



Australian bluestone gains international recognition

Category:

**AUSTRALIAN STONE
Best Export Project**

Project:

Eden Gardens, Beirut Lebanon.

Architecture:

LAB Architecture.

Construction:

**A & H Construction &
Development Company and
Avenue Ventures s.a.l.**

Stone supply & processing:

BAMSTONE

Description: over 5000 square metres of honed bluestone facade cladding, diamond sawn paving, honed window sills, soffits & reveals.

The Eden Garden project involves two distinct but joined luxury apartment buildings in the Solidere downtown redevelopment of Beirut, Lebanon. There are 21 apartments over five floors, ranging from three 400m² apartments per floor to a single 1,000m² apartment. The building addresses the public garden promenade, 'shoreline walk', which demarcates the line of the old Mediterranean shoreline to the civil war.

The facade concept derives from two sources: firstly, the house project for Josephine Baker by Adolf Loos and secondly, the local precedents both in Lebanon and throughout the Middle East of using horizontal stone banding across a facade with contrasting colours to over-emphasise the horizontal, this concept allows for variation and a kind of 'shimmer and vibration' across the facade, whilst still adhering to the very stringent guidelines of the Solidere Beirut downtown redevelopment.

The facade operates in an open and closed mode, with the balconies and loggia being closed down using operable screens and shutters for when occupants are absent or when storms roll through from the Mediterranean. This produces a variable massing, with a more continuous external surface contrasting the recesses and set-backs of windows, loggia and balconies.

BAMSTONE were chosen from a long list of international suppliers because of the quality, durability and aesthetic appeal of Port Fairy Bluestone. BAMSTONE supplied over 5000 square metres of honed bluestone cladding for the exterior facade, as well as diamond sawn external paving, honed windowsills, soffits and reveals. 