

DESIGN

HOUSEHOLD OBJECTS THAT AREN'T WHAT THEY SEEM ... A KITCHEN BUILT FOR CANNING. EDITED BY LEILANI LABONG

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SOLID GOLD

Interior designer Melanie Coddington's vintage style shines in her turn-of-the-century Potrero Hill cottage.

BY LEILANI LABONG



1 The 1940s Swedish credenza from Monument, the Mission District vintage-furniture shop. Coddington found that its wood complexion and curvy counterbalance the bulky sofa. "It's a colossal piece, but it has a lightness about it," she says. Its roomy interior stores books and magazines.

2 While the octagonal vintage coffee table—a Craigslist find—is arguably the room's centerpiece, its clear glass top doesn't compete with the other dramatic pieces. "I sent my assistant to fetch it in Danville," says Coddington, who fell for the table's unusual base. "In case you didn't know, brass is back."

3 The precise configuration of the art menagerie—a carefully curated selection of vintage furniture sketches and mirror-framed '40s Turner prints—is courtesy of the pedestrian thumbtack. "Push-pins make it easier to rearrange the frames," Coddington says. Did we mention her razor-sharp eye for detail?

4 Coddington's style is clearly a study in vintage Hollywood glamour, an alluring aesthetic embodied by the parlor's gleaming Diva wallpaper by UK-based Romo Fabrics. "It's a little indulgent," she says. Because it's beaded vinyl? "Well, no. It's just really stuck to the wall," she says, laughing.

5 The vintage sofa's time-worn appearance is due to the designer's acute foresight. Coddington chose gold velvet to re-upholster it because it ages well. "It looks nice when it's crushed," she explains. She also replaced the original cushions with a single, much plusher down-filled seat.