



Revitalized Rural Cottage Stirring Life in the Chinese Countryside

STUDIO COTTAGE

A village outside Beijing, China
by Sun Min and Christian Taeubert

Located in a rural village outside of Beijing, this rustic cottage was in a state of neglect with collapsed perimeter walls and overgrown grounds when fashion designer Sun Min and architect Christian Taeubert decided to revitalize it. The home, built during the 1970s, offered a small opportunity to stir some life in the community where urban migration has depopulated rural villages in the Chinese countryside.

The original timber beams and mottled plaster walls maintain the rustic quality of the 818-square-foot (76-square-meter) cottage, along with a wood-burning stove, slabs of stone, and wooden furniture. Large sliding glass doors, wire chairs, industrial lights, stainless-steel kitchen cabinetry, and a partition concealing the master bedroom and bath bring a contemporary vitality to the main open-plan space. Surrounded by dry stone walls, the cottage's courtyard features graveled areas, large logs to lounge on, trees and greenery.