



PERIOD revival

Not wanting to overdevelop her listed home, Lorna Jones chose to put the focus on its original features instead

FEATURE KAREN WILSON
PHOTOGRAPHY TONY MURRAY

SITTING ROOM/ LIBRARY

Modern furniture sits
alongside vintage pieces
for a cosy, homely feel.

Reclining chair by Robin Day,
£1,950, Twentytwentyone.
Butler & Rose aged brass
mirror, £239.99, Drench,
has a similar style



no. 15



HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY Grade II-listed Victorian terraced house

LOCATION London

ROOMS Sitting room/library, kitchen-diner, utility room, three bedrooms (one en suite), bathroom

PURCHASED 2017

PREVIOUS PROPERTY

'I lived in a smaller house nearby with no garden,' says Lorna.

When Lorna Jones started house hunting, she was constrained by a fairly narrow search area in which to find her ideal home. 'It had to be within walking distance of my son's father and our friends,' she says. 'But I also wanted a space which I could really make my own.'

Before long she discovered a three-storey Victorian terraced house in a beautiful part of London. 'As the crow flies, it was only a few hundred yards from our previous home, but felt like a complete change of scene,' remembers Lorna. 'Although the house was in desperate need of an overhaul, the bare bones were in good condition

which meant we were able to focus on restoring the period features and introducing comforts like underfloor heating on the main floors.'

The property is in a conservation area with protected status and Lorna was keen to ensure that the existing heritage assets were maintained. So the timber box sash windows and shutters were carefully restored while all non-original cornicing and timber mouldings were replaced with designs more in keeping with the property's age.

To realise her vision, Lorna asked All Done Design (alldone.com) to help with the five-month renovation project. 'Having worked with them on a previous home, I knew I could trust them to



KITCHEN

The basement lacked period features so decorative panelling and alcove shelving were chosen.

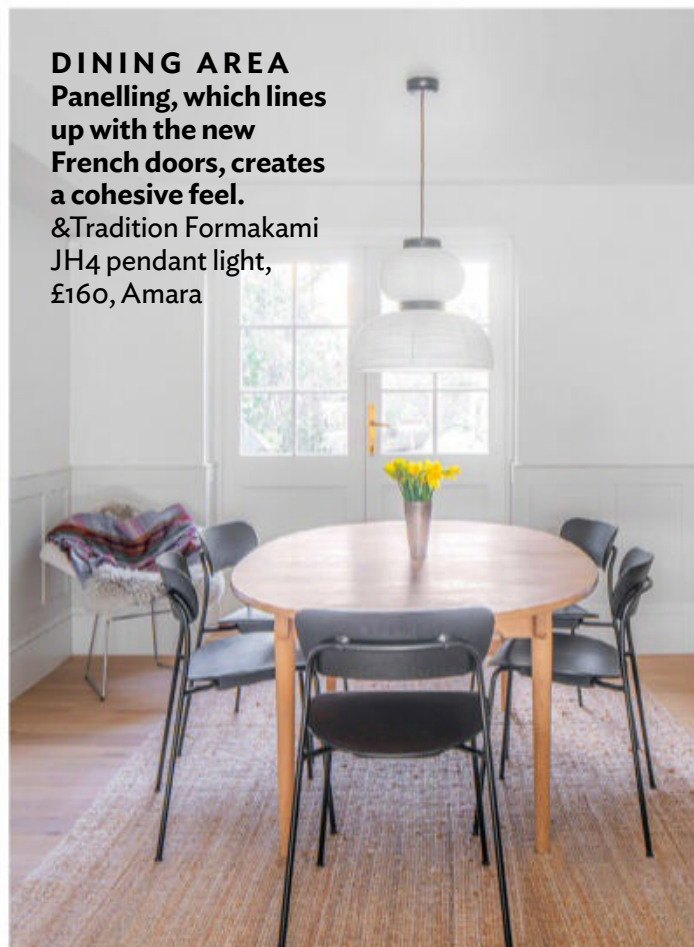
Similar deVOL kitchens, painted in Pantry Blue and Mushroom, start from £12,000. Rangemaster Elise 90, from £2,375, Range Cookers, has this look



DINING AREA

Panelling, which lines up with the new French doors, creates a cohesive feel.

&Tradition Formakami JH4 pendant light, £160, Amara



understand what I wanted to achieve,' she says. 'Managing director Charlie Avara knows renovating can be an emotional journey and puts time in to build a relationship with you while working on your home.'

Advice on the bathroom and kitchen layouts from Lorna's interior designer friend Jaci Douglas (jacandharri.co) also proved invaluable.

A key change was relocating the kitchen-diner from the ground floor to the basement. Two rooms were knocked through and wider French doors installed at the rear, leading to new stone steps and a more spacious patio area. This allowed the ground floor to be restored to its original use as a sitting room and library.

Encompassing the entire first floor is the main bedroom with new en-suite bathroom, while two more bedrooms are located on the top floor and serviced by a bathroom off the half landing.

Much work has been carried out externally too. 'The garden was a complete mess, with rotting decking and old Astroturf,' says Lorna. 'As it is quite shady in parts and a lawn would not grow, we opted for bricks.'

Although the project ran pretty smoothly, it wasn't without its challenges. 'Within days we found out that the surveyor had missed some major damp in what is now the utility room, which meant hitting the contingency budget almost immediately,' says Lorna. 'But



MAIN BEDROOM
Lorna likes how modern pieces like this pendant actually highlight the original features.
VL45 Radiohus pendant, £305, Twentytwentyone



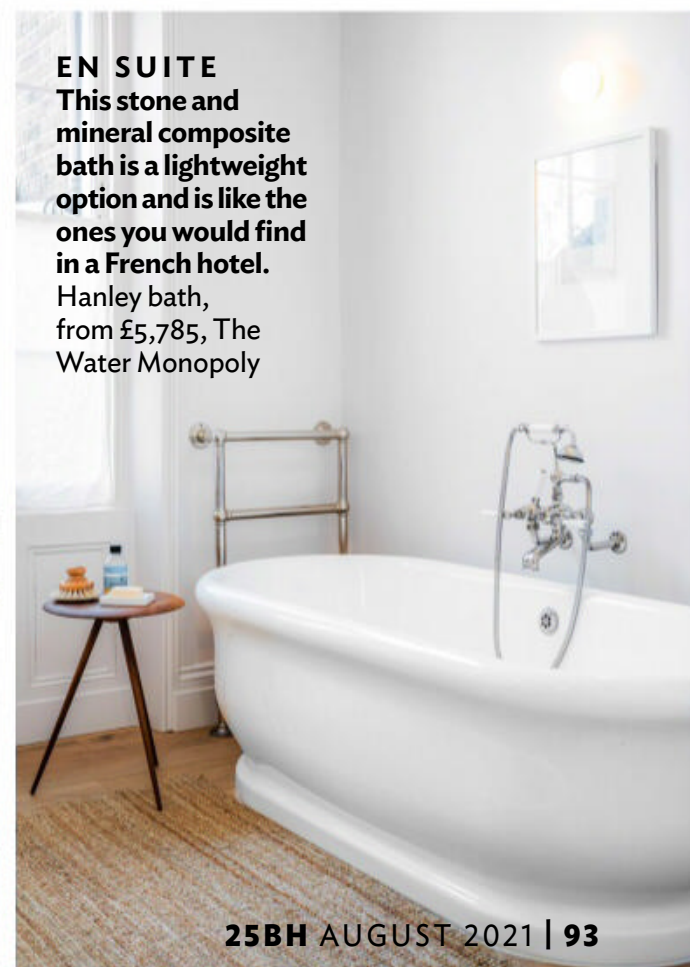
apart from that initial glitch, the project landed on time and on budget.'

After years of living in a very minimal space, comfort and warmth were the watchwords here. 'I love mixing old and new, and have a soft spot for Scandinavian chairs and lighting,' says Lorna. 'Apart from a few armchairs, a bookcase and two beds, we started from scratch and that made it much easier.'

Now happily ensconced in her home with her teenage son, Lorna has no plans to move again. 'The house feels as if it's been lived in for much longer than it has,' she says. 'It feels like home, and we enjoy using every bit of it all the time.' 25



SHOWER ROOM
Plain white wall tiles ensure the mosaic floor is the standout feature. Try Hexagon Staturio matt mosaic tiles, £89.17sq m, Tiles Direct



EN SUITE
This stone and mineral composite bath is a lightweight option and is like the ones you would find in a French hotel. Hanley bath, from £5,785, The Water Monopoly