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Natural Stone has been used as a durable paving in hard landscaping applications for many thousands of years and can be admired in the many architectural structures, past and present, around the world. Readily available in most counties, natural stone can resist and survive extreme heat and cold along with most of external weather elements and natural phenomenon it becomes exposed to.

It is because of this resistance that stone became the natural choice of our ancestors and why there are so many excellent examples of historic buildings, temples and monuments etc. still standing today that showcase the awesome execution and use of stone.

The oldest, paved with natural stone, road was discovered still in place during the summer of 1994, in Giza, Egypt. The road, built over 4,600 years ago, was a transport route for the giant blocks of stone from the basalt quarries to Lake Moeris where they were used in the construction of the Giza Temples. The roadway was paved with thousands of stone paving slabs enabling the transportation sleds to run over the road surface with comparative ease.

The Great Wall of China is another of the many ancient examples of where natural stone paving was extensively used as are the Aztec ruins which reveal ancient natural stone paving but one does not have to travel that far to see all the examples. Walk through the streets of most European Cities and you will see cobbled and paved roadways that have stood the centuries of time.

Recently, natural stone paving has again become the choice of paving adopted by architects and town planners alike over the mundane and poorer concrete and asphalt surfacing, recognizing its aesthetic appeal, durability and long term cost benefits.

Today many domestic landscaping projects have also moved away from the concrete imitation stone pavers in favour of natural stone paving and feature in the footpaths, driveways and patio areas of many homes. Natural Stone Paving leaves an eternal impression, each paving stone being unique in colour and texture

Choosing natural stone pavers to compliment the home and surrounding backdrop is not difficult as there are so many options available reflecting different colour and textures. Sandstone and limestone are the two most used in European patio areas but marble, slate and granite options are also readily available from merchants

Natural stone paving adds resale value to a property too. For most of us our home is the biggest purchase that we will make and in these times of low house price inflation it is increasingly more important that the money we spend improving our property adds value to our investment and does not just become a cost of living. Landscaping the garden and the driveway is one of the best "value for money" home improvement investments that can be made and immediately creates a visual statement about your home, an impression of lifestyle and enhances its desirability.

As with the examples explored above natural paving can last and remain looking stunning for an eternity.

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