

Hal Missingham

By Tony Saunders

Hal Missingham AO. Painting in our Art Gallery "State Elections 1953"

He was born 8 December 1906 in Claremont WA and lived for most of his life at 14 Alexandra Street, Hunters Hill.

Studied art in Paris and London.

Hal became Director of the Art Gallery of NSW 1945 to 1971, a period of 26 years, and was the longest serving Director until he was succeeded by Edmund Capon. Hal was also President of the Australian Watercolour Institute.

He oversaw great expansion at the NSW Art Gallery including the Captain Cook Wing and was the man who started bringing Blockbuster international art exhibitions to Sydney.

Hal was a well-known artist himself and his paintings are in many galleries around Australia.

He returned to Perth, continued to paint, and died 9 April 1994.

This framed sketch is of the NSW State Elections in 1953 at Hunters Hill Public School, directly opposite from where he lived.