

# 1. Parish : Ampton

**Meaning:** Amma's homestead

2. **Hundred:** Thedwastre

**Deanery:** Thedwastre (–1884), Thingoe (1884–)  
1946 Abolished ecclesiastically to create Ampton with  
Lt Livermere

**Union:** Thingoe (1836–1907), Bury St Edmunds (1907–1930)

**RDC/UDC:** Thingoe RD (–1974), St Edmundsbury DC (1974–)

## Other administrative details:

Thingoe and Thedwastre petty sessional division  
Bury St Edmunds County Court district

3. **Area:** 36 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:** **Mixed:**

- a. Deep well drained sandy soils. Some very acid. Risk wind erosion.
- b. Deep well drained fine loam over chalk, coarse loam over clay and fine loams some with calcareous subsoils.
- c. Deep permeable sand/peat soils affected by ground water. Risk of winter flooding.

## 5. Types of farming:

1500–1640	Thirsk:	Sheep-corn region where main crop is barley. Sheep main fertilizing agent, bred for fattening.
1818	Marshall:	Management uniform. Rotation usually turnip, barley, clover, wheat.
1937	Main crops:	barley, turnips, oats.
1969	Trist:	Deficiencies in minerals are overcome and these lands are now more suited to arable farming with wide range of produced grown.

## 6. Enclosure:

## 7. Settlement:

1958 Small compact development on edge of Ampton Park, the growth of which may have affected settlement pattern. Church situated on edge of settlement. Parish consists almost entirely of tree plantation.

**Inhabited Houses:** 1674 – 7, 1801 – 9, 1851 – 30, 1871 – 29  
1901 – 32, 1951 – 30, 1981 – 15



**12. Nonconformity etc:**

**13. Manorial:**

**Ampton Manor**

13 <sup>th</sup> cent.	Flempton family owns (Richard de Flempton 1269)
1397	Hethe family owns
1484	Sir Thomas Darcy (links with Shimpling, Cavenham and Stowmarket), (in dispute for in 1464 mentioned in Inquis p.m. of John Harlyston)
1542	John Crofts acquires for 500 marks, £20 sterling (links with Wangford)
1600	Thomas Coell (by marriage to Calthorpe family)
1860	John Paley owns

**14. Market/Fair:**

**15. Real Property:**

1844	£845 rental value
1891	£658 rateable value
1912	£819 rateable value

**16. Land ownership:**

1844	Lord Calthorpe, sole owner
1891	John Paley, sole owner
1912	George Arthur Paley, sole owner

**17. Resident gentry:**

1674	Sir Algernon May
1796/1844	Lord Calthorpe
1891	J. Paley
1912	Rev C.C. Fitz-Henry, BA, A.G. Paley, JP

**18. Occupations:**

1500–1549	1 husbandman, 1 parson
1550–1599	1 husbandman
1600–1649	1 clerk, 2 husbandmen, 1 tailor
1650–1699	1 husbandman, 1 shepherd
1844	Schoolmaster, 1 farmer
1912	Sub-postmaster, police officer, schoolmistress, head gardener, head gamekeeper, forester, sub-agent at Estate Office

**19. Education:**

School dated 1705	(south of church)
1818	1 endowed school (11 boys, 6 boarded, clothed and apprenticed)
1833	1 daily endowed school (38 attend, 5 free, 8 clothed, boarded, and educated)

1 Infant school est. 1825, part assisted by Lord Calthorpe  
(20 attend)

1 daily school est. 1825, part assisted by Lord Calthorpe  
(17 girls attend)

1 Sunday school (34 attend)

Parochial lending library

1867 1 endowed school founded 1702 by J. Calthorpe (32 boys  
Attend, 10 boarders)

1692 Charity school endowed by J Calthorpe (possibly refers to  
Above) – 6 boys from Ampton, Great & Little Livermere,  
Ingham and Timworth (blue caps and coats with 'J.C' fixed to  
breast of coats) boys to be aged 7-14

1715 Intake increased by 5 by bequest of Henry Edwards

1814 School conducted on National system

Public Elementary school built 1865 endowed with farm in Aldby  
parish (46 attend)

## 20. Poor relief:

1776 £26. 13s. 9d.

1803 £33. 12s.

1818 £145. 13s.

1830 £89. 4s.

1832 £83.

1834 £104. 6s.

## 21. Charities:

**Calthorpe's Almhouses:** 1693 by will of Dorothy Calthorpe: for 6  
poor widows or old maids.

**Calthorpe's Charity:** 1692: by will of James Calthorpe: by  
moneys gained from Aldeby farm  
applied to education, clothing, feeding  
and maintaining 6 poor children from  
Ampton, Great Livermere, Little  
Livermore, Ingham and Timworth.  
New schoolroom built at Ampton (1840)

## 22. Other institutions:

Almshouses built on Ampton Green by Mrs Dorothy Calthorpe for 6 poor  
women aged 60+ but contains only 4 apartments (1692)

Boys Hospital founded (1702) by James Calthorpe for maintenance, clothing,  
support of 6 boys + salary for schoolmaster. Decision taken to raise number  
of boys to 9 (1836)

School of Industry (6 children) (1803)

## 23. Recreation:

Cricket Club (no dates)

**24. Personal:**

**25. Other information:**

Ampton Hall: c.1700 wrought iron gates + rusticated archway is all that remains of house which was destroyed by fire 1885. Rebuilt in neo-Jacobean style with stepped gables 1885–89. Used as hospital 1915–19.

Mr J Turner, owner of Ampton Hall, castigate in press for the large number of empty and decaying historic buildings. Rent Act blamed. County Council exploring possibility of compulsory purchase 1981

Sealed Book: Prayer book revised by Savoy Conference (1661) with original certificate and annotations (1662) to bring I line with 'Book Annexed'. Rebound 1846

in possession of Ampton Rectory (PSIA Vol XVII)

Printed copy of 'Memoranda concerning the Boys Hospital at Ampton in Suffolk founded by James Calthorpe Esq, AD 1701' (1838)

Village declared a conservation area 1987