



Swanbury Penglase

#86 This issue showcases the incredible transformation of the recently completed landscape at Blackfriars Priory School.



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Blackfriars Priory School Landscape Redevelopment

Following the completion last year of the new Aquinas Centre at Blackfriars Priory School, we are pleased to share our latest project at the campus; a comprehensive upgrade of the western precinct facing Prospect Road.

The driving feature of the project is the Jubilee Walk, formally welcoming the community into the site. The walkway creates a strong visual and physical connection from the School's main entry points, to the heritage-listed St Catharine's administration building and front office. Dominican history is etched into the feature pavement bands, creating an educational and spiritual journey within the landscape.

The new Masters' Pavilion is a strong, grounding

element linking into the Aquinas Centre, providing a generous covered outdoor learning area, complemented by custom furniture to create a fluid and accessible learning, social and event space. The curved form and orientation responds to its location on campus. Its detail references the theme of 'pergola', mirroring the colonnade language of the Aquinas Centre and its strong interior palette of timber battens. Feature lighting in the pavilion and along the walkway showcase the school at its prominent address and facilitate outdoor events, bringing the space to life at night.

The project stitches together elements developed over time, mediating different path networks, materials, levels and building entries. It caters for many outdoor learning opportunities, with the large covered outdoor learning area as well as smaller, peaceful garden 'rooms', accompanied by formal open lawn areas, garden beds and avenue tree planting.

Simple design elements resulted in some of the most appreciated and interesting spaces, such as the small garden beds in front of the library; straightforward in their intent and execution, yet their 'gardenesque' character and scale have made them popular, offering students a familiar, human scale place to relax, watch and get away from the crowds.

Staff Notes

Name: Sok Ke

Position: Associate/Landscape Architect

Current projects: St Columba Middle School, Pedare College projects, Union House, Moonta, Dover Street Reserve.

What inspires you? Creative design that provokes thoughts and feelings with an interweaving of social and ecological matters, as well as innovative and refined detailing.

Design idols: Very diverse from Tadao Ando to Andy Goldsworthy.

Design you wish you could take credit for: Royal Botanic Gardens, Cranbourne by TCL (before my time there), Chichu Art Museum by Tadao Ando, and/or parts of the National Gallery of Victoria design.

Pencil vs computer (your preference): Pencil always, the amazing organic shapes and lines that technology can't match (yet).

Fantasy (or next) holiday destination: Back to Japan for my next trip with Machu Picchu, Peru as the fantasy destination or equally somewhere ancient, a step back in time.

First favourite song as a kid: Too young /old to remember, likely some old folklore songs.

Currently listening to: Depending on the mood: piano jazz numbers to popular stuff by Joy Division, Nick Cave, the Doors etc.

Fav eatery: Lucia's, the Central Market for casual eating to Nishiki (best Japanese food and bar), Russell's Pizzas (great food and vibe) to late night delight of Café De Villi's (Mile End).

Best thing about living in Adelaide: (see previous answer) and travelling distance to everywhere within 30-45mins; from the beautiful coastline and beaches to the picturesque hills and countless wineries and scenic driving routes.

Most treasured possession: Family, friends and good health, combined with good food and wine.

Growing up you thought you would be: Adopted as I looked different to my siblings, LOL. Something outdoor with the rain, I love rain.

Memorable SP (Swanbury Penglase) moment: First Moonta site trip and its workshop, Friday night office hangouts, having a laugh with Steve P. and getting to know people.

Pizza and drinks at the Princess Elizabeth Playground



Office News

Stitching together the evolved elements of an existing place is something that is explored in many of our other projects, such as the Union House Upgrade and Enterprise Hub.

Recently, Heritage Architect Andrew Klenke led an EmAGN tour of Union House, that gave an insight into how it has grown and been adapted since its design in 1927. The Union buildings underwent a series of contemporary brick additions through 1969 - 1974, through to more recently completed landscape and interior works by Swanbury Penglase. The tour explored the Cloisters, Exercise Studio, Little Theatre, East wing, Bookshop, Cinema and the Fitness Hub (Former Games Room).

At the same time, our Enterprise Hub adaptive reuse project is now off the ground. It is a historic building that has also been through many iterations, from a warehouse to night clubs, restaurants and a theatre. On the 3rd of June, the office went on a site tour, to see what has been uncovered during the demolition process so far. Andrew Klenke gave an overview of the site's history, with Architect Jenny Newman and Senior Associate Kate Beerworth leading the walk through and presenting how the history has been weaved into the new concept.

Also keen to share his knowledge, Heritage Architect, Dr Stephen Schrapel participated in the panel discussion for the event '*Cast in Concrete: Italian Migrants and South Australia's Building Industry*' at the Migration Museum. It delved into the role of migrants in driving innovation in construction; particularly the contribution of Italian migrants to the success of the concrete industry in South Australia. Their part however, has not been well understood or documented. A live interview was also broadcast to the Italian Community on Radio Italia Uno.

This year, several of our projects were showcased in the Learning Environment Australasia Conference tours. These included McAuley Community School (including the ALIVE Early Learning Centre), Norwood International High School, the UniSA Bradley Building (in collaboration with BVN), Woodcroft College New ELC, Riverbanks College Birth-12 School, St Brigid's School, and Pedare Christian College Junior and Middle Schools. The theme of the tours was 'learning ecosystems' that can 'continuously adapt' to change.

Although we've been busy as usual, we have still had time to organise social events. SP hosted a special Friday night drinks and Pizza event at the Princess Elizabeth Playground on the 1st of April.

To round out this issue, Sitenotes would like to welcome new Graduate of Architecture from UniSA, Jamie Becker, to our office!