

THE Story OF PAVO

Grand Union introduction

Grand Union is opening up a previously inaccessible 800 metre stretch of the Grand Union Canal to the surrounding neighbourhood, reconnecting the local area with its heritage and bringing the river back to life.

A previously derelict site, Grand Union is being transformed into an exciting canalside, mixed-use neighbourhood that has been thoughtfully designed with the local community in mind to connect with surrounding Stonebridge and Alperton.

Berkeley Group acquired the 22-acre site in 2017 and began working with the local community to create and regenerate a 21st century development. The first phase of Grand Union was launched in 2019 and residents began to occupy homes in 2021.

History of PAVO & connection to Grand Union, Alperton

The narrowboat PAVO was built by Harland & Wolff Ltd at Woolwich Docks on the River Thames in July 1935. PAVO was originally built as a “butty” boat (pulled by a motorboat), and was paired with the motorboat PEGASUS, working for the Grand Union Canal Carrying Company (G.U.C.C.Co). Together they carried cargo from London to Birmingham, amongst other destinations.

During World War II, PAVO was used with the training boats for the Land Army between 1939 and 1945. PAVO featured in the book “The Amateur Boat Woman” by Eily Gayford and there was a film made with the lady trainees, on the stern of PAVO, alongside the motorboat BATTERSEA.

PAVO was later shortened to approximately 48 feet (the stern still survives, last seen somewhere on the River Nene). By 1999, PAVO was extended to 61 feet and a new roof, bow cabin and a lister JP2 hand start engine were installed.

PAVO was bought privately in 2004 and the original 1935 hull was completely re-bottomed and re-footed with a 10mm steel plate. In August 2021, St George acquired PAVO where it is now permanently installed in the canalside piazza at Grand Union.

Grand Union is a vibrant new canalside neighbourhood, which covers some 22 acres within the London Borough of Brent. Located in Alperton, close to Wembley, it has great connections into the City and West End.

How PAVO Will be used as part of a meaningful community program in the Borough

St George is committed to thoughtful placemaking and community engagement. PAVO will be used as part of the community programme in the Borough of Brent, providing a unique, educational setting on board to showcase the local history and heritage.

GRAND
UNION

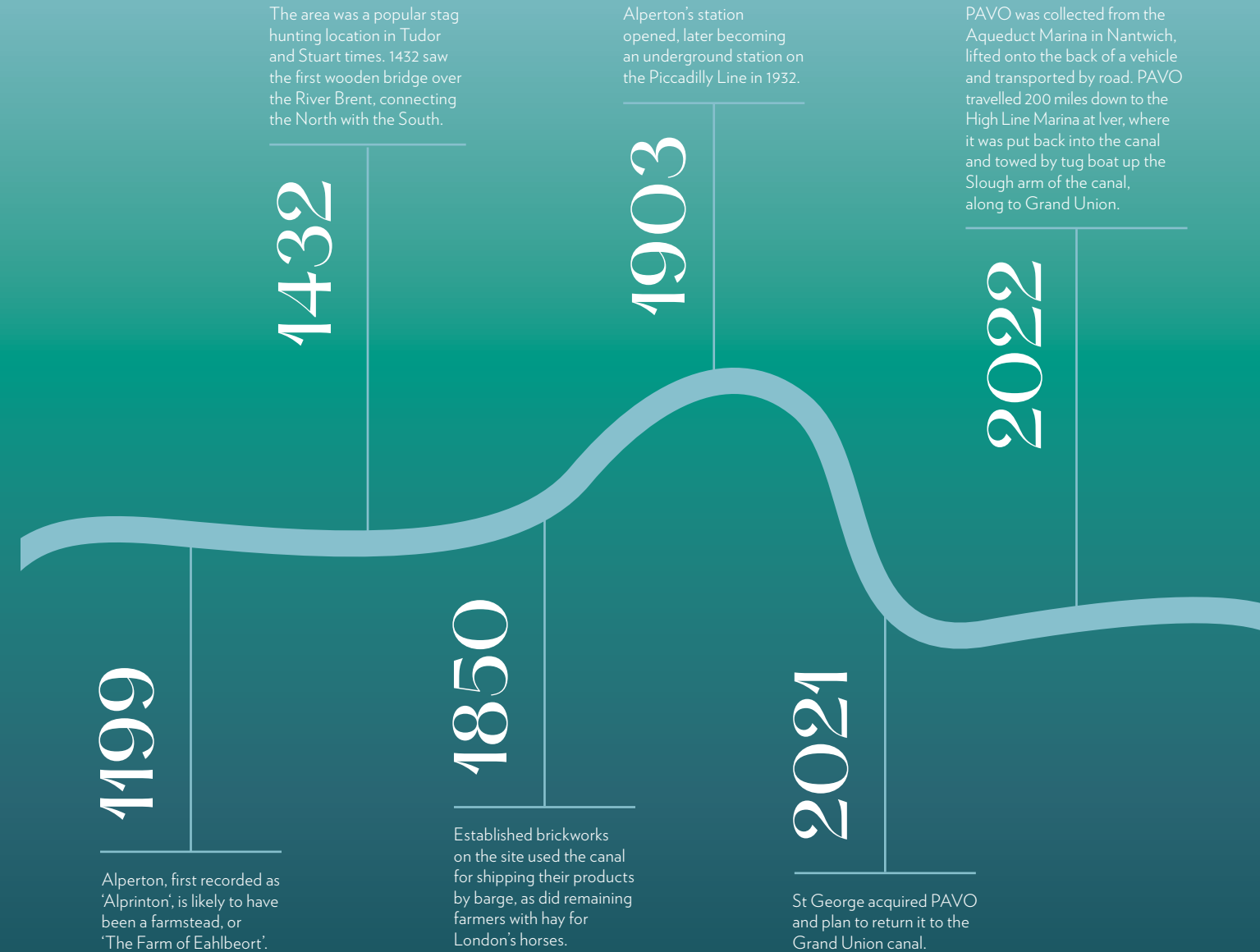
The long and
the short of it





Computer Generated image of Grand Union, indicative only

History of the Grand Union Canal and PAVO's journey



OUR VISION
2030
TRANSFORMING TOMORROW

Berkeley Group
Proud to be a member of the Berkeley Group of companies

St George
Designed for life



Did you know?

- PAVO was named after the star 'Pavonis', which is positioned over Africa.
- The floor inside is 3/4 inch varnished pitch pine timber, reclaimed from a 17th century textile mill.
- The main cabin work surfaces are reclaimed 1951 teak, along with the front steps and bow cabin floor.
- There is no gas on board and PAVO is powered by 240v electricity.
- There is a stainless steel water tank, bath with overhead shower, corner hand basin and a chemical toilet. The boat also has a washing machine and two Belfast sinks, as well as a 4-ring 240v induction hob, microwave, fridge and freezer.
- There is a 24-inch TV, CD and DVD player, satellite dish and radio.



SCAN THE CODE TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE PAVO JOURNEY