

WE SHAPE THE URBAN LANDSCAPE
FOREWORD

Architecture – indeed building in general – means creating something that will endure for decades, prove its worth over time and eventually become such an integral part of the urban landscape that it's as if it has been there forever. We firmly believe no natural product is more versatile, or better lends itself to creating exactly this kind of architecture than brick. It is expressive, preserves value and is full of vitality and natural charm. It gives a unique character to buildings – and even to entire cityscapes. It's as individual as the builders, occupants or users themselves. Brick is expressive, it adds refinement, it creates context.

We have been creating and refining bricks since 1888. It's our life's work, our passion, our heart and soul. What makes us different is our precise, individual planning services, the intensive advice and support we offer and our years of experience in making outstanding bricks. We work with you to develop extraordinary, contemporary solutions. We use our initiative and think ahead. Your project is our project.

That's who we are and that's what we do. And that's what we want our new newsletter to reflect. We aim to offer you some fascinating insights into the latest developments at Deppe, showcase some of the best ways of working with brick and inspire you to engage with brick as an architectural material.

We hope you enjoy this first edition!

Dr. Dirk Deppe

Bernd Deppe



NATURALLY NORTH GERMAN
THE NEW BREMER LANDESBANK BUILDING

Eschewing the gridded facades that dominate the modern urban environment, Bremen's historic city centre has recently been graced with a new, modern bank building for Bremer Landesbank. Its brick facade makes a powerful statement whilst forging a clear link to the Hanseatic architectural tradition. For the richly varied facade, which features a broad variety of curves, vertical and horizontal lines, columns and cornices, we developed and manufactured a custom brick including 65 different special shapes. Designing the individual brick shapes so that they came together to give a uniform wave shape required outstanding craftsmanship. Ensuring that the bricks precisely met the exacting requirements placed on them meant actively engaging with the architectural idea and close collaboration with the architects, Caruso St. John. The hand-finished contours of the facade produce a depth and three-dimensionality which projects light, shadow and enormous vitality. "We were driven by the idea of producing exactly this result," explains Dirk Deppe. "The development and manufacturing process was an extraordinary experience, a challenge met with aplomb by all involved."

Project information

- Completion**
July 2016
- Total construction cost**
€50.5 million
- Floor area**
Gross floor area 23,271 m²
- Client**
Bremer Landesbank
- Architecture**
Caruso St. John Architects, London
- Material**
Deppe BLB with 65 different special shapes
- Photographs**
Ulrich Hoppe



BRICKWORK AS ORNAMENTATION
CARUSO ST. JOHN

Marco Caviezel is an architect from the Zurich offices of architects Caruso St. John. He was Project Manager for the new Bremer Landesbank building. Caruso St. John is known for a number of prestigious museum and art gallery projects, including the New Art Gallery Walsall and Newport Street Gallery in London. The firm develops ideas in dialogue with the evolved environment, resisting sensationalist abstractions. We spoke to Marco Caviezel about the new bank HQ.

What's the basic idea behind the design?

Within the context of the existing buildings that make up Bremen's historic city centre, we were keen that the bank should be restrained, but nonetheless, be enrobed in vestments of the very finest quality. The public interior spaces and the way the interior structures are organised are a further means for the bank to project its self-image.

What is distinctive about this facade?

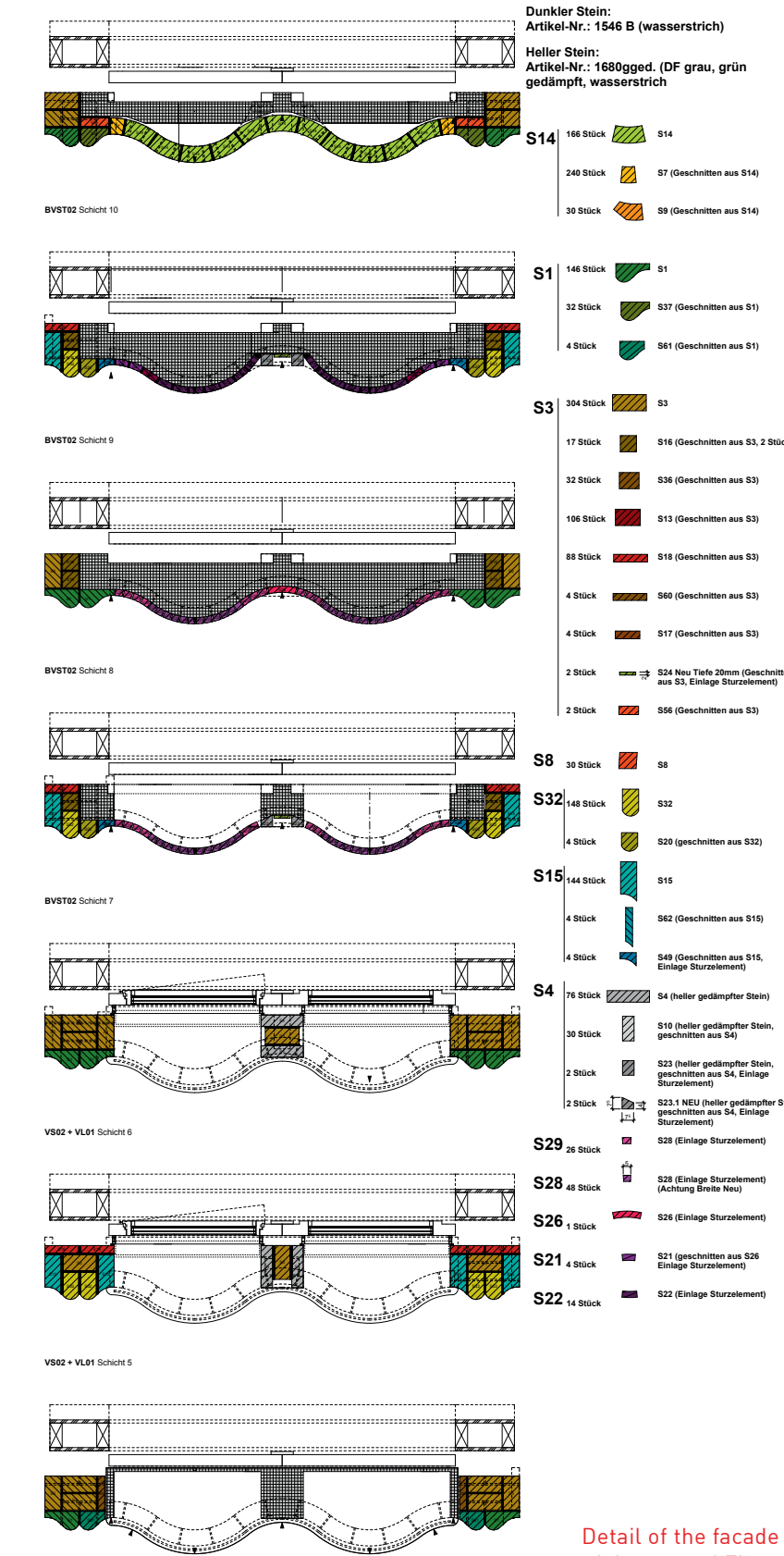
Dark brown, hard clinker brick has been organised into pillars and ornamental, plastic friezes so that the building looks as if it is wearing a thick skin of brickwork. Set in the grid created by the brick facade, the entrance to the public foyer and the staff entrance are marked out by highly expressive portals.

What historical references does the facade draw on?

The brick facade draws on 1920s North German brick expressionism, a movement centred on major cities like Hamburg, Hanover and Bremen..

Why did you choose Deppe brick?

Finding the right brick was a lengthy process. Deppe were able to perfectly reproduce the colour variation we were looking for without the use of an additional engobe. We were also very impressed with the craftsmanship of the waterstruck bricks, and ultimately, of course, being up to the task of technical implementation of all the different special shapes was crucial.



Detail of the facade of the second floor



DEPPE BACKSTEIN DIE ZIEGELMANUFAKTUR

We have been developing and manufacturing bricks in a wide variety of formats and designs since 1888. For us, team spirit, responsibility and customer satisfaction are of the highest priority. With our 60-strong team, we support architects, planners and builders at all stages of the building process, from start to finish. What makes us stand out is individual advice, innovative ideas, custom production runs and reliable logistics. With flexibility and exacting quality standards, we help you realise even the most unusual designs. We love a challenge, so contact us today!

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 **BAU 2017**
16.-21. Januar · München

**TREFFEN SIE
UNS IN HALLE A4
STAND 529**

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ADVICE AND SUPPORT COMES AS STANDARD UNSER SERVICE

Before commencing a construction project, architects, planners and clients have to make a number of important decisions. One of the most critical is the design of the facade. It is the facade which gives the building its character, ties it in with its surroundings and gives it its distinctiveness. By understanding your needs from the outset, we aim to support you through this process with precise planning, excellent service and outstanding products precisely tailored to your requirements. And when it comes to our customer advisors, you'll find that their passion for brick always shines through!

Bernd Deppe

"Choosing the right materials and production process is really important – and we are experts in this area. We can help and support you right from the planning phase. Together we'll make sure your design idea reaches its maximum potential!" Bernd Deppe advises architects and decision-makers in Germany and internationally. In Germany, he is responsible for post-code areas 40-48, 50-54, Berlin and the whole of Southern Germany.

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Jörg Lange

"Our aim is to provide you with comprehensive support. With many years of experience, we're a company you can rely on. Our ideas are creative, economical and, above all, solution-oriented. Our logistics are proficient and reliable." Jörg Lange is our representative in the Greater Bremen and Hamburg regions (postcode areas 20-22, 27-31).

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FIRESIDE EVENING FOR ARCHITECTS IN KLOSTER FRENSWEGEN

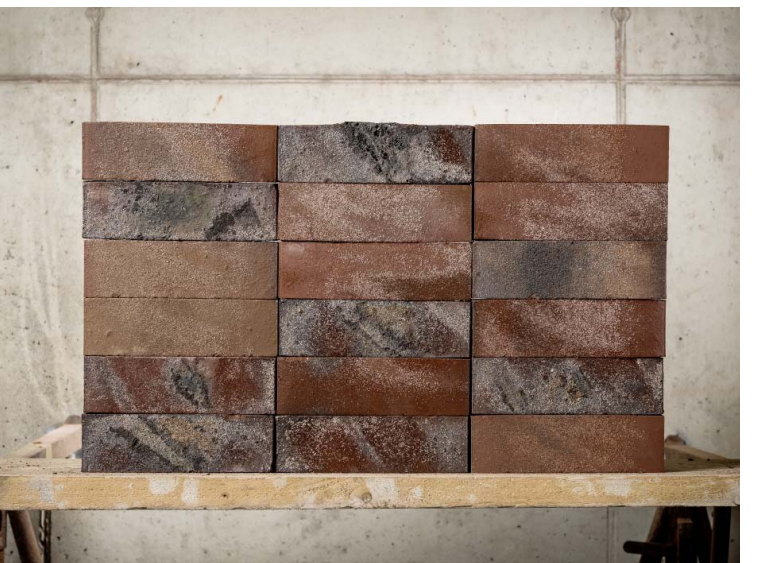
The topic of our fourth Fireside Evening on October 25, 2016 in Kloster Frenswegen was "What must today's environmentally-friendly construction aim to achieve?" Our guests enjoyed an evening by the fireside with fine wine and good food, whilst finding fresh inspirations and sharing ideas and experiences with their fellow architects.

The panelists for the evening were Prof. Christoph Mäckler from Christoph Mäckler Architekten, Prof. Jörunn Ragnarsdóttir from Lederer, Ragnarsdóttir, Oei and Jan Peter Wingender from Winhov Architekten, Amsterdam, the host for the evening was Michael Schwarz from Profs. Spital-Frenking + Schwarz.

Because the panel included a number of prize winners and nominees for the 2014 Fritz Höger Prize for Brick Architecture, the Fritz Höger Prize touring exhibition was also shown and our guests and the panelists had plenty of time to view the exhibition before the discussion started.

The Fritz Höger Prize for Brick Architecture is an international architecture prize awarded by Initiative Bauen mit Backstein – Zweischalige Wand Marketing e.V. The name of the award is a tribute to German architect Fritz Höger, a leading exponent of North German brick expressionism. The prize is awarded for buildings which use brick as a construction

material and which give due consideration to economic, environmental and design factors during construction. The exhibition showcases a fascinating cross-section of contemporary, international brick architecture, from energy-saving detached homes to spectacular religious buildings.



FRESH FROM OUR KILNS 926eks

Each of these bricks is unique and made for creative architecture with an individual touch. The 926eks extruded brick combines the traditional art of brickmaking with advanced production techniques. With its natural surface texture and richly varied colouration, it lends opulence to the exterior of a building whilst showcasing architectural craftsmanship. The range of colours – from bright reds, to earthy browns, to dark anthracites – gives a facade individuality and vibrancy. The colour is entirely natural, arising from the product itself without the use of engobes. The original coal-firing and salt-firing technique produces strong firing marks, which give the handset brick a rusticated appearance. With its sharp edges, it really is a case of going "back to the roots".



BRIGHT AND INDIVIDUAL REBSTOCK PRIMARY SCHOOL, FRANKFURT

Not a trace of sheer functionalism; no two classrooms the same. You'll have to look hard to find a right angle anywhere in the three-storey Rebstock Primary School in Frankfurt. The newly built school comes across as an almost origami-like, anti-rectangular arrangement. Navigation is inspired by urban design, corridors are laid out like streets. Here, all roads lead to the large entrance hall, which serves as a kind of town square. The highly individual design aesthetic necessitated custom special shape bricks. We responded to the client's call for tenders with an outstanding brick, which could nonetheless be manufactured economically enough to meet the client's cost requirements. For the client, the custom brick blend specially put together for this playfully designed ensemble of buildings proved a big plus point. The brickwork has been realised using an original, machine-manufactured, coal-fired brick. The pale surface of the brick highlights the monolithic character of the building. Whitewashed on four sides, the brick gives an aura of elegance and class to both interior and exterior. As well as adding vivid contrasts to the look of the facade, a number of darker bricks also reference the contour lines set out in the master plan for Frankfurt's Rebstock district by architect Peter Eisenman.



Project information

Completion
December 2014
Total construction cost
€20.1 million
Floor area
Gross floor area 8,366 m²
Client
Frankfurt am Main City Council
Architecture
pfp Architekten BDA, Hamburg
Material
Waterstruck 9593wREB DNF, sand-coloured, whitewashed
Photographs
Ralf Buscher