



**West End (Esher) Conservation Area  
(Designated by Elmbridge Borough Council 25 April 1977)**

**Statement of Designation**

West End is a pleasant semi-rural village overlooking a green with several ponds and part of West End Common. Most of the buildings are unpretentious ex-farmworkers' cottages in attractive groupings.

The village has remained physically distinct from Esher and has retained its character and identity. The form of the village is nucleated, the focal point being the green which is enclosed on two sides by the village settlement and on the third by the trees of West End Common.

The village form was established by the mid 19<sup>th</sup> Century and many of the cottages dating from this period retain Victorian characteristics. Although there are a few buildings of outstanding architectural or historic interest, the interest lies in the grouping of these buildings of similar scale and character into a village community.

The outward expansion of the village is strictly controlled by Green Belt policies; the main pressures for change can be found within the existing confines of the village.

The character of the village is slowly being altered by modernisation of the cottage properties by extension and alterations. These small scale changes are often "permitted development" and therefore not subject to normal planning control. Control can only be extended by seeking an Article 4 Direction to exclude certain categories of permitted development and the possibility of this will be investigated.

Schemes and proposals for environmental enhancement and tree planting can also be initiated.

For more information, please email us at [tplan@elmbridge.gov.uk](mailto:tplan@elmbridge.gov.uk)