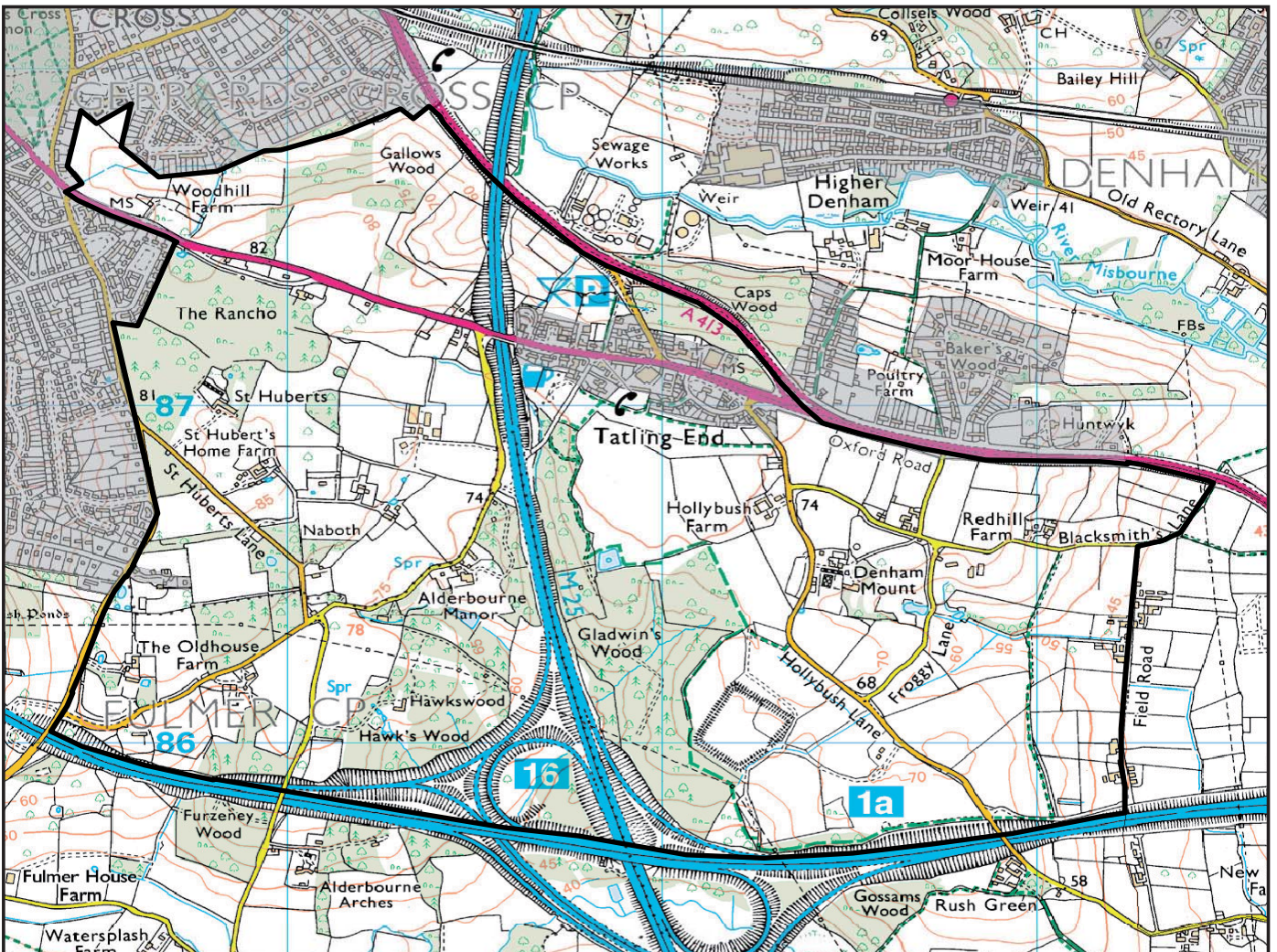
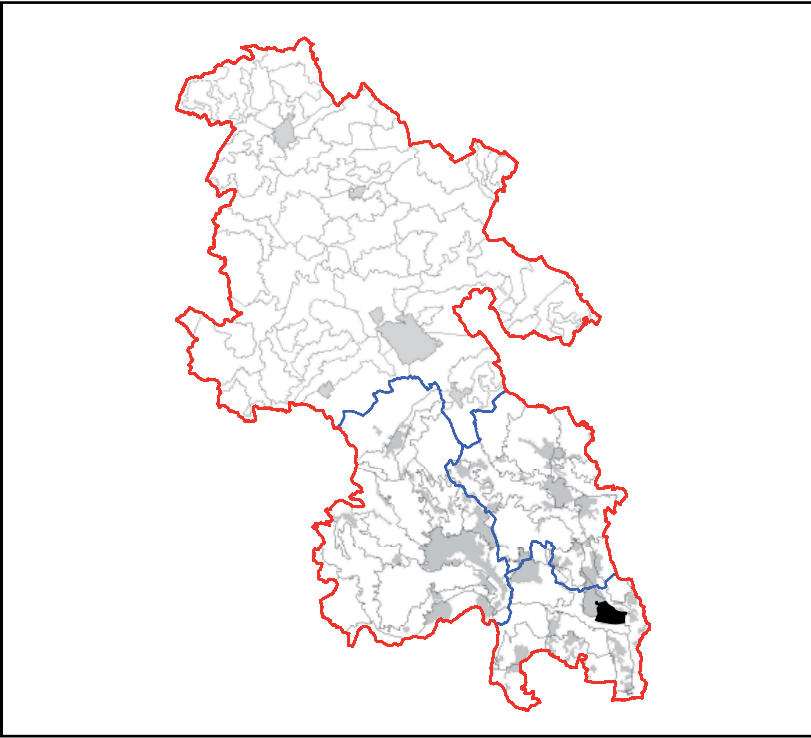


LCA 22.3 TATLING END MIXED USE TERRACE



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KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- Gently undulating landscape, elevated above adjacent valleys of the Alder Bourne, Misbourne and Colne, underlain by Thames River Terrace deposits.
- Extensive river terrace deposits gives rise to slowly permeable, loamy/clayey soils which results in scattered ponds and seasonal waterlogging.
- Agricultural use is dominated by a regular field pattern of paddock, pasture and rough grazing.
- Broadleaved and mixed woodland blocks and smaller wooded areas are interspersed throughout the area creating areas of enclosure with a more open landscape in the east.
- Ancient woodland and the hedgerow network provide valuable wildlife habitats in an area dominated by improved grassland.
- Cut by several major transport corridor (M25, M40, A40, A413), which although often screened by woodland and tree cover, fragment the landscape. Pylon lines also cut through the lower part of the area.
- Away from major transport routes, small winding roads and lanes pass through woodland and farmland.
- A bridleway runs along the edge of Gladwin's Wood otherwise few public rights of way.
- Occasional long views across open fields and towards the Colne Valley. Otherwise views are contained by woodland.
- The edge of Gerrards Cross is contained by woodland and Tatling End is situated in the north with a modern settlement character. Elsewhere settlement is sparse comprising individual farmsteads.
- Historic parkland occurs at St Huberts and Denham Mount. Fields of pre 18th century irregular enclosure are retained in proximity to parkland.
- Away from the transport corridors which fragment and disrupt the landscape, a rural farmland character is retained.

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DESCRIPTION

Location and Boundaries: *Tatling End Mixed Use Terrace* lies wholly within South Bucks District. It occupies the higher ground above the Alder Bourne Valley to the south, Misbourne Valley to the north and Colne Valley to the east. The settlement edge of Gerrards Cross forms the western boundary. The boundaries are topographically defined and follow road corridors (A413 and M40) which form physical boundaries between this area and the adjacent lower lying landscapes.

Landscape Character: A gently undulating small scale landscape, lying above the adjacent valley landscapes of the Misbourne, Colne and Alderbourne. The M25 and the A40 cross the area predominantly screened within the wider landscape by woodland (including ancient mixed woodland at Gladwin's Wood) and tree planting along their corridors. Farmland comprises a regular pattern of paddock, pasture and rough grazing with little arable cover. Small blocks of broadleaved woodland form a mosaic with farmland in the west of the area, containing views. Woodland cover is sparse in the east and occasional long views are afforded out to the Colne Valley. Settlement density is low, Tatling End, a small settlement in the north, has a modern character and the edge of Gerrards Cross is contained by woodland. Some farmstead and individual properties scattered through the area are historic with parkland at St Huberts and Denham Mount. The area is fragmented by transport corridors but away from these roads retains a rural farmland character.

Geology: Predominately underlain by Thames River Terrace Deposits with London Clay on slopes marking the transition to the lower lying valley landscapes to the north, east and west. The geology supports slowly permeable seasonally wet acid loamy and clayey soils.

Topography/Landform: A gently undulating landform elevated above the valley landscapes to the north, east and south.

Hydrology: A number of springs and small tributary streams rise on the terrace and flow towards the Alderbourne and Colne. Scattered ponds are associated with woodland and farmsteads.

Land Use and Settlement: A regular field pattern of paddocks, pasture and rough grazing dominate the area with a small amount of arable farmland. Fields boundaries are defined by hedgerow (sometimes with hedgerow trees), post and rail paddock fencing and post and wire fencing. Woodland occurs on slopes either side of the M25 (Gladwin's Wood and Hawk's Wood) with smaller blocks interspersed with farmland in the west of the area.

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The M25 (including part of Junction 16 in cutting) and the A40 cross the area predominantly screened within the wider landscape by woodland and tree planting along their corridors. The M40 and A413 occur on the edges of the area. Otherwise roads are more rural in character winding through farmland and often enclosed by woodland or tree cover.

Settlement is low density with farmsteads and individual properties scattered through the area, the settlement of Tatling End lies on the northern boundary and Gerrards Cross forms the western boundary. Tatling End consists of modern development alongside the A40 and the edge of Gerrards Cross is largely contained by woodland (The Rancho) and tree cover. A number of historic houses are dispersed through the area including at Alderbourne Manor and Denham Mount. Red brick is a common building material in these older properties.

There is sparse network of public rights of way – a bridleway run along the edge of Gladwin's Wood and connects to footpaths along the edge of Tatling End.

Tree Cover: Large woodland blocks occur either side of the M25, including Gladwin's Wood which is ancient mixed woodland. Broadleaved woodland is dominant in the west of the area (e.g. The Rancho) with sparse woodland cover in the east. Tree belts enclose the A40 and hedgerow trees are common.

Perceptual/ Experiential Landscape: This is a small scale landscape with a mosaic of woodland and farmland. Woodland provides enclosure and often cuts short views across fields, providing a wooded backdrop. Some longer views are afforded in the east of the area, where woodland cover is sparse, out towards the Colne Valley.

The M25, A404 and A413 fragment the landscape although visually contained in cutting and by woodland/tree cover. Pylons cross the south of the area. However limited settlement, woodland cover, rural lanes and areas of historic parkland with manor houses help retain a rural and peaceful character. Field boundaries are unmanaged in places with gappy hedges and broken fencing.

Biodiversity: There are no local or national nature conservation designations or BAP priority habitats in this area. Improved grassland is prominent across the area with limited ecological significance. Areas of woodland (including ancient) and the hedgerow network provide wildlife habitats.

Historic Environment: Unregistered historic parkland occurs at St Huberts (formerly Langley Lodge) and Denham Mount (An early-19th-century villa with landscaped gardens and an icehouse). Parkland also occurs at Alderbourne Manor Medieval pottery kilns are contained within Gladwin's Wood corresponding to the underlying clay geology. Fields are 20th century enclosure with areas of pre 18th century

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irregular enclosure retained in proximity to parkland and a strip of 19th century enclosure along Blacksmith Lane.

Designations:

- Archaeological Notification Sites: 4 No.
- Biological Notification Sites: 1 No.

EVALUATION

Landscape and Visual Sensitivities

Potential landscape and visual sensitivities are:

- The mosaic of farmland and woodland which provide areas of openness and enclosure.
- Areas of mixed and broadleaved woodland (including ancient woodland) which provide wildlife habitats and screening of transport corridors.
- The hedgerow network, which provides visual unity and a wildlife corridor.
- The rural pockets away from transport corridors, and associated with low, dispersed settlement.
- Winding rural roads which pass through woodland and farmland.
- Occasional long views over fields specifically towards the Colne Valley which help provide a sense of place.
- The relatively small scale, low density of settlement, which would be vulnerable to further expansion and over development.
- Historic parkland and areas of pre 18th century irregular fields which add time depth and historic character.

Strength of Character/Intactness: The strength of character of *Tatling End Mixed Use Terrace* is **moderate**. Key characteristics are conveyed but the area is fragmented by transport corridors and unmanaged field boundaries reduce intactness.

Strategy/ Vision: Conserve and reinforce the mosaic of woodland, open farmland and historic parkland which contribute to the rural character of the landscape away from transport corridors. Seek to mitigate the influence of transport corridors through perpetuation of tree and woodland planting.

Landscape Guidelines:

- Conserve and manage woodland (including ancient woodland) which provide screening and enclosure in the landscape, contributes to the landscape pattern and provides biodiversity benefit.
- Manage and reinforce tree cover along transport corridors to ensure screening is perpetuated.
- Promote appropriate management of farmland, to help generate a wildlife rich habitat, and visually attractive landscape.
- Conserve and manage hedgerow boundaries, which provide visual unity and intactness and increase biodiversity, linking areas of woodland and agricultural farmland. Consider planting and gapping up of hedgerows, and encourage new tree planting to maintain tree population.
- Conserve the relatively low density of dispersed settlement.

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- Conserve the rural character of small roads and avoid widening or the addition of suburbanising features.
- Monitor the widening of busy transport corridors.
- Maintain open views across fields towards adjacent Colne Valley.
- Conserve areas of historic parkland and conserve and restore 18th century irregular field enclosures which survive amongst 20th century enclosure.

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Gently undulating landform with occasional long views out to the Colne Valley,.



Small roads have a rural character enclosed by woodland and tree cover.



Fields of rough grazing with wire fencing with wooded boundaries.