving and lighting systems were renewed, whilst benches and sculptures were added to enhance the attractiveness of the spaces. New paths connecting the squares and the parks were created for pedestrians and cyclists. Since red brick determines the colour scheme of the old town of Marijampolė, pavers were chosen correspondingly. "After scrutinising the products of various companies, it turned out that the Wienerberger product range included the exact colours needed. In order to avoid monotony in the paving, we chose slightly different shades creating a vibrantly speckled carpet on the ground," says architect Gintautas Vievysys. Wide roads were narrowed, thereby making the town centre more welcoming and giving priority to pedestrians and cyclists.

“IN ORDER TO AVOID MONOTONY IN THE PAVING, WE SELECTED SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT SHADES CREATING A VIBRANTLY SPECKLED CARPET ON THE GROUND.”

Architect Gintautas Vievysys

Public garden in Vilnius

Architects	Jurga Silvija Večerskytė Šimeliūnė, Modesta Duderytė Mazūrienė
Used pavers	Cosmo Tumbled, Bara

Birutes square in Krekenava

Architects	Valdas Klimavičius, Andrius Daujotas
Used pavers	STT Terrakota Kare

City centre of Marijampolė

Architects	Gintautas Vievysys, Reda Marcinkevičienė, Algirdas Marcinkevičius, Arvydas Bekeris, Tomas Eidukevičius, Donatas Valiukas
Used pavers	Holstein Aseri Terra smooth STT, Aseri red smooth STT

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FOR THE PROTECTION OF VALUABLE RESOURCES

Besides floods, problems increasingly arise from sewage systems overburdened with rainwater. The loss of green areas and natural ground as a result of the construction of buildings has numerous negative consequences: recreational and natural spaces are reduced, agricultural areas and soils are lost, and rainwater can no longer seep away unrestrictedly. Conventional systems, such as seepage pits or detention reservoirs which are, for example, located along motorways or dual carriageways, no longer suffice to collect the necessary amount of water, because this seeping method requires large surface areas, which are, however, continuously decreasing. The Raineo® system by Pipelife is a patented system solution providing the possibility to efficiently capture, retain and reuse water, even given less available area, and it therefore takes care of this valuable resource for decades.

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