

#003

CRAFTED BY BELLEVARDE

Simple Materials,
Beautifully Finished:

Timber

Headland House and Escarpment House

Gerringong, NSW



Building in this style, with a limited range of materials, demands particularly high level of attention to detail. The finishing must be impeccable. The Bellevarde team not only understood this but actively sought out ways to make improvements.

Steve O’Ryan is a quiet font of knowledge. Minimalism is his mantra and he has it mastered. His team lived and breathed

this project and their dedication shows through in every detail. Their level of craft would be extraordinary given any time frame but to build two houses to this level in a year is quite impressive.

ANDY CARSON
ATELIER ANDY CARSON
(Architect)

Photography: Michael Nicholson



Elizabeth Bay Apartment

Elizabeth Bay, NSW



Joinery became a very important part of the design. The raw softness and character of the wood panelling lends an air of refinement and calm. The finish of the materials was the key to success and Belvarde oversaw the joinery work with a keen sense for the quality that was required.

Although the joinery has hints of mid-century modern it was really about giving it character. It was never about the style, more about the ethos and feel of the place, a nice space to be in that reflects its owners' eclectic, quirky but refined tastes.

GENEVIEVE ZOE MURRAY
FUTURE METHOD STUDIO
(Architect)

Photography: Brett Boardman



Castlecrag House

Castlecrag, NSW



Inspiration for the column's design came from the famous flared columns of Frank Lloyd Wright's Johnson Wax Headquarters. Matt Misek constructed a superbly detailed prototype as proof of concept and this gave us the confidence to proceed.

The final piece is made up of radiating stainless steel fins clad in merbau. Flowering majestically up into the roof, it even manages to incorporate a central drainpipe. It's as beautiful as it is practical. The Belvedere team are master craftspeople working at the highest level.

ROB BROWN
CASEY BROWN ARCHITECTURE
(Architect)

Photography: Rhys Holland



House in Country NSW

Country NSW

Being 600 kilometres from Sydney dictated every aspect of the build be meticulously thought out.

John Fielding and Belvarde were our first choice as they have built a series of outstanding houses for our clients. They immediately understood the need for a house of deep integrity—sourcing the best local timber and using local materials to subtly enhance the landscape. Best of all, they are also country builders who really enjoy the challenges of working out here.

VIRGINIA KERRIDGE AND LEIGH HELLYER
VIRGINIA KERRIDGE ARCHITECT
(Architect)

Photography: Richard Powers



Palm Beach House

Palm Beach, NSW



Bellevarde had earned the profound trust of the owners, so between the three of us, we would always uncover the best solution.

A great contribution was their ability to listen carefully and without judgement—thereby ensuring open and positive discussion between us all, until we reached a shared understanding.

Their other major strength is their absolute commitment to 'getting it right', not simply 'getting it done'.

In my experience Bellevarde are proud and skilled tradespeople and a joy to work with.

*GRANT CHEYNE ARCHITECT
(Architect)*

Photography: Michael Nicholson



Palm House

Mosman, NSW

For a house with such a deceptively simple design, the art is definitely in the detail.

Mick Carroll assembled a group of tradespeople, carpenters and joiners that would be considered elite anywhere in the world and, what's more, he got the best out of them. Devotion is evident in every detail.

Mick asked my opinion often and I found that a great compliment. Nothing was ever an issue and, as a result, every single element has been perfectly realised. It was inspiring to see them work.

ROB BROWN
CASEY BROWN ARCHITECTURE
{Architect}

Photography: Michael Nicholson



Burrawang West

Burrawang West, NSW



John Fielding is passionate about good design. He is in that rare tradition of the craftsperson builder who delivers excellence. For both architect and client, John is the perfect partner.

He taught me not to be constrained in my design or detailing by what I thought could be easily built, but to let him challenge himself to capture every possibility called for by the original concept.

John is the finest builder I know.

RICHARD JOHNSON
(Architect)

Photography: John Gollings



Overcliffe Cottage

Potts Point, NSW



How often do you walk onto a building site and get stopped by carpenters asking your opinion on the quality of their work? The Bellevarde team really take pride in what they do.

John Fielding presides over his site crews with dry humour and an unnerving expectation of perfection. It keeps everyone on their toes and ultimately delivers a product of unquestionably high quality.

CLINTON MURRAY
CLINTON MURRAY ARCHITECTS
{Architect}

Photography: Patrick Bingham-Hall

Jamberoo Farm House

Jamberoo, NSW

The outside timbers are intended to fade to grey over time, while the interior woods are treated with oils to maintain their warmth and low sheen for years.

The house has a level of finish that is simply astounding and highly thoughtful.

Never flashy or showy, just examples of committed, skilful tradespeople at their best.

The entire building process was a joy to us all.

ROB BROWN AND ANTJE MAHLER
CASEY BROWN ARCHITECTURE
(Architect)

Photography: Michael Nicholson



People have an emotional response to timber's traditional warmth and character. It's natural, living, and it changes over time, developing patina. It's wonderful to build with and, if maintained properly, will last forever.

Crafting it well is an art, one we've refined over 40 years building exceptional architectural houses that last generations.

Talk to us about your next building project.



JOHN FIELDING AND
THE BELLEVARDE TEAM

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FRONT / BACK COVER
Elizabeth Bay Apartment
Genevieve Zoe Murray
Future Method Studio
Photography: Brett Boardman

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