

Winslowe House is situated in a remarkable country setting standing prominently on a ridge of high ground surrounded and protected by some 300 acres of farmland, covered by Special Scientific Interest or Nature Conservation Regulations.

Winslowe House is a particularly fine Victorian country house built in 1847 of distinctive Beaulieu buff brick. Historically William Henry Gater JP, only son of the late George Henry Gater of West End, inherited the house. The interior of the house is typical of the Victorian era with fine well-proportioned rooms, tall ceilings, which radiate off the magnificent reception hall with its superb sweeping staircase.

From every point of the compass Winslowe House looks out on to peaceful, well kept farmland. Itchen Valley Country Park is just along the lane. Wild life is in abundance: deer, fox, rabbit, badger can be seen continually throughout the day or night (even the occasional llama!), whilst numerous birds are seen in the hedgerows and trees, and encouraged in the garden. The garden is well stocked with many mature trees and a landmark Monkey Puzzle tree can be seen from many miles away. To the east it is possible to see views of Portsdown Hill; to the west - the downs beyond Winchester and the hills on the edge of the New Forest.

Early maps show West End as a small hamlet on a crossroads along the track from Romsey to Portsmouth. The name is said to have originated from the parish being at the west end of Shamblehurst tithing or the end of the waste or common of Netley. The area was known mainly for agriculture, market gardening and the flour and paper mill called Gaters Mill, which was in use as early as the 17th century.

West End remained a hamlet until the Turnpike Road was built at the beginning of the 19th century when many businesses, dwellings and public houses began to line the road. The wooded hillside enjoying fine views across the Itchen Valley was much sought after as a place to live. Several large houses were built; many from locally made brick, and with the workforce who supported them, the village began to grow.

The present 'village' is mainly residential. Most of the large houses have gone or been used for other purposes. The grounds of what was Hatch Grange form a recreation/conservation area of woodland, hills and fields in the centre of the village. The High Street boasts a good mixture of shops supplying the needs of the local population.

The village itself offers all necessary local amenities but also includes The Rose Bowl (home of Hampshire County cricket and international one-day matches); The Hampshire Tennis Club and Leisure facilities and a Golf course; a hotel, pharmacy, 3 public houses, bakery, off-licence, super-market, hairdressers and estate agents. Near Junction 7 are the super-stores – Marks and Spencer, Sainsburys, B & Q, Homebase, etc.

Junction 7 of the M27 is approximately one and a half miles away, with easy access to the M3.