



Bradleys Head House

Arent & Pyke

Bradleys Head House in Sydney's Mosman blends legacy with luminous contemporary living, connecting generous volumes, nuanced materiality and treetop outlooks in a richly atmospheric, deeply personal redesign.

Words

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Photography

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Set within one of Mosman's most coveted enclaves, Bradleys Head House unfolds as a nuanced study in memory, materiality and renewal. Originally a family home purchased by the son decades later, the residence carried a deep emotional legacy. Tasked with reimagining the interior world for a new generation, Arent & Pyke approached the project with a delicate balance of reverence and reinvention.

Working in parallel with TKD Architects' considered extension, the interior design firm has created a dwelling that feels both grounded in its past and decidedly contemporary in its present.

The original architecture arrived with abundant fretwork and heritage detailing, while the extension introduced broad, open volumes that lifted the scale of the home considerably. "There was so much

beautiful original fabric to work with, but the new spaces had a generosity that invited a completely different reading," reflects Sarah-Jane Pyke, creative director and co-founder of Arent & Pyke. The task became one of harmonising these two conditions, respecting the intricacy of the old while amplifying the clarity and lightness of the new.

The elevated position of Bradleys Head House profoundly shapes its experience. A long view stretches from the primary suite across the city skyline to the Sydney Harbour Bridge, while the foreground remains lush and densely green. This duality of the expansive and the intimate informs the interior atmosphere. It is serene, almost retreat-like, yet lively with family energy and daily ritual. "We wanted to bring that sense of peacefulness through the material palette and the way the spaces unfold," says Pyke.





Upon entry, the effect of light becomes immediately apparent. TKD's introduction of an oculus skylight draws a pool of illumination into the living space, while full-height openings frame the garden canopy. Through the day, shadows move across the timber floors in a choreography of contrast. The kitchen centres around a vast splashback window that slips entirely into the wall, opening the whole northern edge to treetop views. Calacatta Vagli marble wraps the benchtops and splashback, while a gracefully contoured island in Tiberio marble anchors the space with warmth and gravitas.

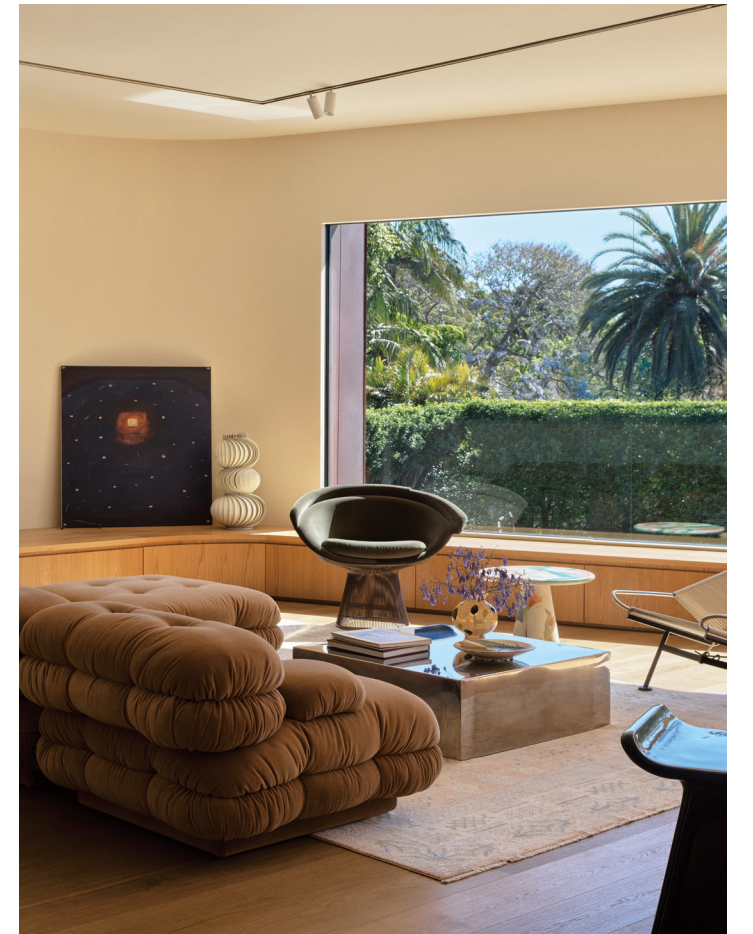
This sense of luminosity threads through the entire lower level, gathering momentum as the rooms unfold. In the adjoining dining

terrace, Arent & Pyke leaned into TKD's idea of an interior-yet-exterior threshold, emphasising the effect with rich terracotta-red walls and a checkerboard floor in pink-and-white Rose Tiberio marble.

The colour registers as an extension of the original brick facade, giving the terrace the feeling of a sunroom or loggia – a separate mood held gently within the larger volume. Pocket doors on both sides dissolve the boundary entirely.

The terrace is now the family's primary dining space, operating exactly as originally intended: bathed in light, with the sensation of sitting in the treetops, and the pool and garden stitched seamlessly into view. Moments like this reveal Bradleys Head





House's underlying priority – connection to landscape as a daily experience and not merely as a backdrop.

The material palette expresses both playfulness and restraint. The cooking zone's muted pink joinery sets a gentle rhythm, paired with antique brass, tactile timber veneer and low-sheen plaster. The powder room takes a bolder stance; a green granite pedestal vanity punctuates pink-red Venetian plaster and Carrara floor mosaics, and the space echoes original arches and thresholds while offering a contemporary counterpoint.

The upper level continues this sensibility through more character-driven details. The primary suite layers natural textures with curved timber joinery, woven wallpaper

and softly veiled light, while the ensuite introduces Volokas marble, micro-cement and refined metal detailing. Across the hall, the children's bathroom takes a fun approach: pale grey-blue crackle tiles, a joyful blue bathtub and almond-toned micro-cement that offsets the cooler hues. "That warmth is what elevates it," says Pyke. "Without it, the palette would feel too cold, but together it becomes both fun and sophisticated."

Attention to craft is visible everywhere: from the kitchen joinery with its gently wire-brushed oak veneer to the custom brass detailing across wardrobes, dressing stations and mirrors. In the primary wardrobe, textured Raya wallpaper insets, a sculpted brass handle and a generously scaled window



Arent & Pyke's mastery of colour is apparent, with blush, green and blue tones bringing freshness and individuality to meticulously crafted spaces.

create an environment that feels indulgently personal. "Bathrooms and wardrobes are where we most try to elevate the everyday," says Pyke. "Every touchpoint should offer a little moment of beauty."

Furniture selections reinforce this layered beauty, further articulating the house's emphasis on crafted materiality. A PP225 Flag Halyard chair by PP Møbler anchors the living room alongside Ingo Maurer's Floatation pendant light. Vintage Scarpa Monk chairs and a Carlo di Carli pedestal table add historic depth, while contemporary pieces from India Mahdavi, Kooij, Hessentia and Studio Alm bring sculptural form and quiet exuberance. These are complemented by finely detailed joinery, custom marble elements and a palette

that shifts gently between neutrals, blush tones, greens and warm timbers, allowing each room to showcase its own subtle variation and distinctive rhythm.

Together, these gestures reveal Bradley's Head House as a meditation on presence – a dwelling that honours its origins while recalibrating the centre of gravity for family life. Elegant yet lived-in, calm yet dynamic, it balances its lineage with a freshness that feels effortless. It is, in every sense, a house shaped by memory and made anew.

Architecture TKD Architects
Interior design Arent & Pyke
Artwork Ria Green and Lucas Howard

