



INDUSTRIAL REVELATION

Jess Clark has used reclamation yard finds to bring eclectic style and rustic chic to a historic Cornish engine house

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UNIQUE



HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY Victorian former engine house

LOCATION Cornwall

ROOMS Hall, sitting room, kitchen-diner, cloakroom, cinema room, three bedrooms, bathroom

PURCHASED 2016

PREVIOUS PROPERTY 'My main home is a Grade II-listed cottage in Penryn,' says Jess.



DINING AREA
An old church pew and school chairs work perfectly in this informal eating spot.

White enamel lampshade is a match, £58, Labour and Wait. Chairs and pew, from a selection, both Timber Track



KITCHEN

Stainless-steel surfaces and a painted concrete floor are in keeping with the property's industrial roots.

Try the jute round rug, £125, The White Company. Flavel electric double-oven cooker in silver is a match, £699.99, Currys. Four-slot NewGen toaster, £195, Dualit

HALL

A woodburning stove creates a warm welcome in the entryway.

Walls painted in Skimming Stone estate emulsion, £45 for 2.5L, Farrow & Ball. The Stack is available to rent through Unique Home Stays, uniquehomestays.co.uk



CINEMA ROOM

Film-themed memorabilia gives this space a distinctive look.

Vintage film reels, price on request, Shiver Me Timbers. Tina Ratzer Twist A Twill blanket in Corn Yellow has this look, £125, Trouva. Try the Reclaimed four-door, four-drawer large coffee table, £599, Uneeka



When searching for a place where she could get away from it all, Jess Clark had a specific wish list. 'I was trying to find somewhere that was interesting architecturally, located on the north Cornish coast and close to the beach,' she says. 'I fell in love with this amazing Victorian industrial building as soon as I saw it from the top of the long path that leads down to its front door.'

The former engine house extends over five floors and is surrounded by rolling countryside. The previous owners had extensively refurbished the property, stripping it back to the original stonework throughout. 'Their renovation had respected the house's history,' says Jess. 'The result was an interior that was pared back, rustic, and a little rough round the edges. It inspired me to create a raw feel that wasn't too neat. I wanted a relaxed family home that was great for holidays, and was a cosy place to spend Christmas with my children, Lola, 10, and Bodi, six.'

Working with an older property wasn't without its challenges, however. The long path leading to the house made it difficult to get things inside. The five floors also meant there were plenty of narrow

stairs to climb. 'Getting furniture in was quite a struggle,' says interior designer Jess. 'One of the sofas got wedged between floors, so the builders had to try another route, taking it through the window. That experience certainly dictated some of the future decisions I made when choosing furniture.'

Jess was keen to maximise the stunning location of the house, so she built a deck area at the rear, complete with a whirlpool tub that made the most of the surrounding views. An outdoor kitchen was also added. Inside, changes were made to the layout. 'On the second floor, there was a large main bedroom and a snug, and I wanted to create more space for a sitting room,' says Jess. 'So I repositioned the wall and reduced the size of the main bedroom. I also added a cloakroom on the same floor.' A basement room became a cosy cinema room, as it has no windows, and Jess has stuck to the cinematic theme by displaying vintage film reels and movie memorabilia around the room.

Redecorating the house took three months, and Jess had clear ideas of the look she was keen to achieve. 'I wanted to have a different theme in each room,' she says. 'For instance, one of

FAVOURITE SHOP *'Not far from here there's a reclamation yard called Shiver Me Timbers – it's always full of great finds'*



SITTING ROOM

Jess has used vintage buys and a warm colour palette to create a stylish, lived-in feel.

Afaw Berber-style rug, £99, La Redoute. Bagsie sofa in Winter Sky clever velvet, £2,295, Loaf. Take a look at Uneeka's Rustic TV unit, £429. Georgette footstool in Butterscotch cotton matt velvet has this look, £750, Sofa.com

TERRACE

This spa-style outdoor deck is the perfect place to admire the views all year round.

Black and brass hurricane lamp is a match, £16.99, Force 4 Chandlery. Multiblock throw, £89.95, Bronte by Moon



the guest bedrooms had an exposed, peeling paint wall with an interesting patina, which inspired a Moroccan look for that room. Then I went for a stargazer theme in another bedroom, with vintage books and a telescope. I wanted to combine industrial and rustic elements, as well as vintage finds throughout. Many of the lampshades are reclamation yard finds and I pick up old kitchenalia whenever I see it. Brand-new things wouldn't suit this house – I wanted the interior to feel as if it had evolved organically over time and have a very lived-in mood. I was lucky enough to discover my Ercol sofa on Freecycle. I've also added in pops of colour, such as mustard, and opulent fabrics, such as velvets.'

With the renovation and redecoration complete, the house is now ready to receive visitors. 'I'm so pleased with how it has all come together,' says Jess. 'It's such an amazing building, that my main aim was to make the most of all those elements that make it unique. The house has a lovely warmth, which comes into its own at Christmas. This really is a very special place.'



MAIN BEDROOM

Wooden panelling plus pops of gold give a warm, rustic look.

Try the Charley chaise in York Yellow, £299, Made.com. Berber Kilim cushions are similar, from £58.99, Maison de Marrakech



BATHROOM

An imposing mirror and claw-foot bath add glitz and glamour.

Extra-large gilt mirror is a match, £598.50, La Maison Chic. Try the Bath Co Dulwich grey roll-top bath with claw feet, £589, Victoria Plum



BATHROOM

Vintage fittings characterise this dramatic space.

The Bath Co Dalston vanity unit with white marble basin is comparable, £449, Victoria Plum



GUEST BEDROOM

Jess has created an astrological theme in this loft area.

The Zira jute ochre circle rug has this look, £189, The Rug Shop. Down Pipe estate emulsion is a similar wall and floor colour, £45 for 2.5L, Farrow & Ball