

*This leaflet explains what a conservation area is and how it may affect you. It shows the boundary of one of the 32 conservation areas and points out some of the features which make it special.*

# Bickton

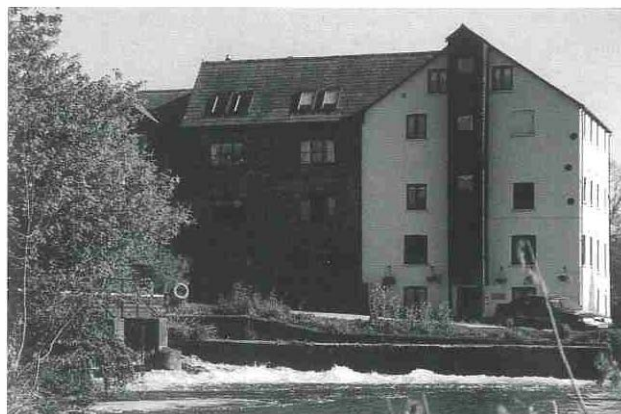
This tiny hamlet around its Manor House was closely linked to work in the mills and on the river. The cottage plots are largely unaltered since late medieval times and some 17th century cottages show signs of earlier building. As so often, this century has seen buildings and alterations which have weakened the character of the place and the conservation area was designated in order to allow greater control over future change. The enormous 18th century mill building had deteriorated and become an eyesore since being largely abandoned for milling. To try and restore the visual impact of the building, permission was given for it to be reconstructed to provide additional housing. Conversion of mill buildings is not easy, the retention of original form and detailing being especially important. Recently listed farm buildings have become redundant and rather than demolish and rebuild them, today's plan is to find new uses for them.



Forge Cottage



New  
Forest  
Conservation  
Areas



Bickton Mill

The Domesday Book records the Saxon owner as Chetel but in 1086 the manor passed to Hugh Earl of Chester and was occupied by the Fitz Aucher family. The mill was assessed at seven shillings and there were 30 acres of meadow. As a settlement of 18 families it was bigger than the manor of Fordingbridge at that time which shows how much things can change!

In 1303 there was a chapel but there are no later records of it. Most manors had a place of worship built close by but their existence and use is usually recorded to a later date.

For over 300 years the overlord was the Earl of Salisbury and during the 16th century there was a connection with the Bulkley family of Burgate. In 1766 the manor was bought for £9000 by Sir Eyre Coote of West Park.