roofs are hipped or half-hipped and dormer windows interrupt the roof pitch.

There is a wide range of window styles in the village, including traditional diamond paned leaded light casements.

# New Development

Lower Wield is a small, historic village set in the heart of the countryside. Most of the buildings in it are of architectural and historic interest.

Any changes to the village, be it new buildings, extension and alterations to existing buildings or new uses, will all affect the character of the Conservation Area. The design of development will need to respect the details, overall form and materials used within the Conservation Area.

Further advice is given in the following leaflets which are published as part of the Conservation Directory:-

East Hampshire's Conservation Areas.

 Caring for East Hampshire's Conservation Areas and Historic Buildings.

### Further Reading

- The Buildings of England: Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. N. Pevsner and D. Lloyd, 1985. (Penguin Books)
- · The Victorian County Histories.
- Hampshire Treasures. Hampshire County Council, 1982.

## For further information contact:

The Conservation Officer
Heritage Team
East Hampshire District Council
Penns Place Petersfield
Hants GU31 4EX

Telephone: 01730 234214

# onservation Area



LOWER WIELD



# Introduction & Brief History

Lower Wield Conservation Area was designated in December, 1988.

There is evidence of settlement in Wield Parish even before the Roman period. An ancient right of way exists to the south of Wield Wood.

References were made to Wield in an 8th century document and in the Domesday Book of 1086, when the area was held by the Bishop of Winchester.

From the 14th century until 1920 the parish was owned by a number of notable families, including the de Valence, Wallop, Rodney and Portsmouth families. The area was particularly attractive as an area for game hunting.

# Character of the Conservation Area

Lower Wield is a small village set on the chalk plateau to the west of Alton and north of Alresford. It consists of a number of historic cottages and farms spread out along one side of a narrow lane in the heart of the Hampshire countryside.

It is the linear pattern of the historic buildings at intervals along the lane, together with the surrounding farmland and trees, which gives the village its character.



View looking north along the village street.

# Buildings

Most of the buildings are of two storeys. Some front directly onto the lane, some are set at ninety degrees to the lane (gable end on) whilst others are set well back from the lane.



The Cottage, Lower Wield.

The main buildings of interest are:-

 Lower Wield Farmhouse: A mid 18th century house of symmetrical proportions and solid brick porch.



Lower Wield Farmhouse

- Lower Wield Farmhouse Barn: This is an early 18th century timber frame of 7 bays.
- Nicholas Farmhouse: a large 'L' shaped house of red brick with 16th century origins of various roof pitches and materials. The main facade is 18th century.

Other buildings include:

- Pitters Farmhouse.: An 18th century single storey cottage with an attic of symmetrical proportions.
- Windmill Cottages: An early 17th century range of 3 timber frame bays - the cottages mark the south entrance to the Conservation Area.



Windmill Cottage and Windmill Cattery

 Laurel Farm.: An 18th century barn and granary on staddle stones.

### Materials

Most of the buildings are built in a local red brick. Some have tile hanging at first floor level whilst others are painted. Weatherboarding is also used, particularly on farm buildings and outbuildings.

Most of the roofs are clad either in longstraw thatch or in hand made clay tiles. There is the occasional slate roof. Some of the

