



Case Study 47

Mandurah Ocean Marina

Mandurah WA

**Representing Australia's clay
brick and paver manufacturers**

Think Brick Australia
PO Box 751, Willoughby NSW 2068
(1/156 Mowbray Road, Willoughby)
Tel (02) 8962 9500 Fax (02) 9958 5941
info@thinkbrick.com.au
www.thinkbrick.com.au

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ABN 30 003 873 309



Client: Landcorp

Landscape design: Plan E

Engineering: Cossill & Webley; TABEC

Pavement construction: A Class Pavers



Mandurah Ocean Marina Mandurah WA

It wasn't that long ago that Mandurah was a sleepy little fishing village, popular with retirees and holidaying families. The region has great waterways and is a haven for water-based activities but its gateway – the entrance to the Peel Inlet – was degraded, unattractive and under-used.

Enter Landcorp, Western Australia's state land development agency, which saw the potential of this fine location just 72 km south of Perth. The project's hub is a large marina, at the mouth of the Peel Inlet where it meets the Indian Ocean. Around this are gathered a resort, residential and commercial properties including cafes and restaurants, boardwalks and promenades, public open space, an enlarged commercial fishing jetty and a sailing club.

Plan E was contracted to provide landscape architectural services to the entire project, including the South Harbour profiled here. "We played a key role in determining hard and soft landscape treatments," explains Plan E's John Tuzee. One of the first considerations was to raise the level of some low-lying areas by up to one metre to accommodate storm events.

Clay pavers feature prominently throughout the South Harbour. "Our palette of colours was essentially grey and red. We used a lot of in situ concrete and then used red pavers as feature highlights." Typical of this are recurring



(This page) The marina redevelopment has turned the sleepy village into an attractive recreation destination. Clay pavers are laid in patterned squares set in mass concrete and also feature in promenades and congregation areas.

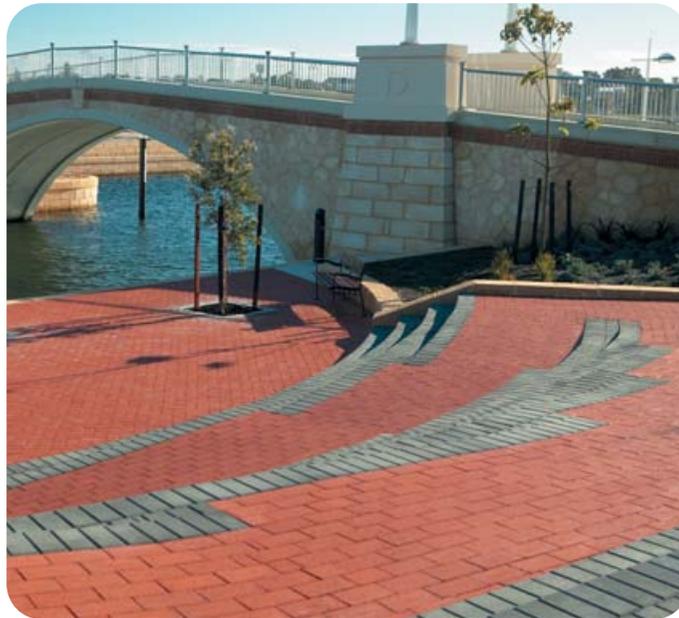
“The pavers have held up well despite the severe marine environment”

squares of red pavers set in concrete. “We have also introduced clay pavers into the focal areas, for example in seating areas and congregation spaces.”

The red pavers also pick up on the red brick character of Mandurah and tie in with the Venetian feel of the South Harbour’s waterway development. The pavers are laid on a compacted sand base, with narrow, sand-filled gaps. “The pavers have held up well despite the severe marine environment,” says John Tuzee.

The windy, exposed location also demands hardy, salt-tolerant trees and vegetation. Some of the original Norfolk Island pines (*araucaria heterophylla*) were retained, complemented with sheoaks (*allocasuarina fraseriana*) and WA peppermints (*agonis flexuosa*).

“By and large the local reception to the development has been extremely positive,” John Tuzee concludes. Doubtless the improved local amenities and skyrocketing land values will assist in this acceptance.



(This page) The palette of red (pavers) and grey (in situ concrete) is used in various blends across the development. The saline, wind-swept environment is tough on vegetation and materials but the clay pavers are showing no signs of distress.

Photography by Robert Frith,
Acorn Photo Agency

Links

www.mandurahoceanmarina.com.au

