THE WARREN, BRISTOL

Case Study

PRODUCTS:
PAVING, COPINGS & STEPS

CLIENT:
SIMON KIDDE AND MEG JOYCE

CONTRACTOR:
SEER CONSTRUCTION

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT:
RECKLESS ORCHARD
Forest of Dean Pennant sandstone was used in the construction of an eco-home in Abbots Leigh, Bristol, designed and built to emulate the international Passivhaus standard.

**QUEST FOR CARBON REDUCTION**

The construction of The Warren was subject to a strict environmental specification; homeowners, Simon Kiddle and Meg Joyce wanted their home to use minimal energy in their quest to become carbon neutral.

Under this criterion the hard landscaping materials had to meet the rigorous environmental attributes of the building while also complementing its architecture. Simon and Meg requested that a local stone be used to create the patio and pathways as well as coping for dry stone walling and steps leading up to the lawn.

**BUILDING A FAMILY HOME**

Landscape architect Reckless Orchard, was tasked with designing an outdoor space that allowed the inside to flow out, maximising the full-height glazed doors running the length of the single storey living space.

A key part of the brief was the distinction of social, play and self-sufficiency areas… “…and we needed an environment that would work for us as a family,” said home owner, Simon Kiddle. “When you have the opportunity to create your own space you realise how important it is that you get it right. The landscape architect incorporated elements that worked for us as individuals and as a family; the lawn area for the children, giving them the space and freedom to play, and a vegetable patch, allowing us to meet our environmental and self-sufficiency objectives.”

**TRULY GREEN PAVING**

Reckless Orchard supplied samples of Forest of Dean Pennant sandstone to the homeowners. The winning factor in the specification of the sandstone was its high-ranking environmental credentials. The Pennant sandstone is processed using energy produced by an onsite micro-hydro turbine and is PAS2050 certified, making it one of the lowest carbon rated natural stone products on the market.

Managing director of Forest of Dean Stone Firms, Nick Horton said: “We took the decision to process our paving using green energy so that we could be the product of choice for those wishing to make a difference to the environment, and subsequently their lifestyles. Simon and Meg are testament to how we could and should be building and living in the future, a few simple changes in the specification of products can make a real difference!”
STAND OUT SENSORY FEATURES

The Pennant sandstone brings cohesion to the scheme; between the stark lines of the building and the natural form of the garden and the woodland beyond. Stand out features include a sensory water feature created from coping stones running adjacent to a granite-inlaid rill atop random walling. The dimensions and tone of the copings, steps and paving stones complement the weathered sleepers which form the vegetable beds and delineate the flower-filled borders.