

RECENT ARCHAEOLOGY IN AND AROUND HANNEY

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Hanney History Group: October 2018

WHAT IS DEVELOPER FUNDED ARCHAEOLOGY?

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) March 2012

Reinforced by VWH DC own policies

To simplify

- Desk based assessment

- Excavation as directed by the County Archaeologist

- Report written up

- Planners must take account of County Archaeologist's view

Growth of commercial archaeology units, now the majority of excavations- 'rescue digs', site evaluations

Developer pays

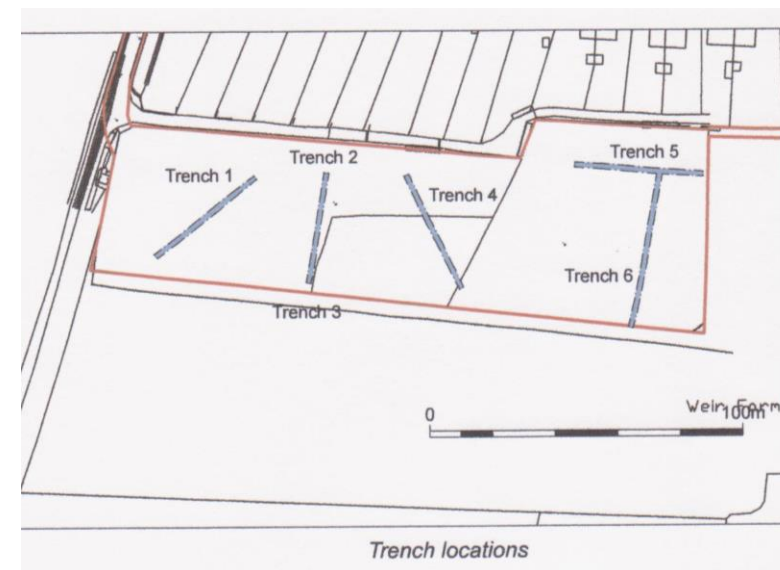
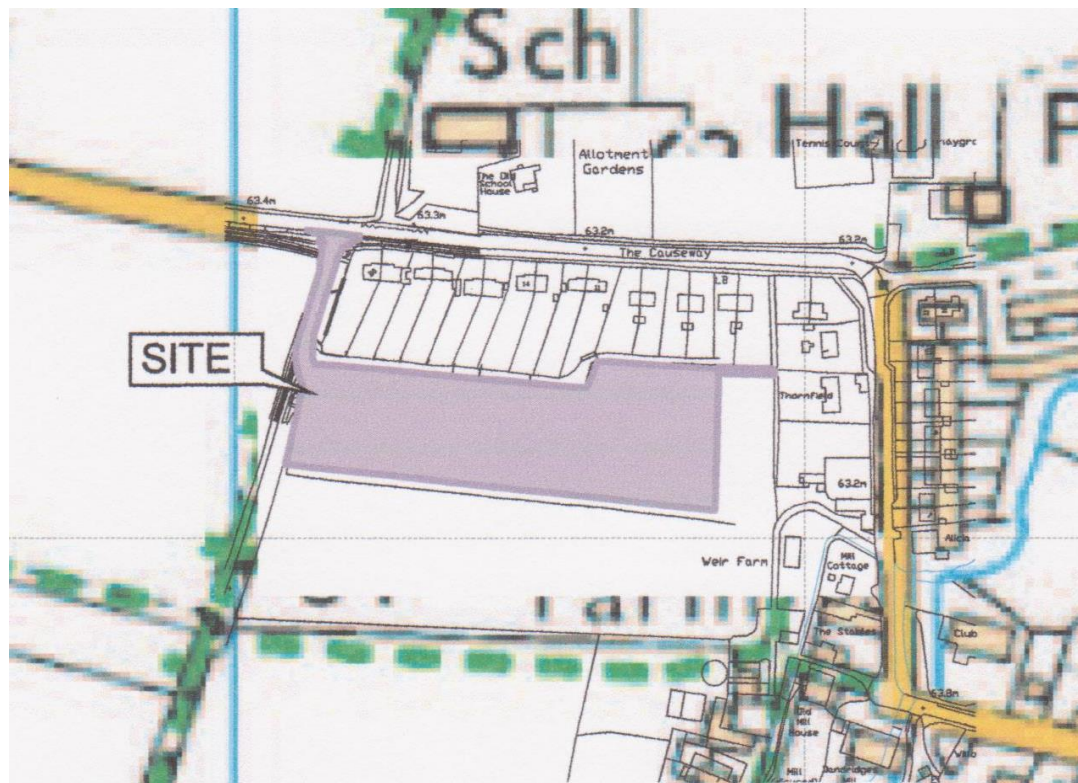
Concern about the future if planning procedures 'streamlined'!

Reports are in the public domain and available on VWH planning website but tedious to find!!!

SITE LOCATIONS



LAND SOUTH OF CAUSEWAY, EAST HANNEY



NEOLITHIC (NEW STONE AGE) 4000-2500 BC

Start of farming: domesticated animals, crops, settlement

Chambered tombs, stone circles, polished stone axes

Pottery



Wayland's Smithy



Polished stone axe



Avebury

LAND SOUTH OF CAUSEWAY, EAST HANNEY

Fieldwork May 2016, 6 trenches, 3.7% of area

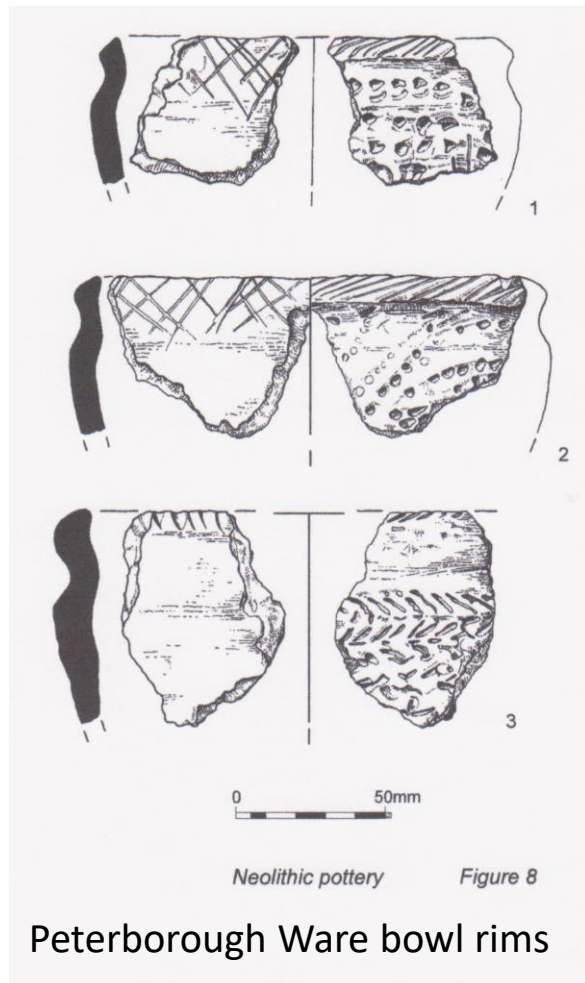
Neolithic : pit with three Peterborough Ware bowl rims (an unusual find)
gully suggesting field system

Roman: gully and ditch with pottery fragments suggesting field system but no settlement nearby

Undated post-holes related to settlement

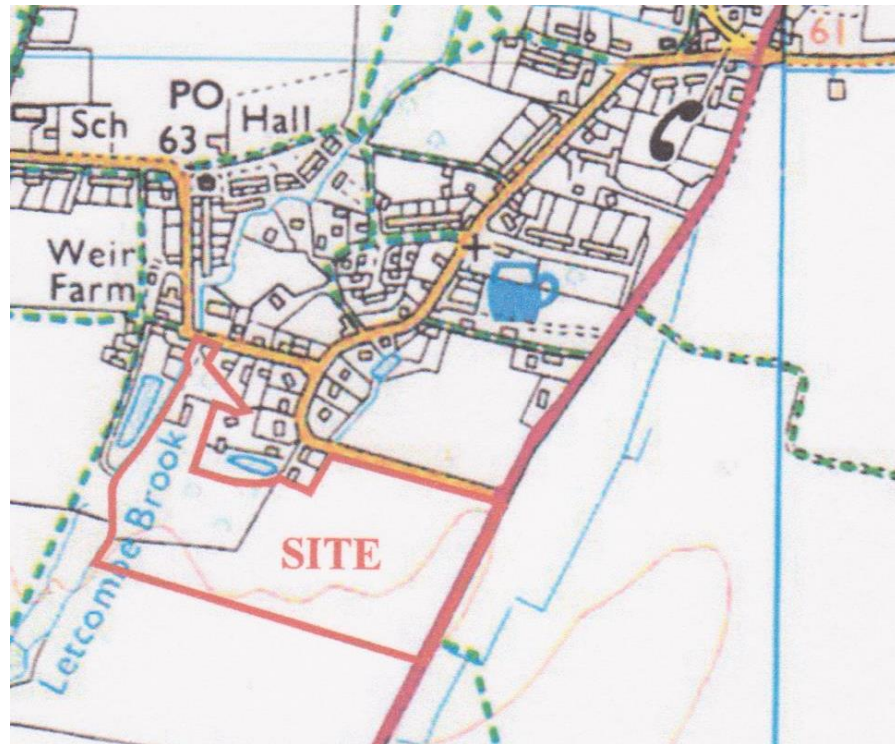
Fragments of animal bone

LAND SOUTH OF CAUSEWAY, EAST HANNEY



whole bowl of a similar type

LAND SOUTH OF SUMMERTOWN, EAST HANNEY



Trench locations

Thames Valley Archaeological Services for Linden Homes

LAND SOUTH OF SUMMERTOWN, EAST HANNEY

ROMAN CHRONOLOGY:

BC 55 & 54 Caesar's Raids

AD 43 Successful invasion under Claudius

AD 60/61 Boudicca freedom campaign

AD 286-296 UDI under Carausius (The first Hard Brexit?)

AD 410 End of Roman rule

LAND SOUTH OF SUMMERTOWN, EAST HANNEY

Fieldwork 17 August-10 September 2015, 82 trenches 25m X 2m

OBJECTIVES:

- *to determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present;
- *to determine if any Roman roadside settlement or even the Roman road itself are present in the eastern portion of the site;
- *to determine if any occupation deposits of Saxon or medieval date are present; and
- *to determine if any medieval manorial remains are present.

These objectives reflect information provided by Hanney History Group

Thames Valley Archaeological Services for Linden Homes



LAND SOUTH OF SUMMERTOWN, EAST HANNEY



Plate 7: Trench 71 looking south east.
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.3m



Plate 6: Trench 69, looking east,
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.3m



No wonder that rumours spread in the village that development had started!

LAND SOUTH OF SUMMERTOWN, EAST HANNEY



Plate 16: Trench 78, burial 653 in cut 538, looking north west, Scales: 1m and 0.5m

Burial



Plate 10: Trench 42, burial? 27 looking south west, Scales: 0.5m, 0.3m and 0.1m

Possible cremation burial

LAND SOUTH OF SUMMERTOWN, EAST HANNEY

FEATURES:

Ditches, gullies, furrows and pits in almost every trench

FINDS:

Pottery : 1220 sherds, some **Bronze/Iron Age** , mostly **Roman** (2nd and 3rd C),
54 **Medieval**

Metalwork: 53 items including 4 coins, a copper alloy oyster spoon, assorted
ironwork, mainly nails

Animal bone fragments: mainly cattle and sheep/goat

Human burials: 5 including a baby + a possible cremation

Wall daub: 1 definite fragment

LAND SOUTH OF SUMMERTOWN, EAST HANNEY

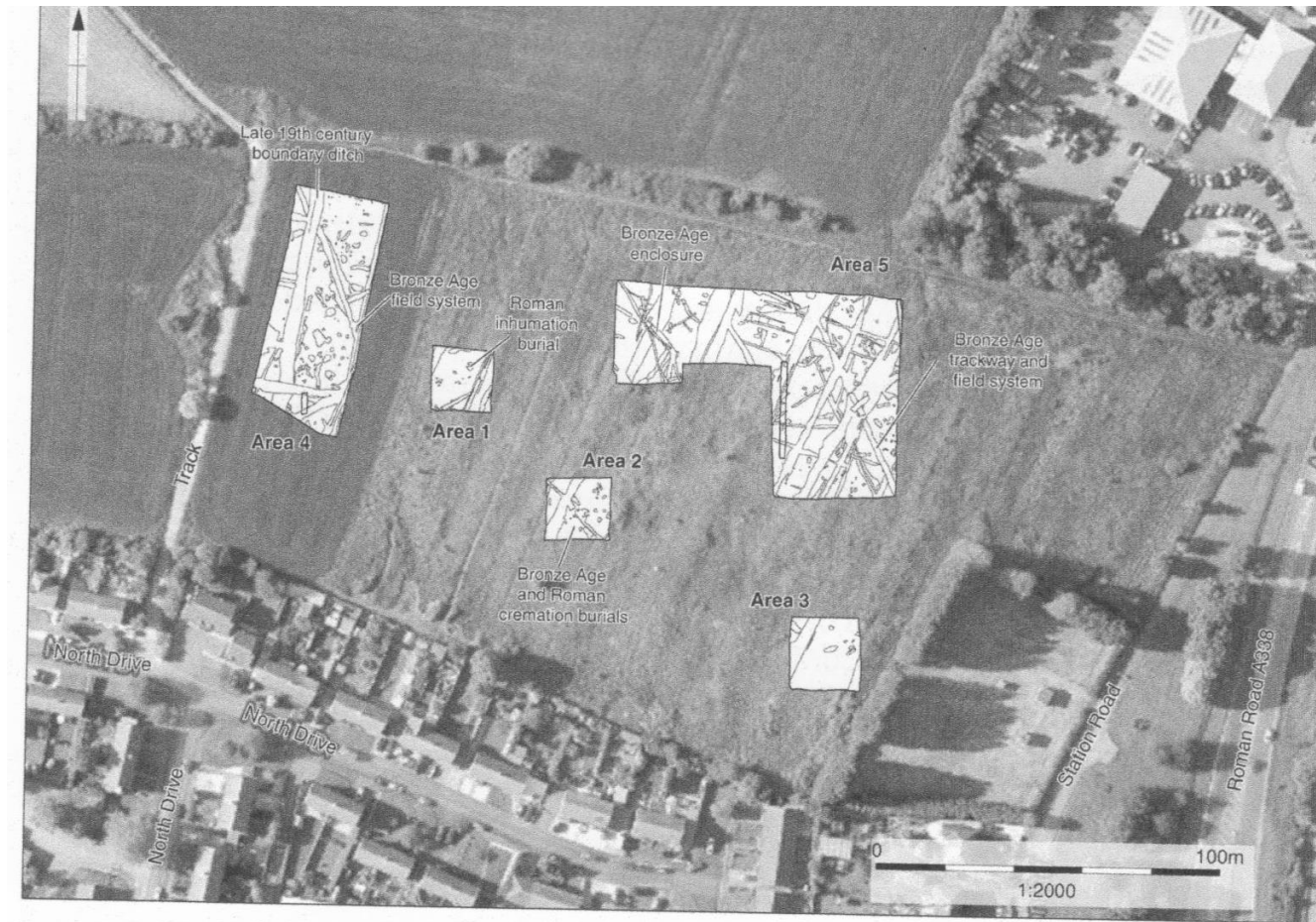
CONCLUSIONS:

“Archaeological interest in almost every trench”

- ❖ Some activity in **Bronze/ Iron Age**
- ❖ Extensive spread of **Roman** occupation, several clusters of habitation surrounded by paddocks and enclosures
- ❖ Modest status, no elaborate stone structures, moderately well off not high status
- ❖ No clustering of burials so no formal cemetery
- ❖ No Roman road
- ❖ **Medieval** ridge and furrow, pits and ditches on eastern part of site but no manorial remains

MONKS FARM

Fieldwork 2013, 5 areas total 0.7 ha, 16% of total area



Bellingers

Fig. 2. Plan of excavation areas.

Oxford Archaeology for CgMs Consulting on behalf of Gallagher Estates and Gleeson Homes

MONKS FARM

Flint, 38 worked pieces mainly **Mesolithic**, a few **Neolithic**

Middle Bronze Age, enclosure and field system
2 pits with cremation burials

Roman, 2 cremation burials
1 inhumation burial

Roman/Romano-British

43BC-410AD

Iron Age

800BC-43AD

Bronze Age

2300-800BC

Neolithic

4000-2300BC

Mesolithic

9600-4000BC

Results published in Oxoniensia 2017 (Vol 82)

LAND WEST OF WILLIAMS RACING

(Grove Wick Farm)

Fieldwork July 2018 , 37 trenches 30m x 2m

FEATURES

DITCHES: Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman, Medieval

IRON AGE SETTLEMENT: roundhouses , post-holes,
pits

FINDS

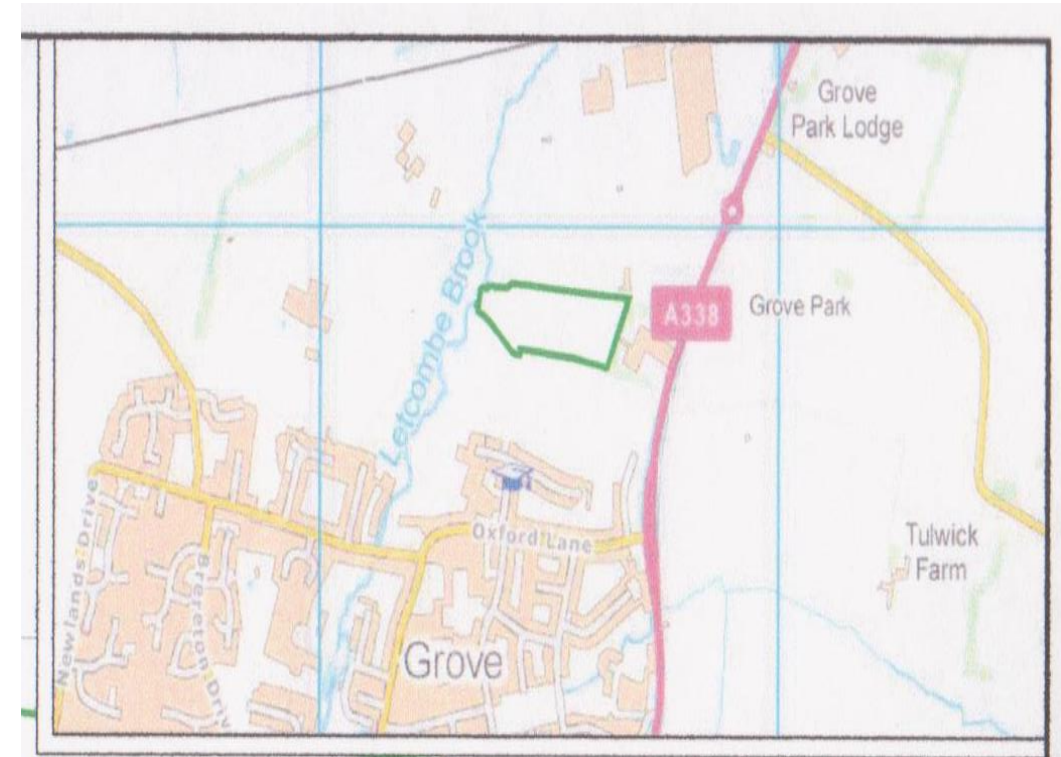
Mesolithic (9,600 – 4000BC) flint knapping waste
(rare find in Oxfordshire)



LAND WEST of BELLINGERS GARAGE

Fieldwork 2013, 11 trenches 50mx2m, 4% of area

Iron Age and Romano-British
field boundaries,
drainage ditches,
a possible animal pen



LAND SOUTH of WILLIAMS RACING

Desk study and walkover survey (3 June 2015)



Substantial 'plough bank' of **pre-Medieval** origin
(associated with large bank north of Railway line)

Medieval ridge and furrow

WWII track and hut bases (associated with Grove Airfield?)

LOCATION OF ROMAN ROAD?



Aerial photograph Sept 1947



‘Substantial bank with ridge and furrow going over it, looks like an agger to me.’

EH Landscape Archaeologist
November 2006



Google Earth Oct 2012



LOCATION OF ROMAN ROAD ?

Summertown?

Monks Farm?

LIDAR?

South of Williams?

The bank appears to peter out at either end so it is probably not a Roman road.

TAKE HOME MESSAGE

People have been living in the Hanney area since the Stone Age.



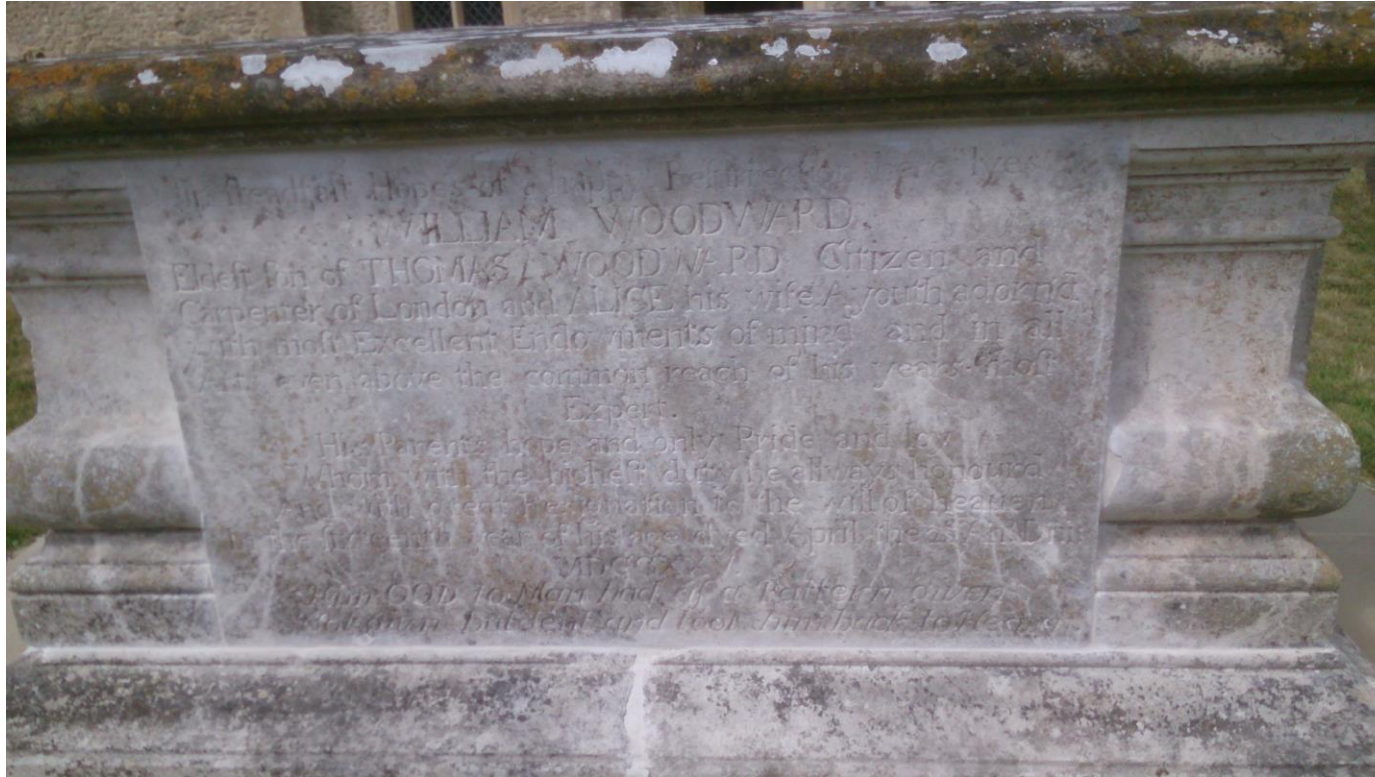
RESTORATION OF THE WOODWARD TOMB



Listed (Grade II) chest tomb
in need of repair

Images and information by courtesy of Patrick Karney

RESTORATION OF THE WOODWARD TOMB



Woodward William, eldest son of Thomas Woodward, Citizen and Carpenter of London, And Alice his wife, a youth adorned with most excellent endowments of mind and in all arts even above the common reach of his years most expert. His parents hope and only pride and joy whom with the highest duty he always and with great resignation to the will of Heaven dyed in the sixteenth year of his age. Dyed April the 2nd, 1725.

The inscription

Images and information by courtesy of Patrick Karney

RESTORATION OF THE WOODWARD TOMB



Dismantling the
superstructure

Images and information by courtesy of Patrick Karney

RESTORATION OF THE WOODWARD TOMB



Removing the superstructure reveals the barrel roof of a brick built vault. A damaged area provided a small hole.

Images and information by courtesy of Patrick Karney

RESTORATION OF THE WOODWARD TOMB



Patrick inserts a mobile phone on a selfie stick to take pictures

Images and information by courtesy of Patrick Karney

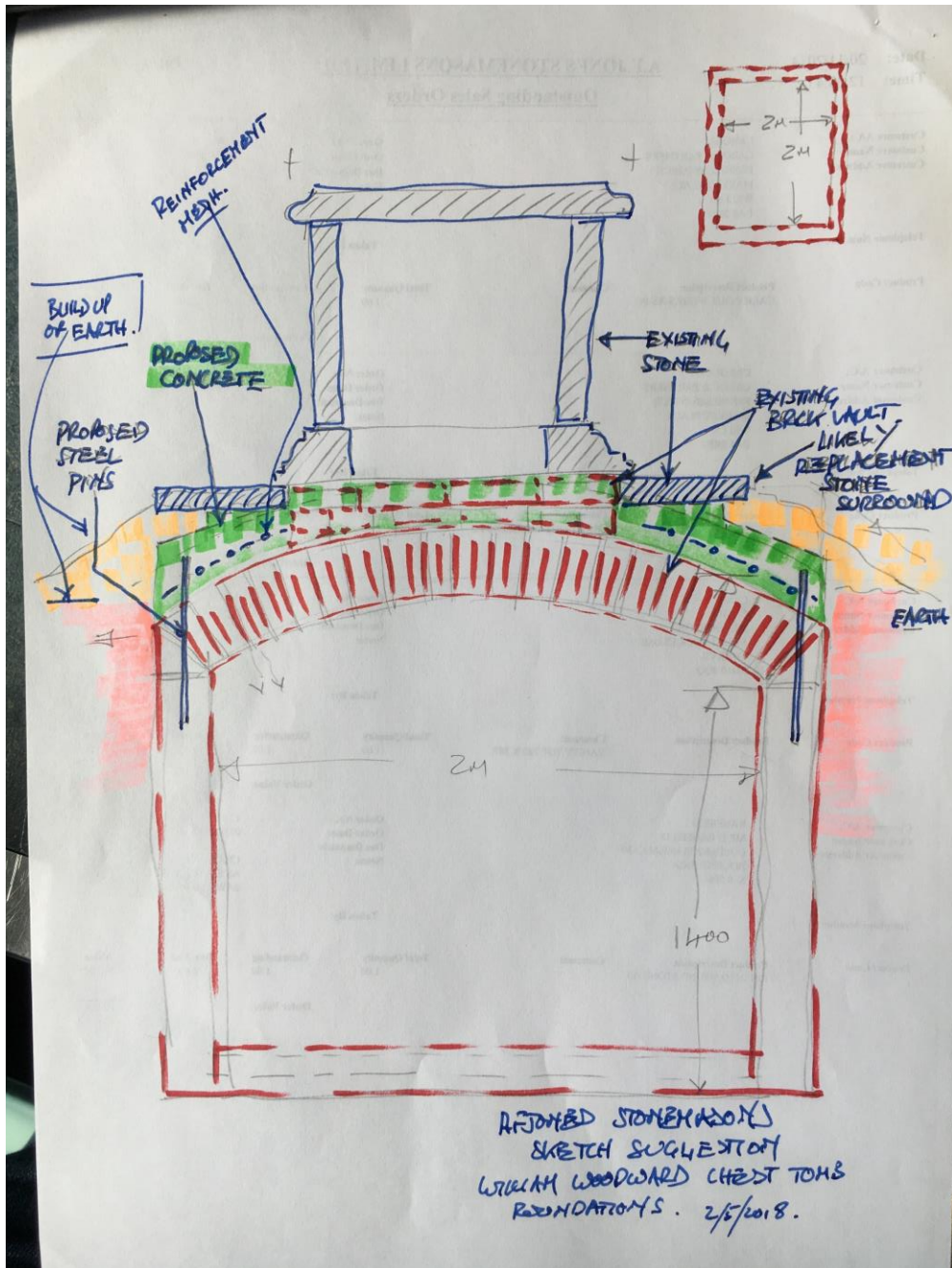
RESTORATION OF THE WOODWARD TOMB



The camera shows a substantially built vault with a barrel roof and a bricked up doorway

Images and information by courtesy of Patrick Karney

RESTORATION OF THE WOODWARD TOMB



Stonemason's sketch plan

The vault is approximately 2 metres x 2 metres and 1.4 metres high

Images and information by courtesy of Patrick Karney

RESTORATION OF THE WOODWARD TOMB

Inside, any coffins had decayed away but there were the remains of two skeletons, one had a badly broken femur which had healed.

Why no further investigation?

- ❖ Respect for human remains
- ❖ Need for licenses and permissions
- ❖ Cost
- ❖ Bio-hazard

RESTORATION OF THE WOODWARD TOMB

Who were the Woodwards?

Research by Hanney History Group shows that the Woodwards were a dynasty of local carpenters living in East Hanney.

It is likely that Thomas had been sent as an apprentice to London. Once qualified he prospered.

As a 'local boy made good', when his beloved son died in 1725 he wanted to bring him home to Hanney and also show his own achievement in becoming a Citizen of London.

If one of the skeletons was William, it is possible that the other is his father Thomas, who we believe was buried in Hanney in 1747. But there is no inscription on the tomb to commemorate this.

Images and information by courtesy of Patrick Karney

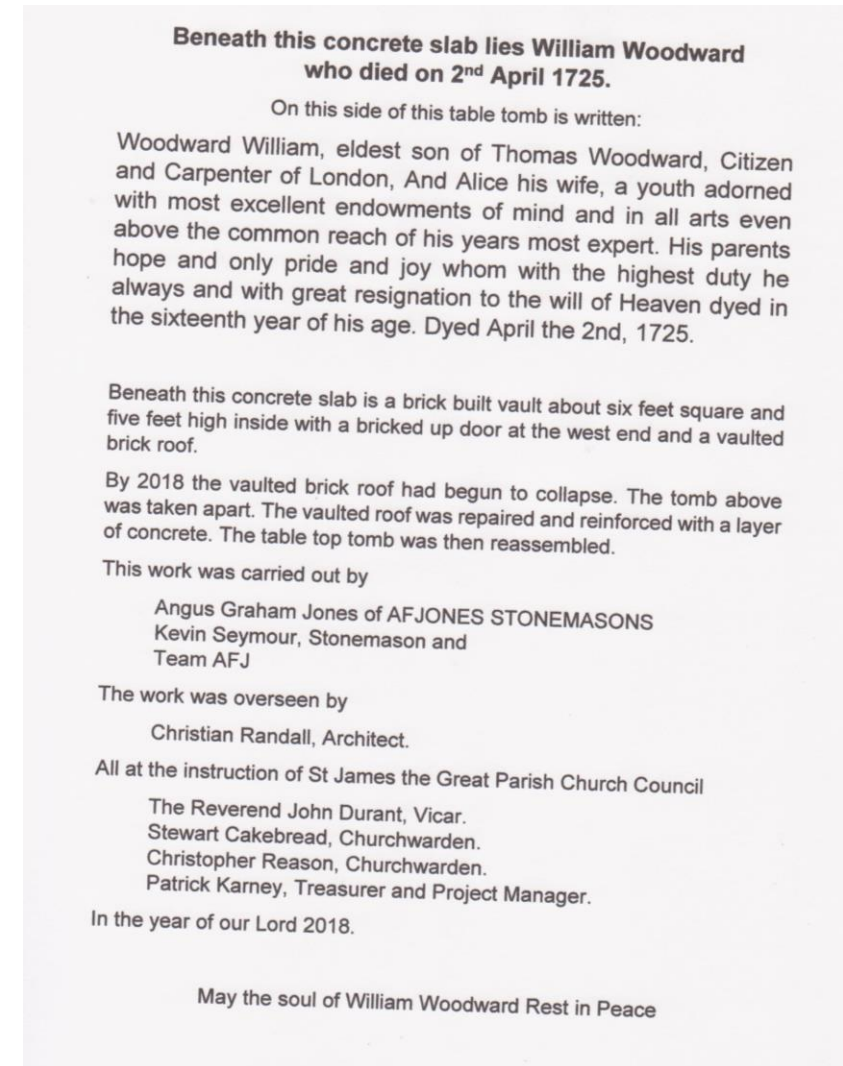
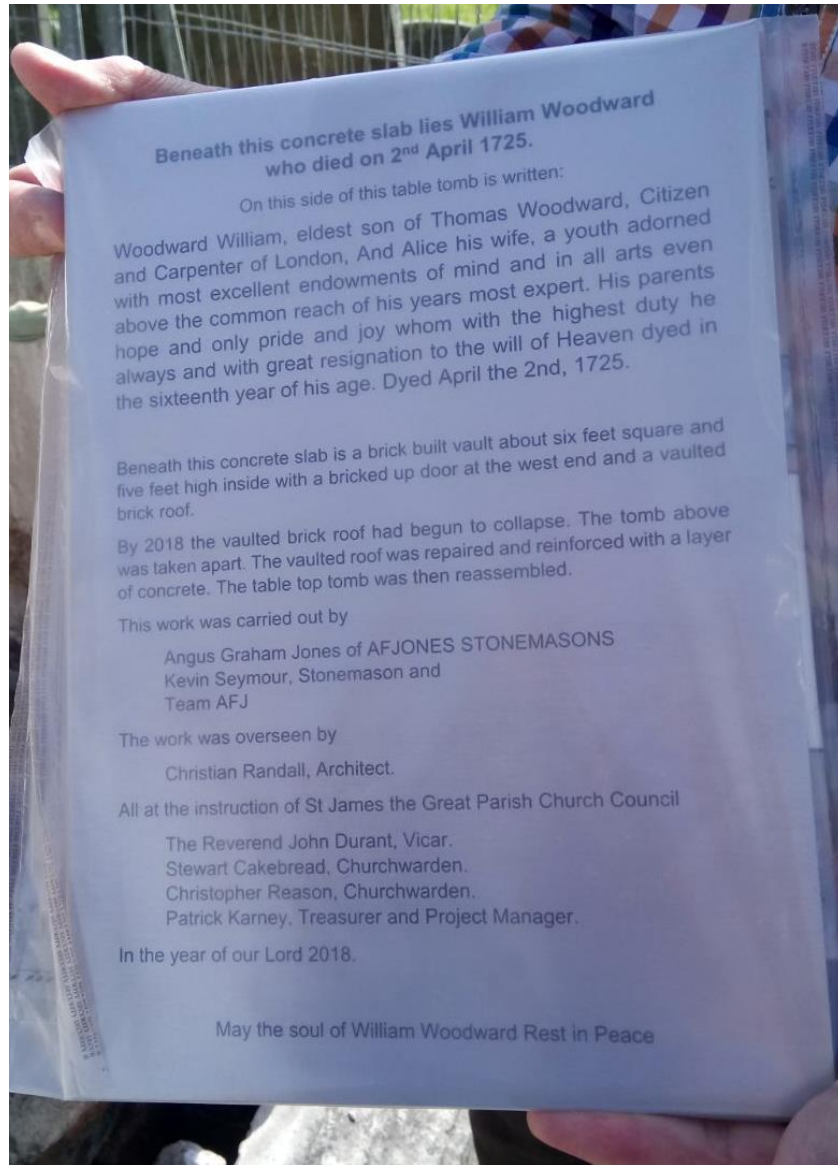
RESTORATION OF THE WOODWARD TOMB



Before the restoration was completed a stainless steel plaque was placed inside.

Images and information by courtesy of Patrick Karney

RESTORATION OF THE WOODWARD TOMB



Images and information by courtesy of Patrick Karney

RESTORATION OF THE WOODWARD TOMB



Restoration
completed

Images and information by courtesy of Patrick Karney

RESTORATION OF THE WOODWARD TOMB



and
landscaped

Images and information by courtesy of Patrick Karney