# Woman uncovers hidden priest hole during property renovation



A woman has recently made a shocking discovery while renovating her Grade II listed property, uncovering a concealed room with a significant historical background. The woman, known as Abi and active on TikTok under the username @abihookwayproperty, purchased the house to serve as a holiday retreat. During refurbishment, she encountered a hidden trap door, leading her to a secret compartment that dates back to a time of peril for certain religious figures.

In a video shared on her TikTok account, Abi points to the exterior of her home, drawing attention to a window that appears detached from any adjoining room. “You see the window up there? There's no room to it because that is a priest hole,” she explains, highlighting its ominous purpose. This hidden space, she elaborates, was historically used to conceal priests during a period marked by religious persecution in England.

The video captures her ascent to the attic area, where she maneuvers a cabinet aside and lifts a carpet to access the underlying wooden floor. With careful precision, she unveils a hatch that leads into the cramped, dust-laden space below, now infested with spiders and cobwebs. The discovery not only evokes astonishment but reveals the grim realities faced by those trying to evade capture during the tumultuous 16th Century.

According to Historic UK, during this era, homes were often equipped with 'priest holes' as a preventative measure against sudden raids. These clandestine compartments, generally constructed between the mid-16th century and the early 17th century, were specifically designed to hide individuals in an emergency. The organisation underscores the harrowing conditions that priests faced while concealed, stating, "The priest hole was usually tiny, with no room to stand up or move around... Food and drink would be scarce and sanitation non-existent."

Noteworthy, the documentary history of such hidden spaces indicates that they were strategically integrated into homes, sometimes with modifications made to avoid detection during searches. As Abi shared this chilling history with her audience, the video prompted a wave of reactions online, with commenters expressing a mix of astonishment and intrigue. One viewer exclaimed, "OMG that’s so crazy," while another remarked, "You brave girl," and a third added, "That's such an exciting find!"

The discovery of the priest hole not only highlights the home’s architectural significance but also serves as a testament to the turbulent history surrounding religious practices in England. As renovations continue, Abi's experience stands as a captivating glimpse into the past, now intertwined with her future as a property owner.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)