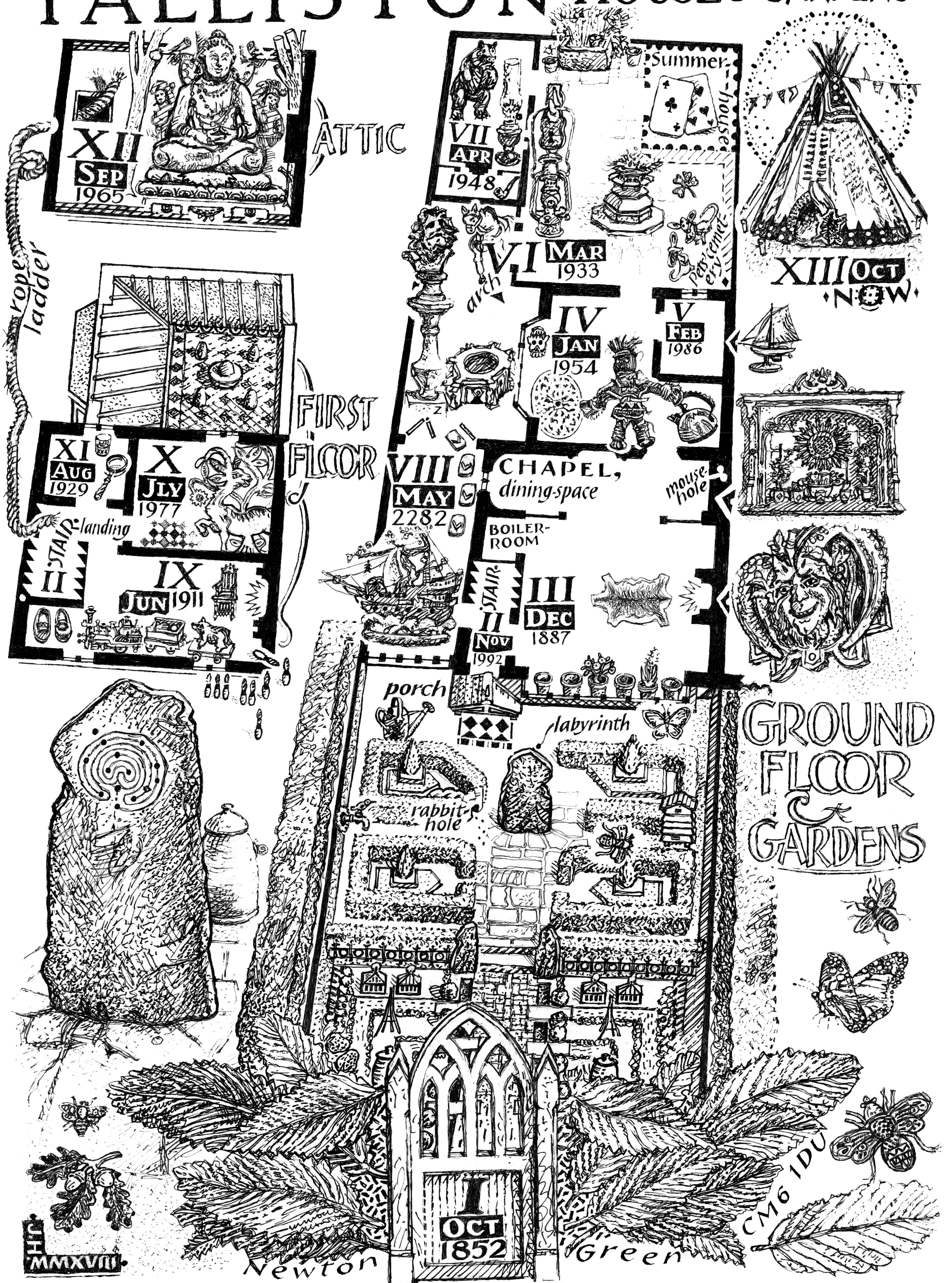


TALLISTON HOUSE & GARDENS



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A COMPANION GUIDE THROUGH THE MAGICAL LABYRINTH OF TALLISTON HOUSE & GARDENS

ROOM 1 🐉 FRONT GARDEN

THE LABYRINTH

Gothic Revival rectory cottage and vegetable gardens
The Old Rectory | 1852 | Essex, United Kingdom

This modest presbytery with its Gothic Revival vegetable and cottage gardens is pleasantly situated at the rural heart of Essex in the quiet, unspoiled market town of Great Dunmow. Site of Late Neolithic stone circle, now an eighteenth-century Anglican rectory house has been built on the land, its Gothic Revival gardens are newly restored in 1848 after a decade of neglect.

ROOM 2 🪞 HALL & STAIRS

THE HALL OF MIRRORS

Stone stairway of villa in the Italian mountains
Palazzo di Ombre | 1992 | Lombardy, Italy

Built as summer palace for wealthy Italian family on one of the nine Sacri Monti in northern Italy, this is now a lone house in an otherwise abandoned and ruined town, a mere shadow of the region’s former splendour and decadent past. Upon entering the marble floored hall, the visitor encounters a strange collection of timepieces, all stopped at the exact moments of the thirteen rooms.

ROOM 3 🪞 LIVING & DINING ROOM

THE WATCHTOWER

Welsh tower taken over by Victorians for midwinter retreat
The Mead Hall of Tŷr-â-Gân | 1887 | Wales, United Kingdom

This dark age watchtower sits in a magnificent location in Snowdonia. The current keep was built by the Welsh prince, Llywelyn the Great, in the Middle Ages. Now reinvented as a Bohemian retreat in the year of Queen Victoria’s Golden Jubilee. Impressively set at the base of Yr Wyddfa, the tower has most recently been significantly renovated by eccentric, Jonathan D’Ante.

ROOM 4 🍄 KITCHEN EXTENSION

THE VOODOO KITCHEN

1950s servant’s kitchen in New Orleans
Manse L’Estrange | 1954 | Louisiana, USA

Colonial revival manse set upon the banks of the bayou. The original house was all-but destroyed by fire in 1875, then rebuilt in Queen Anne-style with Neoclassic features. Now in the mid-1950s, the kitchen has been redecorated, repainted and fitted with a range of modern appliances, inspired by *Better Homes & Gardens*. The Big Easy was the chosen setting to answer the question of where to have your perfect Sunday morning breakfast.

ROOM 5 🚿 BATHROOM

THE BOATHOUSE

Bathroom in converted Norwegian lighthouse
The Lightkeeper’s House | 1986 | Hamarøy, Norway

Old boat house beside the lighthouse keeper’s cottage high on rocks of rugged islet in the Realm of Knut Hamsun, Norway, once classic Thule. It forms part of a small community including four houses, a red and white lighthouse, and jetties on an island within sight of the Hamarøy mountains. Inspired by the coastal setting of the lightkeeper’s house, this room is used to display a collection of boats and ships, including a single masted yacht, a wherry sailboat and a metal galleon mounted on bogwood.

ROOM 6 🍷 BACK GARDEN

THE FOUNTAIN COURTYARD

1930s Irish courtyard beside ruined chapel
Tigh Samhraidh | 1933 | County Meath, Ireland

To folks in the Boyne Valley, Tigh Samhraidh is the house of a witch, but the real story is far less straightforward. Constructed in 1875, the French Gothic style residence now belongs to Madame MacGeraghty, a longtime member of a small circus troupe known as Pandoro’s Travelling Fayre. Such association has only fuelled speculation over the owner’s background and interests, especially as this walled garden used to be the home of staunch Catholic churchgoers. Evidence of its previous Christian usage is everywhere, from the central Gothic jardinière to the broken pieces of church stonework. Now the overgrown wildness and objects in the garden more reflect the pagan Wiccan triple goddess.

ROOM 7 🌿 GARDEN SHED

THE CABIN

Canadian cabin in the woods of trapper and Cree wife
Wisakedjak Lodge | 1948 | Saskatchewan, Canada

At the forested heart of the Canadian wilderness stands Wisakedjak Lodge, a red and white log cabin constructed of cedars, weathered boards and shingle. Here in the late winter of 1948, we find all the rough comforts of this hideaway, its worn chairs, folk art painted furniture and woodstove; a place for quiet contemplation. With few trails and wild woodland in every direction, the only sensible way to approach the cabin is by canoe, across the great lake of Kingsmere. Here lives an Englishman who married a local Cree and came to be known as He Who Walks By Night.

ROOM 8 🍵 CONSERVATORY

THE STARHOUSE

Futuristic Japanese teahouse and Shinto vivarium
The Waystation at Tzu | 2282 | Hokkaido Island, Japan

Currently docked at the Tzu Waystation on Japan’s northernmost prefecture, this recreational arkspace with its melding of Oriental tea house and Art Deco styling is just one room of a tiered temple complex and apartments. Situated off the main living hub, the vivarium shrine houses the entertainment and art areas. Governed by a sentient bioanima construct named simply ‘Home’, the vivarium is controlled by owners of the laboratory starstation of D’Arkadia.

ROOM 9 🛏 MASTER BEDROOM

THE HAUNTED BEDROOM

Edwardian child’s forgotten bedchamber
Master Jack’s Bedroom | 1911 | Scotland, United Kingdom

With its dramatic cliff top location mid-way between Aberdeen and Dundee, Ravensbrae Manor has a rich and fascinating history. Beginning as a Pictish settlement, the first recorded inhabitants were Vikings who, after invading, built a beacon fire on the promontory. This bedchamber, with its black woodwork, fretwork altar panels and emerald trellis, and quatrefoil fabric walls, was decorated for the Macpherson’s first child. Seathan – always known as ‘Jack’ – always complained of noises in the night, but it was only after the boy’s death that the first true hauntings began. Due to this, the superstitious couple locked the room, sealed it with various holy symbols, and vowed never set foot in it ever again.

ROOM 10 🌙 GUEST BEDROOM

THE ROOM OF DREAMS

Guest room in Moorish Spain
Eish Al Kamar | 1977 | Grenada, Spain

Known by the Arab name, Eish Al Kamar (The Moon’s Nest), this bedchamber is a private guestroom in the Court of the Myrtles of the Alhambra palace in Granada, Spain. Fully restored in the early twentieth century, this romantically named salon provides modern accommodation for guests of the palace. The room’s name refers to the seasonal rising of the moon behind the Atlas Mountains, appearing as an ivory egg in the bowl-shaped nest cradled against the peaks. The Moorish bedchamber is filled with artefacts and treasures collected from travels around the world to more than forty-seven different countries.

ROOM 11 📦 BOX-ROOM

THE OFFICE

Late 1920s investigator’s office in New York City
Trevelyan Vean | 1929 | New York, USA

Châteauesque mansion on Fifth Avenue on the Upper East Side overlooking Central Park. Built 1882–87, the design of the three and- a-half-storey French Renaissance style mansion is a blending of French Gothic style and Beaux- Arts refinement. Set within this grand Jacobean mansion lies the office of Antony R. Kane, an author, publisher and investigator specialising in the exotic and esoteric. He is also head of an international secret society known as Occultus Earth which he runs from this rented office in New York. His work takes him all around the world and many of his collected artifacts are seen in this room.

ROOM 12 🌳 ATTIC

THE TREEHOUSE SANCTUARY

Bamboo spirit house in Cambodian treetops
San Phra Phum | 1965 | Tonlé Sap Lake, Cambodia

Bamboo spirit house built in ancient trees on the outskirts of Kampong Phluk, upon the flood plain of the Tonlé Sap Lake, Cambodia. This is now converted to a makeshift lodging for travellers exploring the temples of Angkor Wat and surrounding regions. Traditionally, spirit houses are shrines to the animist spirits. These sacred structures are usually placed in an auspicious corner of the town or property. Votive offerings are left at the house to propitiate the spirits. More elaborate installations include an altar for this purpose. This spirit house is no longer used to house the village’s household gods, as a larger temple has now been built off the flood plain.

ROOM 13 🏴 TENT

THE TIPI

Navajo-style pole and canvas tipi
Bah-Has-Tkih (The Lost Room) | Now | Arizona, USA

Deep within the sprawling Navajo ancestral lands Agathla Peak stands like a sentinel at the southern gateway to Monument Valley. The construction of Bah-Has-Tkih (*Navajo; the lost room*) is sacred, symbolising the Diné realms: the thirteen posts represent the sacred mountains, the floor mother earth, and the roof is father sky. The entire structure represents the journey from earth to the spirit world, beginning to end; the link between man and Wankan-Tanka, the Great Mystery.