

GROSE BEACH HOUSE 1965



HOUSE FOR A BACHELOR 1961



## **CLAYTON BEACH HOUSE** 1961

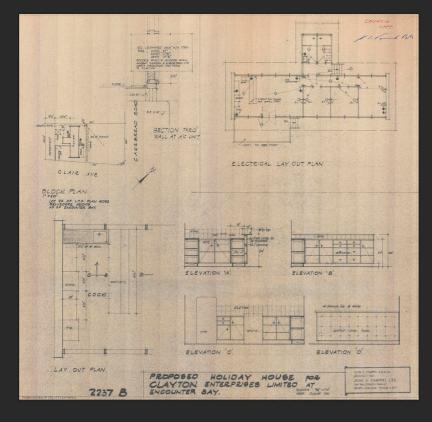
# LOCATION Encounter Bay ARCHITECT John Chappel











Designed for John Clayton, his wife Claire, and their three children, the Clayton beach house is on a sloped corner site in Encounter Bay.

Clayton was the Managing director of Clayton furniture, known for the 'Staykold' portable icebox and producing modular bedroom furniture items, which included the 'Cantilever Double Bunk bed', used within the children's bedrooms of the house.

Along with Clayton furniture's accountant Bob Cottle, Clayton was an enthusiastic supporter of the new. In 1960 Clayton commissioned John Chappel to design new entertainment, playroom and barbeque areas for their Myrtle Bank family home, in which the design integrated new technologies and new consumer items for comfort and entertainment: television, cocktail cabinet, refrigerator, air-conditioning and radiogram. In 1961, Chappel oversaw the construction of one of his most significant and widely publicised designs, Bob Cottle's family home in Mount Osmond (now tragically demolished).

Built for £2,750, the Clayton's 1961 family beach house was an idealised solution to the design of a modern beach home. Planned on a regularly spaced module, the home suggested pleasure and freedom in use, with an easy engagement to the surroundings. Used primarily for summer, the house has a separated exterior bathing block to allow direct access to the shower from the beach, and an elevated main floor designed to capture both views and sun, whilst providing an undercover area for car and boat storage. Planned to be predominately one room wide for cross ventilation, the house had an emphasis on the combined living-dining-kitchen area that opens out to a wide viewing deck.

The Clayton house was capable of being erected on any allotment. It's design was adaptable, accommodating site variances through the homes 'Still Structure'. In his reporting for The Advertiser, Chappel claims that there was 'considerable interest' in the design. Duplicates of the Clayton house were later constructed for Martin Dallawitz in Port Willunga and in sites across Encounter Bay, with local modifications (an enclosed storage or balcony area).

**SHARED SENSIBILITIES** 

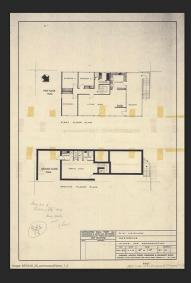
CRAIL 1957

## LOCATION Victor Harbor ARCHITECT Caradoc Ashton, Fisher, Woodhead & Beaumont Smith











Overlooking the Hindmarsh River and beach, 'Crail' is strikingly modern; upper levels of the steel framed house cantilever over the lower levels with structural bravura protecting a carport. The house is predominately composed of lightweight industrial materials such as glass, steel, concrete, fibreglass and aluminium windows.

Built for £5000, the home is perched high among the treetops on a steep and wooded site. Orientated to take in the sun and views, the house is designed around an imagined lifestyle in which swimming, sailing, sunbathing, fishing and freshwater skiing are all within easy reach. Geometrically constrained in its engagement with surroundings, the house has a structural clarity and an economy in its planning, in which spaces are flexible and multi-purposed to allow for an informal form of living appropriate to being on holiday. Large areas of glass and an external sun terrace enable connection between the house and the inhabitants with the landscape.

Built for Lawyer, businessman and politician Donald Laidlaw, his wife Vivienne and three children, Laidlaw served as Japanese translator and decoder during WWII after which he studied Law at the University of Adelaide. Upon marrying Vivienne Perry, descendant of Perry engineering, the couple travelled to Oxford where Donald achieved the rare position of Captain (1952) of the Oxford Golf Team that played Cambridge.

Named "Crail", after a favourite village in Scotland near the Royal Golf Links at St Andrews, the beach house had a number of shared sensibilities with the family house in Beaumont. Both featured aluminium windows made at Perry Engineering, a new production line introduced by Don, when he returned from New York and Melbourne to work with the company. Like the extension to the Beaumont house, the aluminium windows at "Crail" enabled greater connection with the surrounding trees and garden and were an early example of indoor/outdoor living. Both houses also featured modern Australian furniture - with tables, chairs, sideboards and lighting by designers Douglas Snelling and Grant Featherston. The light and space in both houses provided a good backdrop for Australian art work purchased from Kym Bonython's gallery.

Drawings presented here represent an earlier scheme in which the carport enabled passage across the site with stone terrace establishing a topographical relation.

SHARED SENSIBILITIES

## LEE BEACH HOUSE

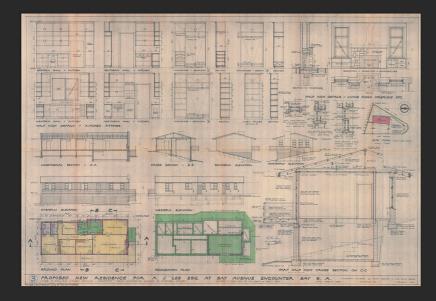
1958

## **LOCATION** Encounter Bay **ARCHITECT** James Hall









Located in 'fashionable' Encounter Bay, Sir Arthur James Lee's 'luxury beach house' was built for £8000 when he was aged 46. 'Simple in shape and appearance', Architect James Hall designed the home during his presidency of the then South Australian Institute of Architects.

Arthur Lee, known as 'Mert', was a member of a well-known family of hoteliers and a director of Lee's Hotels. During World War II he rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, serving in the 2/27th and 2/16th battalions, finishing as Commanding Officer of the 2/9th battalion, having crossed the Kokoda Trail twice. In 1958 he was elected state president of the RSL and in 1959 was made a Companion of the British Empire. He served as national president of the RSL from 1960-1974 and was knighted in 1966.

Along with these accomplishments 'Mert' and his two brothers, Bob and Jack, were well known in the 1950s as very successful racehorse owners, including the 1950 Melbourne Cup winner 'Comic Court' which was inducted into the Australian Racing Hall of Fame in 2009. So successful were their horses that the Adelaide News dubbed them 'the Lucky Lees'.

Occupying a secluded position surrounded by cool green lawns and with easy access to the beach, house and garden achieve the effect of an ease of living and enjoyment of simple outdoor space. Attuned to existing site conditions and scenic surroundings, the house works with the fall of site to create space below the main floor for boat storage. Cantilevered floor beams suspend a viewing and sun deck above grade, while picture windows have been integrated within a façade consisting of polished Australian Oak.

Bedrooms have integrated storage and wall cupboards, with the main bedroom leading to an ensuite. A concealed steel beam in the living room ceiling space, enables a generous sized room in which there is 'as much free-living area as possible', with a fireplace for cold nights and picture windows that bring the view indoors.

Furnishings were 'lightweight and portable', where the whole design gives way to an 'air of gaiety and easy informality' appropriate to a holiday house. For domestic help, the home had a housekeeper.

SHARED SENSIBILITIES



**CLAYTON BEACH HOUSE 1961** 



CRAIL 1957



LEE BEACH HOUSE 1958

designed beach house, in a changing Modern Beach Homes 1950 - 1970 explores the allure of the architect South Australia after World War II.

market of holiday homemakers, the modern beach home is presented During a period of an expanding under the themes of

- 'openness and exposure'
  - 'privacy
- 'shared sensibilities'

The map shows the location of each modern beach home, in relation to each other and their natural surroundings.

- Victor Harbor
- **Encounter Bay**
- Hayborough
  - McCracken
- Aldinga

These homes are private residences. Please respect the owners privacy. Please note:

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MODERN

BEACH HOMES







HOUSE FOR A BACHELOR















**Encounter Bay** 

Victor Harbor







SHEARER BEACH HOUSE







Hayborough

Aldinga





CRAIL

CLAYTON BEACH HOUSE







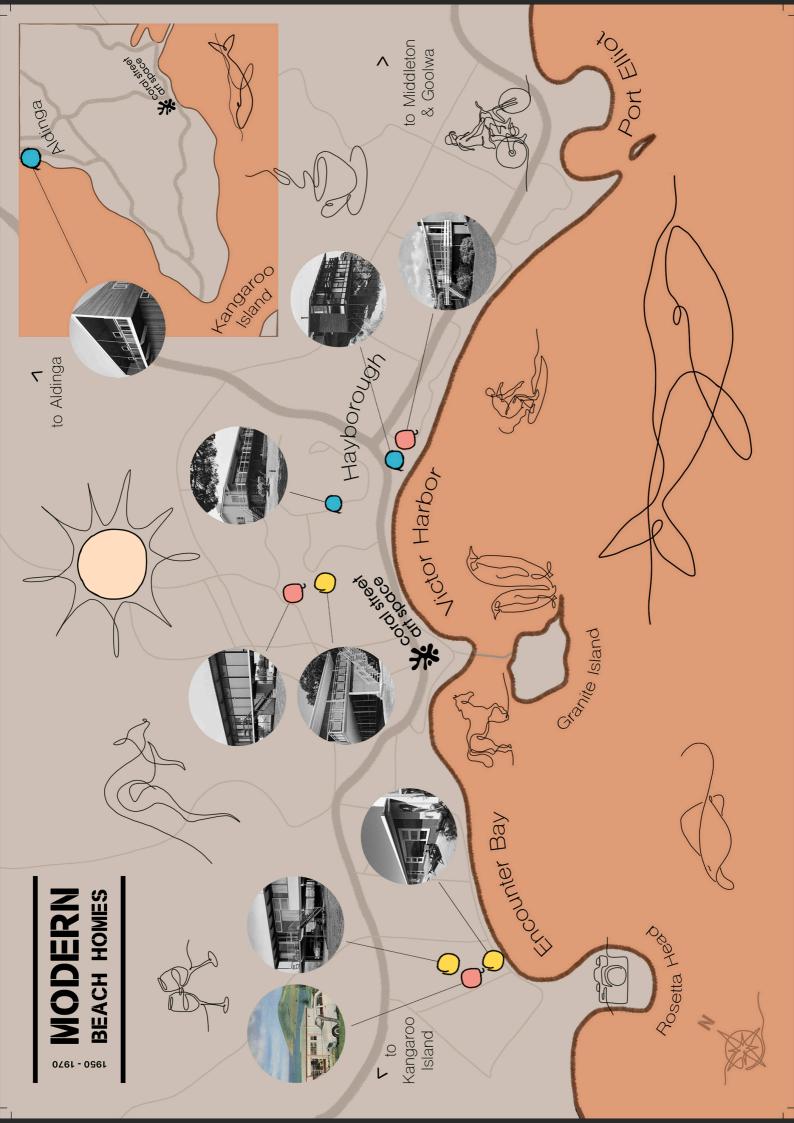
Victor Harbor

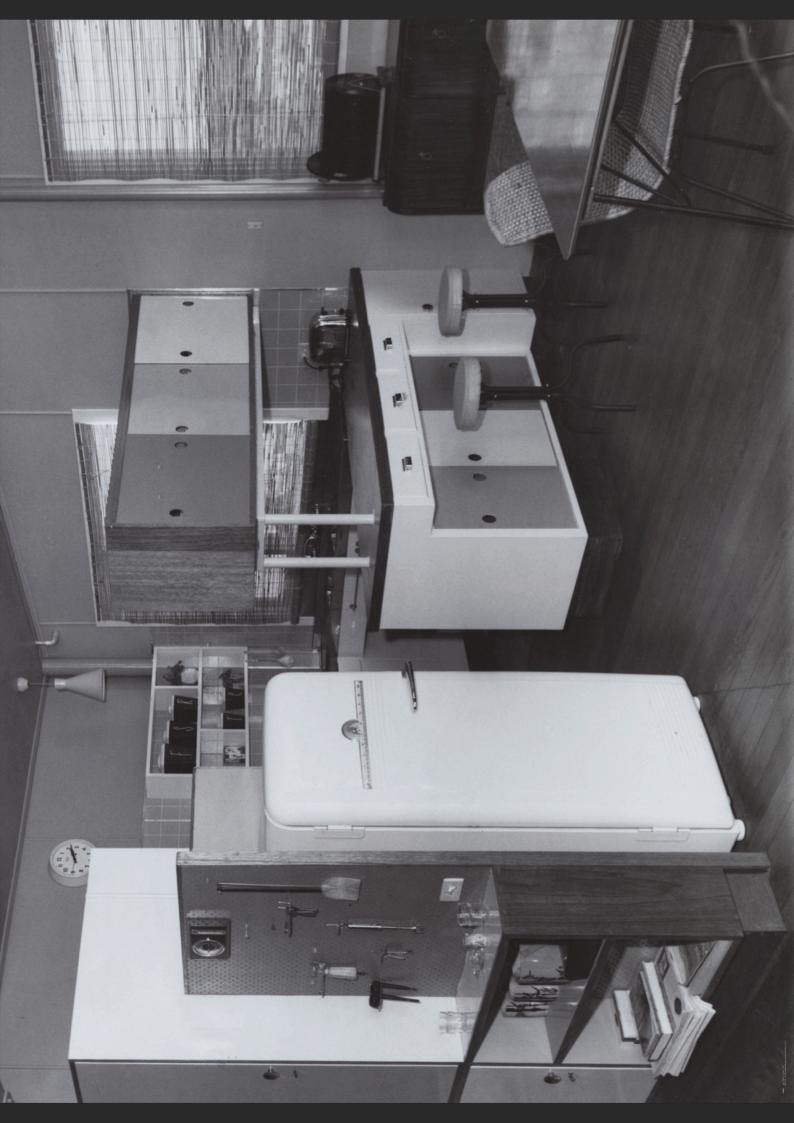
**Encounter Bay** 



Fleurieu Peninsula Project locations on the







Coral Street Art Space 13th January 2023 - 26th February 2023

Dr. James Curry, University of South Australia

### Exhibition design & production

#### Exhibition installation

Chris Summer Maria Ellers

### Video production Paul Moses

### Furniture supplied by Adriel Booker of 'Found'

#### Special thanks to

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