

A market for items usually overlooked

ASIDE from the usual jokes about Clare Iles' work being rubbish, her new art installation, *Market*, serves up a slice of The Hythe most people don't usually see, or would prefer not to.

And by taking various items of junk and rubbish that she found alongside Colchester's portside area and turning them into sculptural pieces of furniture, Clare has mirrored the regeneration process that The Hythe is currently undergoing.

Since her inclusion in the East International 2002 show, Clare, who is based in Colchester, has increasingly become known for her sculptures created from discarded objects.

Discovering them in often overlooked parts of towns and cities, to date Clare has kept the sculptures located in the place where she found the materials, documenting them with a digital camera, but for *Market*, commissioned especially by First-site, Clare has brought her pieces into the gallery.

Clare said: "I began assembling discarded objects and



● **Hard to part with her work** - Clare Iles is fond of her furniture pieces.

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photographing them against the silo mill, gipsy site and derelict maltings.

"Next I started taking objects away with me in the car and began imagining them as goods on a market stall."

The notion of a market stall was influenced by a trip Clare made to the Dominican Republic in 2001 when she came across a shanty-style market.

For the installation, she has re-created a sofa inspired

by a chair she saw in the country that was made from recycled crates.

Clare added: "I have been working in The Hythe since January and I've enjoyed discovering a bit more about the place."

"I'm really fond of the pieces that I've created and to be honest I don't want to sell any of them. After the show they will probably clutter up my house."

● **Market runs at the gallery** until April 24.