

Of stone and wood

HOUSE ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS/RENOVATIONS
\$700,001-\$1 MILLION
Hagan Built, Randwick

An eagle eye for detail and a good client relationship earned Hagan Built notice from the MBA judges.

In the division with the most entries, one room in particular embodied both these winning qualities – the main-bedroom ensuite.

“One thing that particularly stood out was the natural stonework in the ensuite, with the shower floor laid in one piece,” judge Lloyd Austin says.

“This really displayed attention to detail on the builder’s part and his precision in setting out the work.”

Hagan Built director Matt Hagan says he likes to involve the client in the building process. “It was really important that the client liked this room,” Hagan says.

“I took her out to see the marble and it blew her away. It’s good to make the client feel that they are part of the project.

“They relied on us to guide them through their decisions.”

Hagan was involved from the early design stages and says the three-bedroom-plus-study Federation home was to be a simple extension job of blending the new with the old.

But, in a flick of a page, the concept swayed and the clients wanted a modern look to contrast with the rest of their heritage home. “The inspiration was from a photo in a magazine,” Hagan says.

“It went from a cottage and then turned into something more cutting edge.”

This created challenges for the builders to achieve a minimalist look on such a small site – the solution was to maximise floor space.

The judges believe Hagan pulled this off



Seamless ... Hagan Built added a modern touch.

seamlessly. “You go from an old facade to a modern extension and it all seemed to flow,” Austin says.

What appeared effortless to some was, in fact, the result of considerable effort.

Hagan says the team worked all over the site, from front to back.

“We were coming in over the existing cottage and did not have much room to build the house,” he says.

One can only imagine how the massive slab of Bedonia stone chosen for the client’s private bathroom made it up the stairs of the new extension. Hagan says the stone had to be cut into three sheets.

The judges were also impressed at how a single-storey house on a neat piece of land had packed in so many added features, including a last-minute glass-fronted swimming pool in the tightly spaced backyard.

Susie Cameron