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.

Burley

New Forest Conservation Areas

Burley is one of the largest conservation areas in the District. It covers the enclosed land of Burley and Burley Street, and the Forest reaches right into the village centre. It was designated in 1981 to preserve in particular the relationship between the buildings and the landscape of historic field boundaries, narrow hedged lanes and trees, within and around the edge of the conservation area. The Grade II listed buildings - cottages, churches and the Manor - are supplemented by many interesting unlisted buildings of the late 19th and early 20th centuries - traditional New Forest brick and slate cottages, as well as small country houses, including four with landscaped gardens by Gertrude Jekyll.

The conservation area is surrounded by evidence of prehistoric settlement: the scheduled ancient monument of Castle Hill forms part of the boundary. Burley was divided into two small manors - the name is Saxon in origin - and even today the settlement forms two distinct hamlets - Burley and Burley Street. Over the past 100 years many changes have taken place with the influxes of population in the late

19th and mid 20th centuries most noticeably in Bisterne Close. Common Rights still exist-ponies and donkeys can be seen on the lanes throughout the village, competing for space with the crowds of tourists and their coaches.

The oldest buildings are mostly of cob or Burley Rock - a local ironstone - with thatched roofs. Later came the familiar brick

cottages with slate roofs and the spacious tile hung Arts and Crafts residences of the rich incomers. Today there is pressure to extend many of these houses. Gardens are encroaching onto paddocks and attempts are being made to replace hedges with brick walls or high fences and security gates; all of which adversely affects the traditional atmosphere of this historic Forest settlement.

