

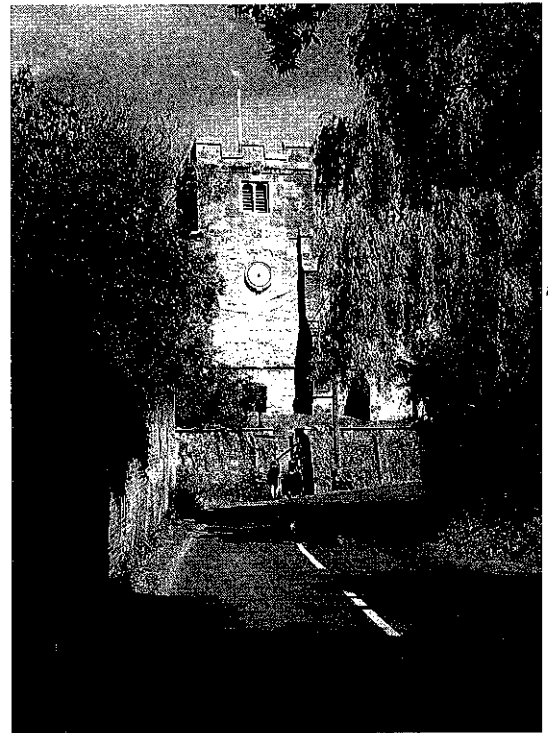
This leaflet explains what a conservation area is and how it may affect you. It shows the boundary of one of the 33 conservation areas and points out some of the features which make it special.

Eling

Once the centre of a large parish, Eling owes the survival of its rural setting on a hill overlooking Southampton Water to its separation from Totton by Eling Creek with its causeway and centuries old toll bridge. Its status as a conservation area acts as a defence against urban encroachment from Totton and Hounslow. The contrast between the environments within and outside the area could hardly be more stark. The footpaths around the village and Bartley Water, and Goatee Beach on Southampton Water, provide important recreational areas for locals. A long straggling settlement of farms and cottages, interspersed with more imposing buildings, stretches up Eling Hill from the Creek to Cole's Farm. The historic buildings include three which are listed Grade II* - the Tide Mill, St Mary's Church and the Old Rectory - as well as several attractive unlisted buildings. The tidal waters of Eling Creek, which provided a good site for mills for centuries, is today home to the yacht club.



New
Forest
Conservation
Areas



St Mary's Church



Cole's Farm

The name Eling has Celtic origins which suggests that this area has been occupied for a very long time. In the 9th century King Aethelwulf, father of Alfred the Great, gave land for a burial ground and a church at Eling Hill, and the Domesday Book, in 1086, mentions two mills and a church here. For hundreds of years Eling was a busy port and in the 18th century there were plans for a canal link to Salisbury but this came to nothing. During the 19th century Totton expanded right to the edge of the Creek, changing the character of the north bank of the creek completely.