

1. Parish: Barningham

Meaning: The homestead of Beorn's people

2. **Hundred:** Blackbourn

Deanery: Blackburne (–1972), Ixworth (1972–)

Union: Thetford

RDC/UDC: (W Suffolk) Brandon RD (1894–1935), Thingoe RD (1935–1974),
St Edmundsbury DC (1974–)

Other administrative details:

Abolished ecclesiastically to create Barningham with Coney Weston 1802
Blackbourn Petty Sessional Division
Thetford County Court District

3. **Area:** 1,620 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:**

Mixed:

- a. Slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loam over clay.
- b. Deep fine loam soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging. Some fine/coarse loams over clay. Some deep well drained coarse loam over clay, fine loam and sandy soils.

5. **Types of farming:**

1086		8 acres meadow, 2 oxen, 1 cob
1283		362 quarters to crops (2,896 bushels), 29 head of horses, 185 cattle, 101 pigs, 254 sheep*
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, oats, turnips
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet Barningham Hall Vineyard established c.1972

* 'A Suffolk Hundred in 1283', by E. Powell, 1910. Concentrates on Blackbourn Hundred. Gives land usage, livestock and the taxes paid.

6. Enclosure:

1799 587 acres enclosed under Private Act of Lands 1797

7. Settlement:

1950 Well spaced development at site where all roads converge. Church situated to NW of centre yet still within settlement. Secondary settlement on border with Coney Weston near site of Barningham Town House and the Methodist chapel.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 33, 1801 – 50, 1851 – 103, 1871 – 108, 1901 – 93, 1951 – 138, 1981 – 290

8. Communications:

Roads: To Coney Weston, Market Weston, Hepworth, Stanton and Bardwell
1891 Carrier to Bury St Edmund on Wednesday
1912 Carriers to Bury St Edmunds on Wednesday and Saturday to Thetford on Friday

9. Population:

1086 – 36 recorded
1327 – 31 taxpayers paid £2 11s. 7¼d.
1524 – membrane either missing or illegible
1603 – 119 adults
1662 – 53 householders paid £7 12s.*
1674 – 42 households
1676 – 149 adults
1801 – 316 inhabitants
1831 – 514 inhabitants
1851 – 499 inhabitants
1871 – 446 inhabitants
1901 – 399 inhabitants
1931 – 334 inhabitants
1951 – 437 inhabitants
1971 – 749 inhabitants
1981 – 833 inhabitants

* 'The Hearth Tax Return for the Hundred of Blackbourn 1662' transcribed by S Colman, PSIA Vol. XXXII, part 2, p.168.

**10. Benefice: Rectory (consolidated with Coney Weston) 1831
Discharged Rectory 1844**

1254 Valued £10
1291 Valued £11 6s. 8d.
1341 Valued £11 6s. 9d.
1535 Valued £13 9s. 0½d
1831 1 curate, stipend £100 p.a. Glebe House. Gross Income £800 p.a.
Tithes commuted for £967 p.a. 1843

21 acres 2R 18P. Gross Income £41 16s. 6d. 1887
25½ acres 1891
1912 Joint nett value £580 p.a. 26 acres glebe and residence

Patrons: Earl of Sussex (1603), R Hunt (1831), Rev G Hunt (1844)
Trustees of T Edwards (1891)

11. Church: St Andrew
(Chancel, nave, S porch, W tower)

1086 Church + 15 acres free land in alms
14/15th cent. Main structure. Wills suggest tower dates from c.1439/40
1877 Restoration

Seats: 6 pews appropriated, remainder free (1873)

12. Nonconformity etc:

1603 2 persons do not received communion
1606 4 recusants who refuse to attend their parish church
1 person negligent in receiving communion for 5/6 years
1611 2 recusant papists
1676 6 nonconformists
Wesleyan chapel built 1811, rebuilt 1854
Primitive Methodist chapel built 1862
Methodist chapel falling into disrepair. Congregation shares the
use of the parish church 1975

13. Manorial:

1066 Manor of 1 carucate held by Alstan
1086 Manor of 1 carucate belonging to Peter of Valognes

Barningham/Barningham Hall al Senclers Manor

1066 Manor of ½ carucate held by Osmund under patronage of
St Edmunds
1086 Manor of ½ carucate belonging to Hermer of Ferrers
13th cent. John de St Claire acknowledged as Lord
1428 Thomas de Riddlesworth owns
1628 Maurice Barrow owns
1665 Maurice Shelton owns (linked to Higham, Raydon, Wenham
Parva and Coney Weston)
mid 18th cent. Duke of Grafton owns (linked to Barnham, Euston, Honington
And Sapiston)
1811 John Thurston owns
1885 Cornell Henry Fison owns

Sub-Manors

Netherhall

1264 Intimated that Sir Thomas Hemegrave owns (linked to Tuddenham)

1423 Inquis p.m. of Hugh Stafford
 Vested in Henry Eden (no dates)

Holdens al Haldens

16th cent. The King, granted to John Tront
1598 Laurence Fuller owns
17th cent. William Reve owns

14. Market/Fair:

15. Real Property:

1844 – £2,380 rental value
1891 – £2,256 rateable value
1912 – £1,753 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844/1891 Land sub-divided
1912 H.A. Oliverson, principal owner

17. Resident gentry:

1674 Major Shelton owns property with 33 hearths
1679 Maurice Shelton
1844 Rev G. Hunt MA
1891 Rev C.B. Clarkson MA and Rev A.W. Edward MA

18. Occupations:

1550–1599 3 yeomen
1600–1649 9 yeomen, 1 wheelwright, 6 husbandmen, 3 labourers,
 1 blacksmith, 1 tailor, 1 linen weaver
1650–1699 12 yeomen, 1 wheelwright, 1 shepherd, 2 husbandmen,
 2 blacksmiths, 1 maltster, 2 tailors, 1 cordwainer,
 3 linen weavers, 1 weaver, 1 carpenter, 1 clothier,
 1 clerk, 1 servant, 1 spinster, 2 grocers
1831 87 in agriculture, 24 in retail trade, 2 professionals,
 1 in labouring, 19 in domestic service, 2 others
1844 2 shoemakers, blacksmith, machine maker/wheelwright/
 Blacksmith, victualler, corn miller/merchant, bricklayer,
 2 beer sellers, schoolmistress, butcher/shopkeeper,
 stone mason, gamekeeper, manager, 2 grocer/drapers,
 6 farmers
1912 Sub-postmaster, schoolmistress, police officer, grocer/
 draper, 10 farmers, asst overseer, gamekeeper, miller,
 manure agent, 2 shopkeepers, publican/carrier, publican,
 carrier, blacksmith, cycle agent

19. Education:

1818 1 Methodist Sunday school (51 attend)

- 1833 1 Sunday school (established church) (40 attend), 1 Methodist Sunday school (40 attend)
 1844 Schoolmistress listed
 National school built 1859, average attendance 1912 60

20. Poor relief:

- 1776 £60 16s. 11d.
 1803 £119 3s. 4d.
 1818 £423 1s.
 1830 £400 16s.
 1832 £480 13s.
 1834 £320

21. Charities:

Guildhall Charity/Town Estate:

- 1840 Tenements and cottage occupied by poor persons
 17 acres 3R 34P vested in trustees let at £34 18s. p.a.
 applied to church repairs and distributed among poor.

Poors Allotment:

- 1840 Allotment of 20 acres let at approximately £21 p.a.
 Applied to distribution of coals among poor families.

Fullers Charity:

- 1662 by benefaction of William Fuller: £1 1s. p.a. for distribution
 In bread to poor on Easter day.

22. Other institutions:

- Reading Room established 1886 with small library attached
 Foresters Club held at Royal George Inn, 96 members 1891
 1891 Police constable listed
 1912 Almshouse for 2 poor widows. Demolished 1920s.
 Reference to Guild of St Margaret and deeds of Guildhall 1542

23. Recreation:

- 1844 The Swan Inn public house, 2 beer sellers
 1891/1912 The Swan Inn and The Royal George public houses
 Cricket Club 1927
 Chapel Brass Band 1928/29

24. Personal:

25. Other information:

Barningham Hall: early 17th cent. building with Georgian additions.

Barningham Mill: originally a maltings early 19th cent., new mill added 1826, renovated 1950s, runs on commercial basis producing animal feeds 1987. Beam engine from mill now housed in the Henry Ford Museum, USA.

Parish once contained two post windmills on common land.