

## The science lab-turned-family gaff

Built in 1935 as an annexe to a now demolished Victorian school, this building was used as a canteen, art department and science laboratory until the 1980s. After that, it functioned as a recording studio – and there are rumours that East17 and Run-DMC taped demos up on the first floor. It was later converted into flats, before its current owners decided to make it into a single family home in 2015. What now exists is a spacious four-bedroom property with many original features, including knockout wood parquet flooring, terracotta tiles and a concrete stairwell (and there's not a bunsen burner in sight). On the roof there's even a beautiful wildflower terrace with views to Wanstead Flats, BT Tower and Canary Wharf. It shows just what can be done with an old building and a bit of imagination.

→ The Science Lab, 134 Trumpington Rd, E7 9EQ, Wanstead Park Overground. Sat Sep 21. Every 45 mins between 10am and 4pm.



## The extension in a conservation area

This neglected home was overhauled two years ago and has won plaudits from the local council for the way a modern extension was added without destroying its period features – and all within a conservation area in the capital. Designers created a kitchen and dining room with huge airy windows to maximise the daylight, as well as a loft room with a window overlooking the neighbouring roofs. While the ground floor extension has been constructed in reclaimed brick to match the original building, the owners chose zinc for the dormer. Inside, the period features have been kept, but with unmistakably modern additions such as concrete, tile and glass balustrades, which bring the old and new together seamlessly.

**Peter Lancaric of architects Planstudio, says:** 'People don't want to live in the nineteenth century – but they like and value traditional features. It's about finding the right balance between traditional and contemporary.'

→ R&S House, 30 Lampmead Rd, Lea Manor Conservation Area, SE12 8QL. Hither Green rail. Sat Sep 21, every 45 mins between 10am and 4pm.