

Lettings

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'Secret' upward spiral is among home's delights



Stairway to heaven: The secret staircase



Towering: Barcote Tower

A secret passage leading to a spiral stairway is one of the period features of Grade-II listed Barcote Tower in Buckland.

The Victorian property is part of Barcote Park mansion, built for the Duke of Westminster's daughter Lady Theodora Guest in 1876.

It was used as a hunting lodge before being sold to William West, a director of the Great Western Railway in the 1880s.

After a spell being used as a boarding school, it was converted into four houses 18 years ago.

Accessed through stone and iron gates and a tree-lined driveway, it is set in 20 acres of parkland.

One of the four properties

By Gill Oliver

which is spread over three floors and forms the tower part of the manor, is being renovated and will be available to rent from next month. It includes two bathrooms, four double bedrooms and a kitchen/breakfast/living room with windows on three sides.

The drawing room has a feature fireplace and the secret passage, while the basement has been used as a gym, store room and wine cellar by previous owners.

There are two garages and as well as a private garden, tenants have the use of the Manor House's extensive grounds.

Key facts

Address: Barcote Tower, Buckland, near Faringdon

Price: £2,950 per month

Agent: Finders Keepers

Contact: Call 01993 700150 or visit www.finders.co.uk

■ **Historic property**

■ **Original features**

■ **Four bedrooms**

■ **Two bathrooms**

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