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Barossa beautiful

TEXT *JAN HENDERSON* | PHOTOGRAPHY *CAROLINE CAMERON*
LOCATION *BAROSSA VALLEY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA* | TRADITIONAL *CUSTODIANS PERAMANGK PEOPLE*

Combining old with new, this home is all that it should be but so much more, providing luxury with authenticity to re-emerge triumphant.





Nestled in the Barossa Valley in South Australia, Mt Mac Cottage reflects both its place in the landscape and the sensibilities of its residents. The original cottage has been restored and a new glazed and blackened timber pavilion inserted into the existing form of the home. Together the old and new coalesce in harmony.

“The concept of the return verandah has been reinstated as the link between the original cottage and the new pavilion, the traditional outhouse reimagined and concealed within the central charred timber box, that straddles and is key to both the interior and exterior form.

“The kitchen, pantry, laundry, and bathroom are also compressed into this knuckle providing an anchor point for the new and existing,” says Sophia Leopardi, director of Adelaide-based studio Williams Burton Leopardi.

With floor-to-ceiling glazing, the new addition provides extraordinary vistas of Mount McKenzie, while light penetrates the interior and connects the outside to the inside.

Referencing the surrounding landscape, the interior colour and material palettes have been expertly utilised to add dimension to the interior design while also reflecting the residents’ lifestyle.

Rich dark colours provide depth in the living and dining spaces with muted olive feature walls and tan timber flooring in the new addition that complements the brick paving of the original home. Painted cream ceilings and curtaining add lightness to the interior.

The kitchen and open-plan dining area becomes the heart of family life. A rectangular timber table and chairs provide a place for gathering and overhead the vintage brass pendant lights are perfect in their simplicity.

A glazed door beside the kitchen affords light and connection to the landscape, and dark, almost black coloured, overhead cupboards and a grey honed granite island bench with high stools is the place for coffee and a chat.

Contemporary furnishings sit beside patinated brick and aged tallboys have been placed alongside modern artworks. The aesthetic is eclectic and comfortable but the home shines with expert detailing that pays tribute to its origins.

Surrounded by a working farm, the design of Mt Mac Cottage pays tribute to the aesthetics of yesterday and the modern style of today.

■ Williams Burton Leopardi | designbywbl.com.au

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