



Mixed pavers

Client: Birmingham Library

Architect: Mecanoo

Products: Dragfaced Chamfered Blue and Multi Brindled pavers, Essen Red and Hannover Buff Brindled pavers

Project Type: Public



A reflection of history
in a scheme which
transformed the square

Birmingham Library

From the moment that it was unveiled in September 2013, the unique architectural design of Birmingham's city centre library has captured the imagination of the British public

The scheme utilises clay pavers, which has transformed Centenary Square, the largest public square in the heart of Birmingham.

The design has co-ordinated the square into three distinct realms: monumental, cultural and entertainment. These palazzos illustrate important periods in the history of the city, this is also articulated in the façade of overlapping aluminum rings on the building, which reflects the artisan tradition of the jeweller within Birmingham.

The pavers themselves, chosen for their striking colours, are in keeping with both the surrounding paved area and the building's aesthetic, and are 200mm x 100mm x 62mm Dragfaced Chamfered Blue and Multi Brindled pavers, Essen Red and the Hannover Buff Brindled paver. This combination was used to create the 'red line' to lead pedestrians into

Centenary Square. The use of clay to create this pattern means that the distinct colour will be retained for the life span of the paver and like other natural products the clay's colour will even be more vibrant when wet.

The paving has been flexibly laid using traditional methods in a variety of bonds, including stretcher and herringbone. Within the solidity of the overall structure, the effect is to give the impression of one space flowing into the next; contrasting the hustle and bustle of the outside streets with the serenity of the study spaces that overlook the surrounding paved area.

Wienerberger Ltd

Wienerberger House
Brooks Drive
Cheadle Royal Business Park
Cheadle, Cheshire
SK8 3SA

T 0161 491 8200
F 0161 491 6529

office@wienerberger.co.uk
www.wienerberger.co.uk