



The beauty of decay

When designer Jinny Blom came across an abandoned cottage and garden in the Sussex countryside, she felt compelled to capture its ghostly beauty before a restoration project began. The result is a beautiful, unique book, made in collaboration with photographer Charlie Hopkinson. Words Juliet Roberts



There's something enchanting about exploring old, empty buildings, especially if you catch that rare magical moment just before the romance of decay tips over that bit too far. Designer Jinny Blom experienced such a moment when visiting a Victorian workman's cottage that some friends had bought in Sussex. Hidden in a woodland, remarkably the cottage and garden had remained untouched since the occupants had left and nature was slowly returning the place to a wilderness. "I was struck by the beauty of the dilapidation and by the fine quality of the building itself. I wanted to capture the moment before the whole thing was sucked back down into the ground – to document the atmosphere and the patina of a life well-lived." Jinny worked in collaboration with photographer Charlie Hopkinson and now the resulting unique collection of 83 black and white images has been hand-bound into an exquisite, limited-edition book. *A Domestic Landscape: Outdoor/Indoor* is available from 15 September, 2009. Contact www.jinnyblom.com. Price £1,700 (plus VAT). □