

The Top 5 Commercial Applications for StoneSet



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A commercial organisation's ability to prosper, hinges upon its ability to optimise profits while providing a safe, secure environment for patrons and staff. Business owners and administrators must continually seek innovative ways to promote their brand while establishing themselves as a trusted resource that is committed to protecting members of the Australian community. This book explores the rising popularity of porous paving in Australia and the many ways that StoneSet porous paving helps to create a safe, secure environment for Australia's most frequented commercial organisations.

The Growing Popularity of Porous Paving in Australia

Before the turn of the century, porous paving was primarily seen in the United Kingdom, where it was often used as a flood mitigation technique. In recent years, the United States and Australia have followed suit. Increased attention to water-sensitive urban design (WSUD) initiatives and a growing desire to protect the environment have combined to make porous paving an increasingly popular option for commercial project administrators in Australia. Additionally, health-related initiatives such as the **National Slips and Falls Prevention Project** have highlighted the need for porous paving's cost-effective, slip-resistant design.



The Top Five Commercial Applications for StoneSet Porous Paving

Not all porous paving is created equal. Through their impressive **portfolio of commercial projects** that span the continent of Australia, the paving experts StoneSet have established themselves as Australia's most trusted leader in the porous paving industry. As a **Master Builders Australia** member, StoneSet is committed to collaborating with builders and architects to create water sensitive, safe, affordable surfaces for schools, medical facilities, and other businesses. Below are the top five commercial applications for StoneSet porous paving.

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1. Hospitals and surgery centres

The hospital and outpatient surgery centre market is projected to grow by \$2 billion between 2016 and 2020. As public and private health care providers develop initiatives to expand their scope of services and attract new patients, they are expected to control costs and serve as the gold standard for injury prevention. After all, with falls leading to over 110,000 hospital admissions in Australia every year, health care providers have first-hand experience with the need to prevent slips and falls.

Using porous paving to cover the grounds of hospitals and surgery centres is an excellent way to help medical facilities ramp-up injury prevention and control costs. By offering the following advantages, StoneSet is a total solution for hospitals and surgery centres:

- Porous paving is ideal for hospital courtyards and tree surrounds
- Patients seeking an environmentally conscious healthcare provider will appreciate StoneSet's green composition
- Porous paving offers increased traction for wheelchairs and IV poles
- Navigating hospital grounds is safer for elderly or medicated patients at increased risk for falls
- Porous paving is great for playgrounds at pediatric facilities because it prevents large puddles of water
- StoneSet's diverse colour options are perfect for creating a warm and inviting space for both children and adults



2. Schools and universities



School and university administrators are continually seeking innovative ways to improve the utility and appearance of their facilities to attract new students. At the same time, they must control costs while providing a safe environment for students and staff. Creating a green environment is increasingly important for adolescents and university students who tend to experience an **increased concern about the environment** during their teenage years.

StoneSet is an attractive option for forward-thinking school administrators seeking to create an attractive, green environment for students and staff. Here are some ways that StoneSet can help schools and universities promote their brand to students while protecting all of the people who frequent their grounds:

- Pro-environmental staff and students will be drawn to porous paving's ability to control pollutants
- Sidewalks, bike lanes and pathways will drain quickly following a heavy rain, reducing slips and falls
- School logos and crests can easily be incorporated into porous paving to help with brand promotion
- StoneSet is easy to keep clean and is pressure washer safe
- StoneSet is durable – with a design life of 25 years
- StoneSet can be laid quickly with minimal interruption to staff, students as well as the grounds

CASE STUDIES

Athena School



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CASE STUDIES

Athena School

StoneSet was contracted at Athena School to resurface two large areas of playground as part of a Street coolers project to reduce the ambient temperature and reduce the energy required to keep the school cool in summer.

We installed 450sqm of 6mm Apollo Ash. All the stone is sourced by StoneSet in Australia and is crushed and bagged without the need to wash. Apollo Ash was selected for a number of reasons. Although it is laid to a smooth, flat finish, using this type of crushed rock give a really good slipware rating, suitable for public areas. The colour lends itself to the purpose of this project as the natural rock is very light tones of grey, meaning it will reflect much of the sun light rather than absorb the heat, especially when compared to the effect of the previous surface of black bitumen. Finally, as with all StoneSet products, the surface is porous so will allow water to run through, meaning rainwater will return to the water table, through the porous base installed by StoneSet, and provide water and nutrients to the trees and other vegetation on the property.

The install took just 4 Days to complete. Our base was made up of a recycled plastic honeycomb structure backfilled with 6mm Blue Metal giving very high load bearing rating and maintaining high porosity rates. StoneSet was installed at 25mm depth directly on top of this surface.



Porous pathway at Athena School



[Read the Street Coolers blog](#)



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3. Commercial centres and shopping centres

With their bustling activity and heavy foot traffic, shopping centres and commercial centres are hotbeds for pedestrian slips and falls. Commercial centres are legally required to ensure that their facilities are clean and safe. Because slips and falls most **commonly occur in public areas such as shopping centres** and offices, there is a heightened need for safe walking surfaces in commercial centres.

Builders and engineers are increasingly recognising the many ways that porous paving can help prevent falls while adding to the aesthetic design of commercial centres. From covering parking lots to tree pits, porous paving can dramatically enhance the safety and appearance of a commercial centre. Here are a few of the many ways that StoneSet can benefit commercial centres:

- Enhanced safety and ease of maintenance of commercial centre parking lots through improved drainage
- Tree pits covered with porous paving extend the lives of trees and foliage while bolstering aesthetic appeal
- White divider lines can be easily applied to StoneSet to designate parking spaces
- The ability to customise porous paving with colours and logos facilitates brand promotion
- The security of browsing patrons is optimised with StoneSet's slip-resistant surface
- Porous paving can circumvent the need for extensive drains which can be expensive and unattractive



4. Swimming pool surrounds



Protecting the lives of swimmers is the top goal of the Australian Water Safety Council. In spite of robust efforts to **regulate swimming pool activity**, pool-related accidents still occur. Surprisingly, a substantial portion of these incidents occur outside the water in the form of slips and falls. Puddles of pooling water that form around the edges of a pool can create a dangerous environment for pool visitors.

The need for a safe, cost-effective pool surround should be a top concern for anyone installing a swimming pool. Applying StoneSet porous paving to the surrounding poolside is beneficial in a number of ways, including the following:

- StoneSet helps prevent slips and falls by facilitating the drainage of puddles of pool water
- The textured finish of StoneSet, is nice underfoot while allowing a slip resistant finish
- StoneSet is not adversely affected by exposure to chlorine or salt water
- The natural finish and robust colour range allows owners to customise their pool environments

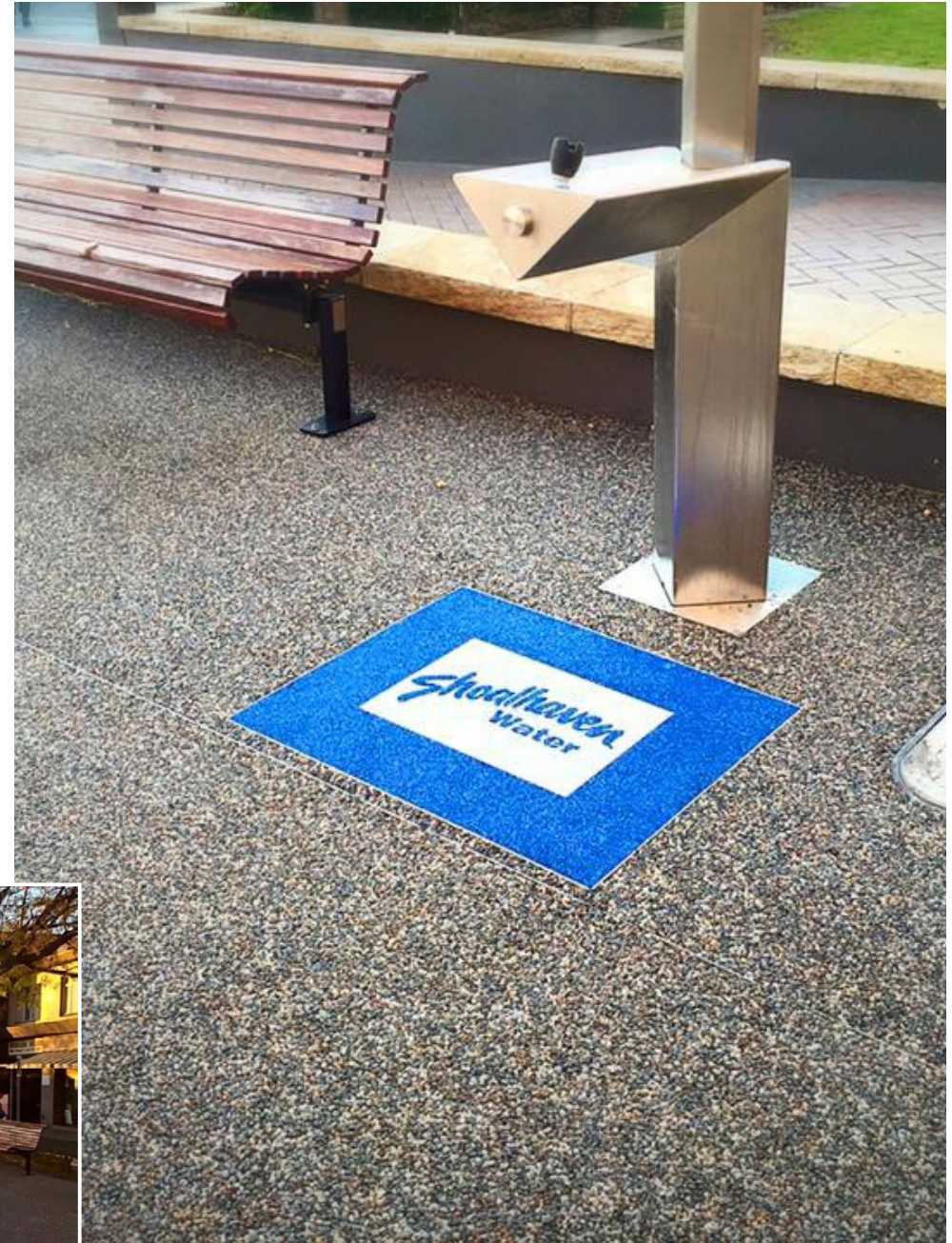


5. Day care centres

The number one obligation for day care centres is to protect the children entrusted to their care. Becoming an **approved child care service in Australia** requires day care providers to demonstrate their commitment to safe child care. They must complete a lengthy application and provide extensive documentation, including a current copy of the operator's liability insurance.

Using porous paving to cover the grounds of day care centres helps commercial day care providers illustrate their dedication to protecting toddlers and young children. Specifically, using porous paving such as StoneSet offers the following advantages to day care centre owners:

- Water drains faster on day care playgrounds following heavy rains
- Affordable costs lead to increased profitability for the **growing number of for-profit daycare centres** in Australia
- The slip resistant surfaces ensures that toddlers and young children are less likely to slip and fall
- The incorporation of porous paving helps create an awareness to environmental issues, helping to educate our future generations



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Additional applications for StoneSet

The possible applications for porous paving are endless. As Australia's focus on safety and environmental preservation heightens, builders and project managers will continue to see the immense value of porous paving. In addition to the key applications previously referenced, StoneSet is an excellent option for the following types of commercial projects:

- Theme parks
- Church campuses
- Apartment complexes
- Gated communities
- Senior living communities
- Country clubs
- Office complexes

Clearly, the future for porous paving is bright. **Contact us** to learn how we can pave the way to success for your commercial organisation. Through our forward-thinking approach, we are continually improving our product to help make Australia a greener, safer place to live and work.



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CASE STUDIES

Sydney Observatory

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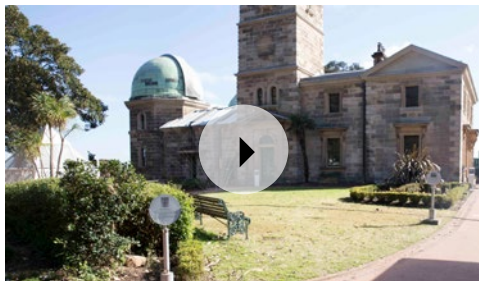
CASE STUDIES

Sydney Observatory

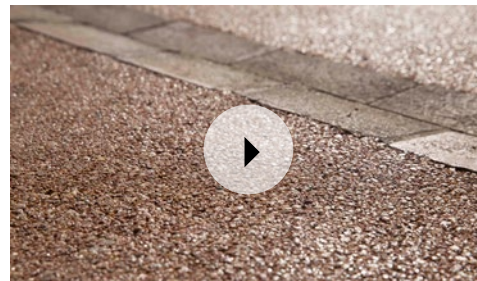
Positioned in the centre of Sydney and overlooking Sydney Harbour, Sydney Observatory offers not only a breathtaking view but an important history which has made it one of the top heritage sites in Australia.

StoneSet was called upon by MAAS (Museum of Applied Arts & Sciences) to help solve a problem: the existing stone pathways, which had become very worn and undulated, were causing health and safety concerns. The existing deco granite was not coping with the high levels of foot traffic or the sloping site, which saw the loose granite constantly rolling down the hill after rainfall.

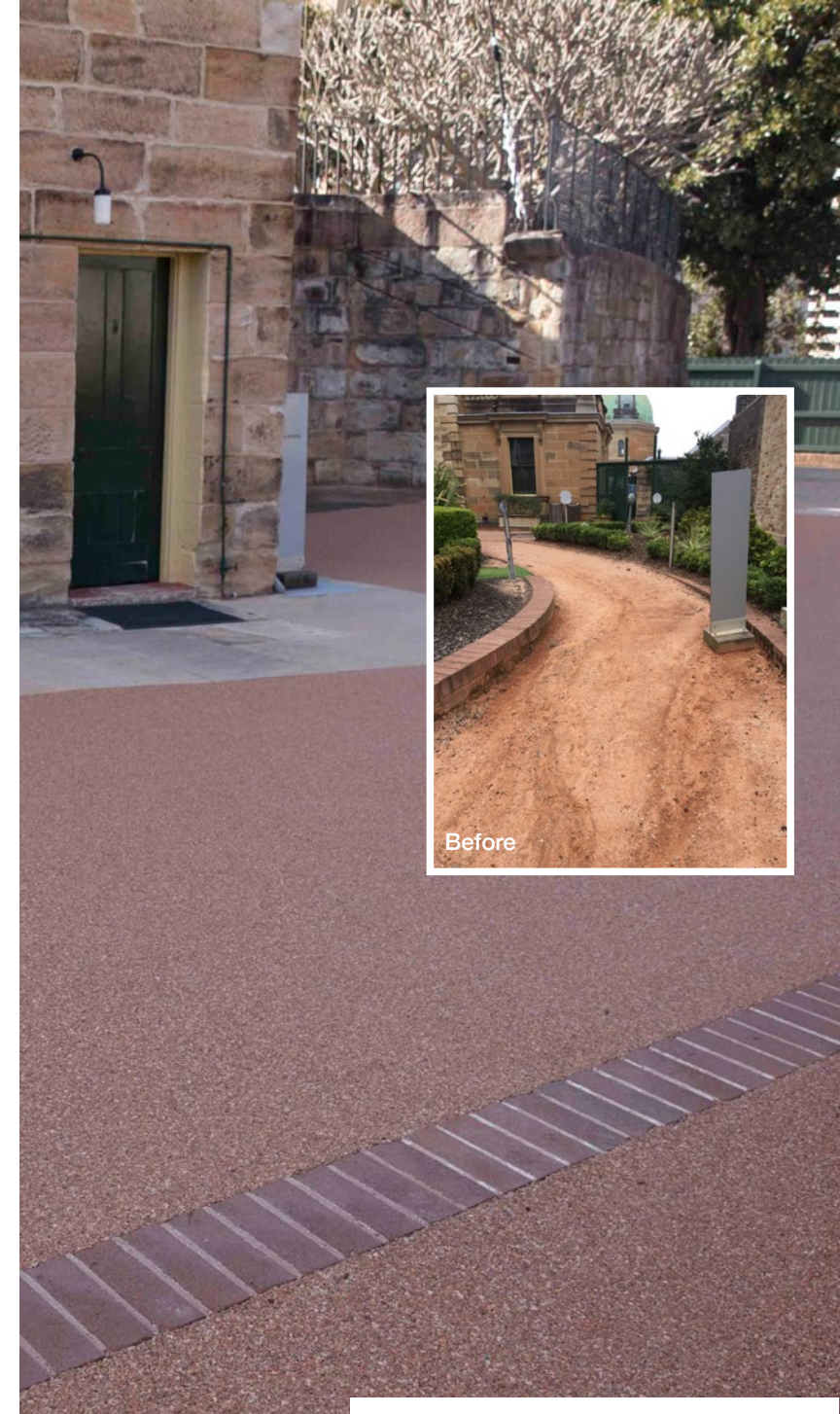
The brief was to provide paving which was in keeping with the heritage nature of the site, while meeting the accessibility requirements of today. We needed to match the existing red granite but with a product which would be long lasting, low maintenance and easy to traffic.



Sydney Observatory Project



Porous Paving Water Absorption Demo



Before

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StoneSet offered the perfect solution, solving all the existing problems without sacrificing the look of the heritage site. Bound by a polyurethane resin, the stones can no longer wash away in the rain nor will they move with the pressure of turning car tyres and will continue to stay in place with minimal maintenance for up to 25 years.

Helping with water run off due to the slopes, the permeable nature of the 6mm sized stone as well as the gravel cell sub-base also resolved the previous pooling and run-off issues which had started to degrade the site and cause a maintenance headache for the ground keepers. Laid at just a 75mm depth, StoneSet required minimal interruption to the grounds and due to the subsequent quick installation – little interruption to the opening times of the popular site. Even the heritage brick pavers were able to remain in place.

In terms of colour, a mix of Coral and Cream was chosen which beautifully carried the traditional red through the site while enabling the pathways to tie in with the sandstone features. StoneSet was laid over 1000m² of gravel cell base and the site looks absolutely stunning.

StoneSet has resolved all of the previous issues and with minimal interruption to the grounds. StoneSet has also offered a durable and low maintenance solution, which will ensure the benefits can be enjoyed for years to come. Furthermore, while the earth tones of the Coral Cream mix ensured a beautiful tie in with the elements on site, the modern and seamless nature of the product also ensured a tie in between the observatory and its city surrounds.

Stats:

Area: 1000m²

6mm Coral Cream StoneSet laid at 25mm depth

Base: 52mm Gravel Cell backed filled with free draining gravel

Sub-base: Well compacted road-base

Installation time: 10 days



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