



Mid-century reinvention

Modern country

cottages

Victorian

terraces

Oak-framed

new build

Bungalow

revamp



HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY A 17th-century former shooting lodge LOCATION Surrey ROOMS Sitting room, dining room, kitchen, conservatory, cloakroom/shower room, four bedrooms (one en suite), bathroom PURCHASED 2019 PREVIOUS PROPERTY

'Before moving here, we lived in a period cottage in another

A CAREFUL BLEND

Nerissa Davies set out to give her period home a new lease of life with a delicate balance of original features and contemporary highlights

FEATURE SEÁN O'CONNELL | PHOTOGRAPHY PHILIP RAYMOND





MAIN BEDROOM AND EN SUITE

A copper bath creates a gleaming focal point through the decorative glazed doors. The Tyne copper bath, £7,020, Drummonds. Bespoke blind in Pashmina, £109.94m, Lewis & Wood. Woodwork in Cornforth White estate eggshell, £70 for 2.5ltr, Farrow & Ball

MAIN BATHROOM

Twin mirrors and mounted stone basins define the his and hers vanity area.
Chelsea stone-topped vanity unit, from £1,335, Mandarin Stone. Chelsea wall tiles, £23.10sq m, Artisans of Devizes. Taps and shower, from a selection, Catchpole & Rye and Drummonds

BEDROOM

A monochromatic scheme, including an antique iron bed frame, ties in with the wall and beams, while a textural lamp base adds a contemporary note.

Antique Victorian bedstead, £1,100, Victorian Dreams. Stucco table lamp base, from £104, Pooky. Shade, from £110, Fermoie

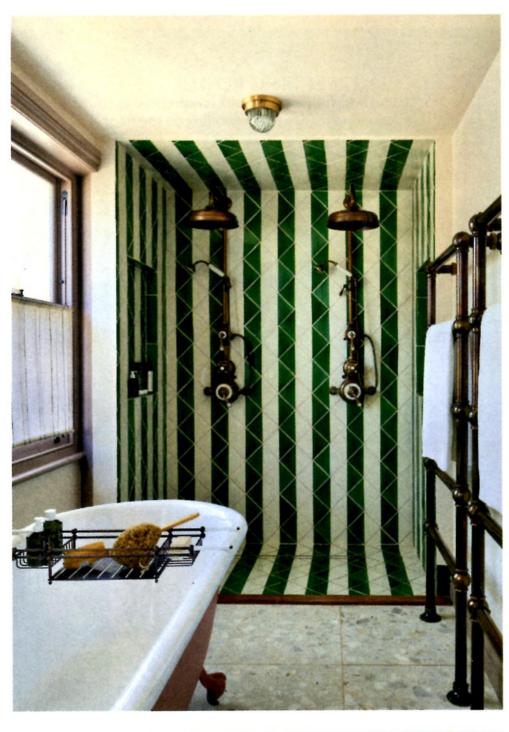














hen interior designer Orla Read took possession of a four-bedroom Victorian townhouse in London's Notting Hill, there was a great deal of work to be done. The previous owners had lived there for more than half a century and had seemingly changed little since first moving in. The redesign of the main bathroom proved a particularly successful project.

THE BRIEF

'To create the bathroom we wanted, we realised we'd have to use a bedroom and combine it with the former loo,' says Orla. One priority was that the look should coordinate with the rest of the newly transformed house. 'We wanted the house to feel connected, so the paint colours flowed from one room to the next. The idea was to create a bathroom that is classic yet playful — timeless while being a calming space to relax in.'

DESIGN SOLUTIONS

The original bathroom, which was situated elsewhere, was small without windows and only had a shower over the bath, while Orla was keen to have a walk-in double shower, freestanding bath and twin basins. Moving it to the front of the house, and having double windows, created a large light-filled space. 'I knew that it had to have quality fittings, so using Drummonds products throughout was always part of the plan,' she says.

FINISHING TOUCHES

On her striking choice of materials, Orla says, 'I love colour but I didn't want it to feel overpowering. In this instance, I think it elevates the space without making it feel too much — and the green of the tiles is stunning.' Set against this dramatic backdrop are two large and imposing showers in the same antique brass as the rest of the fittings, which Orla loves for their rustic warmth and timeless style with a sophisticated feel.

LESSONS LEARNT

'Doing this bathroom has confirmed to me that if you are embarking on a similar project it's always good to be brave with the design, but be mindful not to go overboard!'

SOFT & STRONG

Adding stripes is a great way to introduce a playful element, while the pink painted bath oozes warmth and serenity.

Swale bath, from £4,350; Mull bath and shower mixer on legs, from £2,730; Taw double vanity with Verde Guatemala marble, from £9,084; Coll basin mixer, from £1,290; Dalby shower, from £2,370; rose, from £450; five-bar towel radiator, from £3,342; bath rack, from £612, all Drummonds. Bath in Porphyry Pink, £71 for 2.5ltr, Farrow & Ball. Diagonale shower tiles, £373.25sq m, Balineum.

Brighton wall light, £482; Pimlico ceiling light, £348; Langham wall light, £420, all Felix. Woodwork in Rose Dust, £66 for 1ltr, Pure & Original. Big Chips floor tiles, £80.69sq m, Terrazzo Tiles