

Ricola Kräuterzentrum (herb center)

case study
By Tian Lan

Location: Laufen, Switzerland



Architect: Herzog & de Meuron

Owner: Ricola

Year of completion: 2014

Climate: Temperate oceanic climate

Material of interest: Loam Wall

Application: Exterior Wall

Properties of material: Clay, marl and material excavated on site are mixed and compacted in a formwork and then layered in blocks to build the walls. Thanks to the plasticity of the loam, the seams can be retouched giving the overall structure a homogeneous appearance. To arrest erosion caused by wind and rain, a trass mortar achieved mixing volcanic tuff (trass) with lime, is compacted every 8 layers of earth directly in the formwork.

Sources:

<https://www.archdaily.com/634724/ricola-kruterzentrum-herzog-and-de-meuron>

