



Sandstone stars in award winning project

Category:
AUSTRALIAN STONE
Best Commercial
Project

Project:
420 George St, Sydney

Architect:
Bates Smart

Builder:
Lend Lease Constructions

Stone:
Piles Creek 'Cream' 1500m²
80mm Honed Panels

Supplier:
Gosford Quarries

Stone Fixer:
Deemah Stone

Acclaimed architects Bates Smart won a City of Sydney Design Excellence competition for a new commercial tower and retail podium at 420 George Street. The \$280 million project consists of 36 tower levels, comprising 28 office levels, 4 retail levels, 2 basement car park levels and 2 plant levels. The development also includes a new commercial lobby with 5 storey atrium and 4 level retail podium.

The challenge was to insert a large scale mixed-use building, incorporating retail and commercial space, seamlessly into the fabric of a city. Bates Smart have created a highly contemporary addition to the city that respects its historic neighbours and provides an active public mid-block link.

The tower is expressed as two contrasting volumes expressing its side core parti. A solid granite volume houses the core and a transparent glazed volume houses the floorplates which are expressed as 'trays'

suspended between two planes of glass. A 10 storey atrium is created adjacent to Dymock's to provide privacy and light access; resulting in a low-rise campus office. The retail podium is an uncompromisingly modern insertion into the streetscape that references its historic neighbours. The facade reinterprets the cornices and vertical masonry proportioning of the adjoining heritage buildings in a contemporary language.

A genuinely public mid-block link creates a direct connection between Pitt and George Streets. The office lobby and entries to the mid-block link are expressed as urban rooms, defined by large format 80mm thickness sandstone blade walls, which provide a transition to the scale of the city.

A 5 Star Green Star Design Rating has been achieved. 

