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old fireplaces, curving plasterwork and nooks and niches. But they also wanted to stamp their own mark upon the interiors, creating a sympathetic blend of old and new. As with Angie's work and the ethos of their company, the interiors of the house have a strong Fifties influence. Prints by Angie hang alongside others by Bawden, Ravilious and Tom Eckersley, all against gull white walls. Period pieces like the Ernest Race sofa and Fifties Kandya wooden chairs mix with cushions and curtains in St Jude's fabrics.

The kitchen is bespoke, made by Norfolk carpenter and designer Stuart MacCullum, who also worked with the Lewins on their Aylsham shop. Here, the crafted curving lines in birch ply and Formica surfaces contrast well with the rustic brickwork of the walls. The floor is marmoleum, although much of the house has oak floor boards – a bargain from Travis Perkins.

'We decided a long time ago that we would have no carpets downstairs, as we have a dog and we're always in and out of the garden,' says Simon. 'We are really pleased with how it all turned out. As much as we like the idea of a clean, modern interior, it would have felt wrong to take away the randomness of the walls and plaster. We both decided not to impose too much upon it. We didn't want people to come in and think that the interiors really clashed with the fabric of the house itself. But at the same time it was great to really plan a house from scratch, right down to where the light switches should go.'

Simon has an office upstairs, where the long landing running through the back of the house also doubles as work space, library and an emergency second guest bedroom, complete with fold down sofa. Now Simon also has space to work at the shop, freeing up some of the pressure on the home.

There is a lot to think about. The Lewins are working on expanding the fabric range with more of Angie's designs and looking...

above Angie and Simon were determined to preserve the character of the house with its old fireplaces, curving plasterwork and various nooks and niches
opposite Brickwork and exposed wooden beams are set against birch ply and formica on a marmoleum floor

Simon spotted the house in the local paper twice, a few months apart. 'As we settled into Norfolk after London, the holidaymaker mode finally disappeared and the area became our home,' says Simon. 'And then this place came up and something kept telling us to go and have a look. We came to see the house and that was it.'

Thankfully there wasn't much major structural work to do on the house, but the couple had to dig up all the floors and redo the damp proofing. 'We also had to start from scratch with the plumbing and the electricity,' says Simon. 'We stayed on in the old house for six months while we did the work and built Angie's studio. We felt it was worth putting in the extra investment to get things right because we were planning to be here a long time and wanted to make sure everything was right.'

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