



Walking the Labyrinth

Charting the timeline of the entire Talliston project, from beginning to end

Navigation in Talliston was always a topic that was discussed during the years of renovating each location. A fundamental aspect of the seemingly random historical times and geographical places was always a mystery, and one which was not clearly defined until quite late in the project. Only by experiencing the finished spaces could any sense be made of mapping what was being created. Clarity finally surfaced only with the addition of the glasshouse on the ground floor. This transformed the hall at the base of the staircase into a crossroads – linking the front garden, living room, conservatory and the upstairs in a perfect X. But unlike a standard labyrinth where you walk along the turning pathways, here you walk *within* the walls.

Building a mystery

With this revelation came others, most notably that the elemental building blocks that launched the project were actually just parts of a larger puzzle; a puzzle that included moons and almanacks and household gods. It also gave an insight into how the thirteen rooms were to be laid out, in the form of a chronological path that begins at the arched gate into the grounds, runs along the garden path, through the front door and then winds first around the rooms on the ground floor, then up the stairs,

around the first floor and, finally, up again into the attic. Of course, that's not including the ultimate search for the thirteenth room of the house; the location of the Sioux tipi.

Two and a half decades

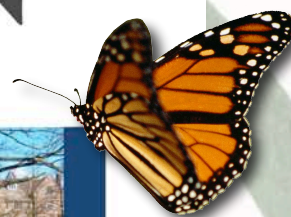
For an otherworldly house where Time never treads, it may seem odd to include a timeline of real-world events here, but this only highlights the duality of the project. This mixes quite deftly what has actually been achieved in terms of the interior and exterior transformation, and also in terms of the final space being created. Yet it is always right to remember that the building had a life before the project, and this chart respects that. After all, it is not long after the project finishes that the house will celebrate its hundredth anniversary.

As you can from the next two pages, there has always been a lot of construction work on the property, and it was already architecturally quite different from the original when the project began. The information has been gleaned from a series of authentic plans and documents released by the planning office about ten years ago. It is as if the muse that inhabits this space has always inspired its occupants to build and create – and as we dig further, there are sure to be more discoveries...

THE GRAND TALLISTON CHRONOLOGY

1919

Newton Hall land sold to Uttlesford District Council after no surviving male members of the family returned from the Great War



1930

Building on Newton Green completed, including No. 51 on 18th May 1930



1930-1982

51 Newton Green owned by Robert Leslie John Chapman and Ivy Margaret Chapman



1969

Architectural plans for removal of coal house, brick partition wall and coal house access door on 16th July 1969



1982-1990

Council house bought from Uttlesford District Council for £11,070 by Mr K S Winstone, on 5th October 1982



1983

Architectural plans for addition and repositioned garage on 11th May 1983



1983

Architectural plans for alterations to rear extension on 9th August 1983



1984

Architectural plans for lobby and bay window addition on 11th October 1984



1984



1984

Kitchen, utility room and bathroom window replacement by Anglian Windows on 9th May 1989



1990

Council house bought from Mr K S Winstone for £75,500 by John Edward Trevillian on 6th October 1990



1995

Five year anniversary of the project and creation of the Friends of Talliston on 6th October 1995



2000

Ten year anniversary of the project and sealing of the box beneath the Fountain Courtyard on 6th October 2000



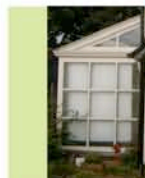
2001

Architectural plans for crown roof to existing extension and enlargement of front lobby on 3rd December 2001



2002

Architectural plans for side extension on 17th July 2002



2005

Fifteen year anniversary of the project and sealing of the dream catcher in the Watchtower walls on 6th October 2005



2007

Marcus George James Cotton becomes artist in residence on 1st June 2007



2010

Twenty year anniversary and hiding of the secret chest in the Haunted Bedroom on 6th October 2010



2015

Twenty-five year anniversary and completion of the Talliston House & Gardens project on 6th October 2015

