Thin Brick Cleaning & Maintenance

Once thin brick are installed and the mortar has fully cured, thin brick should be maintained using the same techniques as full brick installations. (ref BIA technical note 20, www.gobrick.com). The exception would be that if any mortar needs to be repointed, the depth of the pointing would only run as thick as the thin brick.

General Cleaning:

General washing should be performed with a cleanser specifically designed for brick masonry. McNear recommends the use of Prosoco products (www.prosoco.com). Use caution and carefully follow their recommendations for cleanser and cleaning instructions. Always test a small inconspicuous area first. Never clean with Muriatic Acid!

Sealing:

As a general rule of thumb, McNear does not recommend sealing brick, as some sealers can change the natural beauty of the brick. If sealing is desired, we recommend the use of Prosoco products (www.prosoco.com) or the products noted below for use on Old California Series brick. When any sealer is applied, always follow the manufacturer’s recommendations and instructions. Always test a small inconspicuous area first.

Special considerations for Old California series brick:

Acids and Cleansers:

Many of the colors within our Old California Series are manufactured with coatings derived from historic building products, such as lime and cement, and these coatings can be adversely affected by strong cleansers and acids. Acids, and cleansers containing acids, should NEVER be used on the following bricks:

- Black Hills
- Greenhill
Thin Brick Cleaning & Maintenance

Portsmouth
Rustic
Sacramento Rustic
San Joaquin Rustic
Santa Fe Rustic
Whitehall

Sealing:

In areas where cleaning is required, such as kitchens, restaurants, and interior spaces, application of a sealer can produce a surface which is both easier to clean and which can withstand repeated cleansings without damage to the coatings on the bricks. We recommend NanoPave JSS Ghost, manufactured by TechniSoil, for this purpose. NanoPave is a water-based, VOC-free product which can be purchased locally or through McNear Brick & Block. A pump-spray canister is typically used to apply NanoPave JSS, and a small test application should be done first in an unobtrusive area to determine the amount of coating desired. Correctly applied, NanoPave will leave little or no sheen. If a higher sheen is desired, use the NanoPave JSS Gloss.