

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.

Ashlett Creek



New
Forest
Conservation
Areas

This attractive hamlet of historic buildings dominated by the imposing 19th century tide mill is a small and intact example of an old Waterside settlement. It is a reminder of what small settlements along Southampton Water coast must have looked like last century. Ashlett is sandwiched between the power station and the refinery but still manages to retain this sense of history - quite literally a backwater. Of the handful of buildings in this hamlet, three are listed as being of special architectural or historic interest. Recently an environmental improvement project has restored its landscape character.



Ashlett Mill



Scaview Cottages

The name 'Ashlett' may be derived from the Viking custom of planting an ash stave in the ground where their ships first landed and 'flete' from a creek or stretch of salt water. The hard provided a good spot for launching small boats and in days when road transport was difficult this was a good place for landing and loading supplies, grain and salt to and from Southampton and other towns. Salt production was important here from Saxon times until the 19th century when corn milling became Ashlett's principal industry. Flat bottomed sailing barges working the tides handled by perhaps only two men and a boy could negotiate the creek with relative ease; the last one came in 1932. The Hollies, now a private house, was at one time the coastguard house. Today the creek is a haven for small sailing craft.