

# 1. Parish: Akenham

**Meaning:** Aca's Meadow/enclosure

2. **Hundred:** Claydon (–1327), Bosmere and Claydon

**Deanery:** Claydon (–1972)

Ipswich (1972–)

**Union:** Bosmere and Claydon

**RDC/UDC:** Bosmere and Claydon RD (1894–1934), Gipping RD (1934–1974), Mid Suffolk DC (1974–)

Other administrative details:

Civic boundary change 1952, loses part to Ipswich. Bosmere and Claydon Petty Sessional Division, Ipswich County Court District

3. **Area:** 1,017 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:**

**Mixed**

- a. Deep, well drained loam and sandy soils, locally flinty, in places over gravel, slight risk water erosion
- b. Deep well drained loam over clay some with calcareous clay subsoils
- c. Slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loam over clay, some slight seasonal waterlogging, some calcareous clay soils

5. **Types of farming:**

1086		11 acres meadow, 2 cobs, 7 cattle, 6 pigs
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 variations of crop and management techniques including summer fallow in preparation for corn and rotation of turnip, barley, clover, wheat on lighter lands
1937	Main crops:	Wheat, barley beans, peas
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and wheat

**6. Enclosure:**

**7. Settlement:**

1977 Small dispersed settlement. Church situated near to Rise Hall. Few scattered farms

**Inhabited houses:** 1674 – 14, 1801 – 19, 1851 – 22, 1871 – 20, 1901– 30, 1951 – 17, 1981 – 16

**8. Communications:**

Road: To Ipswich, Whitton and Henley  
1891 Carriers pass through to Ipswich

Rail: 1891 1½ miles Claydon station: Ipswich–Bury St. Edmonds line opened 1845, station closed 1963

**9. Population:**

1086 – 50 recorded  
1327 – 14 taxpayers paid £1 3s.  
1524 – 17 taxpayers paid £3 5s. 4d.  
1603 – 30 adults  
1674 – 14 households  
1676 – Not recorded  
1801 – 105 inhabitants  
1831 – 119 inhabitants  
1851 – 131 inhabitants  
1871 – 84 inhabitants  
1901 – 104 inhabitants  
1931 – 68 inhabitants  
1951 – 76 inhabitants  
1971 – 63 inhabitants  
1981 – 56 inhabitants

**10. Benefice: Rectory (with Claydon)**

1254 Valued £6  
1291 Valued £6 13s. 4d.  
1535 Valued £9 11s. 5½d. (consolidated with Claydon)  
1720 Valued £45  
1831 Glebe house unfit for occupation, joint gross income £570 p.a. Incumbent also holds vicarage of Croxton Kerrial and Stoneby, Leister  
1844 50 acres glebe. Good residence in Claydon. Joint tithes commuted for £506 p.a. (£266 being for Akenham)  
1891 20 acres glebe  
1912 Joint net value £340 p.a. 50 acres glebe (30 acres in Claydon). Incumbent residents in Claydon

**Patrons:** Samuel Elmer (1603), Mrs. Tyley (1844), G. Drury (1831), R. Drury (1912)

**11. Church** St. Mary  
(Chancel, S. chapel, nave, S. porch, SW tower)

1086 Church + 5 acres, 3 parts of church + 12 acres  
Norman Window in N. Wall  
13<sup>th</sup> cent. Chancel  
14<sup>th</sup> cent. Nave and tower  
16<sup>th</sup> cent. S. aisle  
c.1650 S. chapel  
1854 Repairs. Tower in poor condition.  
1976 Made redundant

Seats: 100 (1915)

**12. Nonconformity etc:**

**13. Manorial:**

1066 Manor of 1 carucate 20 acres held by Godwin the priest, a free man  
1086 Manor of 1 carucate 20 acres belonging to Roger of Rames and held by his daughter  
1066 Manor of 100 acres held by Godwin, a free man under patronage of Gyrth  
1086 Manor of 100 acres belonging to Roger of Rames  
1066 Manor of 36 acres held by Sunwin a free man under patronage of Gyrth  
1086 Manor of 36 acres belonging to Roger of Rames  
1066 Manor of 30 acres held by Thorbern the priest, a free man  
1086 Manor of 30 acres belonging to Roger of Rames

**Akenham Manor**

1296 Anciently held by the Brewse family  
Richard de Brewse owns (absorbs Rice Hall) (linked to Wenham Parva, Hasketon, Martlesham, Newborne. Stadbroke and Wingfield)  
c.1537 Sir Roger Townsend owns  
1586 John Aylmer, Bishop of London owns (linked to Brampton and Claydon)  
1646 Thomas Arras owns  
1815 2,000 acres + copyhold estates of 200 acres  
1817 John Orford owns

**Sub-Manors:**

**Rous/Rice Hall**

12<sup>th</sup> cent. Arnold Rufus, Rus/Rous held of the Honor of Lancaster (linked to Clopton, Hasketon, Frassingfield and Stadbroke)

c.1260 Richard de Brewse owns (absorbed by main manor)

15<sup>th</sup> cent. William Barnard owns

1582 Edmund Withypole died seised (linked to Whitton and Hitcham)

17<sup>th</sup> cent. John Hawys sold to Robert Maidstone

c.1689 William Hawys repossessed Rice Hall

1764 William Plummer owns

### **Stoneham Manor**

1354 Inquis p.m. of Lady Elizabeth Crewe

#### **14. Markets/Fairs**

#### **15. Real property:**

1844 £1,052 rental value

1891 £1,163 rateable value

1912 £1,035 rateable value

#### **16. Land ownership:**

1844 Land sub-divided

1891 James Clarke and Executors of John Skeet, principle owners

1912 M.G. Hale, Trustees of John Skeet and Ipswich Charity Trustees, principle owners

#### **17. Resident gentry:**

1635 Samuel Aylmer

#### **18. Occupations:**

1500–1549 1 husbandmen

1550–1599 2 yeomen

1600–1649 4 yeomen

1650–1699 3 yeomen, 1 ropemaker

1831 27 in agriculture, 9 in domestic service, 1 other

1844 5 farmers

1912 4 farmers

#### **19. Education:**

1833 Children attended school in Claydon

1912 Children attended school in Claydon and Whitton

#### **20. Poor relief:**

1776	£19 15s. 4d.
1803	£22 4s. 9d.
1818	£45 10s.
1830	£81 11s.
1832	£103 4s.
1834	£92 12s.

**21. Charities:**

**22. Other institutions:**

Rise Hall: central dairy and creamery connected to Eastern Counties Dairy Institute

**23. Recreation:**

**24. Personal:**

Samuel Aylmer: d.1635, lived in Akenham Hall. High Sheriff of Suffolk 1626 and Sherriff of London

John Aylmer: 1521–1594 born at Akenham Hall; Bishop of London, Chaplain and tutor of Lady Jane Grey

**25. Other information:**

'Tithes and Other Customs; Akenham'. East Anglian Notes and Queries, New Series Vol. XI, p.37.

'Extracts from the parish registers of Akenham'. East Anglian Notes and Queries, New Series Vol. XI, p.51.

'Akenham Burial Case: Wildwood House', by R. Fletcher 1974 – relates to the controversy surrounding the burial of unbaptised child of non-conformist parents which ended in libel case in the High Court 1870's and ultimately a change in the law.

Rise Hall: Late Georgian, classical entrance with Roman Doric pilasters.

'Anglo-Saxon Burial Ground'. Victoria County History Vol. I, p.333.