ARCHITECTURAL BOLLARDS
Beauty & Strength
The term “bollard” first appeared in the Oxford English Dictionary in 1844, describing a post used to attach a maritime vessel’s mooring line. The etymology is unclear, but it is likely it was derived from the word “bole,” meaning tree trunk. Over time, the term has been extended to include posts used to guide pedestrian and vehicle traffic.

Although the term is only two hundred years old, bollards have been around for thousands of years. Some of the oldest surviving bollards date from the Roman empire.

Classical bollard designs are influenced by seventeenth- and eighteenth-century installations, when it became common practice to make use of decommissioned cannon barrels by half-burying them. These cannon bollards were handy on wharfs for mooring. Inland they were adapted to directing traffic and protecting stonework.

In the early 1800s, Amsterdam residents installed cast iron bollards in front of their homes and businesses to prevent damage from increasing carriage traffic. The city of Amsterdam eventually followed suit, installing cast iron bollards called Amsterdammertje to delineate pedestrian areas. Although now most cities, including Amsterdam, use curbed roadways as a method of traffic separation, the use of bollards is still a very common strategy for defining different areas in the modern city-scape.
Bollards have a long history protecting stonework. In the 18th century, cast iron bollards were commonly installed to protect buildings from carriage wheels. These long years of association make bollards a good choice for historical sites. With crash rated options and decorative covers, heritage buildings can be secured against vehicular attack without compromising the streetscape. Bollards and removable chains can organize queues and provide pedestrian guidance. Bollards also won’t inhibit the free flow of pedestrians. If the building needs to be cleared, bollards do not create a bottleneck.

HERITAGE PRESERVATION

Model Shown: R-7536
Create safety in outdoor spaces while minimizing light trespass with short bollards, instead of taller lamp standards. Along pathways and in gardens, lighting bollards keep spaces navigable even after dark. Solar bollards can be installed as stand-alone solutions without trenching or other expensive installation. Light adaptive, intelligent solar systems conserve energy to keep the lights burning even during gloomy northern winters. AC or hardwired options allow for central light management and keep bollards lit even in very dark climates or shady spots.

**LIGHTING**

Multi-family residential complexes often require traffic calming to protect vulnerable community members. Low speeds and clear traffic paths protect community members as they share space with vehicle traffic while playing, carrying groceries, loading their own vehicles, or visiting neighbors. Bollards can provide crash protection, wayfinding information, and parking stall demarcation. Lighting bollards can offer safety along building pathways for residents and visitors, and bike parking bollards provide safe places to park vehicles.

Large estates may use standard bollards for wayfinding, lighting, or perimeter protection. Additionally, custom bollards are available. Estate owners can express their personalities with unique cast bollards in any manner of designs.

**RESIDENTIAL**
Multi-use spaces are used by pedestrians and vehicles at different times. Bollards grant access to authorized drivers, or during particular seasons or events. Define variable access perimeters with removable, retractable, collapsible, or flexible bollards.

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Model Shown: R-8464

Bollards provide wayfinding and guidance to pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists. Placed at the end of parking stalls, they prevent storefront crashes due to pedal error or other accidents. Custom caps can be branded with mall or campus logos. Choose colors and styles that contrast or complement color schemes.

Model Shown: R-7744
Whether old or new, destination architecture invites the public. Large buildings, lawns, parks, and plazas become places for people to gather. A city is vibrant and culturally alive when it makes space for civil assembly, artistic events, farmer’s markets and outdoor living space for its citizens, like a place to share lunch. Vehicle perimeters around these sites provide safety to those inside them, creating cultural space amid the bustle of commerce and transportation.