

Abbey Quarter Urban Park and Street, Kilkenny

MATERIALS REFERENCE REPORT

July 2020



MITCHELL + ASSOCIATES



FURNITURE AND MATERIALS

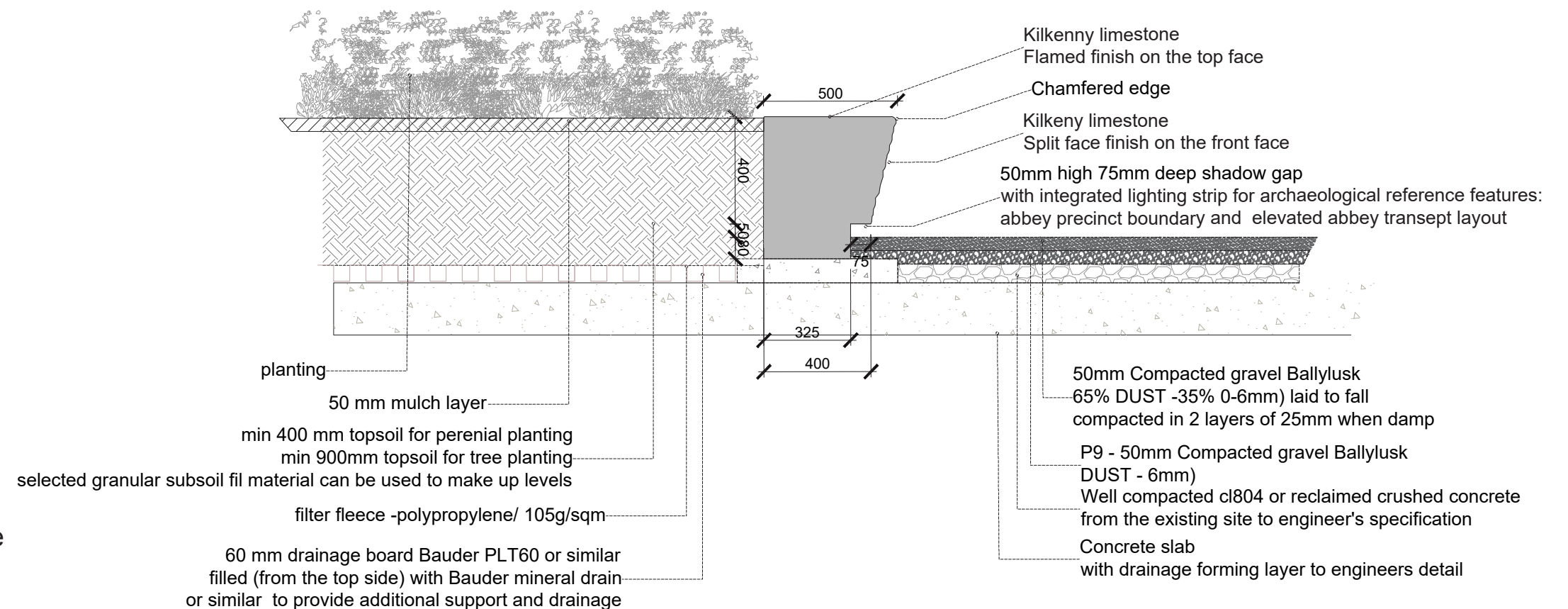
Seating - Kilkenny limestone with timber seats

Rather than adding benches into the designed landscape, the seating options are integrated in the overall landscape design in the park, using the raised Kilkenny limestone retaining edges, natural split/rough finish on the outer side and flamed on the top side.

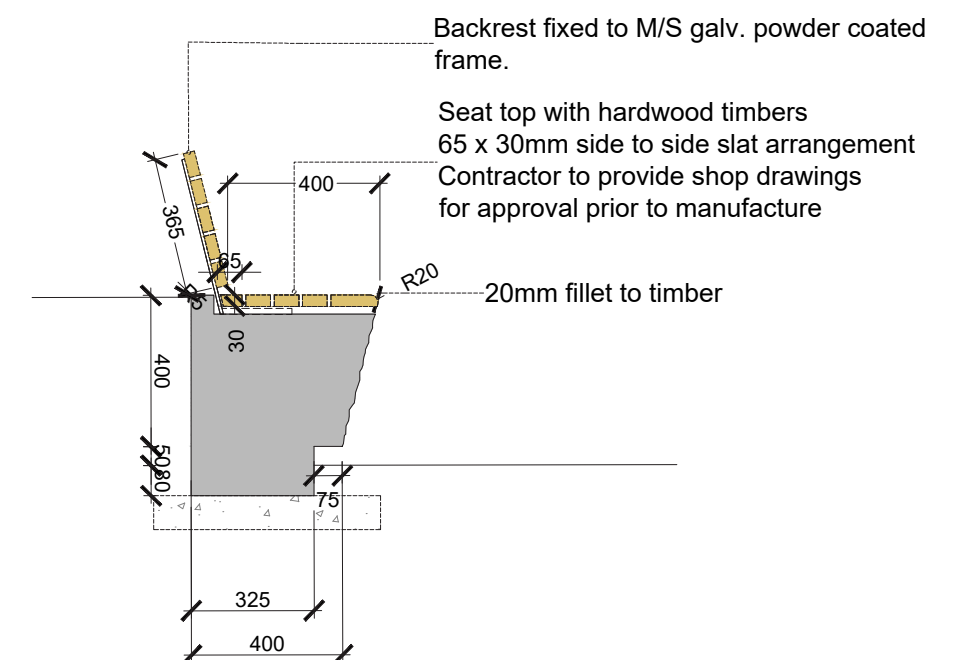
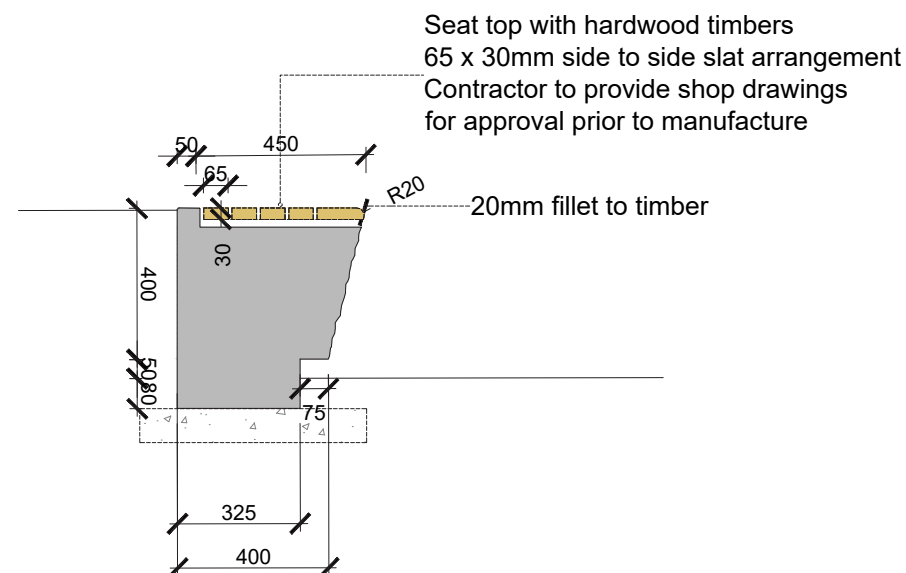
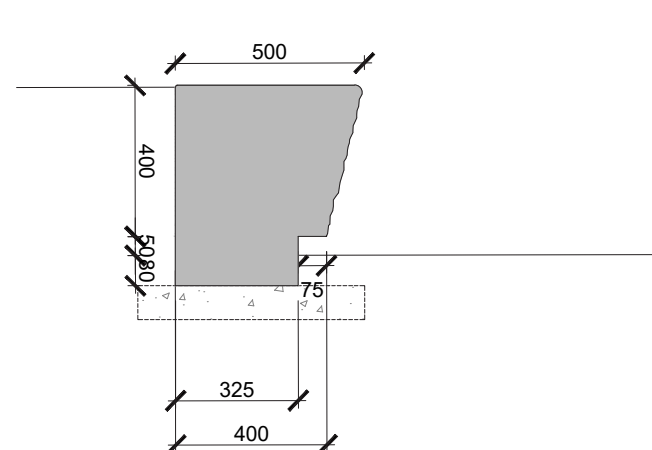
These seats are integrated in the edges around play niches at river space area (including straight pieces and curved pieces), at the wall along the Breaghagh, in the Crab apple orchard planters, and at the raised representation of the Transept layout of the abbey.

Wooden seats with backrests are to be integrated within the stone retaining edges, except the Transept representation and the Abbey precinct boundary representation, to provide comfortable seating for all age groups.

Where the stone edge is used to represent a disappeared archaeological structure (Transept, or Abbey precinct boundary), a light strip is added at the bottom part of the stone to reveal the historic layout at night time.



TYPICAL SECTION THROUGH SEAT/RETAINING EDGE



SECTIONS THROUGH LIMESTONE SEAT RETAINING EDGE, TO BE EQUIPED WITH TIMBER SEATS AND BACK REST AT THE CRAB APPLE ORCHARD PLANTERS

Seating - precedent pictures



Stone edge as seating furniture, with split face finish at front.



Lighting strip feature at the bottom of the stone element, split face finish at front.



Integrated back rest and timber seats.



Reference for Crab apple tree orchard planters: stone edge only from one side, all other 3 sides of the planter are corten steel.

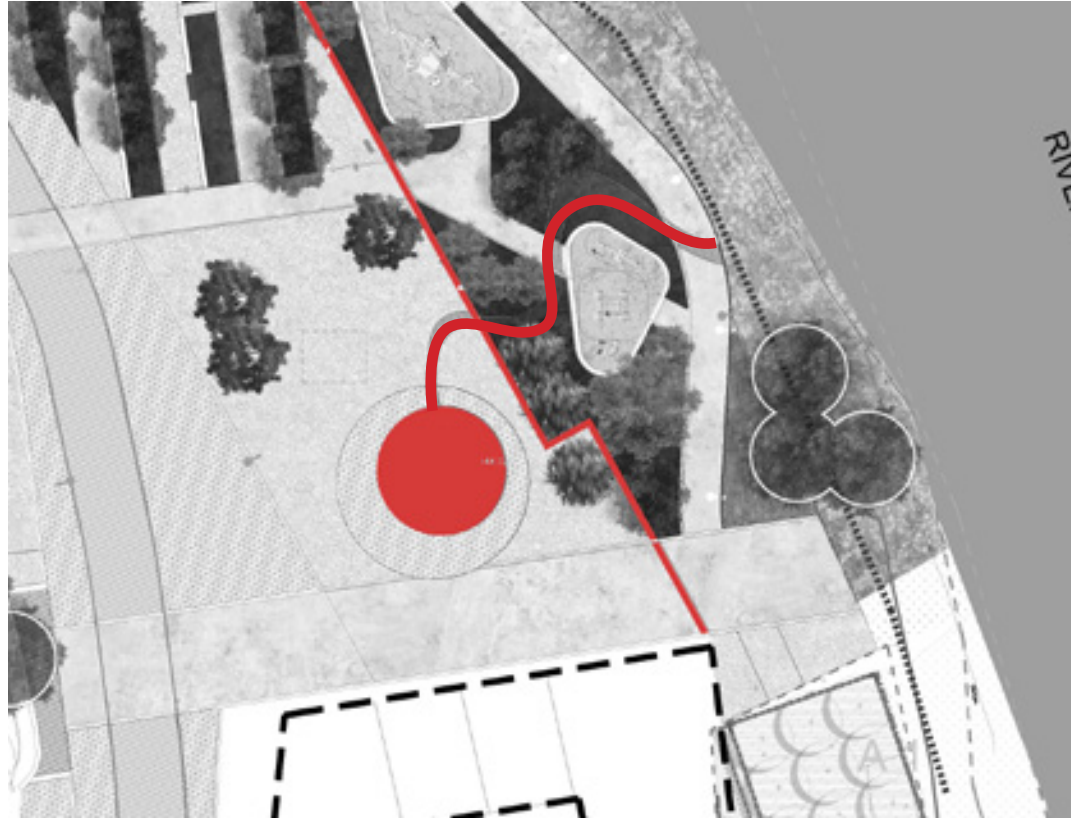
Seating - street and Brewhouse plaza

For the street, seats with backrest and armrests and bicycle stands are to be provided i the amenity strip.

In the Brewhouse plaza, sculptural movable seats are suggested to add amenity and playfulness to the space. The seats can be can be used and combined flexibly. They can be utilized individually, or combined and arranged playfully in many possible ways, serving as seating, be stacked into larger structures, tables, or stacked away to create space.



St Francis Well - Archaeological reference



St Francis Abbey consists of a number of connected yet distinct spaces . It is proposed to express both St. Francis Well and the meandering rill that connected the well with the River Nore.

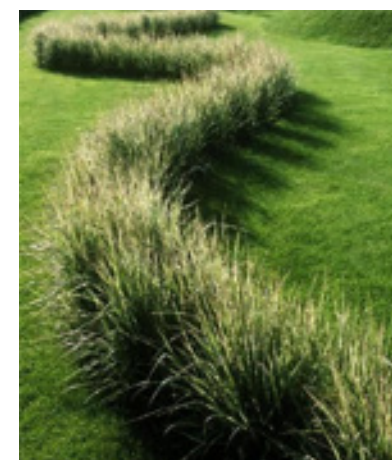
The well is proposed to be represented as a very shallow film of water (between 5-10mm deep) continuously recycling over the surface of a paved circle mirroring the footprint of the known site. The surrounding paving is finished flush so there is no associated trip hazard. This water feature is a safe playful element that can be drained at any time to enable the hard-standing space to be utilized as the potential location for small events. As the water is so shallow the area will dry quickly and can be utilized immediately. The paving proposed to the footprint of the chamber would visually contrast with the surrounding compacted gravel to highlight the element when wet or dry.



The well area is represented by a water mirror of a thin layer of water on pavement.



Information about the history implemented in the pavement around the water mirror.



The old stream that used to run from the well to the river can be represented as a ribbon of steel and grasses.



Water mirror edge detail.

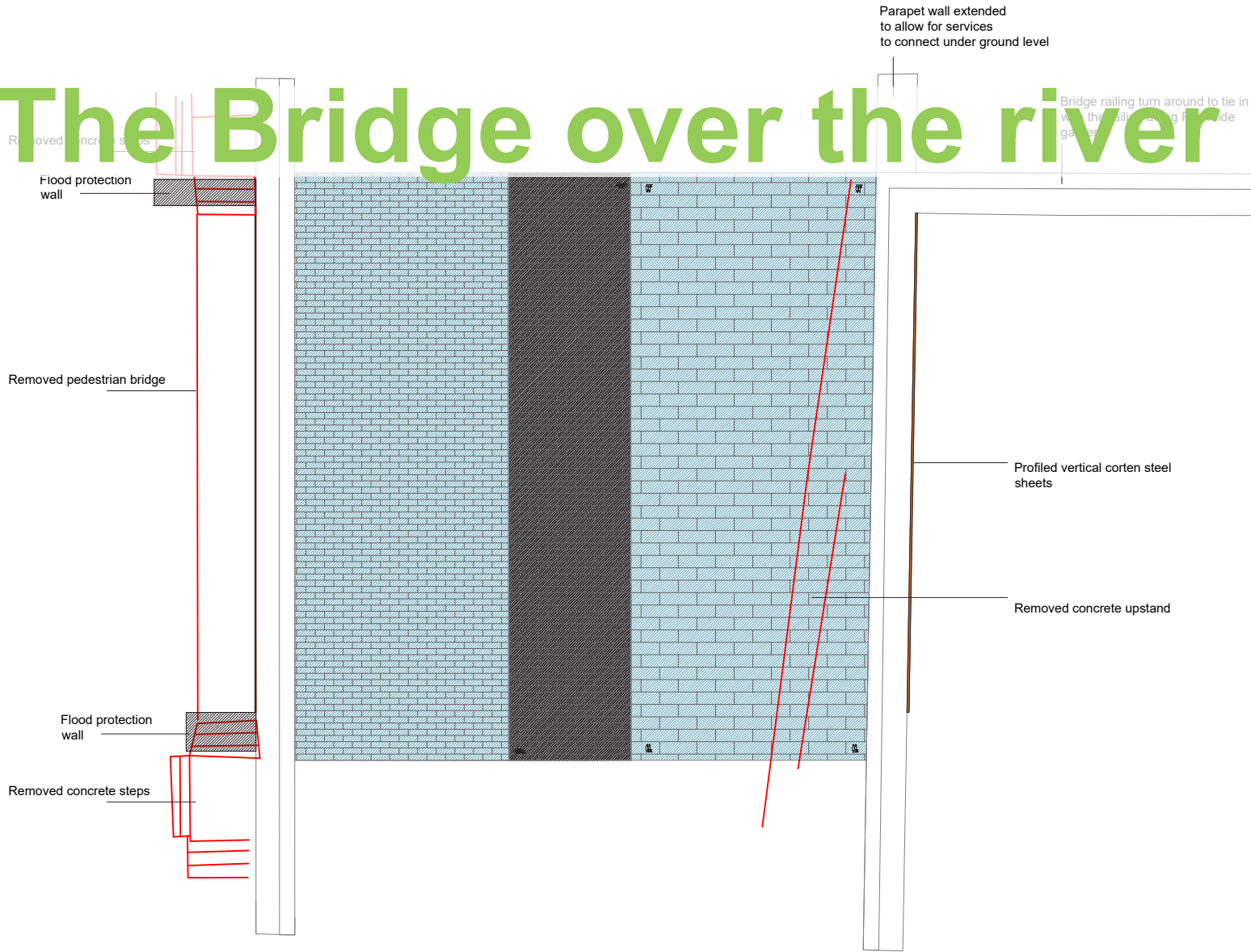


Water as playful element, Lyric Square, London.



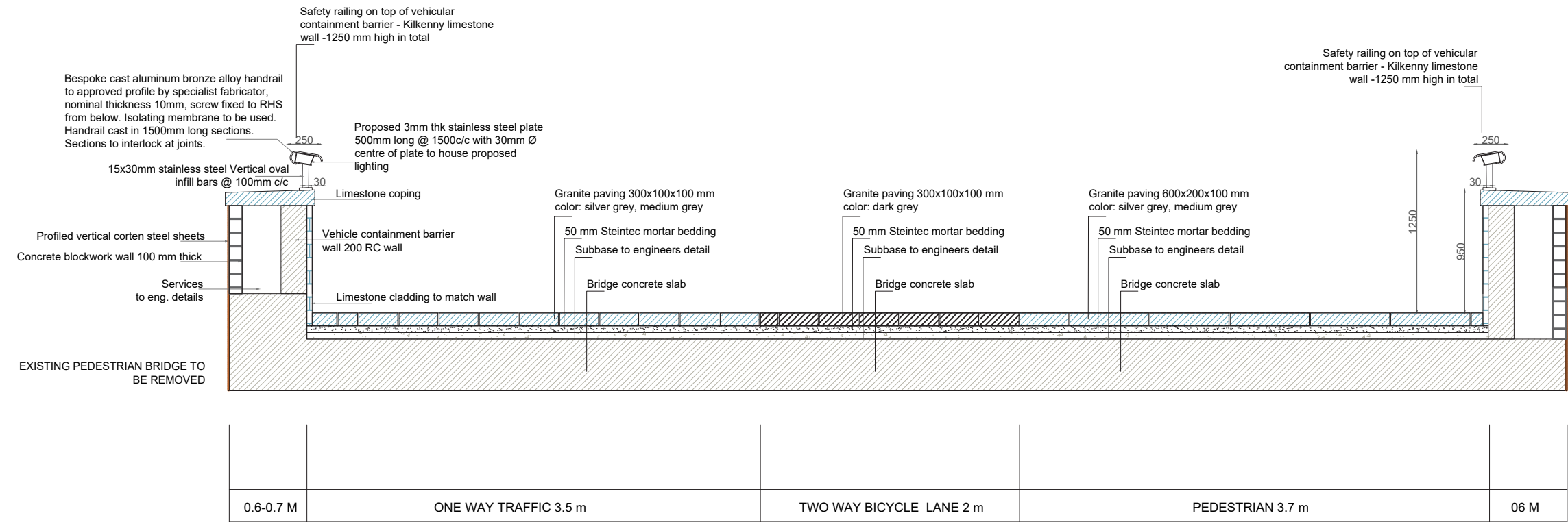
Flexible use: with and without water.

The Bridge over the river Breagagh



Corten steel sheets for the bridge sides

BRIDGE PLAN VIEW, SCALE 1:100



Kilkenny CAS bridge railing detail is brought to the bridge over the Breagagh

BRIDGE SECTION, SCALE 1:40

Materials reference report, July 2020

Lighting

Although the park refers in its design to several historical layers (such as the medieval abbey or industrial site of the brewery), the aim is to create a contemporary park, by using contemporary materials, such as corten or concrete exposed aggregate, alongside historical and local high quality materials such as Kilkenny limestone.

For that end, a contemporary light is selected for the Abbey street and the park. A simple but strict geometric form, black coated, will keep the contemporary feel while being elegant in its simplicity and at the same time referring to the industrial character of the brewery site.

The urban street and the main path along the river Breaghagh connecting to the Riverside Gardens park is proposed to be illuminated by pole mounted luminaires, other connecting path in the park are illuminated by bollard lighting. Furthermore, the lighting plan minimises the light overspill over the river Nore.

Furthermore, feature lighting is proposed on key point throughout the site serving as orientation points: where side lanes and paths connect to the urban street.



BEGA LED bollard lighting 84238 or similar Veelight Kassio bollard or similar

Veelite Vista lighting pole or similar

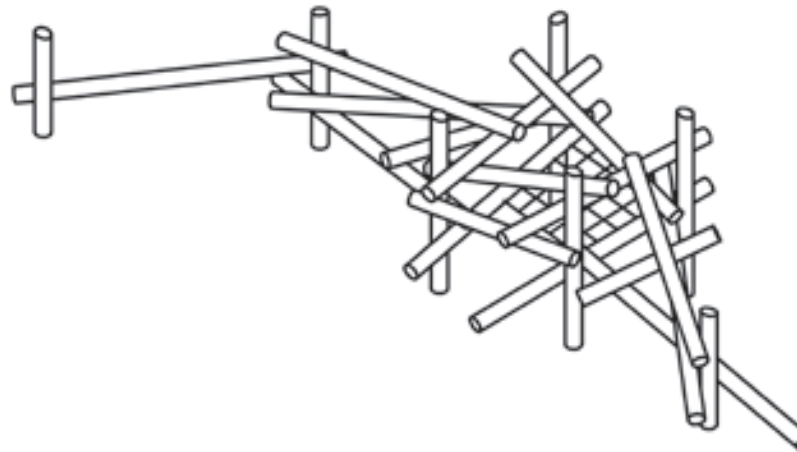
Escofet Ful or Veelite Faro or similar, combination of different versions of shapes of poles

Play and fitness equipment

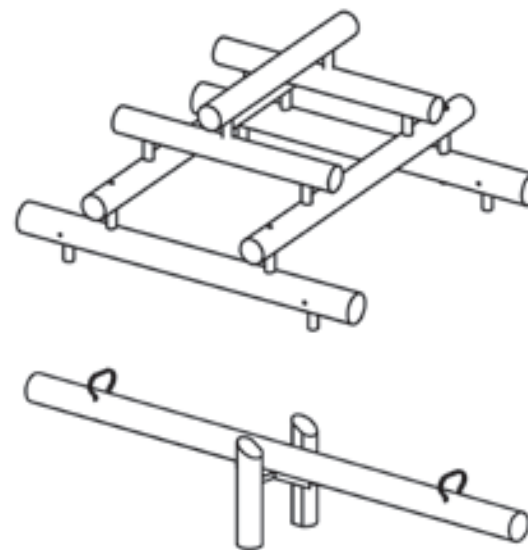
In the “wild” area of the riverside, out of the abbey precinct, three semi-hidden niches provide play and fitness amenity for visitors. The equipment is made from natural materials, mostly timber, and have a rather natural, wild character. Climbing equipment for smaller and bigger children from wood logs is selected along with simple timber see saw and playful animal art figures of natural stone and/or sand colour to facilitate role play.

Each niche provides a different type of equipment - one offers play equipment for smaller children, another a timber climbing structure for older children, and the last fitness equipment for older children and adults.

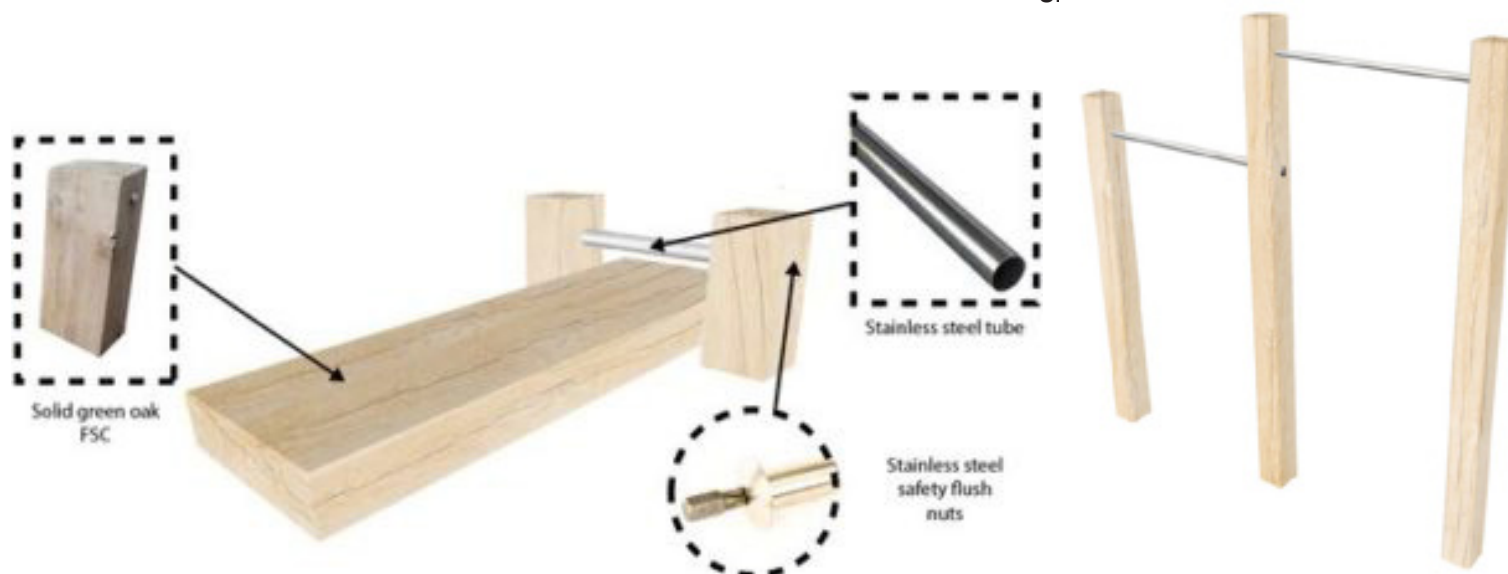
Except these designated areas for play and exercise, art installation can be placed in the abbey park that can serve as accidental play elements.



Play equipment older children -natural wooden climbing structure (Richter Spielgerate, climbing structure 18, or similar character)



Play equipment younger children - small natural wooden climbing pyramid, see saw and stone stroking turtles (Richter Spielgerate, or similar character)



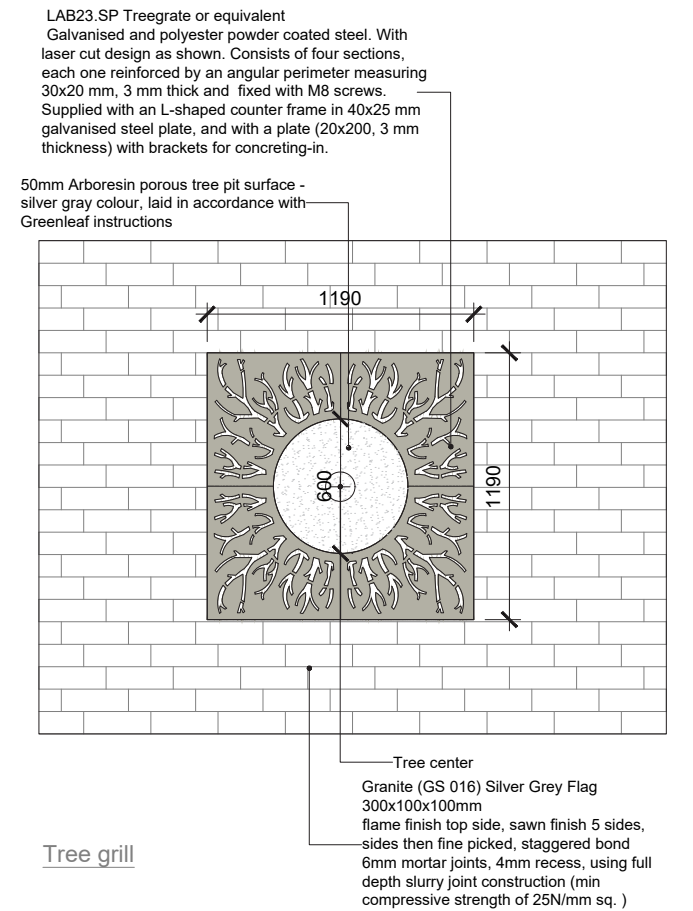
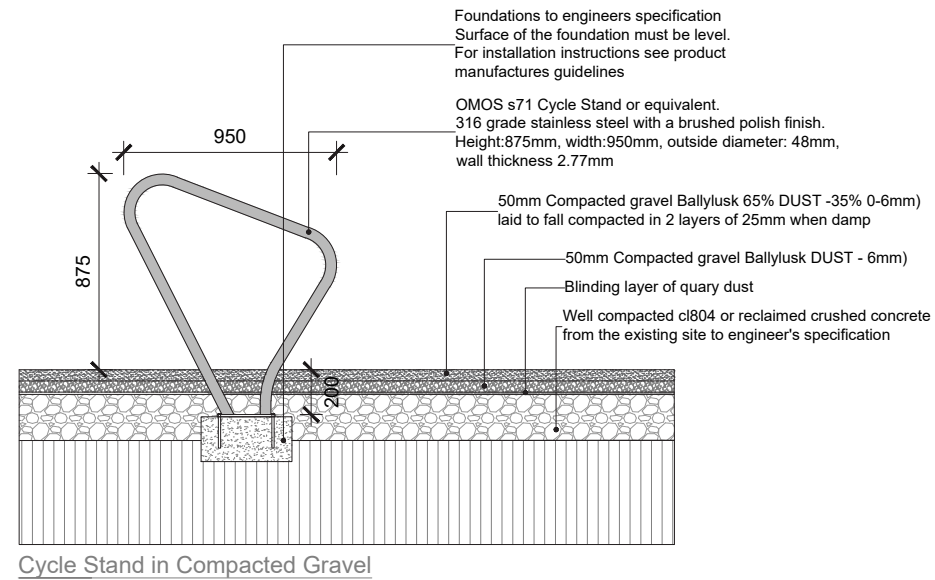
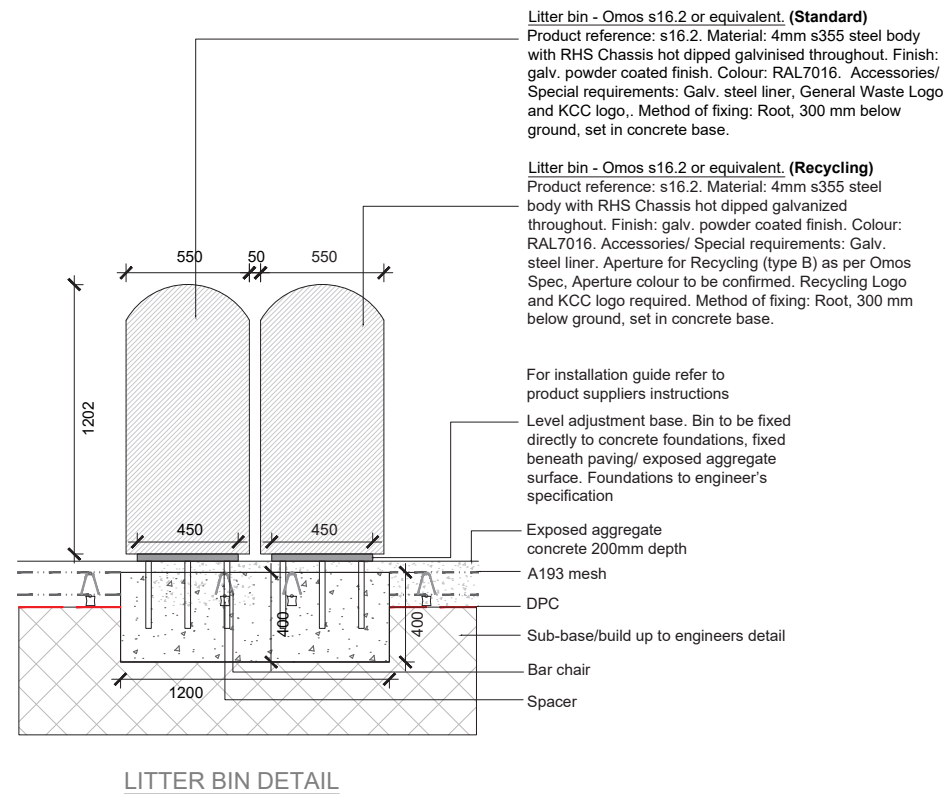
Timber fitness equipment: Outdoor Pull up station and sit up bench by playequip.com or similar



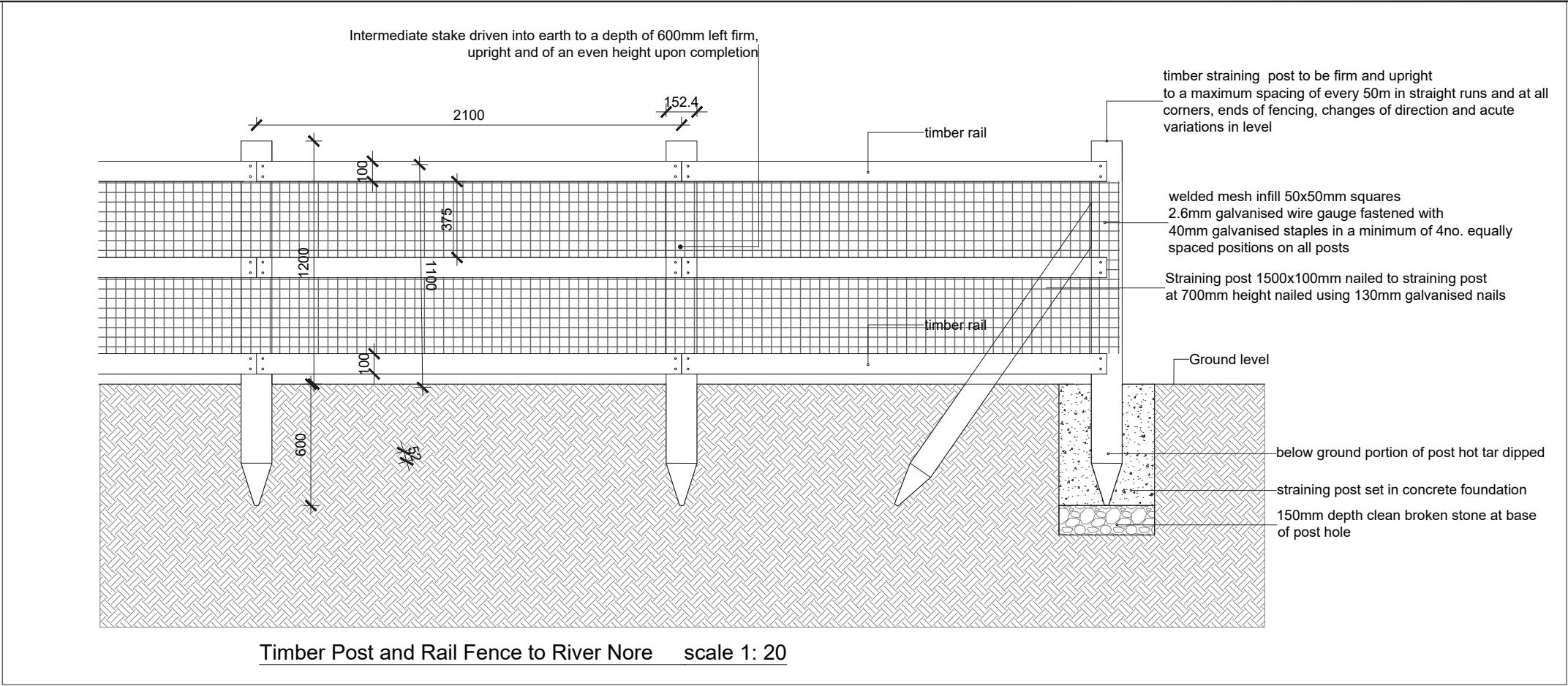
Art installations in the abbey park as accidental play elements.



Other equipment



Timber fence along the river Nore



Timber Fencing to BS 1722 Part 2

Timber posts:

1.8m length x 152.4mm (6 inch) square section posts, pressure impregnated Douglas Fir/ Larch installed to a depth of 600mm leaving 1.2m above ground. Below ground portion of post to be hot-tar dipped. Top angled.

Corner / Straining posts set into 450mm square concrete pad foundation. Required at ends of fence or any change in direction.

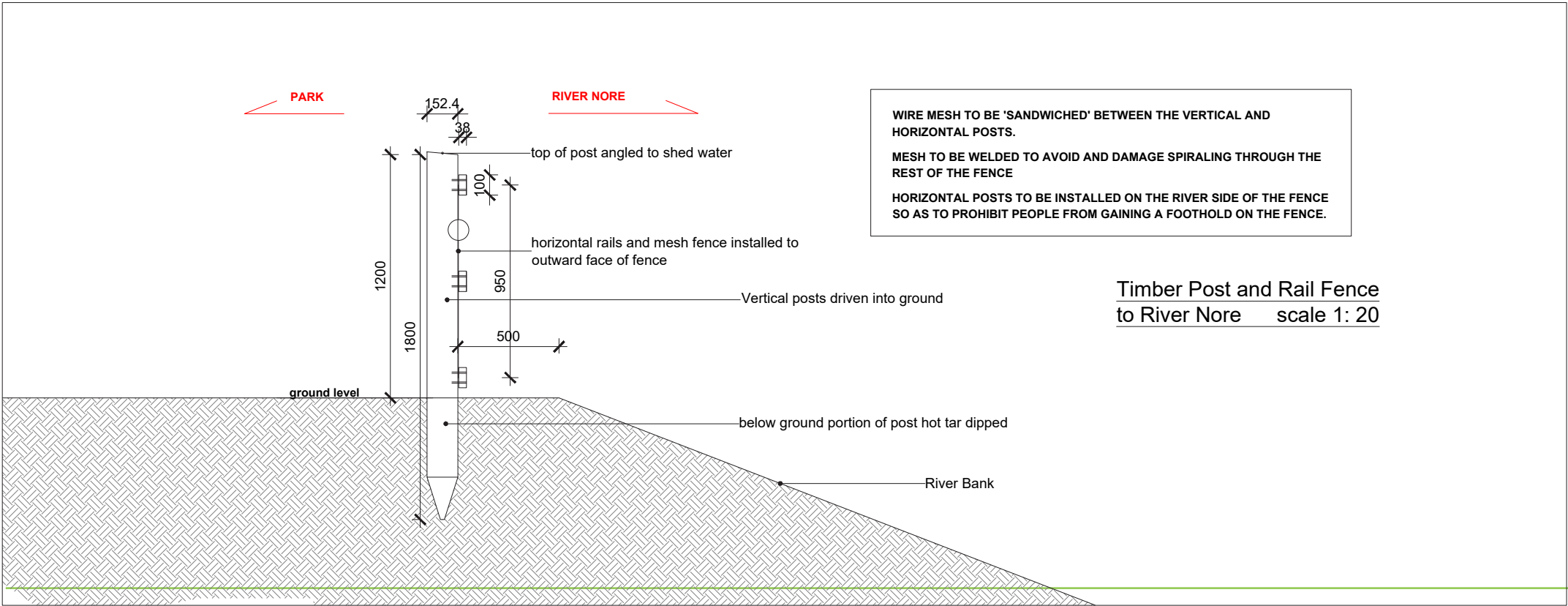
Timber rails:

1.2m length x 100 x 38mm pressure impregnated Douglas Fir/ Larch rails nailed to posts with 120mm s/snails, 2nails per end.

Struts to Straining posts:

1.8m length x 90 x 38mm post, peeled and pointed, driven to a depth of 600mm, left firm.

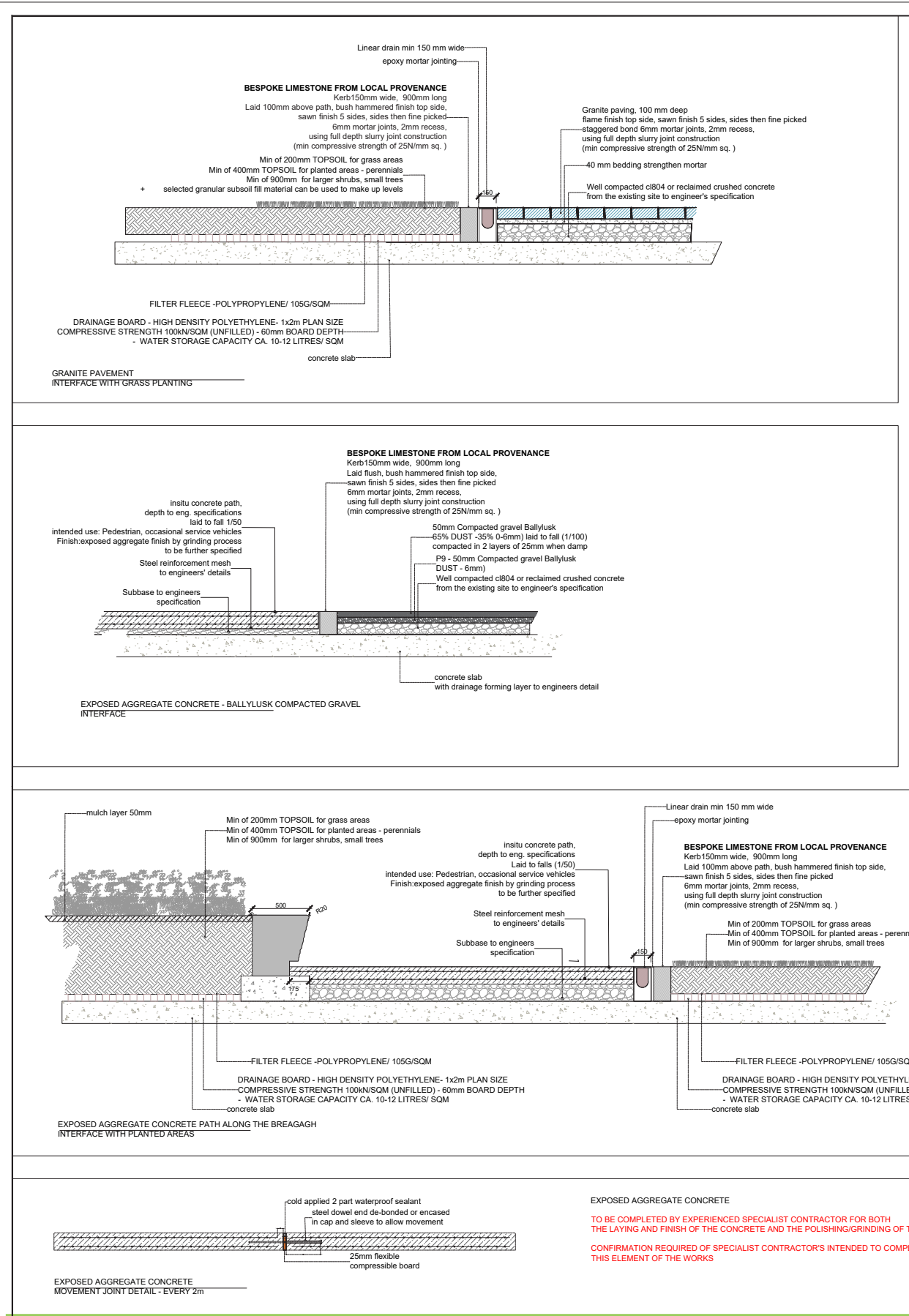
Welded Mesh Infill 50x50mm squares, 2.6mm gauge fastened with 40mm galvanised staples in a minimum of 4no. equally spaced positions on all posts.





PAVING MATERIALS

Paving materials



Urban street and paved abbey area - granite slabs, 300 x 100 x 100 mm (car traffic) and 600 x 200 x 100 mm, color, silver, mid gray and black



Compacted gravel for open areas



Polished exposed aggregate concrete for park paths

Paving - special elements

(The images are a representation of the approach not representative of materials used.)



The horse barracks are brought back by a material change in the pavement and change of paving orientation



Pavement banding with explanatory text expressing past footprint to abbey extent



Tree grills used for Kilkenny river side gardens are brought in t in the street space.



Reference for pavement pattern for the Brewhouse plaza - using bushhammered finish of the pattern in the flamed granite paving. Hop plant pattern to be used



PLANTING STRATEGY

PLANTING : THE ABBEY ATMOSPHERE: formal VS. wild

The planting palette has been selected for the creation of a high visual amenity environment appropriate to the city centre location of the park.

The planting structure will create a very specific sense of place.

The area of the abbey precinct includes a variety of flowering fruit trees and perennial planting of medicinal use or symbolic meaning in for Christianity. The planting in the abbey precinct is organised in an geometric metric manner. The selection of symbolic and medicinal plants, fruit trees and the geometric organisation of the forms does not copy an exact historic form or plant list but rather refers to the principles of medieval abbey gardens.

The space outside of the abbey precinct, that is the area along the river Nore creates a contrast to this organised planting of the abbey. The river side area is planted in more natural wavy forms with a diversity of both perennials, shrubs and trees of a more nature-like character, creating a lush and almost wild green space.

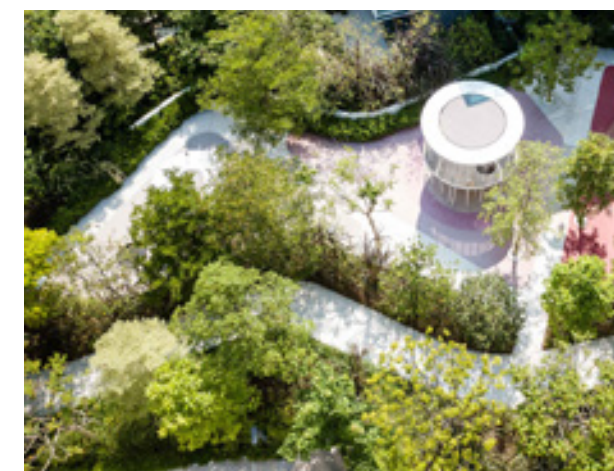
The plant selection will in general incorporate the following characteristics:

Varying flower and leaf colour; bulbs, herbaceous, deciduous and evergreen shrubs and deciduous garden scaled trees; plants that attract insect life. Many fruit species are included. The goal is to achieve the objectives of biodiversity, visual amenity, seasonal interest and maintenance requirements.

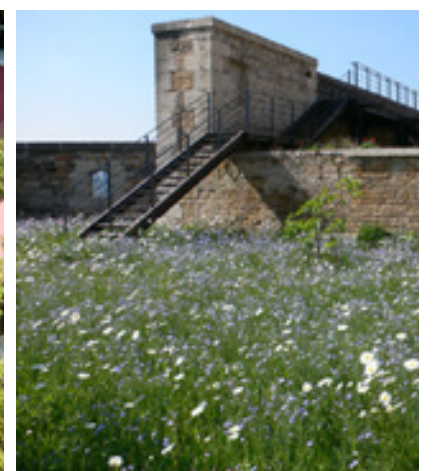
The perennial planting is a combination of native and non-native species with focus on seasonality, pollinator friendly species, and combination of deciduous and evergreen plants, including ground cover plants.



"Managed" landscape within abbey precinct with trees in lines, geometrical organization of space.



"Unmanaged" organic wildy planted river area with niches of play. (The planting still requires knowledgeable management)



Planting - Orchards of the abbey area



Solitary trees for the paved areas are to be semi-mature trees, individually selected from the nursery for their special habit.

Russian olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*) along the Breaghagh.



The forgotten fruit trees orchard.



Lonicera pileata is to be used for the clipped rectangular hedges placed in the grid in the lawn, referring to the old abbey cemetery.



The ornamental crab apple orchard.

The tree planting in the abbey park refers to the historic orchards of the abbey. There are two large tree groves in the park:

- An ornamental crab apple tree orchard on the eastern side, in planters with incorporated seats, blooming at one moment, creating an impressive snow cloud of white and pink flowers. To increase diversity, three different varieties are suggested: *Malus* 'Evereste', *Malus* 'Coralburst' and *Malus* 'Snowcloud'
- An orchard of forgotten fruits including small scale trees of old forgotten fruits as well as new hybrids from them, adding interest for visitors.

Furthermore, multistem Russian olive trees (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*) are planted in groups at the wall along the Breaghagh.

The tree planting is pollinator friendly, as most of the trees are flowering fruit trees.

Except fruit trees, solitary trees are suggested for the paved areas. These trees are to be semi-mature trees, individually selected from the nursery for their habit - special shape (not straight), in order to create a volume and effect since day one.

Planting - Perennials of the abbey area



Symbolic plants for the church, edibles and medicinals form the plant selection of perennials for the abbey area:

The plant selection includes a big diversity of pollinator friendly plants (marked with *).

Symbolic flower planting along the Breaghagh wall:

Vinca major (symb. the flower of Virgin Mary)

with groups of Paeonia officinalis*

with drifts of Galanthus nivalis* (symb. the bells of Virgin Mary)

with drifts under the trees of Myosotis secunda* (symb. the eyes of Virgin Mary), Viola odorata (symb. spiritual wisdom, humility and fightfulness), and Pulmonaria officinalis* (symb. tears of Virgin Mary)

Under the crab apple tree orchard:

Alchemilla mollis (symb. the cloak of Virgin Mary)

Artemisia officinalis

Echinacea purpurea*

Foeniculum vulgare*

Fragaria vesca* (symb. fruit of virgin Mary, the Holy Trinity)

Lavandula officinalis*

Matricaria reticulata

Origanum 'Rosenkuppel'*

Pulmonaria officinalis* (symb. tears of Virgin Mary)

Salvia officinalis*

Sanguisorba officinalis

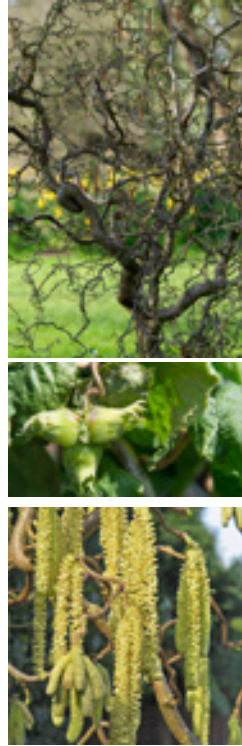
Valeriana officinalis

To refer to the brewery which was part of the abbey, plants referring to the cultivation of hop and barely for the production of beer are included here:

Stipa tenuissima 'Pony Tails'*

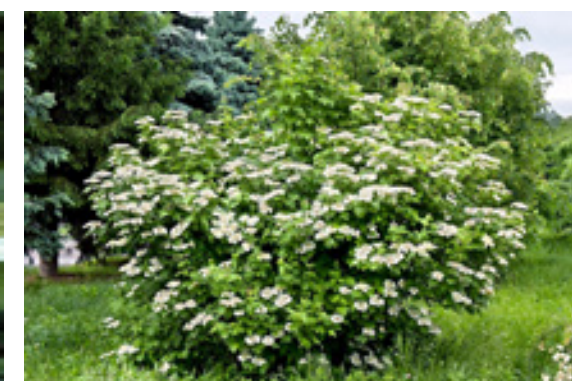
Origanum rotundifolium 'Kent beauty'

Planting - Wilder river park - woody plants



The selection of the plants in the river side area creates a lush green almost natural vegetation, including a variety of native species with added feature species to enhance seasonal interest throughout the year and including pollinator friendly and bird friendly species.

Corylus avellana 'Contorta', 2 m high, 1.5m wide
Prunus serrula, multistem, 3m high, 1.5m wide
Prunus padus, 20-25 cmg
Sambucus nigra 'Laciniata', 2m high, 1.5m wide
Viburnum opulus, 5l
Viburnum tinus, 5l



Planting - Wilder river area - perennials



The selection of the plants in the river side area creates a lush green almost natural vegetation, while still keeping seasonal interest throughout the year and including a big diversity of pollinator friendly plants (marked with *).

Anemone 'Honorine Jobert'*
 Angelica sylvestris*
 Bergenia 'Winterglow'*
 Camassia leichtlinii
 Carex oshimensis 'Greenwell'
 Carex pendula
 Eupatorium purpureum*
 Filipendula vulgaris
 Galanthus nivalis*
 Geranium 'Brookside'*
 Helleborus niger*
 Helleborus x sternii*
 Hosta clausa var. nominalis
 Iris sibirica
 Luzula nivea
 Omphalodes verna
 Persicaria amplexocaulis 'Alba'*
 Physostegia virginiana 'Rosea'
 Pimpinella major 'Rosea'
 Pulmonaria officinalis 'Sissinghurst White'*

For the bank along the skate park a grove of birch trees (*Betula pendula*) is suggested with undergrowth of *Hedera helix* 'Hibernica' with drifts of *Anemone* 'Honorine Jobert' and *Leucojum* 'Gravetie Giant'.

