# brickworks **news**.

MARCH 2019





# GLEN-GERY – SPRINGBOARD USA

In late 2018 Brickworks announced the acquisition of Glen-Gery, the fourth largest brick manufacturer in the USA. At a purchase price of \$AUS 151m (\$US 110m) Glen-Gery is anticipated to provide steady earnings in the first full year of operation as the latest member of the Brickworks Group. A successful enterprise, Glen-Gery has leading market positions in the US Midwest, Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states. With 10 manufacturing plants, its annual sales are approximately 230 million bricks.

Lindsay Partridge AM, Managing Director Brickworks Limited says, "The acquisition is a significant milestone in the history of our organisation. We believe the transaction provides an ideal entry into the US market, with Glen-Gery having established a leading market position in the key North-Eastern region, a reputation for premium products and high exposure to the architectural market."

This springboard into the US provides exposure to a large, attractive market with strong demand drivers and offers enormous opportunities to extend our strategic reach. In fact, the US brick market is approximately three times larger than the Australian market with annual sales revenue estimated at USD 2.2 billion. At a time when the Australian property market and construction sector are slowing the outlook for residential and commercial construction activity in the US remains positive.

The acquisition provides Brickworks with significant long-term growth opportunities. The US brick industry is highly fragmented with around 37 manufacturers compared to 5 in Australia. Three times larger than the Australian market, the US brick market is a wide-open opportunity, especially with regard to growth and potential future acquisitions. Watch this space.

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#### BRICKWORKS OPENS NEW DESIGN STUDIO IN COLLINS ST MELBOURNE

In early March 2019, Brickworks opened an impressive new Design Studio in the heart of Melbourne's CBD. A lively crowd gathered for the evening, including many of Melbourne's leading architects and representatives of award-winning firms.

Our Design Studios play a vital role in the life of the organisation – they act as a showroom for our beautiful products, an inspiring space for client consultations with our architecture representatives and trained staff, and as a meeting point for industry professionals. The popular 'Speaker Series' and CPD (continuing professional development) events continue to draw large crowds and are heavily oversubscribed. Through our studios, Brickworks will continue to be the thought leader and catalyst for innovation and change in the industry.

The move from the existing Richmond site is timely, and brings into focus our leadership in the manufacturing supply of a wide variety of building materials. In particular, the design studios in each state are well stocked with a wide range of affordable, as well as premium, products – from bricks, pavers, masonry blocks, roof tiles, and solar solutions.

"Service excellence, style and accessibility are what customers expect from us. Time and time again, our Design Studios continue to deliver. Collins Street raises the bar", says Brett Ward, General Manager International Marketing.

The opening of the new Design Studio was also an opportunity to introduce our new publication on urban design and density, The Material City.









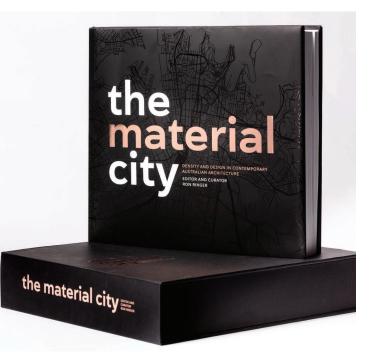


### **NEW PUBLICATON FROM** BRICKWORKS

Few readers may know that Brickworks is active in architecture publications that support its activities. 'Folio', a twice-yearly publication, showcases award-winning and prestigious architecture projects that use our products. Since 2008, we have published three carefully researched books by Sydney writer, Ron Ringer. In early February 2019, another large-size book, The Material City: density and design in contemporary Australian architecture, was officially launched at each of our Design Studios across Australia with the first launch held in Sydney. Sponsored by Brickworks, the book follows in the tradition of a previous volume, Materiality: brick and block in contemporary Australian architecture, published in 2015.

The Material City explores the themes of density and design in contemporary Australia. A vast majority of our population is concentrated around our capital cities, resulting in an emphatic shift towards a bolder, more confronting reality that our cities must adapt and (literally) rise to the occasion. The book explores these issues through 50 case studies and 20 essays and feature articles.

Attended by more than 160 guests, the launch was an overwhelming success. Lara Robertson, our senior architecture representative introduced proceedings, followed by speeches from editor and curator, Ron Ringer, and Dr Cameron Bruhn, Dean of Architecture, University of Queensland. Copies of this 550-page, fully illustrated volume are available from any of our design studios. The book is ideal as a gift and will also make a handsome addition to your bookshelf or coffee table. For a free copy please email marketing@ brickworks.com.au





## WE SHALL REMEMBER THEM – ANZAC WAR MEMORIAL

In late 2018, major works to enhance the Anzac Memorial in Sydney's Hyde Park were finally completed, and timed to coincide with the conclusion of the centenary of Anzac commemorations. Construction had earlier commenced in 2016 after a design plan by the firm of architects, Johnson Pilton Walker, and the NSW Government Architect's Office, which drew on unfinished elements of the original 1930s project, designed by Bruce Dellit. His plans included a reflective pool, and a second cascading water feature, but these were never finished due to the dire economic effects of the Great Depression.

An iconic shrine of remembrance to Australia's service men and women, the structure is instantly recognisable as a place for quiet reflection and official ceremonies honouring those Australians who lost their lives in the line of duty.

Construction was completed by Built, the company that also carried out the refurbishment of Canberra's First World War Galleries in the Australian War Memorial. The Hyde Park memorial now includes an education and interpretation centre that sits beneath the main building and the water feature at the southern side.

Brickworks' involvement through its subsidiary, UrbanStone, was both an honour and a privilege. WA-based National Manager of UrbanStone, Simon Monteath, and his team collaborated with the architects and the NSW government to find an Australian sourced granite. This would be used as the main feature stone for the reflective pools, large water cascades and the main entrance walls and paving into the memorial building.

Says Monteath: "Fortunately, we didn't have to look far. Our quarry near Esperance in WA has plentiful reserves of what we call Desert Brown. First we quarried rock into 60 large, 22-tonne dimension granite blocks, and then processed the blocks into over 160 differently-shaped elements. The pool edges and the cascade pieces were particularly challenging items as the attention to detail and dimensional precision needed to be perfect."

Preparation of the granite called for skilled masons who hand carved the finger grooves that formed the water course edges to the cascades. The work was precise since any dimensional variation to the size or depth of these grooves would be seen once the water



flowed over the multiple steps to the pond below. UrbanStone's masons created a world map of over 2 metres high by hand carving 12mm deep grooves into Desert Brown granite cladding fixed to the memorial entrance wall. Stone elements were prepared and installed by stone contractors, Absolute Tiling.

Congratulations go to Simon, his colleagues at UrbanStone, our stone masons and the contractors for being part of a project that has won the respect and admiration of the commissioning bodies and public alike.



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#### AUSTRAL MASONRY'S NEW FACILITY CEMENTS MARKET SHARE

Manufacturers need to invest in state of the art production facilities if they are to satisfy market demand, continue to produce outstanding quality products and stay ahead of the competition. Brickworks is no exception, and so we are pleased to announced that in late November 2018 our Board of Directors voted to approve \$52 million for a new greenfield plant for Austral Masonry.

Located at Oakdale East close to our other plants in Sydney's south-west, the new manufacturing site will be known as Austral Masonry Oakdale East and will replace the Prospect facility which we acquired in 2013.

When operational, the Oakdale East factory will be the world's most advanced masonry and Value Addition Process (VAP) plant. Fully automated multi-process lines will apply a variety of surface finishes including the honing, polishing, chamfering, shot blasting, curling, sealing, and splitting of masonry blocks. The workhorse driving the operation is a machine capable of producing 18 standard blocks every 13 seconds, achieving a reduction of approximately 23% in manufacturing costs through full automation.

The entire project – including building and site preparation – is a first for Brickworks and our longstanding investment partner,

Goodman, with whom we have a close and profitable relationship. Progress on site preparation and construction continues as we anticipate to hand over the faculty to our National Engineering Division (N.E.D) in late 2019. N.E.D. will manage the factory "fitout" and oversee the commissioning of the plant. Leadership of the project is in the experienced hands of our full-time project engineers, Mat Stafford and Jesse Jackson, who enjoy the support of the entire N.E.D team as the project ramps up.

Says Rob Liistro, Brickworks Chief Engineer: "It's been over four years in the making, commencing with fact-finding visits to world best masonry operations around the globe, and to multiple site locations around NSW. Oakdale is a significant capital investment and will cement Austral Masonry's market leadership," says Rob.



#### Austral Masonry Oakdale East facility.

#### IN THE MOOD FOR STYLE, ELEGANCE, COLOUR

Drawing on local and alobal trends, Brickworks Building Products has collaborated with design identity and House Rules Judge, Wendy Moore, to bring four new stylish and inspirational product schemes to life. These mood boards are specially designed to assist in discovering an individual's perfect style.

The range comprises of four unique and tailored schemes, drawing on upcoming trends that can be adapted to suit any style conscious consumer. From vibrant blue hues that create atmosphere and intimacy, to the tailored elegance of architectural details and natural soft textures, that brings warmth to any home.

The versatile and contemporary palettes perfectly encapsulate the plethora of building products available with Brickworks. Offering solutions for every aspect of the build from main and feature bricks to screening, paving and roof tiles, Brickworks wants to give their consumers the confidence to choose the right colours and materials for their homes.

Brett Ward, General Manager International Marketing said "At Brickworks we continue to push the envelope in the building manufacturing industry with an unwavering dedication to innovation and forward thinking. We are dedicated to creating materials that create beautiful environments".

After 12 years as Editor-in-Chief of one of Australia's leading homes titles, Home Beautiful, Wendy is a self-confessed interiors junkie, driven by a passion to create a magazine that inspires people to fall in love with their own home over and over again. As Judge on House Rules, Wendy's insights into how a beautiful home improves a lifestyle has inspired Australian's all around the country.

The four unique colour schemes are part of a larger initiative from Brickworks, The Style Inspiration Project. Working alongside

ADELAIDE

Square,

Ground Floor,

70 Hindmarsh



Global Pattern colour scheme

Wendy Moore

Australian trend forecaster, Kim Chadwick, the collections brings together hues that work well as a suite, making it more straightforward to choose colours to suit your home. Showcasing the beauty of Brickworks products, the eight colour schemes are set to assist in discovering an individual's perfect style.

The palettes range from lighter, more neutral collections such as Blanco with whites and grevs, and Crema, with creams and browns - all the way to reds and greys of Rouge and Raven with a darker palette of blacks, pewters and charcoals. The colour schemes pair monochromatic and contrasting colours to help build an overall theme that can be used in any space.

#### **Design Studios**

SYDNEY 2 Barrack Street, Svdnev, NSW 2000

BRISBANE 27 James Street, Fortitude Valley, QLD 4006

PERTH 67 King Street, Perth, WA 6000 Adelaide SA 5000

MELBOURNE Shop T1. 367 Collins Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000

HOBART 9 Franklin Wharf, Hobart, TAS 7000

