

shaping places

#07

Ancienne Belgique Camel
Wirtz International Landscape Architects

vandemoortel-bricksandpavers.com



VANDE MOORTELT
BRICKS · SLIPS · PAVERS

UNIQUE
COLOURS & SIZES

shaping places



Dear reader,

Creating climate-resilient and sustainable outdoor spaces is - or at least it should be - a priority for all of us. Now that the debate has started, we find that it is ‘finally’ being conducted in the right way; namely, on a project-by-project basis and not about one product or one specific aspect.

It is not just one product that is going to save the world, make it more sustainable or restore groundwater. It is the specific approach to the place and its environment that counts and a combination of solutions that make an outdoor space climate-proof. Permeable surfaces are an important tool, but only one part within a broader vision.

Following the saying “lead by example”, we applied this to our own outdoor space, which not only aims to highlight our clay pavers, but also incorporates multiple functions and must withstand the test of time in a climate-proof manner. In addition to stormwater issues, biodiversity, softening and circularity were also considered.

For designers working with our products, we don’t have to explain this anymore. Witness to this were the many entries we received for our Clay Paver Awards. The last edition was not only a success, but also a true celebration. Of course, all credit goes to the designers, but as a manufacturer, we are proud of our contribution.

Peter Vande Moortel



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Wirtz International Landscape Architects



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Tuin- & Landschapsarchitectuur Willems – Verdult (T&L WV)





At the beginning of 2020, Brickworks Vande Moortel moved into a brand new, multifunctional building along the Scheldt in Oudenaarde. With this unique building comes an equally important outside space which comprises four main functions: a permanently accessible display park, a route guiding visitors to the entrance, adequate parking and the busy access road leading to and from the storage area at the rear.

Welcome to the climate-proof outside space at Brickworks Vande Moortel

THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURE IN HARMONY WITH EACH OTHER

Commercial building and outside space form a single harmonious whole where the strict rhythm of the building volume is reflected in the outdoor environment. The glazed sections are replaced by lawns and a variety of colourful and playful plants which gently break up and soften the motif. The straight lines then continue into the numerous parking areas provided adjacent to the building.

Low red beech hedges planted in long rows clearly define the various zones that make up the outside space and accentuate the desired rhythm. The plentiful greenery is combined with the warm brown and yellow tints of the clay pavers, creating a pleasant and tranquil whole.

LEADING BY EXAMPLE WITH A CLIMATE-PROOF DESIGN

The outside space also excels in terms of its climate-proof design, with various ecological features such as water-permeable surfaces, rainwater buffering in wadis, softening with plentiful greenery and biodiversity and the use of circular materials.

Client: Brickworks Vande Moortel

Landscape architect: Wirtz International Landscape Architects

Architect: TARCH

Photos: © Cafeïne - Marc Scheepers - Vande Moortel



H₂O
**NATURAL
CLAY PAVING**

WATER-PERMEABLE PAVING THANKS TO H₂O NATURAL CLAY PAVING

The H₂O Natural Clay Paving concept guarantees water-permeable paving. When used in conjunction with the correct joint filler H₂O Natural Paving Sand, this is a smart way of letting water infiltrate into the ground. The use of H₂O Natural Clay Paving also provides excellent acoustic comfort and a 100 per cent natural appearance.

H₂O Natural Clay Paving fits in with Brickworks Vande Moortel's overall vision on the issue of water infiltration as part of the solution. In order to achieve a "climate-/future-proof" result, Vande Moortel has therefore used other provisions too.





“The rhythm of the façade with its chequer-board motif is reflected in the show park via a mosaic of lawns and greenery.”

ATTENUATION OF RAINWATER

In the outside space, it becomes clear what this hybrid approach to water infiltration looks like in practice. Where infiltration of rainwater is not desirable or possible, the best solution is for rainwater and surface water to run off via paving into wadis. Besides serving as wadis, they can also be used as buffers for collecting water such as e.g. rain gardens and water plazas.

In this outside space where various types of paving construction have been experimented with, there are also certain zones where direct infiltration is not possible. Here, the water is collected and runs off into a wadi where it can then gradually infiltrate into the ground. As a result of this combination with water-permeable paving and softened surfaces, every raindrop ends up in the ground rather than in the sewer system.



“Thanks to water-permeable paving and softened surface every raindrop ends up in the ground.”



SOFTENING WITH PLENTIFUL GREENERY AND AN EYE FOR BIODIVERSITY

The rhythm of the façade with its chequerboard motif is reflected in the show park via a mosaic of lawns and greenery. Consequently, no less than half of this total area consists of unpaved ground. This means that the rainwater has more than enough space to infiltrate into the subsoil.

The planting in these zones significantly enhances the quality of the surroundings. Visitors and personnel experience the added value of this approach both visually and in terms of use.

The parking areas were planted with a combination of planes and tall red beech trees which have grown to form a green roof over the whole area, providing the shade and natural cooling required. Low red beech hedges were planted in long rows to clearly define the various zones and keep up the rhythm. All in all, this vegetation ensures immense biodiversity that was not present at the site before.

The transition from industrial site paved with concrete to modern functional space that shows respect for nature and climate fits in perfectly with the Flemish government’s ‘Green Deal Companies and Biodiversity’.





CIRCULAR APPROACH

The H₂O Natural Paving concept consists of 100 per cent natural materials with a very long lifespan combined with an unbound paving construction. This results in a circular paving concept and also, our clay pavers are 90% reusable when the paved surface is broken up or relaid.

A circular principle was also applied to the parking areas, where milled clay pavers were laid on top of a water-permeable construction: a circular application for clay pavers which can no longer be reused as such. Therefore in principle, a clay paver never needs to end up as construction waste.

“Our clay pavers are 90% reusable when the paved surface is broken up or relaid.”





Spaarndammerhart in Amsterdam honours past tradition and unites architecture, art and nature



At the beginning of the twentieth century, Spaarndammerbuurt consisted of characteristic urban ensembles from the Amsterdam School period. The neighbourhood is still largely intact but over time it has picked up scars here and there which are slowly healing. The housing complex on the site of the former Spaarndammerschool designed by korthtielens architecten in collaboration with Marcel_Lok Architect is an example of this. The new building is based on the richness of the Amsterdam School tradition which unites architecture, art and nature.

At the heart of the development is the communal green courtyard that is appropriately accessible via gateways leading to the informal routes in the neighbourhood. There are communal gardens in which the existing large trees have been regrouped, creating a vast green outlook for both the residents of the new building and those living in the existing adjoining properties. The project is in line with the pioneering Rainproof policy of the municipality of Amsterdam. Green roofs collect rainwater and there is as little paving as possible within public areas. In the event of heat stress, the abundant greenery and the robust façades cool everything down. The planting has been chosen to provide food for the urban animals to be expected such as small songbirds, bats and insects. In the upstanding eaves and façades, there are nesting boxes for small birds, swifts and bats.

‘DE OUDE WEG NAAR DE NIEUWE TIJD’

Martijn Sandberg designed an integrated artwork for the gateways and the paving for the Spaarndammerhart new build project in Spaarndammerbuurt, Amsterdam. Walking through the gateways on ‘De Oude Weg Naar De Nieuwe Tijd’ (The Old Path To The New Time), a figuration appears before our eyes – like in a vision. In the constantly changing play of light and shadow, brick letters become visible on the wall, the vaulted ceiling and the ground.

It is a figuration consisting of four letters and four numbers – with a different combination of numbers in each gateway – that gives us the access code to a journey through time: ‘Anno 2020’, ‘Anno 1917’ and ‘Anno 3025’. Via the gateways leading to the courtyard, we discover step by step, brick by brick, letter by letter ‘De Oude Weg Naar De Nieuwe Tijd, De Nieuwe Weg Naar De Oude Tijd’ (The Old Path To The New Time, The New Path To The Old Time).

The aim was to develop an artwork that reflected the historical context of the location in which characteristic features of the image carrier also formed part of the design. To design an image where the visual language – ‘the language of the image’ – was directly related to its image carrier and the surrounding urban environment.



Ecological Brick7 size:



30% reduction of CO₂ emission



Optimised price-quality ratio



Can be processed using traditional techniques



The same quality and lifespan as a conventional format



More efficient transport



Fewer raw materials used for production



Lower energy consumption during production



Client: Heijmans Vastgoed
Architects: korthtielens architecten en Marcel Lok_Architect
Visual artist: Martijn Sandberg
Landscape architect: DS Landschapsarchitecten

Construction: De Koninklijke Ginkel Groep
Clay pavers: SeptimA Vanilla WF en SeptimA Titaan WF
Photos: © Peter Cuypers



“The yellow of the Wasserstrich SeptimA Vanilla clay pavers as the dominant colour gives the whole installation a feeling of freshness and light, while the dark grey SeptimA Titaan creates contrast and forms the graphical aspect.”



The artwork on the ground starts on the street side at the foot of the gate and extends like a carpet under the vaulted arch through to the courtyard for the development. The writing is applied directly to the skin of the architecture like a tattoo: in brick relief in the three gateways, in a contrasting combination of two colours in the brick paving under the arches and in the courtyard, as house numbers in both façades on the street side and in the courtyard. The yellow of the Wasserstrich SeptimA Vanilla clay pavers as the dominant colour gives the whole installation a feeling of freshness and light, while the dark grey SeptimA Titaan creates contrast and forms the graphical aspect.










Martijn Sandberg: “‘You’ll never walk alone,’ that’s the feeling I get in the Spaarndammerbuurt neighbourhood. Walking past the Amsterdam School architecture is like a journey through time. My first idea – and they are often the best – for this project came to me while I was walking through the neighbourhood thinking about it in 2016: a text as a brick relief in the masonry of the arches and created underfoot using clay pavers.

There are a lot of underpasses in the neighbourhood, I see them as a transition, a portal leading from one place to another. In these gateways, I wanted bricks – the ‘pixels’ of this particular architectural style – to do the talking, in the form of a phrase that could be read from left to right as well as from right to left. And – just like a gateway – there is no beginning or end. It totally depends which side of the gateway you are standing on.

The design has three gateways and in each one, I captured the time with the word ‘anno’. What would happen if you wrote ‘anno 1917’ on a new building?, I wondered. Or ‘3025’? A year so far in the future clashes with the imagination, while ‘2020’ on the other hand creates an awareness of the present.

The construction of the Spaarndammerhart project took two years. The brickwork for the three archways and the laying of the pavers on the ground was a whole process in itself. Local residents even started dropping by during construction. I also made regular visits myself to check on the work. The postman also came to have a look, even when there were no residents there to deliver to. I heard him muttering to himself: “Well, it fits in perfectly with this neighbourhood.” So the work came to life even before it was completed.”

See below the ecological benefit we get from this project by using the **ecological Brick7 size**:

	TRADITIONAL WAAL FORMAT	ECOLOGICAL WAAL FORMAT 	ECOLOGICAL ADVANTAGE
RAW MATERIALS 	236 tonnes	162 tonnes	74 tonnes of clay 
ENERGY CONSUMPTION 	1,7 days	0,9 days	0,8 production days 
TRANSPORT 	8 full loads	7 full loads	1 full load of bricks 
ADVANTAGE 			 7 average garden projects

VANDE MOORTEL Clay Paver Awards 2020 2021

REWARDING SUSTAINABLE PLACES SHAPED WITH CLAY PAVERS

The Vande Moortel Clay Paver Awards promote and support unique designs using Clay Pavers. Schemes that meet today’s challenges like sustainability, accessibility, cost/efficiency and many more.

It is our strong belief that because of their characteristics our clay pavers belong in these high demanding spaces. As a result we want to promote the ones containing our products and reward the designers and architects responsible.



On Friday 29 April 2022, brickworks Vande Moortel announced the winners of the Clay Paver Awards for the 3rd time. Unlike the previous edition, which for obvious reasons had to take place online, all the participants come together in Oudenaarde to attend the awards ceremony.



MORE THAN
100 PARTICIPANTS

‘THE WALL OF FAME’ - CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE WINNERS!



WATCH THE AFTERMOVIE

CITY GARDENS



Project: **Lockdown garden (UK)**
Design: **Jenny Bloom Garden Design**



Project: **Chelsea town house (UK)**
Design: **Butter Wakefield Garden Design Ltd.**



Project: **'Verloren kost' (Ghent, Belgium)**
Design: **Gilles Pieters Landschap- en tuinarchitectuur**

MEDIUM & LARGE RESIDENTIAL GARDENS



Project: **Peartree House (UK)**
Design: **Ian Stubbs Design Associates Ltd.**



Project: **Esher outdoor living garden (UK)**
Design: **Garden Club London**



Project: **Private residence Hale (UK)**
Design: **Natural Dimensions**

COMMERCIAL & COMMUNAL GARDENS



Project: **Eddington Key Worker Housing (UK)**
Design: **Stanton Williams Architects**



Project: **Locke Hyatt Centric Hotel Cambridge (UK)**
Design: **Robert Myers Associates**



Project: **Kents Hill Business Park (UK)**
Design: **McWilliam Studio**

PUBLIC SPACE



Project: **Hobsons Square Cambridge (UK)**
Design: **PLACE Design + Planning Ltd.**



Project: **Luma Arles (France)**
Design: **Bureau Bas Smets**



Project: **Domplein (Utrecht, The Netherlands)**
Design: **Gemeente Utrecht**



Oasis of green and sustainable paving in Ghent city centre



DISCOVER THE
CASE STUDY

'De Verloren Kost' is a society for creative minds looking for an inspiring working environment in an authentic setting in Ghent city centre.

When it came to designing the outside space, garden designer Gilles Pieters was given carte blanche apart from the sole requirement that the finished garden had to exude a certain maturity and look as if it had been there for 100 years.

"Camel clay pavers exude the desired authenticity and sublimely link the different levels in the garden."

Project: 'De Verloren Kost' - Ghent (Belgium)

Garden designer: Gilles Pieters

Garden contractor: Vermandele

Clay pavers: Ancienne Belgique Camel

Processing: flat full-brick bond

Gilles Pieters: "The site itself and the future use of the site were the main parameters when developing the design. For instance, the relationship with the basement had to be worked out and thought had to be given to the semi-public use of the outside space by co-workers on workdays, parallel to the private aspect of the garden and the terraces for residents.

The importance of the history of the site also featured in the design of this green oasis. The enclosed garden covering an area of approximately 300 m² is adjacent to an old coach house which also forms the rear façade. The authentic Ancienne Belgique Camel clay pavers seamlessly link the new and old architectural designs.

The pavers start from the basement and flow via the terrace to merge into the steps, retaining walls and pond that make the visual connection with the brick wall of the coach house. The sleek full-brick bond of the clay pavers blends beautifully with the lush playful planting. The clay pavers were laid in the same pattern as the floor indoors, reinforcing the sense of uniformity and drawing you into the garden, as it were, when the sliding door is open."

The city of Ghent has gained a unique gem of a garden and as the manufacturer, we are justifiably proud to have been able to play our part in this project.

#ShapingPlaces



Carpet of clay pavers breathes new life into Brakel town centre

Until recently, traffic infrastructure dominated the centre of Brakel. On one side of the church was a busy street and on the other side, a large asphalted car park. The result: conflict between the traffic function and the residential function in a town centre full of shops, schools and eateries. A wide variety of street furniture, materials, obstacles and ad hoc solutions only led to further fragmentation of the limited space.

The construction of a bypass that would relieve the street in the centre of through traffic provided the perfect opportunity to create a new traffic-calmed and attractive centre.

An attractive carpet of clay pavers has created space for spending time, meeting friends and playing. Pleasant terraces, seating areas and playful water features around the church have breathed new life into the town centre.

The clay pavers stretch from façade to façade so that the whole presents itself as one large square. Subtle variations in laying patterns are used to delineate different zones and flows. For instance, the clay pavers have been laid in a distinctive pattern around the church so that it occupies a central position within the area. The edges of the square are outlined with simple posts which define a terrace zone.



A water feature with fountains around the church serves as a spirit level, highlighting the height difference between the town centre street on the crest of the hill and the river valley. On the street side, this becomes a body of water at pavement level which reflects the church and is accessible for children to play in. Together with Oude Lindeboom, the monument to the town’s war veterans and a number of benches, this creates a unique space.










The choice of clay pavers enhances the town, giving it a warm and spacious feel, and makes it clear that the residential function takes precedence over the traffic function. The material fits in perfectly with the brick façades in a variety of colours. The natural colour variation of the clay pavers breaks up the scale and softens the view. The choice of street furniture and detail design was also intended to create a human scale and a homely atmosphere.


The carpet of clay pavers is subtly interrupted by linear elements such as coping stones, edging, flush kerbs and benches. At the same time, these lines follow the various traffic flows and delineate the individual paved areas. All these lines were designed in concrete in the colour of bluestone (dark grey) in order to create a uniform look.

“Functional area full of terraces, seating areas and playful water features.”

Various meeting places were created in the Markt, each including a number of benches combined with a planted area, trees and bicycle parking facilities. The positions chosen mark the most important functions around the Markt such as the town hall, the library and the bus stop. On the other hand, these areas break up the uniform whole and in each case, the trees serve as markers which are visible from the adjacent streets. The ‘green’ of the Square is clearly visible from a distance.



	TRADITIONAL WAAL FORMAT	ECOLOGICAL WAAL FORMAT 	ECOLOGICAL ADVANTAGE
RAW MATERIALS 	520 tonnes	376 tonnes	144 tonnes of clay 
ENERGY CONSUMPTION 	3,7 days	2,2 days	1,5 production days 
TRANSPORT 	17 full loads	15 full loads	2 full loads of bricks 
ADVANTAGE 			 15 average garden projects

Architect: BRUT architecture and urban design
in partnership with ARA Atelier Ruimtelijk Advies 
Clay paver: SeptimA Amarant, SeptimA Sepia and SeptimA Vanilla
Processing: herringbone bond (pavements, mix of Amarant and Auburn), elbow bond (roadway, mix of Amarant and Auburn) and nuanced block bond (zone around the church, mix of Amarant, Auburn and Vanilla)
Photos: © Steven Neyrinck





Client: Broeders Abdij der Trappisten van Westmalle (Br. Nathanaël – Vader Abt)
Landscaper: Ludo Willems
Garden contractor: Tuin- & Landschapsarchitectuur Willems – Verdult (T&L WV)
Clay paver: SeptimA Ebony
Processing: stretcher bond, Jointex – basalt

SeptimA clay pavers lead the way through the garden at Westmalle Abbey

A GREAT STORY

Garden architect Ludo Willems was asked to create a design for the Trappist Abbey in Westmalle for the renovation of the 'Pandhof' (courtyard garden), the green heart within the walls of the monastery. It is a unique project with its own micro-climate, being completely surrounded by the walls of the monastery. The challenge lay in reflecting the sober unique life of the Brothers in this special monastery garden. Indigenous planting with a natural and not 'cultivated', low-maintenance and frugal 'Campine' character was the most important cornerstone. The plans for the garden design were coordinated with architects Paul van Aerschot and Erik Van Herck in order to maintain cohesion with the architecture. The reconstruction also ties in with the major renovations carried out in recent years, with the aim of valorising the Abbey and giving it a new 'cachet'.

SYMBIOSIS BETWEEN CLAY PAVERS AND A GREEN OASIS

The mindset of T&L WV encompasses a close affiliation with nature but also with spirituality. The natural appearance, the durability and also the quality of fired clay pavers contribute towards the look of the whole renovation project. Each clay paver has its own unique character. They are also environmentally-friendly. Clay pavers lend themselves wonderfully to the fact that when the joints are washed in, maintenance is kept to a minimum, eliminating the use of sprays. The tumbled clay paver chosen – 'SeptimA Ebony' – has a dark tint with subtle shading, with an earthy undertone as its trump card. Once again, the emphasis is on sobriety. The curved outlines of the paths soften the overall look and create the tranquillity required. The combination with all the surrounding durable materials results in a harmonious whole.

GREAT BRANDS THINK ALIKE

Quality

The unique clay pavers and facing bricks from Vande Moortel have exceptional quality characteristics and an extremely long lifespan. They have been used to create award-winning projects by leading designers worldwide. As one of the Trappist abbeys, Westmalle has been loved around the world for decades. The combination of tradition and state-of-the-art brewing techniques guarantees exceptionally high quality results for beer lovers to enjoy.

Authenticity

Pure authenticity is created by upholding traditions in both the manufacture of facing bricks and clay pavers as well as the brewing of beer.

Natural raw materials

There is one secret about Westmalle and Vande Moortel that we can reveal: both brands only work with natural, durable, high-quality raw materials.



DISCOVER THE CASE STUDY



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VANDE MOORTEL

Clay Paver Awards 2020 2021

Thanks to all participants for sharing their inspiring projects!



REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR THE 2022 - 2023 EDITION!

A permanent concept store



DISCOVER THE STORY



© Cafeine

Brickworks Vande Moortel has grown to become a major player in the facing brick market and is the market leader in clay pavers.

At the beginning of 2020, the company moved into a brand new building that also embodies and supports its position within the market.

This multifunctional building which serves visitors and users is located on the bank of the Scheldt, against the background of the Oudenaarde city skyline. This location reflects the whole backstory of our family-run business.

BRICKWORKS VANDE MOORTEL | Scheldekant 5 | BE-9700 OUDENAARDE

T +32 (0)55 33 55 66 | info@vandemoortel.com | www.vandemoortel-bricksandpavers.com



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Design: Eli Lammertyn / Editor: Filip Melis / Contact: news@vandemoortel.be