

The parcel is predominantly comprised of an agricultural field network delineated by hedgerows, trees and fencing. These dominant landscape features give this parcel a rural character. Views across the landscape are achieved from public footpaths and are filtered by the aforementioned vegetated field boundaries.

The topography between the elevated land forms that punctuate the landscape appears almost flat when on site. Some distant views are achieved to the south and west depending on intervening vegetation and topography. Views north and east are more restricted due to rising land form and denser vegetative features.

The A40 is the primary transport corridor within the parcel. Linear settlement patterns are present along it. The minor road network that accesses the rest of the parcel is single track and rural in character. Any major development would require new roads to support it.

Isolated farmsteads are characteristic of this landscape and serve the neighbouring fields. Modern agricultural facilities are also present and are of a larger scale than the more traditional farmsteads.

Sections of the railway line along the southern parcel boundary are elevated above the neighbouring fields. The railway corridor forms a detractor within this rural landscape. Mitigation planting is present along much of the corridor. The line may provide an opportunity to promote sustainable transport from the area in the future.





Views from the high ground look across the surrounding agricultural landscape and beyond to the elevated land form of the Forest of Dean to the west and the Severn Estuary to the south. Gloucester Cathedral is also present in some distant views. Where the topography is level the intervening hedgerow boundary vegetation filters views and can limit them to the local area.






Idyllic rural views are present from many of the footpaths. The scale of these views depends on intervening features and changes in topography.

Flood Zone 2 and 3 areas are present across a large area of the parcel. Mapping shows how historically development has been positioned on elevated ground out of the flood zones.

Development is generally along the A40 road corridor. Examples of historic settlement patterns are also present away from the road. This is seen around the grade 1 listed St. Andrew's Church. Historically churches were positioned where they could be seen as landmarks within the wider landscape. The setting of the Church is a major consideration.

Base map from Google Earth, Copyright Google.

-  Parcel Boundary. This takes account of historic field boundaries, infrastructure corridors and watercourses.
-  Contours. These highlight a characteristically low lying landscape as the topography gently falls towards the River Severn to the south. This gently sloping character is punctuated by small elevated land forms.
-  Public Rights of Way (PRoW). The area within the parcel and beyond is well served by footpaths. These are valuable features within the area that promote activity and tourism. They also provide important Green Infrastructure corridors.
-  Grade 2 listed structure within or adjacent to the boundary of the parcel. If numbered it represents a number of listed structures near to each other.

-  Grade 1 listed Church of St Andrew within the parcel at Churcham and the Church of St Peter to the south of the parcel at Minsterworth.
-  Approximate area of designated Flood Zone. This occupies the lowest lying area of the parcel.
-  The A40 road is the primary transport corridor within the parcel and is present along the northern boundary. All other roads within the parcel are single lane.
-  The Gloucester to Newport railway line crosses the southern boundary of the parcel. This is a significant feature of the local landscape.
-  Idyllic rural views are achieved from the public footpaths within the parcel. Some distant views are also achieved depending on elevation and intervening features.

Landscape Features:

- Mixed agricultural field network comprised of arable and pastoral farming;
- Hedgerow field boundaries, individual field trees and small copses. Remnant orchards may also be present;
- Low lying landscape with elevated land forms punctuating an otherwise relatively flat landscape;
- Minor watercourses and large areas of flood meadow;
- Numerous public footpaths cross the area;
- Limited historical built environment. The setting of grade 1 listed St Andrew's Church requires additional assessment; and
- A40 and railway transport corridors and minor roads.

Visual Receptors:

- Residents along the A40;
- Residents in more isolated dwellings;
- Public footpath users;
- Farm workers; and
- Road and rail users.

Parcel Two: South of A40
Plan Reference: FoD_P04
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