

1. Parish: **Wickhambrook**
 Meaning: Dwelling place / manor with a brook (Ekwall)
2. Hundred: Risbridge
 Deanery: Clare
 Union: Risbridge
 RDC/UDC: (W. Suffolk) Clare RD - 1974
 St Edmundsbury DC 1974 -

Other administrative details:
 Thingoe and Thedwastre Petty Sessional Division.
 Haverhill County Court District.

3. Area: 4,337 acres (1912)
4. Soils: Mixed:
 - a) Slowly permeable calcareous/non calcareous clay soils, slight risk water erosion
 - b) Deep well drained fine loam, coarse loam and sand soils, locally flinty and in places over gravel, slight risk water erosion
5. Types of farming:

1086		16 acres meadow, woodland for 60 pigs, 2 cobs, 7 cattle, 88 pigs, 24 sheep, 25 goats
1500–1640	Thirsk:	Wood-pasture region, mainly pasture, meadow, engaged in rearing and dairying with some pig-keeping, horse breeding and poultry. Crops mainly barley with some wheat, rye, oats, peas, vetches, hops and occasionally hemp. Also has similarities with sheep – corn region where sheep are main fertilizing agent, bred for fattening, barley main cash crop.
1818	Marshall:	Wide variation of crops and management techniques including summer fallow and preparation for corn and rotation of turnip, barley, clover, wheat on lighter lands
1937	Main crops:	Wheat, barley, oats, peas, beans, roots.
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet
20 th cent.		Justin Brooke fruit farms ‘Peaches, Apricots and other stone fruit’ by J.Brooke ‘Peach Orchards in England’ by J.Brooke 5 acre vineyard at Genesis Green (1975)
6. Enclosure:

7. Settlement:

1958 Pattern of development based on multi-green / settlement area
i.e. settlement situated at:

- a) Aldersfield / Ashfield Green
- b) Attleton Green
- c) Genesis Green
- d) Ladies Green
- e) Clopton Hamlet
- f) Boyden End
- g) The Duddery
- h) Part of Farley Green
- i) Baxters Green
- j) Meeting Green/Moor Green
- k) Colts Cross / Foot Green
- l) Nunnery Green
- m) Maltings End
- n) Wickham Street
- o) Thorns

Church situated in southern part of parish midway between
Wickham Street and Thorns.
Scattered farms

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 75, 1801 – 145, 1851 – 338, 1871 – 337,
1901 – 249, 1951 – 280, 1981 – 383

8. Communications:

Road: Roads to Lidgate, Ousden, Cowlinge, Stradishall, Denston,
Stansfield, Depden and Hargrave.

- 1844 Carriers: to Bury St Edmunds on Wednesday and Saturday
to Clare on Tuesday and Thursday
- 1891 Carriers: to Bury St Edmunds on Wednesday and Saturday
to Newmarket on Tuesday
- 1912 Carriers: to Bury St Edmunds on Wednesday, Friday and
Saturday
to Clare on Friday

9. Population:

1086 — Badmondifield: 48 recorded
1327 — 54 taxpayers paid £6. 5s. 9d.
1524 — 17 listed taxpayers paid £6. 0s. 6d.
(membrane incomplete)
1603 — 400 adults
1674 — 159 households
1676 — 445 adults
1801 — 1,002 inhabitants
1831 — 1,400 inhabitants
1851 — 1,597 inhabitants

1871 — 1,503 inhabitants
 1901 — 964 inhabitants
 1931 — 792 inhabitants
 1951 — 844 inhabitants
 1971 — 805 inhabitants
 1981 — 1,024 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Vicarage
- 1254 Valued £10. 0s. 0d.
 Portion of chapel of Badmondifield £3. 6s. 8d.
 Portion of Prior of Castleacre (separate tithes) £0. 10s. 0d
 Portion of Prior of Stoke (by Clare) (separate tithes) £1. 0s. 0d.
£14. 16s. 8d.
- 1291 Valued at £18. 0s. 0d
 Portion of chapel of Badmondifield £5. 0s. 0d.
 Portion of Castleacre £0. 10s. 0d
 Portion of Prior of Stoke £1. 0s. 0d.
£24. 10s. 0d.
- Improppriation sometime held by Abbey of Sepwell (no date)
- 1535 Valued £8. 6s. 10½d.
- 1831 Glebe house. Gross income £211 p.a.
 Rectory house unfit for occupation (1824), sold (1846)
 Modus of £350 p.a. awarded in lieu of tithes (1840)
 Valued £300 (1873)
- 1891 Good vicarage house + 5 acres glebe.
- 1912 Nett value £220 p.a. + 7 acres of glebe and residence
 Incumbent of holds vicarage of Denston
- Patrons: Crown (1831), Lord Chancellor (1873)

11. Church All saints
 (Chancel, nave, aisles, N. vestry, N porch, W. tower)
- 1086 Badmondifield: Church + 10 acres of free land
- 13th cent. Main structure
- 14th cent. Chancel enlarged
- 17th cent. Nave has rare hammerbeam roof
- 1886 Restoration
- NOTE: External wall of S. aisle – crude carving of soldier with sword and shield, reputedly of Saxon date.
 Saxon chapel was situated at E. end of N. aisle.

Seats: 350 appropriated, 120 free (1873)

11a Other religious institutions:

- Free Chapel St Mary at Badmondifield
 Mentioned in 1256. In patronage of the Hastings and Grey families
 Granted to William Mansey (1538)
 No trace remains (1844)

Free Chapel St Edward
 Said to belong to Badmondifield Hall and stood within its moat on island called St. Edwards. Believed pulled down (circa 1591) by order of Sir George Somerset, it being in decayed state.

12. Nonconformity etc:

1643 Independent / Congregational chapel formed (1734), origins are claimed as 17th cent. Seats 200 (1912)
 Primitive Methodist chapel (built 1850)

1704-1823 10 houses set aside for worship
 Samuel Cradock inherited house called 'Gessings' (Gesyns) and maintained Congregational Chapel and academy there (1672 – 1696)
 Account of Samuel Cradock contained in 'Suffolk Nonconformist Ministers' by J. Duncan (1959)
 'History of Wickhambrook Congregational church' by J. Duncan (1968)

13. Manorial:

1066 Badmondifield Manor of 10 carucates held by Algar
 1086 Manor of 10 carucates belonging to the King (Roger Bigot has charge)

Badmondifield Hall

12th cent. Given with Honor of Montgomery to Baldwin de Boulers / Bulers
 1292 Robert de Bures owns (linked to Milden)
 1312 John de Hastings died seised. Yearly value of manor £19. 2s. 8d.
 1560 Sir George Somerset owns
 circa 1620 Lord Roger North owns (linked to Boulge, Mildenhall, Gt. Finborough and Tostock)
 circa 1695 Francis Warner owns
 1837 Warner Bromley owns

Sub-Manors

Gaynes Hall at Attleton

- circa 1361 de Bures family (annexed to main manor)
 1361 Sir Richard de Wldegrave owns (linked with several manors throughout Suffolk)
 1554 Humphrey Moseley owns (linked to Ousden)
 1847 Mrs. Sarah Sparke owns

Giffords Hall

13th cent. Peter Gifford owns
 1377 Sir William Clopton died seised (linked to Hawkedon)

1428 Sir Hugh Granceys / Francis owns passing by marriage and inheritance to Sir Clement Heigham (linked to Moulton)
 1764 George Chinery owns

Clopton Hall/Chappeley

12th cent. William Clopton owns
 17th cent. Major Robert Sparrow owns
 1750 Mileson Edgar owns
 1855 Part of Charity Estate of Lord William Maynard
 1909 Thaxted Charities owns

14. Markets/Fairs

15. Real property:

1844 £4,204 rental value
 1891 £4,700 rateable value
 1912 £3,818 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844 - 1912 Land sub-divided

17. Resident gentry:

1679 Grey
 1680 2 gents
 1844 Rev. C. Borton
 1891 N. W. Bromley JP

18. Occupations:

1500 - 1549 1 husbandman, 1 tanner, 1 smith
 1550 - 1599 23 yeoman, 2 labourers, 2 tailors, 5 husbandmen, 1 vicar, 3 carpenters
 1600 - 1649 29 yeoman, 3 tailors, 1 chairmaker, 10 husbandmen, 1 blacksmith, 1 bricklayer, 2 turners, 1 baker, 1 spinster, 1 glover, 1 clerk, 2 bowl turners
 1650 – 1699 26 yeoman, 1 wheelwright, 1 labourer, 11 husbandmen, 1 blacksmith, 1 bricklayer, 1 webster (female weaver), 1 miller, 1 spinster, 1 cordwinder (shoemaker), 1 clerk, 1 joiner, 1 knacker
 1831 220 in agriculture, 69 in retail trade, 7 professionals, 19 in labouring, 44 in domestic service, 20 others
 1844 Vestry clerk / beerhouse keeper, 2 victuallers, schoolmaster / mistress, surgeons, cooper, plumber / glazier, relieving officer, beerhouse keeper, 3 blacksmiths, 8 boot / shoemakers, 2 bricklayers, 2 butchers, 2 corn millers, 29 farmers, 5 shopkeepers, 2 tailors, 2 wheelwrights, maltster, glover, joiner, baker
 1891 Brick manufacturer

1912 Public officers, police officer, schoolmaster, coal dealer, 24 farmers, stationer, baker, 2 publicans, nurseryman, 3 carriers, gardener, 4 beer retailers, 3 bootmakers, 2 joiners, 2 shopkeepers, blacksmith, dressmaker, brewer, threshing machine owner, miller, cycle agent, painter, farm bailiff, thatcher, surgeon, grocer / draper.

19. Education:

1818 4 day schools (58 attend), 1 boys school (34 attend)
1833 5 daily schools (64 attend), 1 Independent Sunday School (135 attend)
1844 2 schools, part supported by subscription.
1891 Parish school used as Sunday school and Mission Room
School board established (1878) and schools built for 230/240 children. Average attendance (1912) 93
Boys Boarding school run by Henry J. Pearson listed

20. Poor relief:

1776 £299. 16s. 3 d.
1803 £596. 3s. 5d.
1818 £1,852. 0s. 0d.
1830 £1,681. 1s. 0d.
1832 £1,709. 19s.0d.
1834 £1,411. 7s. 0d.

21. Charities:

Vernons Gift

1737 by deed of James Vernon. Erection of workhouses in Hundon, Wickhambrook and Stradishall.
£10 applied for benefit of governor of workhouses.

Warners Gift

1785 by will of Mrs. Anne Warner: Dividends on £400 distributed among poor families at Christmas

Chinery's Charity

1818 by will of Mrs. Elizabeth Chinery: Dividends on £250 stocks, to purchase of hempen cloth for 10 poor families

Church/Poor Estate

1840 Tenement + 15 acres let at £15 p.a. applied to church repairs, residue applied to benefit of poor

Rent Charges/Doles

1840 Gift of Dr. Palmer: 20s. from farm in Wickhambrook
Gift of Charles Owers: 20s from messuage and land called Giffords
Gift of Benjamin French: 10s. from property called Hasty Wood
Anthony Sparrow Charity: £3. from Stansfield Mill farm

22. Other institutions:

1776 Workhouse (42 inmates)
1803 2 Friendly Societies (49 members)
1844 Petty sessions held at White Horse public house every 4th Friday. Transferred to Bury St Edmunds (1873)
Almshouses built (1612) by Anthony Sparrow for 6 inmates (near churchyard)
1891 Oddfellows Lodge held at White Horse Inn
Police officer listed. Police station closed (1979)
1912 Reading room and Institute
Workhouse at Attleton Green (site occupied by 3 cottages (1979) believed built early 1600's)
Horticultural Society founded (1889)
Hill View Riding Stables (Riding for the Disabled) (1979)

23. Recreation:

1844 The Crown and The White Horse public houses, 2 beerhouses
1891 The Crown Inn, The Greyhound and The White Horse public houses, 3 beerhouses
1912 The Greyhound Inn and The White Horse public houses, 4 beer retailers and a brewer.
Unionist Club (1912)
Happy Hours Club formed (circa 1956)
Football club (20th cent.)
1976 The Cloak public house (1976)

24. Personal:

Sir Thomas Heigham: b.1556, d. 1630 (buried in Wickhambrook church).
Native of Barrow, he lived at Giffords hall, Wickhambrook.
Distinguished Elizabethan soldier

Samuel Cradock: (1621 – 1706) – see nonconformity
Typescript history of the Griffiths, Woollard and Warner Bromley families of Badmondsfield hall in RO

25. Other information:

Clopton Hall: (16th cent. building)

Badmondfield Hall: Elizabethan moated manor house, possibly built by Sir George Somerset who was in possession (circa 1559)

Has even older antecedents pre-dating 1066 (former aisled hall house)

Giffords Hall: built (circa 1840) by Heigham family, restored and enlarged (20th cent.)

Photograph of first pension day at Post Office at Maltings End (January 6th, 1908) in parish folder

Police Officer first listed 1912. Police House on Bunters Road of much later date.

Visit to the village school of King George V in 1912.

Wickhambrook Auxiliary Fire Service Unit, based at Clopton Hall, formed in 1939 by Don Thompson, Captain of RDC Fire Brigade. Manned mainly by employees of Justin Brooke Fruit Farms. Passed to the control of Suffolk and Ipswich Fire Authority on 1st April 1948 and became a retained station with HQ at Bury St. Edmunds. New Fire Station built 1966/67 and opened by Mrs. Edith Brooke 1st July 1967. Still operational.

Bank, situated in private house, opened (post 1945)

Village Hall: opened (circa 1949)

Memorial Hall: opened 13th April 1951 by its Chairman Mr Griffiths Woollard.

Extension opened in May 1972 by Mrs Eldon Griffiths

'Suffolk Prospect' by J. & E. Brookes (pub, 1963)

Village Stores and Filling Station opened at Thorns Corner (circa 1963)

Village magazine, 'Wickhambrook Scene' (Feb. 1969 -)

Post Office at Maltings End closed 1969/1970 and relocated (1970) to village shop and filling station at Thorns Corner.

Rural Policeman's beat ceased in 1973 and the Police Station was sold to private ownership in 1979.

Princess Anne visited the Riding for the disabled establishment at Hill View Riding Stables in 1979.

Old Bank House: situated at Maltings End, believed 16th cent. with later additions, formerly used as a pub and bank (1980)

Photograph of Bullocks Mill (demolished 1982), Thorns Corner. A well by the mill reputedly never ran dry

Winners of the Kenyon Best Kept Village Trophy (1982)

Blacksmiths shop said to have occupied site at Thorns Corner

Parish formerly had 3 mills: Bullocks Mill, one at Fullers Hill and the Great Mill.

All had disappeared by 1981.