

## The Old Laundry



The cottage which is now known as "Pear Tree Cottage" was first referred to as Plot 191 then later as No. 28.

It belonged to Charlton Park Estate. The Woodward family has lived there from 1851 to 1979. A descendant of the first Woodward was Mark, and he moved to the cottage sometime early 1900's. Mark was a carpenter and part of his career he worked for the Earl of Suffolk, and was commissioned to build the barrel roof over the altar in Hankerton Church.

Mark's wife Mary Woodward started the Laundry business. She had been doing laundry work since she was 10 years old. She learned her trade from her mother. Mark and Mary had three daughters, Eva, Eleanor and Elizabeth. All three girls worked in the laundry with their mother.



There is a well in the front garden so they had an abundant supply of soft clean water. Getting the water from the well was a task given to the young men who came courting the girls, I guess it proved how keen they were!