



LIGHTNESS OF BEING

Arts & Craft
era meets
contemporary
light and space

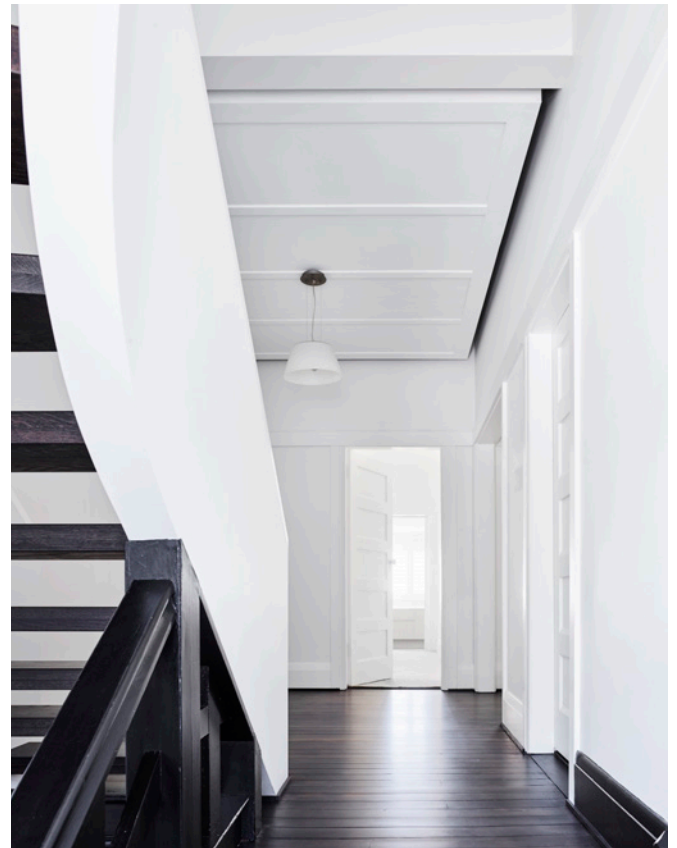
Design
Madeleine Blanchfield
Builders
One Up Building





The brief to architects Madeleine Blanchfield was to introduce light and space to this Arts & Craft era family home in Coogee – capturing natural light, providing connection to the exteriors, and opening up the interior spaces.

The attic boasted stunning views across Gordon's Bay, so it made sense to transform the space into a master floor, whilst injecting a more refined aesthetic. The centrepiece of the design was the creation of a light sculptural staircase connecting the new addition whilst still complementing the heavier details of the existing home.

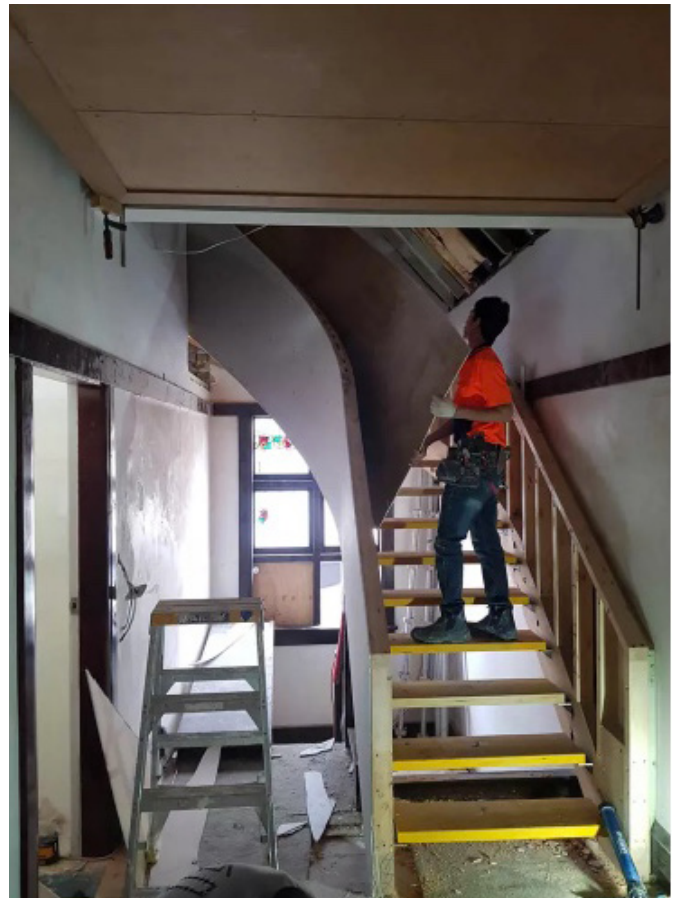


The design called for the maximisation of the floor-to-ceiling heights and the removal of all structural supports in the attic in order to create a grand, light space. According to Madeleine: *'Our approach to the design was to make some strong interventions in the existing dwelling and give light and space to the old, dark rooms. We made new openings to create vistas through from the old house to the new extension and garden, bringing clarity and brightness to the spaces. A new stair to the attic was inserted in a style that is distinctly different to the existing Tudor style, respecting the integrity of the house and creating a soft feature at the same time.'*



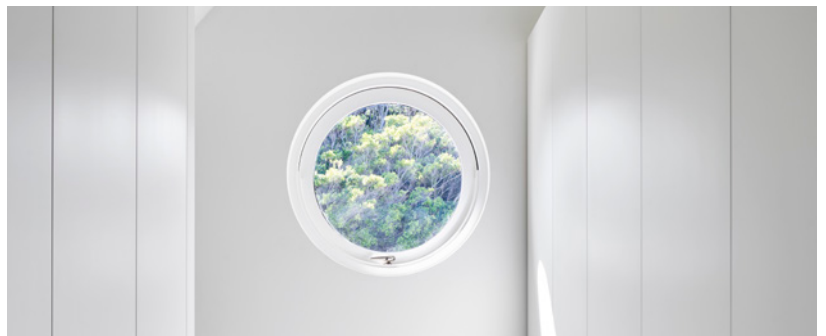
From a building perspective this posed the challenge of maintaining the design integrity, whilst providing complete stability within the existing roof structure. The existing roof framing was reinforced with a new frame structure to withstand the removal of supporting members. A further sub-frame structure was then required to achieve the design intent for the placement of overhead beams and raked linings.

In total three framing systems sit within the roof cavity to enable the structural and aesthetic requirements of the attic. The cross bracing was lost as a result of removing the supporting attic walls, so to counter this, we constructed a modified door head and balcony railing which very delicately and discreetly provided the necessary support whilst achieving a minimalist aesthetic.



The staircase presented its own challenges. We needed to execute a tight sweeping radius that provided clearance to the raked roof above and existing stairs below. Our initial intention was to use steel, however stability could not be achieved.

We decided on timber lamination – giving us flexibility and stability, whilst also enabling us to refine the detailing as we went. Concealed fixing timber treads were installed providing a dramatic entrance to the master bedroom.



In conjunction with the attic works, we staged the remaining house modifications so that the house could be handed over as a fully completed home.

This beautiful family home is testament to our clients who were proactive throughout the process, and the great teamwork from Madeleine Blanchfield architects – which enabled us to achieve the design aspirations within budget and on time.







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MEET THE ONEUP TEAM

Rick Simmons (left) and Scott Somerville (right) have a deep love of building and good design, and are passionate about every project they take on.

As co-owners and managing directors of One Up building, Rick and Scott have worked together for over 20 years. They are both licensed builders and carpenters, and building is in their blood.

Having gained their early experience working alongside their mentors in luxury home construction and management in the eastern suburbs of Sydney, the pair have gone on to build a business with a reputation for exceptional attention to detail, and an ability to realise an architect and client's vision, without compromising on the design integrity.

Rick's key role in One Up Building is project management, which involves communicating with clients and stakeholders to ensure the smooth transition between each stage of the project.

Scott is responsible for ensuring each project meets One Up Building's own rigorous standards for quality and excellence by personally overseeing the selection of all of the materials and inspecting the workmanship at every stage of the project.

Our clientele and reputation has evolved by providing quality, service and reliability. Repeat business and long standing relationships are testimonial to the dedication we offer.

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