

## Fairhurst, Harry Smith 1868 - 1945

Harry Smith Fairhurst was born in Blackburn, Lancashire, England, on 3 April 1868 and was articled to James Maxwell (1838-1893) and William Charles Tuke (1843-1893) of Maxwell & Tuke. He then worked as an assistant to William Frame (?-1906) in Cardiff.

Fairhurst qualified as an architect in 1891 and commenced independent practice in Blackburn, Lancashire in 1895. He moved to Manchester in 1901 and formed a partnership with [James Harold France](#) (1873-1925?) as Fairhurst & France. The partnership was dissolved in 1905. He then practised alone as Harry S. Fairhurst until 1929 when he formed a partnership, Fairhurst & Son, with his son, Philip Garland Fairhurst (1900-1987) who subsequently took over the practice in 1941.

Harry Smith Fairhurst was elected an Associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects (ARIBA) in 1891 and a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects (FRIBA) in 1926). He was also a member of the Manchester Society of Architects and its President in 1926-27.

In addition to his work as an architect, Smith was also a painter and etcher. Between 1926 and 1929 he exhibited at the Royal Academy in London; Royal Glasgow Institute of Fine Arts; and at Manchester City Art Gallery. He died in Wilmslow, Cheshire, on 31 March 1945.

Worked in

UK

Works

Notable architectural projects by Harry Smith Fairhurst included India House, Whitworth in Street, Manchester (1905-07); Council Schools in Royds Street, Accrington (1905-08); Asia House, 82 Princess Street, Manchester (1906-09); Bridgewater House, 58-60 Whitworth Street, Manchester (1912-13); Ship Canal House, King Street, Manchester (1924); Manchester Ship Canal Company Dock Offices, Trafford Road, Salford (1925-27); Guardian Assurance Building, 25 Cross Street/Chapel Walk, Manchester (1927); Ladies and Members Stand, Cricket Ground, Old Trafford, Manchester (1927); 158 houses for the Sutton Estate, Wembley Road, Gorton, Manchester (1927); bank and offices, Chapel Street and Ford Street, Salford (1929).

---

For an additional list of work by Harry Smith Fairhurst see also Architects of Greater Manchester 1800-1940 [*link below*]

## Bibliography

Directory of British Architects 1834-1914. Compiled by Antonia Brodie, et al. Volume 1: A-K. London; New York: British Architectural Library, Royal Institute of British Architects/Continuum, 2001

Gray, A. Stuart. Edwardian architecture: a biographical dictionary. London: Gerald Duckworth & Co., Ltd., 1985

'Obituary'. The Builder vol. 168, 13 April 1945 p. 287

'Obituary'. RIBA Journal vol. 52, May 1945 p. 208

## Links

- Architects of Greater Manchester 1800-1940  
<https://manchestervictorianarchitects.org.uk/index.php/architects/harry-smith-fairhurst>
- Wikipedia [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harry\\_S.\\_Fairhurst](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harry_S._Fairhurst)
- Dictionary of Scottish Architects 1660-1980  
[http://www.scottisharchitects.org.uk/architect\\_full.php?id=201601](http://www.scottisharchitects.org.uk/architect_full.php?id=201601)
- Guttae. Harry S. Fairhurst: National Buildings, Manchester  
<http://guttae.blogspot.com/2011/03/harry-s-fairhurst-national-buildings.html>
- Historic England - Lee House, Manchester  
<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1218358>
- Historic England - National Buildings, Manchester  
<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1254470>