

GARDEN & PLACE

April 2007



Editorial

Dear reader,



We would like to welcome you to the second issue of Garden & Place, the international magazine for clay pavers.

We are once again paying special attention to the design of gardens, public squares and parks. Whether given a natural layout or formally structured, they are all pieces of nature that have been moulded – just like our TERCA paving bricks

made of fired clay: their natural origin lets them fit in harmoniously with any landscape type.

We have used international projects in Belgium, Germany, England, the Netherlands, Austria and Hungary to demonstrate to you how versatile the applications offered by paving bricks are.

The „Garden and Public Space Accessories“ theme is also underpinned and reinforced by interesting articles.

Finally, we also give an explanation of the best „recipe“ for manufacturing our high-quality clay products.

We hope this has piqued your curiosity and would like to wish you every pleasure during your journey of discovery through our international magazine!

Yours sincerely,

Heimo Scheuch

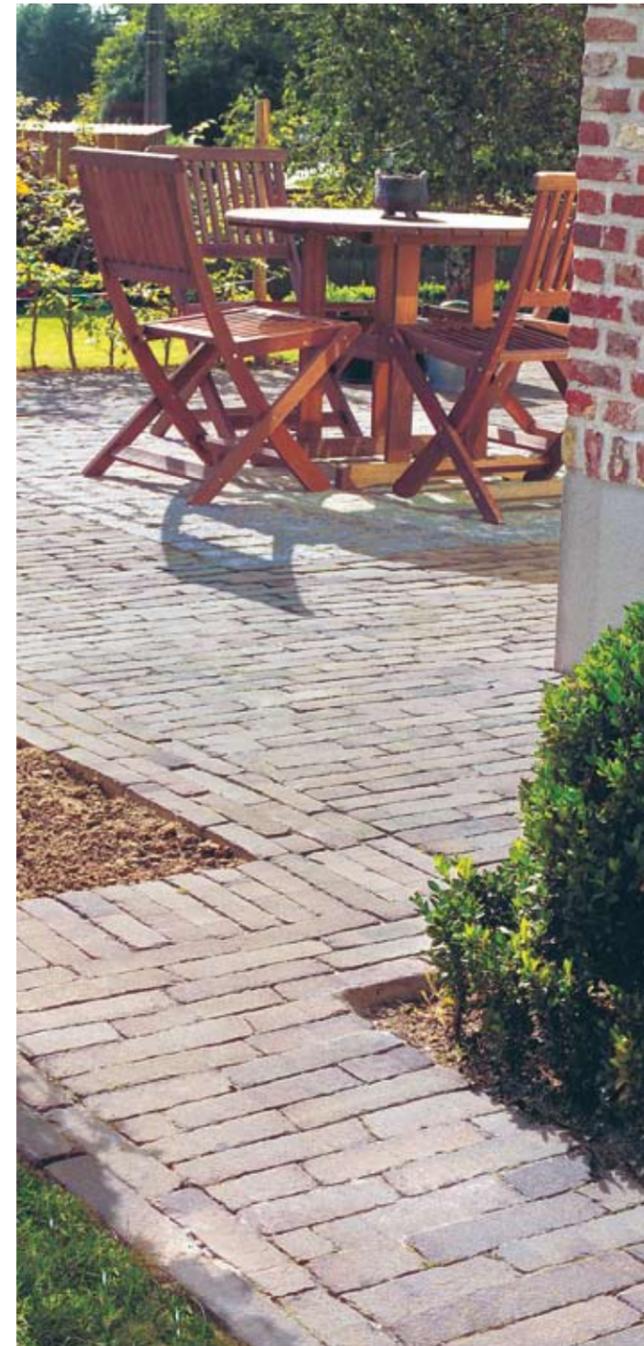
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East Ruston, United Kingdom

Tamed green spaces



After the property had been empty for two years, Alan Gray and Graham Robeson bought East Ruston Old Vicarage in Norfolk in 1973. With a great deal of commitment and a drive for perfection, the two amateur gardeners converted the overgrown grassland into their own very individual green refuge.



House and the property are surrounded by miles and miles of totally flat farmland and are situated about a mile and a half from the North Sea. Gray and Robeson were both working in London and in the beginning were only able to visit the Old Vicarage at weekends, after a long journey from the capital to the East Anglian coastal countryside. They used the little time they had available for working on the garden and then buying more land and extending it, until the site had grown to the current sixteen hectares. The expansion is over now and they now only want to concentrate on maintenance and adding the finishing touches.

Living space for animal life

Because of the region's maritime climate, there is very little frost in the winters, which has enabled the two amateur gardeners to grow many plants that would usually be very difficult to cultivate in the British Isles. Even so, one of the key measures was planting a shelter belt of Monterey Pine, Italian Alder and Eucalyptus, since the icy wind blowing straight in unimpeded off the North Sea would otherwise have ruined all their efforts before they got started. They subdivided the overall area into a multitude of small gardens, thereby also helping to reduce the force of the wind. In addition, this created a habitat for all sorts of wildlife. The general elimination of enormous numbers of hedges in the area has created broad, prairie-like fields, leaving birds and animals unable to find food or shelter. Alan and Graham were pleased to note that their garden now boasts a rare sight: a pair of kingfishers splashing around.

Pavers as the most essential design element

The architecture of the gardens used all sorts of materials: hedges providing partitions, some of the paths simply mown into the grass, and some buildings and smaller structures made of wood. But by far the most dominant material in this garden is pavers. The garden was entirely designed by Alan and Graham,





and they had no difficulty in arriving at the decision to use this building material as it is same as was used for the Old Vicarage itself. This decision is proudly announced right at the gate, where two red brick pillars in the unusual and typically English "Rat-Trap" bond form the gateposts: these look similar to the Flemish bond, but are hollow on the inside. The gateposts were also designed by the owners themselves, to "add to the grandeur of what is a relatively simple architectural design".

This reflects the style of the garden, which is formal and rather grand for a country garden, as is also evident in the "Postman's Gate". Despite its modest title, it is a grand entrance featuring a large terracotta coat of arms of the city of Manchester, chosen by the owners because of the city motto that is on it, "Consilio et Labore". This actually means "by counsel and labour", but Gray and Robeson translate it as "through discussion and damned hard work", which they find to be an appropriate motto for themselves and their efforts.

Aesthetics, through and through

The results of lots of effort and discussions can be seen in this extensive property, where each new garden has its own planting, special atmosphere and surprising use of materials. Wood has been used with equal grandeur, for example to make

a large pavilion overlooking the exotic garden and to build an unusual „toothed“ bridge in the "Desert Wash" garden. Yew hedging and box-tree topiary also make their contributions to the structure and aesthetic form of the spaces. There are small pools and springs, meadows and formal gardens, quiet niches inviting contemplation and areas full of plants and blooms – it is any gardener's paradise. And everywhere you look you will see the beautiful "Red": superbly maintained original pavers, providing a suitably mellow backdrop to the exuberant drama of the gardens.



The 16,000 m² area was divided up by Alan Gray and Graham Robeson into numerous smaller garden areas, giving a very special atmosphere. Borrowing from the English garden tradition, they chose red pavers as the key design element.

Info	East Ruston Old Vicarage Garden	
	Adress	East Ruston Norwich Norfolk NR12 9HN United Kingdom
	Tel	+44 16 92 65 04 32
	E-Mail	erovoffice@btconnect.com

Portrait of Geert Voets, Belgium

Serving nature



Born into a family of gardeners, Geert Voets has always had a very special interest in all things green. Straight after his studies at the Horticultural College in Leuven, he set up his own company, “Tuinmakers“. The garden architect’s house and offices are embedded in luxurious greenery, which naturally was the first source of inspiration. No doubt about it: whoever lives here has an eye for detail.

A perfect team

He took the step to independence together with a friend and co-student. Tackling things the right way was always fun and, anyway, Tuinmakers doesn’t like being put in a pigeon-hole: “As garden designers, we feel responsible for the entire project. We treat it as a whole, from design through construction and on to the subsequent upkeep phase. For control freaks like us, the decision was then quickly taken to do everything ourselves and to coordinate it,” says Geert Voets. This is the way Tuinmakers takes on all the other additional aspects of garden creation such as paving or illumination, or putting in water features such as ponds and springs or swimming pools, etc.

Voets very proudly points out his own extensive array of machinery, consisting of diggers and earth movers for all necessary widths and which do not produce much ground pressure. This avoids additional equipment costs and moreover lets them keep tight control of things.

Quality before quantity

Tuinmakers has deliberately adopted a quality-based strategy. What really counts is not the number of pieces of ground they have landscaped per year, but above all the transformations. Tuinmakers never tackle more than one garden at a time. They only start on the next piece of ground when the previous project is completed and the garden has been delivered. His clients are all thankful for the one hundred per cent attention.

“Keeping an eye on every detail and if necessary adjusting new aspects immediately is a source of great satisfaction to the entire team,” Geert Voets assures us. “And of course it gives our customers peace of mind.”

High-tech passion and inspiration

Voets realised pretty quickly that most customers have great difficulty in creating were only able to create a spatial visualisation from a plan or a design sketch with the greatest difficulty.

The solution for this problem arrived in the person form of a good friend, garden architect Jan Verelst. “In order to be able to get our passion for a design across to the customer, an easily readable 3-D representation was produced for every design. A virtual walkthrough enables the customer to take a mental stroll through his future garden beforehand, and to get a very concrete definitive picture of every point of view, every tuft of grass, and every plant and colour variation. Right from the early planning stage you can experience the future at first hand.”

It also provides a night-time view of every garden design, which may perhaps be used to show the garden lighting and its attractive effects immediately and understandably – changing the plans at this stage is child’s play. The adjustable and perfectly spatially presented images this provides have proved extremely popular, and reflect the thoroughly perfectionist approach of the designer. The media and high-tech fields, coupled with exceptional creativity, fit together seamlessly.

An addiction to handcraft

At Tuinmakers, they swear by the high quality of the materials used and of course by their proven manual skills. So when heavyweight wooden constructions are used, they only choose the best quality wood and create combinations of materials that will easily withstand the test of time. When laying paths and terraces, corner stones are always sawn off with a mitre. Every detail is checked with the same care for craftsmanship. “Sometimes we take a little longer to do things, but in the long run our customers are the winners. Quality and handcraft are still an unbeatable pairing,” they say with conviction. “We make selections for the planting schedules with just the same care and unbridled drive for perfection.”

Fondness for natural materials

The dedicated duo of Tuinmakers favours the uncomplicated and natural – they are looking for permanence. So perennials





Garden planning as a whole, from design to construction to upkeep: Tuinmakers always take on all the extra aspects such as tiling, lighting or putting in water areas such as ponds, fountains or swimming pools.

Info	Tuinmakers	
	Address	Tuinmakers bvba Balkestraat 16 1910 Kampenhout Belgium
	Tel	+32 16 65 06 35
	Fax	+32 16 65 06 36
	Internet	www.tuinmakers.be
	Grafic Design	Jan Verelst
	Project Kampenhout Voortstraat:	
	Pavers used: Arte Mastic black, sandy; Available in: WF (± 200 x 85 x 48), DF (± 200 x 85 x 64)	
Project Balkestraat Kampenhout:		
Pavers used: Oud Hollands Oud Amsterdam (violet); Available in: WF (± 200 x 85 x 48), DF (± 200 x 85 x 64)		

and shrubs are often used, as are materials such as wood, bluestone and pavers. These all radiate a certain warmth and cosiness, giving the entire arrangement its own special character and timeless durability. The surprising effect is then in the unexpected placement and combination of the consistently traditional basic elements. The never-repeating shapes of water features also have a special place.

Tuinmakers have been using Terca pavers for a number of years now. They enthuse people as always with their surprising natural range of colours, which do not fade over the course of the years. The unpretentious look also appeals, as do the graceful shapes and the low-maintenance properties. "Pavers can be used in strict modern garden designs and in a softer, purely rural setting. Above all, we use the products "Oud Hollands", "Crea" and "Authentica". Our passion for detail is expressed in the fine finishing work for terraces and paths – even the patterns they are to be laid in are adapted to the design," explains Geert Voets, who also used Terca pavers in his own garden.

When working on a landscape garden near Kampenhout, Tuinmakers based the design on a minimalist garden concept in a rural setting. For this, the plants, terracing, swimming pool and pool house all had to be balanced together to make a strong and tight whole. Tumbled Mastic black and sandy were used, combined with wood and bluestone in the customary way.

"It's just the same, whether it's the layout of a private garden or the green space in an industrial building," concludes Voets. "If you are able to make full use of your creativity as a team in a project, and the outcome is that you have succeeded in getting nature and quality in complete concordance – that's when you have completed the job."



Collstrop, Belgium

Wood in the garden



Who doesn't start dreaming when they look around their garden? Maybe it could do with a romantic pavilion, a wooden gate, a fence, a climbing frame for the kids, a summerhouse... The Collstrop range of wooden garden products always provides just the right solution.

Collstrop only use Swedish pine, from economically sustainable woodland. Unlike other sorts of wood, pine can be impregnated right through. Impregnation is environmentally friendly, done in their own saturation tanks in a vacuum-based boiler pressure process. All Collstrop products also have a 25-year guarantee against attacks by vermin.

Pushing the boundaries

Functionality and beauty are blended together in Collstrop garden fences and gates. You can choose between strictly modern, gracefully curved, classical or English garden architecture. Even padouk wood from Africa is in the collection: hard-wearing and resistant to weathering, it is turned silver-grey by the influence of sunlight.

Everything in the right place

Collstrop also has a wide range of products ready for free-standing summerhouses and tool sheds or wooden carport/tool shed combinations. The modular carport concept allows any imaginable dimensions to meet the most diverse requirements. On special request, the LSQ (Long Standing Quality) process can be used to give it a water-resistant coating.

Fun and games

Climbing, racing about, swinging, sliding: all Collstrop play apparatus meets the CE safety standards as well as meeting the instinctive demands of all children while ensuring they can play safely.

Secluded oases

Pavilions or arbours make the cosiest and most romantic places. There are no limits to the shapes and forms.



Info	Collstrop
	Collstrop Garden wooden products are made by the Cras Wood Group in Waregem.
	Address Industrielaan 5 8790 Waregem, Belgium
	Tel +32 56 60 34 44
	Fax +32 56 61 05 57
	E-Mail info@collstrop.com
	Internet www.collstrop.com



Whether it's a garden fence, carport or partitions – Collstrop's numerous products always provide the right solutions.

Die Kurzentren, Austria

Individual styling with flair



A garden is a piece of nature. Using natural materials underlines this. Whether they are for patios, paths, driveways... clay pavers are the natural material choice for a natural garden and they also add a touch of Mediterranean flair. The best example of their use is provided by the "Die Kurzentren" in Austria.

Spring makes hearts beat quicker and nature is revitalised. Now is the best time for giving gardens a new face-lift. Fired clay pavers are ideal for creating paths, tiled gables, inner courtyards and barbecue areas, steps and stairs, terraces and conservatories, for driveways or car parking spaces. And they fit in harmoniously with the green of plants and lawns.

Frost-proof and crack-resistant

High firing temperatures in the manufacturing process mean that pavers made of fired clay are frost-proof, robust and long-lasting. They are intended to take high stresses and therefore driving over them is not a problem; the special surface structure means that they do not crack.

This is confirmed by Herr König, founder of the hotel chain "Die Kurzentren". He says: "We have used the frost-proof "Landhaus" pavers to create our drives and exits. This concept for creating the roadway is part of the basic layout of any of the Health Resorts. We have been using the pavers for 12 years now, without any repairs being needed and we will be using this natural product again. It fits in perfectly with the natural shapes of our architecture."

Colours, formats and surfaces

The "Landhaus" paver is available in smooth, rough and antique versions in light red, red, and variegated red. The antique design magically adds a certain southern flair to any garden – you feel and sense Tuscany, with its splendid and harmonious garden layouts.



Exit and square design for the "Die Kurzentren" hotel chain, using "Landhaus" pavers with rough surfaces in the colours light red, red, and variegated red. To ensure the best possible drainage, bricks with holes in were used for the parking spaces.

Info	Die Kurzentren, Austria	
	Contact + Photos	König GmbH Die Kurzentren Gewerbehof 1 6330 Kufstein Austria
	Tel	+43 53 72 90 500-36
	Fax	+43 53 72 90 500-440
	Internet	www.kurzentrum.at
	Pavers used	Landhaus, rough upper surface, in light red, red and variegated red
	Available in	± 140 x 260 x 50 mm

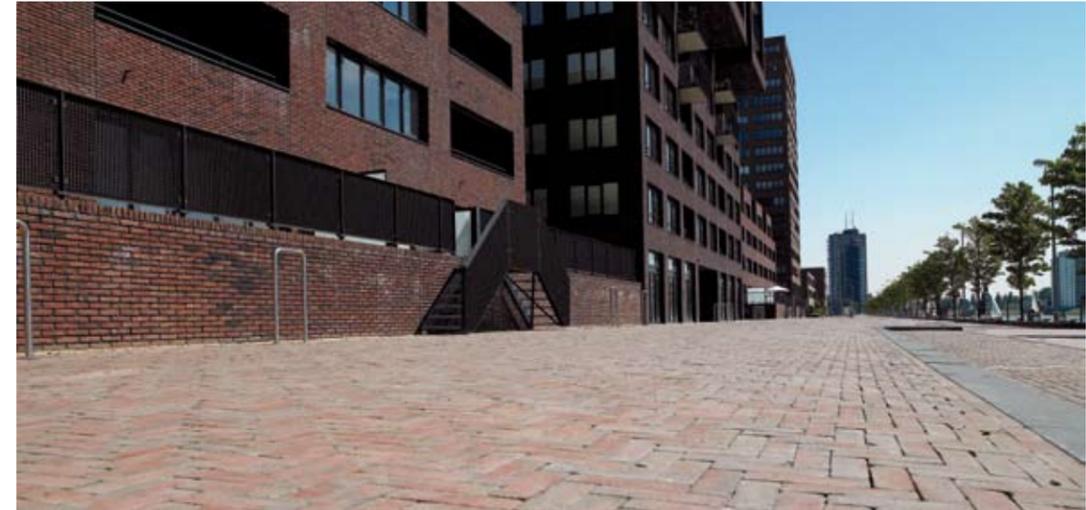


Rotterdam, Netherlands

In unison



The construction of the Müller Pier means that the Delfshaven district of Rotterdam is once again on the Maas. For decades, the residential area had been separated from the water by the industrial construction of large warehouses. The region around the Müller Pier has now become an attractive part of the city.



Together with the Lloyd Pier and the Schie Harbour, the Müller Pier was once part of the Rotterdam harbour area. Now this area has been named the Lloyd Quarter over the course of its urban regeneration.

From the Parksluis lock towards the historic Delfshaven harbour and the residential areas beyond, the harbour area outside the dyke was strictly separated, with long extended warehouses blocking the view of the river. Relocation of the harbour activities to the giant seaport left these areas free for the city.

Attractive accommodation with a harbour view

It was decided that an urban mix of residential and business activities would be created on the entire terrain, and the view over the Maas would be kept free for the entire district.

Living by the Müller Pier is indeed the most important thing; the ground floor areas were designed as commercial or

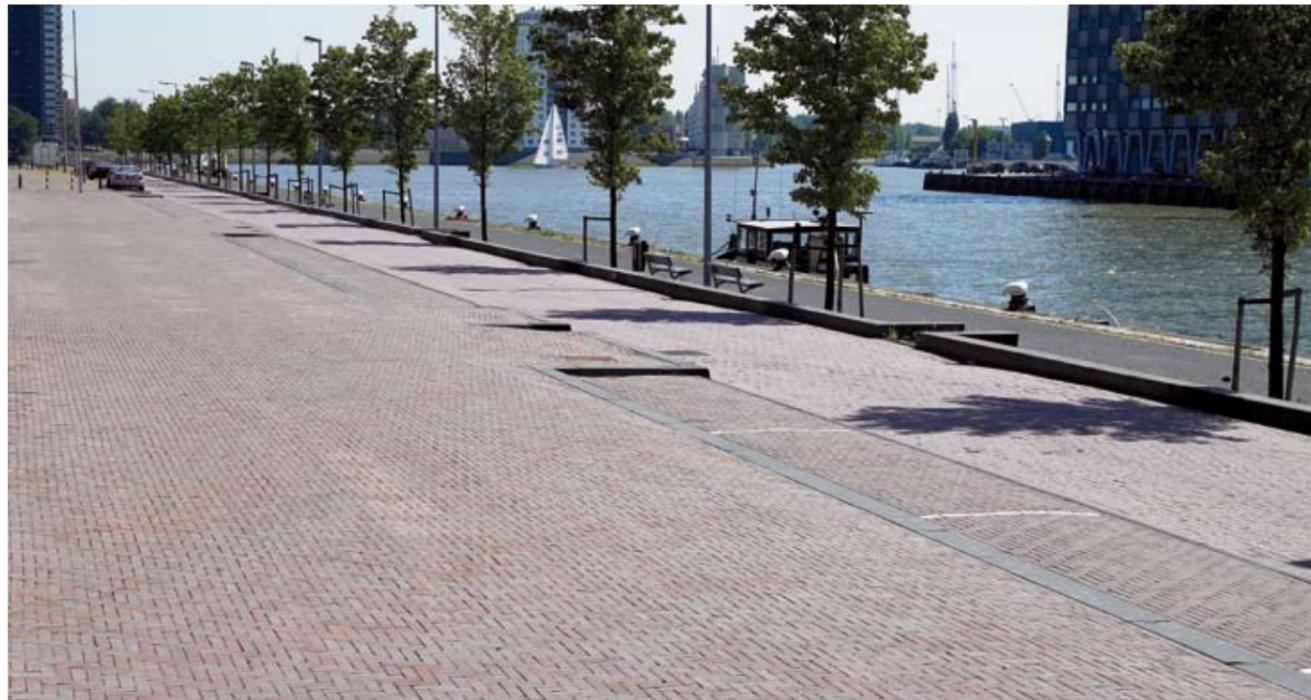


business zones, leaving all sorts of possible uses open for the future. Ria Aarnink, landscape architect with the Municipality of Rotterdam, believes that the surroundings of the Müller Pier now represent a thoroughly attractive municipal area: "The urban design was developed jointly with KCAP Architects and Planners. Putting massive residential blocks there would have given the impression reminiscent of the harbour again."

The view over the water and being able to experience it were important design elements. All the housing is aligned with it, with large windows and balconies with views over the river. Since there can be severe gales in this area, all the buildings are arranged in a way that keeps them protected from the wind, but with the relationship to the water still dominant.

Unity from the many

For the paving in the various urban areas, it was decided to use a deliberately rough and consequently uniformly paved ground. This allows the various buildings to assert themselves and the public spaces and structures accentuate one another. The non-homogenous colouration of the paver brick used here fits in with the various other types of fired materials used in the surrounding architecture, giving the entire urban space an additional high quality veneer.



Info

Müller Pier – Delfshaven, Rotterdam, Netherlands

Customer	Municipality of Rotterdam
Landscape architect	Ria Aarnink
Pavers used	Ravenna red-brown reduced
Available in	WF (± 199 x 48 x 87 mm); DF (± 199 x 65 x 87 mm); UDF (± 200 x 65 x 65 mm); KK70 (± 201 x 100 x 71 mm); KK80 (± 201 x 100 x 81 mm)



Ravenna
red-brown reduced

Hanover, Germany

Interactions



High demands are made of the technical and visual quality of the materials used for the design of streets, roads and squares. They have to be not only secure in terms of their function and continually handle high stresses, but they also have to fulfil the specific aesthetic requirements.



Ten different paver bricks from the factories at Buchwäldchen, Baalberge and Petershagen give a richness of colour and the expressiveness of fired clay.



A visual arrangement of areas with curved roadway shows off the appearance of the paving at the entrance.

Wienerberger Deutschland has implemented a successful example at its offices in Hanover, almost in its own backyard, you could say. Following plans made by the craftsman and artist Dörte Michaelis, the access and entrance area to the company's offices were redeveloped in 2003. A further requirement was that a restricted area of only about 200 m² had to provide sufficient parking spaces for visitors as well as the areas to be driven on. The various functional areas were clearly marked, and the ecological and stylistic perspectives were taken into consideration.

Technology and design

Because of their numerous technical advantages, their high stress resistance and the multiplicity of colours and sizes, TERCA pavers have always been appreciated in the creative fields of urban and rural design. Both for classical elements and new developments with genuine claims to individuality and exclusive design. The ecological aspects also play a part in paving the area: despite their very limited water absorption capacity, the paved area allows about 40 percent of the rainwater to

drain away at a joint ratio of only 10 percent. Paving bricks are the ideal material to avoid sealing a surface.

Entrance and access area

Michaelis chose a visual breakdown of the entrance and access area: parking spaces were constructed using anthracite brown multiblend "Dresden" paver bricks, subdivided by brown multiblend "Lausitz" bricks, which continued between them into the adjacent area. The access area used red multiblend "Heide" paver bricks to make a curved roadway and "Lausitz" bricks were worked into a Wienerberger flame symbol to create an interesting feature.

Annex to parking area and access

In the summer of 2006, the extension to the Wienerberger management building was dedicated and an employees' car park of 800 m² was completed, including a delivery zone in the courtyard. For the roadway areas, anthracite brown "Dresden" paver bricks were used, which matched up harmoniously with the "Dresden" clad front wall in the elegant, modern façade. An attractive contrast was created by the warm tones of



Precise harmony: "Dresden" as anthracite brown multiblend pavers and in an elegant grey as a wall cladding tile on the façade.



The parking spaces with variegated brown "Lausitz" pavers make a harmonious contrast with the road areas, which using anthracite brown multiblend "Dresden" pavers.

the parking space areas, which were designed with variegated brown "Lausitz" bricks. For the storage areas and roadway surfaces, the paver bricks were laid in a herringbone pattern. This not only created a special visual charm, but also gave better stability and load-bearing capability than for the footpath areas, which used a running pattern.

There are ten different brick squares within the long access driveway, providing a sort of small sample exhibit. The paver bricks used for these come from the factories at Buchwäldchen, Baalberge and Petershagen. They demonstrate the rich variety of colours and the expressiveness of this natural clay building material.

Info		Wienerberger Ziegelindustrie GmbH, Hannover	
Design for entrance/access area and parking spaces			
Entrance and access area		Annex to parking area and access	
Planning	Dörte Michaelis	Planning and implementation	Architektengruppe Hamann
Pavers used	Dresden, anthracite brown multiblend Heide, red multiblend Lausitz, brown multiblend	Pavers used	Roadway surfaces: Dresden, anthracite brown multiblend; Parking surfaces: Lausitz, brown multiblend Pattern squares: Alt Schwerin, red slate flamed; Colbitz, amber flamed; Dessau, autumn foliage; Dresden, anthracite brown multiblend; Fläming, red-brown flamed; Heide, red multiblend; Holstein, autumn fire; Lausitz, brown multiblend; Lüneburg, red-brown multiblend; Märkisch, yellow multiblend; Münsterland, autumn multiblend Kohlebrand; Westfalen, red multiblend Kohlebrand
Available in	NF (± 240 x 118 x 71 mm bevelled) WF (± 200 x 100 x 50/52 mm bevelled) DF (± 240 x 118 x 52 mm bevelled) WDF (± 200 x 100 x 71 mm bevelled)	Laid area	approx. 800 m ² , done in 2006
Laid area	approx. 200 m ² , completed in 2003		
Dresden anthracite brown multiblend	Heide red multiblend	Lausitz brown multiblend	

Oostmahorn, Netherlands

Renaissance of the Middle Ages



Curved and stepped gables and flooring using granite in addition to pavers give Esonstad a nostalgic feeling. The leisure part at the edge of Oostmahorn on the Lauwersmeer lake radiates the atmosphere of an old Frisian harbour town. A romantic street image arose, as a result of the right balance of façades, street widths and materials.

The construction of the Lauwersmeer dyke in the seventies left the economic growth of the northern part of Friesland in a cul de sac. For a long time, nobody dared to do anything in the area around the Lauwersmeer. That changed when Landal GreenParks merged with Geveke Project Development: the Esonstad leisure park was created and opened its doors to holidaymakers for the first time last summer.

Nostalgia in the heart of Esonstad

Oostmahorn does not have a real village centre, and so the central square of Esonstad fulfils that role. Historic-looking buildings with commercial functions are grouped all around you. The sides of the square lead to quays that let excursion boats moor right in the centre of Esonstad. There are steps up from the square to the dyke line. "A harbour basin with a boat jetty and the nostalgic ambience are just inviting you to stay longer on the water", explains Klaas Odink of Geveke Project Development.

Function and Character

"Getting the right balance between façades, the width of the streets and the choice of materials has given it an historic appearance." This "correct" balance is derived from the profile of an old-fashioned street around a canal. The main traffic artery in Esonstad is a filled-in canal with a granite road surface, with the edges lined by a drainage channel and parking spaces made of pavers. The streets that run into the main axis have a granite road surface, parking spaces made of pavers and about a metre of private space up to the façades.

The various colours of the brickwork reflect the function of the street – road, cycle path or parking spaces – producing a consistent street profile. The colours fit in with the various colours used in the façades, which is a characteristic feature of the way a Frisian harbour town would have been built in the past.



Info

Oostmahorn, Esonstad

Customer	Geveke Projektentwicklung
Contact	Klaas Odink
Pavers used	Oliva "wasserstrich" WF – dark brown reduced unsanded; Zonnebloem "wasserstrich" WF – ochre reduced unsanded; Rosa "wasserstrich" WF – red multiblend reduced unsanded
Available in	WF (± 199 x 48 x 87 mm) DF (± 199 x 65 x 87 mm)



Oliva
"wasserstrich" WF – dark brown



Zonnebloem
"wasserstrich" WF – ochre



Rosa
"wasserstrich" WF – red multiblend

Szentes, Hungary

Efficient facelift



In the Hungarian lowland plains, the hundred-year-old tradition of using tiles as paving bricks is still carried on. So pavers were used to give the town centre of Szentes (Komitat Csongrád) a new look.



In the spring of 2006, Wienerberger issued an anonymous open competition that municipalities with projects for renovation of their public spaces could apply for. Szentes, with its area of 5,500 m² needing reworking, was not actually selected as the winner, but in a certain sense all 114 participants won because they did in the end obtain the pavers needed for their renovations at a reduced price.

Márta Juhász, town architect for the city of Szentes with its 32,000 residents and creator of the design submitted for the competition, had submitted proposals (in addition to those for the paving) for a structural renovation of the total concept, including the street furniture and the plants.

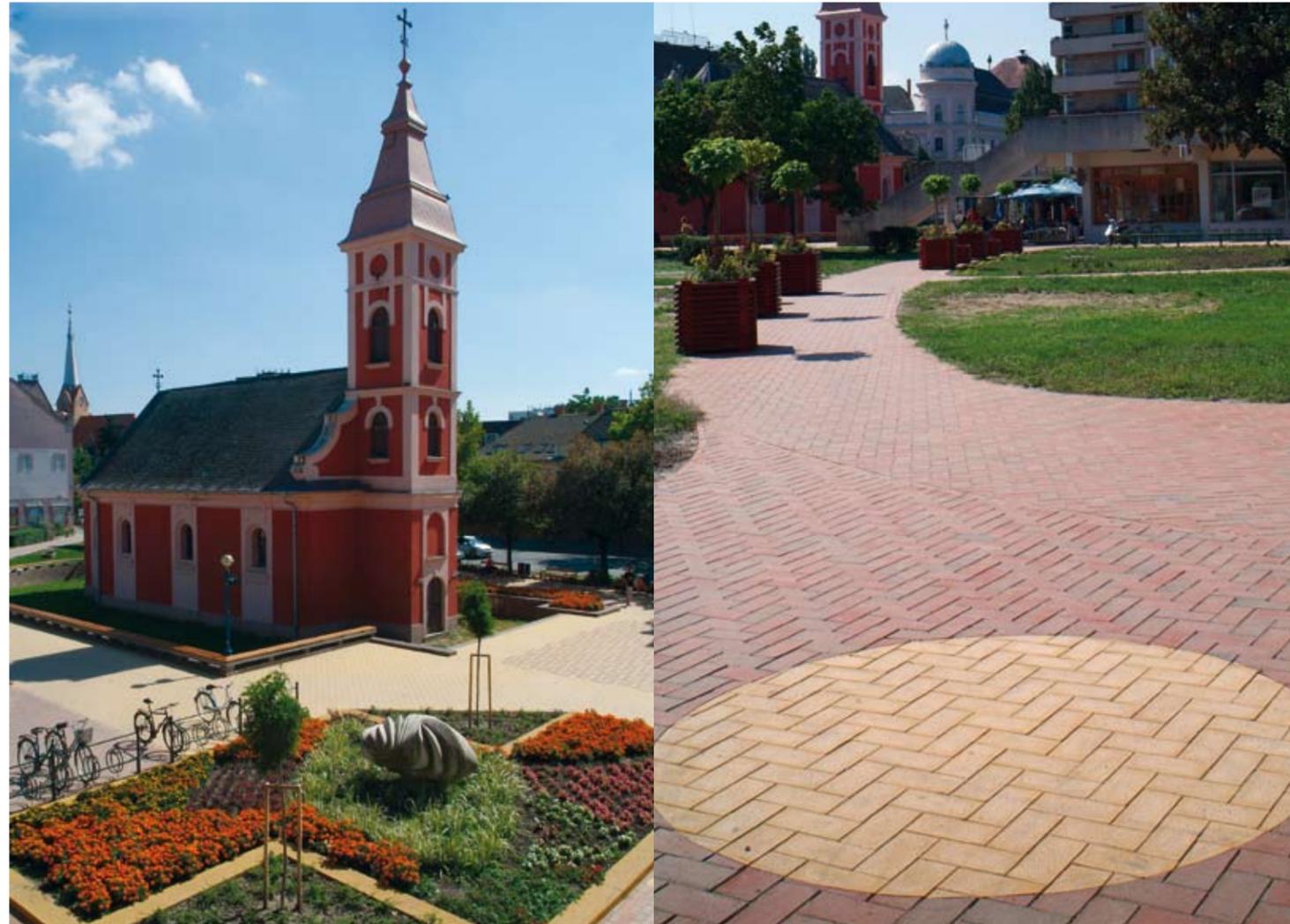
Everything new

For Juhász, who has lived and worked in Szentes for 35 years, this task was an exceptionally exciting challenge – back in the seventies, she had designed one of the houses on the main square, together with her husband at that time. This residential and business building is known popularly as the “White House”. Most of the pedestrian and bicycle traffic in the town flows around it, since the businesses, the pub and the gallery in the ground and first floor of the building attract many people.

An important element of the new design for the square was that the asphalt surface area was reduced by 10 to 15 percent. The proportion of green areas was increased and plenty of bicycle parking spaces, seats and rubbish bins were put in place. The manhole covers were replaced and a varied decorative area was designed instead of the monotonous grey asphalt.

The centre of Szentes

On St. Miklós square, down from main square, there is a listed Serbian church. A patterned area was created in front of its main entrance and stairs. The pavers used here, in the colours “Alt-Schwerin” (red slate flamed) and “Märkisch” (yellow multi-



Additional accents: colourful flowerbeds and contemporary art.

blend), were laid in a meandering pattern. The nearby Nagy Ferenc Street has been converted into a pedestrian zone. The various shades of colour and laying patterns – running, herringbone, Z-shapes – are for orientation here. The lighter areas are for the pedestrians, the darker ones are for vehicles. The public lighting in the pedestrian zone was also redone.

The work for this gentle but efficient facelift for the main square in Szentes lasted from May to August 2006. The new paving shows the town centre in a completely new light. The pavers do not merely produce an aesthetically pleasing whole: they also stand out for their long lifespan and durability.

Info	
Szentes town centre, Hungary	
Architect	Juhász Márta
Street planning	Vaist Zoltán
Pavers used	Alt Schwerin, red slate flamed Märkisch, yellow multiblend
Available in	WF (± 240 x 118 x 52 mm bevelled) NF (± 240 x 118 x 71 mm bevelled) DF (± 200 x 118 x 52 mm bevelled) WDF (± 200 x 100 x 71 mm bevelled)
Laid Area	5500 m ²
	Alt Schwerin red slate flamed
	Märkisch yellow multiblend

Enthoven Associates, Belgium

City furniture for large modern cities



“Translucent bus shelters as light signals and connection nodes throughout the entire city” – that is the idea behind this programme of urban street furniture. The customer is Clear Channel Belgium, a subsidiary of the Clear Channel Adshel Group. They were convinced by it and commissioned the design and conversion of all the street furnishings in Ghent, Belgium.

For a long time, the design factor has been neglected in the field of urban planning. Today, people know how important and significant good design and quality of furnishings are for the image and profile of a city. Enthoven Associates develop innovative ideas in urban marketing and public services. Aesthetics and organisation of street furniture are part of that. Enthoven Associates has a great deal of experience in the fields of public services, street furnishing and local traffic. The economic principle behind this is very attractive, since design, repairs, installation and maintenance are free of charge for the city. In return for this, City Advertising gets the rights to market the advertising spaces. At the end of the 15-year contract, the street furniture will be dismantled and re-used or recycled.

Design: individuality and integration

The cultural and historical background of the city’s architecture imposed the most important constraints on the development of street furnishings for the City of Ghent because its

character had to be preserved. This includes bus shelters, with or without phone boxes and illuminated information boards, free-standing wall areas for advertising, advertising pillars, benches, rubbish bins, public toilets, glass windbreaks and combinations of all these elements. Given the size of Ghent, the street furnishings have a defining influence on quite different urban and rural architectural styles. In the heterogeneous town, light and translucent simple forms with clear lines fit in well with the eclectic architecture, without detracting from its character.

Visible transparency

The street furniture has to transform a variety of functionalities into the optimum forms. The translucency of the bus shelter means that the passengers are always visible to other road users – even at night too, thanks to the best possible illumination. When it is dark, they act as light signals and provide not only the possibility of shelter in any weather, but also a certain feeling of security. Modular construction



and repeatable basic elements give a trusted appearance: the majority of the elements consist of a post and a column known as a “T.I.C. totem” (standing for Technology, Information and Communication). This is arranged so that it can include future orientation and guidance systems. City plans, traffic plans and information about delays can be accessed through the network and optimise the public information system.

From the factory to the street

The first elements were put in place in the streets of Ghent in the year 2000. All products were prefabricated in the factory and then taken in one piece by lorry to their destination points, where they were precisely positioned, fixed in place and cabled. This procedure allowed the construction time to be minimised. In just six weeks, over 400 bus and tram shelters of various shapes and sizes were installed, containing 80 information boards, 30 advertising columns, 400 rubbish bins and numerous other elements.

Encouraging

The key aspect when developing this line of products was to create a harmonious contrast between the old and the new architecture in the city of Ghent. This produced a well-rounded programme of street furniture and advertising hoardings, using aluminium as the primary material.

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Production, the Netherlands

The best “recipe” for pavers



What know-how and what techniques do you need to produce high quality tiles and bricks in the widest possible variety of colours and shapes? The process of creation from the raw clay material through to finished and fired paver bricks can be compared to an exciting and fascinating journey.

The Kijfwaard brick factory is just over the German border, to the south of Arnhem in the Netherlands. In the first instance, it produces clay pavers for the Dutch market and, to a lesser extent, for Belgian and German clients. Special commissions from countries such as Russia and Norway are gradually starting. The works recently expanded its capacity by 100 percent with the purchase of a second firing kiln and doubling the number of drying rooms. The demand for clay pavers has been increasing for years in the Dutch market, necessitating this expansion. Particularly over recent years, this natural construction material has become popular again.

The right ingredients

Manufacturing high quality clay pavers is like cooking at the highest level. Without the right ingredients, it won't work. So it is no wonder that the individual production processes make use of “recipes” that describe the composition of the mixtures of raw materials and the individual procedural steps. The clay comes from the Netherlands and from Germany and is delivered in part by inland barges. In exceptional cases, maybe to achieve a particular coloration, other natural raw ingredients may be added, such as titanium dioxide and manganese oxide.

Obtaining all the raw materials is subject to strict regulations. A production plan is thus dependent on the availability of the individual raw materials. As a consequence, clays from various deliveries are used for most of the production plans. These deliveries from various mining regions therefore vary a little in terms of their material properties. They are stored on top of one another in layers 50 cm thick. From a certain height, you dig out the quantities needed each time, going through all the layers and taking it all for preparation. This always guarantees a homogenous composition.

Good preparation is a secret recipe

During the preparation, the clay is passed on long conveyor

belts past large magnets and an electronic metal detector, so that metal items can be removed. It is then broken up coarsely in a pan grinder by grinding and kneading, after which it is finely ground in a mill. The clay for a week's production is placed in a “clay box”, a sort of storage bunker. The preparation area at the works has eight of these bunkers, so that the kilns can keep running when there are delivery problems, for example because of high water levels. The mixture is analysed chemically again here. Straight after that, the clay goes into actual production.

The raw material is then kneaded into a stodgy mass in a gigantic mixer, with steam being added if necessary. The next step is pressing it. At the Kijfwaard works, the pressing procedure makes clay pavers in various specific sizes for the Dutch market.

Know-how and computers – hand in hand

The clay is now tipped and pressed completely automatically into moulds that sand has been scattered into. The completed blanks are now pressed onto drying plates and placed in several layers on the drying trolleys. After drying, a setting machine puts the blanks on the tunnel kiln trolley. They are now ready for firing. The firing is the most important production step because it determines the colour and quality of the clay bricks (together with the raw material mixture). The firing process in the 200 m long natural gas furnaces takes about four days. The maximum temperature is about 1100 °C. During this lengthy firing phase, the bricks shrink evenly, so that they obtain their various individual, constant properties: resistance to frost, long lifespan, resistance to friction and the ability to resist dirt and chemicals such as the salt put on roads, for example. On their long way through the furnaces, the bricks are continuously monitored by computers, but traditionally acquired knowledge plays an important part. The success of all these efforts can be seen from the figures: in 2005, no less than 98.4 percent of the production was assessed as being in the highest quality category.



Ecological balance: saving energy

What about the energy consumption? The firing process takes place under optimised conditions. For example, residual heat is re-used to heat up the front part of the kilns or to warm up the items that are to be fired, after which it finally leaves the furnaces. Moreover, the heat that is released is extracted and directed to the drying area, allowing the consumption of gas to be reduced to a minimum. Further excess heat is converted into electrical power using a combined heat and power generator, producing an output of 400 kW – good for half the electrical power used in the factory. Furthermore, all the critical parts of production are able to continue if there is a power cut.

Top quality paver bricks

After firing, the contents of two tunnel kiln trolleys at a time are mixed together and either sorted onto pallets or into what are known as “Hulo” packs. Cross-mixing the bricks completely excludes any possibility of variations in colour and size and thereby improves the quality of the delivery.

After packing, the pallets are taken to a large transfer area where the lorries can come and go. This is also where the Dutch quality assurance institute, KIWA, immediately carries out whatever checks are required for the KOMO seal of approval to be granted. All paver bricks from the Kijfwaard brick works are marked with this Dutch seal of approval, and they also have the relevant quality certificates for the German and Belgian markets, BÜW and BENOR.

Right to the last ship

In some cases, the fired bricks undergo yet another final treatment. Belgian contractors, for example, favour a „drummed” (broken) surface. To give bricks a certain patina, they are

occasionally polished. Although this treatment does cost more, it is only used for special projects such as paving historic town centres, for example. Sometimes part of a batch will be glazed in a particular colour, for example to create a coloured stripe in the paver. There really are no limits to creativity when it comes to paver bricks.

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