



A Garden on the Jura mountainside

open spaces for an innercity
residential ensemble
Hintergasse 17
Biel/Bienne (CH)

An ensemble of three residential buildings inserted into the former vine terraces on the slopes of the Jura. The slope surface consists of a complex structure of terraces, retaining walls and staircases, interspersed with a narrow public path. The design concept for the open spaces aims to preserve, supplement and link the light-coloured retaining walls made of jurassic limestone and in-situ concrete. By their contrasting effect dark pavements expose the linear rhythm of the vertical. The terraces covered with crushed basalt and dark concrete slabs form series of small, balcony-like spaces, while the paths between the narrow concrete staircases are marked by a mosaic stone pavement of dark quartz stone (Guber). Planting strips with shrubs and grasses blend into the parallel, linear structure of the slope garden and bring it to bloom.













