



Proud: Mayor of Wandsworth with campaigners

## Rich architectural history restored

A £43,000 project to restore a set of architectural gems in the heart of Putney town centre has been completed.

Seven architecturally-significant tombstones that lie in Putney Old Burial Ground have been restored – four of which are listed by English Heritage.

One of the listed tombs was designed by sculptor Joseph Wilton, who created the monuments to James Wolfe and Stephen Hales that stand in Westminster Abbey.

He is reputed to have designed the coach used for George III's coronation and was commissioned to create a statue of the King in 1761.

The listed tombs belong to Robert Henry Wood, Joseph Lucas, Harriet Thomson and Stratford Canning – a relative of the Prime Minister George Canning.

Mayor of Wandsworth Stuart Thom officially unveiled the tombs alongside English Heritage and the Heritage of London Trust - both of

which contributed to the project.

Planning chairman Councillor Leslie McDonnell said the restoration means the tombs are now set to survive well into the 21st century.

He said: "The borough has a rich architectural history and we are proud to have worked with conservation bodies like English Heritage and the Heritage of London Trust to safeguard that for future generations."

□ [yourlocalguardian.co.uk](http://yourlocalguardian.co.uk)

*Heritage of London Trust volunteer, Miss Helen Mowat, at the ceremony to celebrate the restoration of historic tombs in Putney Old Burial Ground, December 2007*