

**Flete House, Ermington,
near Modbury, Devon**

Price: Apartments from
£175,000 to £350,000

This impressive Grade I-listed manor house and former hospital has been converted into a series of one and two-bedroom apartments, all of which have a kitchen, bathroom and grand drawing room. Set in 12 acres of private landscaped grounds, there's also a tennis court, communal library and billiard hall.

Buy if you don't want the hassle of decorating. Each apartment has been individually designed with a unique interior.

Don't buy if you've got a young family. This particular development is aimed at retired people looking for a tranquil life. For more details, call Marchand Petit on 01752 830308 or visit www.marchandpetit.co.uk.



PROPERTY
OF THE
WEEK

Historic homes

If you want a property with real character, buy one with a fascinating past



**High Bondgate, Bishop Auckland,
County Durham**

Price: £249,950

Train buffs will want to track down this three-storey town house dating back to 1550, as it once belonged to the Great North Eastern Railways. It has three bedrooms, two bathrooms, a lounge, a study and stunning views.

Buy if you have a growing family – the study could be converted into a fourth bedroom.

Don't buy if you're looking for original features. The second-floor attic has been completely converted and a Gothic arched window fitted, to enhance the country views. Call Reeds Rains on 01388 661166 or visit www.reedsrains.co.uk.



**The Old School House,
Kexby, York**

Price: £495,000

Located in the quaint village of Kexby, this five-bedroom detached house is a stylish conversion of a Victorian school. The south-facing garden has an outdoor swimming pool and a large croquet lawn.

Buy if you're artistically inclined. The house was designed by the London architect Francis Penrose in 1858 and has two fully functional workshops.

Don't buy if you want to park your car securely – the garage is currently in need of some renovation.

For further details, call Jackson-Stops on 01904 625033 or visit www.jackson-stops.co.uk.



**The Undercroft, Stoneleigh
Abbey, Kenilworth, Warwickshire**

Price: £645,000

The Undercroft is the oldest surviving part of the illustrious Grade I-listed Stoneleigh Abbey, built in 1154 by Cistercian monks. Its four bedrooms, three bathrooms, regency drawing room and cellar boast plenty of decorative period features.

Buy for its Jane Austen connection. The author apparently stayed at the Abbey and featured it in her novels.

Don't buy if you're only interested in freehold ownership. The property is being sold as leasehold, with 119 years remaining.

Call Strutt & Parker on 01608 650502 or visit www.struttandparker.com.



Town House, Ightham, Kent

Price: £1.5 million

Rumour has it that Guy Fawkes hatched his infamous gunpowder plot inside the Great Hall of this 15th-century house. The spectacular Grade II-listed Tudor home has five bedrooms, several reception rooms, a music room and extensive gardens.

Buy if you enjoy sports. There is a wide variety of leisure facilities in the surrounding area, including a golf course, sailing schools and motor racing track.

Don't buy if you want the fixtures and fittings – they're not included but some items are up for negotiation.

Call Knight Frank on 01892 515035 or visit www.knightfrank.com.