



Photography: Hendrik Biëgs

RESPECTFUL UPDATING OF A FARMSTEAD IN THE MOLENLAND REGION

This 18th-century farmstead in the Molenstreek around Tielt (West Flanders, Belgium) was restored and also partly rebuilt on the existing footprint.

All the volumes already existed but were filled in again to meet the needs of a nice, young family. Spacious, light-flooded living rooms with views both inside and out to the gently sloping landscape create an airy, contemporary feel.

This project was realised in two phases: the first with the whitewashed buildings is now complete. A little further on is a large, high barn that is currently being restored. The old facades in local red brick have been retained.

The garden is still young, but the remains of an old orchard with fruit and nut trees, an old row of pollard willows and a watering place for cows (now a pond) anchor the white buildings firmly in the landscape.

The farm was once directly accessible from the southern courtyard. This yard became a courtyard with a swimming pond. A smaller yard, accessible via a gatehouse, hides parked cars from the landscape.

The old house with regular, vertical windows was enlarged with a living kitchen in the rebuilt carriage house that adjoined the old house.

As a result, smaller windows of the farmhouse alternate with large window units that were placed where the large wooden gates used to be.















