

# BRIEF HISTORY OF STANWICK

**Redlands Farm Villa Site** - excavated by the Oxford Archaeological Unit in 1990. Evidence was found of prehistoric occupation, beginning in the Bronze age (2100 BC - 750 BC) and developing throughout the Iron Age (751 BC – AD 42). During the Roman Britain period (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> century), a simple 2-roomed building was constructed, originally as a watermill. This became the core of a winged corridor villa, with a hypocaust and mosaic pavements.

**Roman Villa Site** - excavated by English Heritage between 1985 and 1991. During the late Bronze Age (c 1000 BC) until the Late Iron Age (c AD 42) long fences were built to separate large fields, and the site was then occupied by Belgic tribesmen, with evidence of circular wattle and daub huts, and small oval defended enclosures. During the Roman Britain period (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> century) the earlier houses were demolished and new huts built into 6 enclosures separated by trackways. A row of 3 stone houses were then built, and a building flanked by turret-like rooms was erected. There were many other changes on the site before the Roman Villa was furnished with 3 mosaic pavements circa 350 AD.

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- 10<sup>th</sup> century** Village name recorded as Stan Wigga.
- 1086** Domesday book: Referred to as Stanwige & Stanewica, part of Peterborough Abbey estate.
- c 1225** St. Laurence Church is built.
- 1280** Stanwick has a 2 field system, 'The field towards Raunds', and 'The Other Field'.
- 1656** The Upper Field is enclosed to form Stanwick Pastures. The remaining land is divided into 3 parts: 'Field next to Raunds', 'Field next to Chelveston' and 'Field next to Higham'.
- 1714** Stanwick House is rebuilt and the solar and chapel built in 1222 is demolished.
- 1717** Stanwick Rectory is built on the site of an older Rectory.
- 1745** 200 men march from Stanwick to fight against Bonny Prince Charlie. More of them die of smallpox than are killed in the fighting at Carlisle.
- 1801** Population: 332
- 1834** 3 Commissioners and 2 Surveyors are appointed to oversee the Inclosure of land in Stanwick.
- 1838** The Inclosure of Stanwick's land is completed.
- 1839-41** The first National school is built in Stanwick.
- 1840** Stanwick Baptist Church is formed.
- 1851** Population: 609
- 1874-75** The National School is closed for extension and repairs, and a School Board is formed.
- 1876** Alterations are made to the school to accommodate 138 pupils.
- 1890** The first shoe factory is built in Stanwick by Cave of Rushden.
- 1894** Thrapston Rural District Council is formed, which includes the Parish of Stanwick.
- 1895** The Wesleyan Methodist Chapel is built in West Street.
- 1899** The Infants school (current school) is built; Stanwick Working Men's Club is formed.
- 1901** Population: 901

- c 1906** Church Rooms built by Stanwick men on land in Spencer Parade belonging to the Church.
- 1920s** The War Memorial is erected; Electricity comes to Stanwick.
- 1923** Stanwick Bowls Club is formed.
- 1931** The Infants school is remodelled. The Upper School (Old School) is closed.
- 1935** Thrapston RDC is abolished and Stanwick becomes a ward of Raunds UDC.
- 1939** The Old School is reopened to accommodate 87 evacuees and 4 teachers.
- 1953** The Church Rooms and the land on which it stands is sold to the British Legion.
- 1960s** Stanwick House is demolished following a fire.
- 1961** Population: 1036
- 1967** Land is purchased by Raunds UDC for a Recreation Ground off Aris Lane.
- 1968** Stanwick Pre-school Playgroup is formed.
- 1970s** The shoe factory in Villa Lane and Spencer Parade closes.
- 1971** Population: 1284
- 1980** A School Crossing Patrol is introduced for Spencer Parade; Public Exhibition at Raunds by the County Surveyor, showing 4 alternative routes for the Stanwick Bypass.
- 1981** Population: 1343
- 1985** English Heritage begins major archaeological excavations at the Roman Villa site.
- 1987** Stanwick Bypass is opened. Overall cost of the scheme is £3,200,000.
- 1990** Excavation of Redlands Farm Villa by the Oxford Archaeological Unit.
- 1991** Population: 1481; Roman Villa excavations by English Heritage ends.
- 1995** A Petition for Stanwick to have its own Parish Council is submitted to the ENDC.
- 1997** Stanwick Handbell Ringers is formed; Hilltop Stores closes after 50 years of trading.
- 1998** Stanwick MM is formed to raise money to erect a village sign to commemorate the forthcoming Millennium.
- 1999** The Royal British Legion Hall in Spencer Parade is put up for sale.
- 2000** Elections take place for the first Parish Council for Stanwick; Millennium Sign is unveiled and a time capsule buried.
- 2001** Population: 1924
- 2002** The first Stanwick 10Km Road Race and 2 Km Fun Run take place.
- 2004** Quarrying ends at Stanwick Meadows.
- 2005** The Parish Plan Steering Group is formed.
- 2006** Estimated Population: 1950; The Parish Plan 'Your Village Day' takes place at Stanwick Primary School; On the completion of Stage I, Stanwick Lakes officially opens to the public.
- 2009** Purchase of land by the Parish Council for allotments, pocket park and a playing field area.

- 2010** Stanwick Pocket Park group (SPPARK) is formed
- 2011** **Population of Stanwick is 2183**; The new Stanwick Village Hall is opened, the building works being primarily funded by the Big Lottery Fund.
- 2012** The Parish Plan is reviewed and refreshed; the Old School Rooms, now in private ownership, opens as the Post Office, shop and Bistro; Diamond Jubilee celebrations take place in the village in June.
- 2013** One of the Roman Mosaics is brought back to the Visitor Centre at Stanwick Lakes after almost 30 years with English Heritage; Stanwick Parish Plan 2013 - 2018 is published. Public Open Space purchased by the Parish Council from The Greenbelt Company.
- 2014** Stanwick wins the award for 'Best Large Village' in Northamptonshire ACRE's 'Village of the Year' competition. Stanwick Village Residents Group is formed, and public meeting organised to discuss a development proposal by Gladman Developments for up to 230 dwellings on land north of West Street; Stanwick Outdoors project is awarded £50,000 by the People's Millions competition on TV following a public vote.
- 2015** Development Control Committee, East Northants Council unanimously refuse the Outline Planning Application for up to 230 houses on land north of West Street, Stanwick. 872 letters of objection had been received by the East Northants Council during the consultation period.