



By the summer of 2002, the pressure of Tim's consultancy work and the constant decision-making of the restoration were taking their toll. For a couple of months he wanted nothing to do with the house. 'I just wanted to get rid of it, finished or not,' he says. Despite her initial reservations, Carolyn had been a constant support, and now she came to the fore, pushing through the remaining work so the family could finally leave the mobile homes in November 2002.

Norton Bavant today is a permanent version of the original structure. The house sits on a wall plate of English oak and is properly insulated – four-inch Celotex has substituted the original horsehair felt 'draught excluder'. Although much of the original structure had to be replaced, the proportions have barely altered. 'I'm told that Biddy Cormack would have approved,' says Tim. 'I hope so.'

Adam Mornement is editor and co-author of Corrugated Iron – Building on the Frontier, published by Frances Lincoln nex t year

SUPPLIERS

Architect

Barry Read (01428 713 828)

Conservation builder

Douglas Hall

(01/30 895 315)

Approved master thatcher

Simon Richards (01420 83719;

www.thatchersimon.com

Electricia

Kevin Perkins (01420 563 441)

Painters

C & S Decorators (023 8026 3047)

Cladding

A & F Roofing

(01256 766 477; afroofing.co.uk)

Landscaping

Vic Richards (01420 84629)

Garden design

Angela Morley

(01420 82679; wildgardens.co.uk)

Windows

Brookdown Joinery

(023 9241 3651; brookdown.co.uk)

Galvanised corrugated steel sheets

Brunel steel

(029 2048 8844; capitalcs.com)

Oak

Dennis Hudson (01420 475 959)

Canadian Douglas fir and pine

Covers Chichester

(01243 785 141; dcover.co.uk)

Timber

Travis Perkins

(01604 752 424;

travisperkins.co.uk)

Reclaimed materials

Arthur Rudd

(01428 751 369) Bathroom fittings

(01420 88500:

C P Hart

(01483 469430; cphart.co.uk)

Plumbing and electrical supplies

Ideal Electrical & Plumbing

ideal-for-bathrooms.co.uk)

Paint

Paint & Paper Library (020 7823 7755; paintlibrary.co.uk)