

Architects



A Harold Smith house in Castlecrag
WDHS&M

"Buildings make a city.
Architects make the buildings"

HAROLD SMITH was an architect who helped make Sydney.

His first home for his young family, in Castlecrag, was notable. The neighbours objected because it "looked like a dairy" but for years passers-by knocked on the door, hoping to see inside. It included many features that were innovations in 1943. The kitchen had a hidden sliding table that sat five and a built-in ironing board; the dining room had cantilevered cupboards with storage for stools underneath.

He and his partner, **Robert Jesse**, worked on the Wolper Jewish Hospital, the offices of the National Council of Jewish Women of Australia in Woollahra, North Bondi RSL and other RSL clubs, Fairfield's Civic Centre and town hall, Castlecove Country Club, many Commonwealth Bank buildings and much medium-density housing. After he retired, the company he founded, now DesignInc, refurbished the Commonwealth Bank building in Martin Place.

Harold Smith
Frederick Castledon

FREDERICK GEORGE CASTLEDEN was a Chatswood architect. He designed a number of residences for high profile clients in the Chatswood area along Centennial Avenue, Mowbray Road, the Pacific Highway and Beaconsfield Road (including Ismalia).

Many Castleden houses have been demolished which make those remaining even more precious

The Royal Australian Institute of Architects biographical information states that Castleden designed 4 houses in Centennial Ave., possibly 3 in Beaconsfield including 6-10 Beaconsfield He was the architect for his own property at the corner of Centennial & Whitton Roads (now demolished), 9 Centennial Ave (formerly the Jenkins home), possibly Astraea, Chislehurst (demolished), possibly 13 Centennial Ave., or the property at the corner of Dardanelles & Centennial Ave., Chatswood.



Ismalia at Chatswood
by Frederick Castleden