



CASE STUDY

Project name: Oxford City Centre Regeneration
Client: Oxford County Council
Contractor: Isis Accord (previously Enterprise PLC)
Site: The High Street, Oxford
Project: Prepare and protect New Yorkstone paving - 2000m²
Product/s used: Qstone
Date: Nov 2006



Problem:

Unfortunately instead of promoting the best of what Oxford could offer, the High Street had become a disappointment to the County Council.

Previous attempts at sealing by other contractors on a 260m² area had been over applied leading to a very dark appearance. In addition it had become impossible to clean it satisfactorily and it was very slippery when moist. Cleaning costs had escalated markedly and chewing gum was a major issue.

Given the problems encountered there were real fears that the beautiful stone surface may have become irretrievably damaged. Excess jointing material had been historically employed during the surface construction and there was considerable evidence of residue staining.

Solution:

QSS initially deep cleaned the entire area with high pressure and rotary cleaning equipment. This then highlighted localised areas for special treatment

- The excess jointing material on the surface was removed without degrading the IN SITU material. 35% strength hydrochloric acid was used.
- The old sealers were removed with a combination of solvent detergents (neutralising agent) and modified rotary cleaners employing 150degree C steam at 2000 rpm ensuring no damage to the affected paving.
- When the surface was ready we applied Qstone surface impregnation.

Benefits:

- Gum resistance increased by over 60%
- Easier cleaning with costs cut by 50%
- Lower whole life cost of maintaining the surface.
- Qstone provides a protected surface without looking like a treatment has been applied.

Appearance of the whole area is no longer compromised by damaged areas. To hasten the final result we extended our capability so as to wash, dry and impregnate simultaneously on each shift. This is now the norm on all hard jointed paving protection projects.