

1. Parish: Brantham

Meaning: Branta's meadow (Ekwall)

2. Hundred: Samford

Deanery: Samford

Union: Samford

RDC/UDC: (E. Suffolk) Stamford RD (- 1974), Babergh DC (1974 -)

Other administrative details:

Chapelry attached to East Bergholt, early civil parish identity, separate ecclesiastical identity (1843)

Samford Petty Sessional Division

Ipswich County Court District

3. Area:

1,870 acres land, 12 acres water, 47 acres tidal water, 582 acres foreshore (1912)

4. Soils:

Deep well drained fine loam, coarse loam and sandy soils, locally flinty and in some places over gravel. Slight risk water erosion.

5. Types of farming:

1086		15 acres meadow, 2 oxen, woodland for 12 pigs, 1 mill, 12 cattle, 24 pigs, 60 sheep
1500–1640	Thirsk:	Sheep-corn region, sheep main fertilizing agent, bred for fattening. Barley main cash crop.
1818	Marshall:	Management uniform. Rotation usually turnip, barley, clover, wheat.
1937	Main crops:	Wheat, barley, turnips.
1969	Trist:	Deficiencies in minerals are overcome and these lands are now more suited to arable farming with wide range of produce grown

6. Enclosure:

7. Settlement:

1958 River Stour and wet lands form large portion of southern boundary therefore restricting development in this direction.

Railway crosses parish from N-S
 Small well spaced development with settlement at a)
 Road to Stutton, b) near to church, c) Road to Cattawade,
 and d) Cattawade. Scattered farms.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 33, 1801 – not returned, 1851 – 85, 1871 – 91, 1901 – 176, 1951 – 371, 1981 – 769

8. Communications:

Road: Roads to Stutton, East Bergholt and Manningtree station
 1891 Carrier passes through to Ipswich Tuesday and Friday
 1912 Carrier listed at Cattawade

Rail: 1891 2½ miles Manningtree station. Liverpool Street –
 Norwich line, opened (1846). Branch line to Harwich
 opened (1854)

Water: River Stour: Made navigable by Act of Parliament
 (1705)
 Last barge travelled as far as Dedham (1928)
 2 bridges cross to Essex at Cattawade (Chapel said to
 have anciently been situated at this crossing)

9. Population:

1086 — 40 recorded
 1327 — 20 taxpayers paid £2. 6s.
 1524 — 23 taxpayers paid £11. 8s. 4d.
 1603 — 600 adults (includes East Bergholt)
 1674 — 33 households
 1676 — Not recorded
 1801 — 300 inhabitants
 1831 — 367 inhabitants
 1851 — 413 inhabitants
 1871 — 440 inhabitants
 1901 — 843 inhabitants
 1931 — 1,033 inhabitants
 1951 — 1,207 inhabitants
 1971 — 1,631 inhabitants
 1981 — 2,093 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Rectory

1254 Brantham cum Bergholt valued £16
 1291 Braham cum Capella valued £17. 6s. 8d.
 1535 Valued £25. 10s. (includes East Bergholt)
 1831 1 curate, stipend £108 p.a. Glebe house, gross income
 £1,120 p.a. Incumbent also holds St. Mary, Holton.
 45 acres joint glebe (1837), £500 awarded in lieu of tithes
 Severed union with East Bergholt (1854)
 Good rectory house built (1855)
 1912 Nett value £315 p.a. 24 acres glebe and good residence

Patrons:

William Cardnall (1603), J. Rowley (1831), Rev. J. Rowley (1844),
Emmanuel College, Cambs. (1891)

- 11. Church** St. Michael
(Chancel, wide nave, N. aisle, porch, W. tower)
- 14th cent. Main structure
1869 Restoration (virtually rebuilt)
20th cent. Restoration. Font introduced from St. Mary at the Quay,
Ipswich (1962)

Note: Painting 'Christ Blessing Little Children' by John
Constable (1804) hangs at W. end of nave.

Seats: 250 (1831)

Chapel Anciently a chapel situated near the bridges at Cattawade

12. Nonconformity etc:

- 1597 Curate does not wear the surplice nor read comination
 agaynst synners and the Queen's injunctions
1603 3 persons not receiving communion
1843 1 house set aside for worship
 Mission Hall built at Cattawade (listed 1912)
 Wesleyan chapel (listed 1912)

13. Manorial:

- 1066 Manor of 1 carucate held by Edwin in Edeva's jurisdiction
1086 Manor of 1 carucate belonging to Count Alan
1066 Manor of 1 carucate 20 acres held by Godwin
1086 Manor of 1 carucate 20 acres belonging to Robert Malet
 and held by Hubert
1066 Manor of 60 acres held by Grim
1086 Manor of 60 acres belonging to Robert Gernon
1066 Manor of 35 acres held by Godwin, a free man
1086 Manor of 35 acres belonging to Count Alan and held by
 Godwin
1066 Manor of 30 acres held by Tela, a free woman under
 patronage
1086 Manor of 30 acres belonging to Robert Gernon

Brantham Hall

- 1300 Linked to Bucklesham, Burstall, Chelmondiston and
 Woolverstone (John de Holbrook)

1540	Linked to Shelley (Edward Cornwallis held 3 rd part)
No date	Linked to Stutton (Sir Humphrey Wingfield)
1790	155 acres 3R 16P land and good farmhouse called Brantham Hall

Sub-Manors:

Braham

13 th cent.	William de Braham owns
Circa 1567	Robert Bogos owns
1825	332 acres land, 21 acres 26P wood
1839	Walter Clark owns
1855	Linked to East Bergholt (Peter Godfrey)
1885	Sir Thomas S. Western owns

Bridge Place

15 th cent.	Simon Winoenan owns
1545	Absorbed by main manor (Wingfield family)

14. Markets/Fairs

1247	Market at Cattawade
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15. Real property:

1844	£2,368 rental value
1891	£5,051 rateable value
1912	£10,285 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844-1912	Land sub-divided
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17. Resident gentry:

1891	Col. M.C. Browning JP
1912	C.B. Brooke JP, C.K. Norman JP, J.R. Keeble JP

18. Occupations:

1500-1549	1 yeoman
1550-1599	4 yeomen, 1 clothier, 1 husbandman, 1 servant, 1 barber
1600-1649	8 yeomen, 6 husbandmen, 2 millers, 1 tailor
1650-1699	8 yeomen, 2 husbandmen, 1 miller, 1 baker, 1 blacksmith
1831	81 in agriculture, 7 in retail trade, 21 labourers, 11 in domestic service
1844	Shoemaker, blacksmith, 2 wheelwrights, corn miller, horse dealer/victualler, shoemaker/victualler, 7 farmers
1887	British Zylonite Co. Ltd. established, employs approx. 300

Renamed British Industrial Plastics employing 1400 persons (1974)
 1912 2 sub-postmasters, 2 schoolmistresses, manager of British Zylonite Co. Ltd., 6 farmers, wheelwright, publican, excise and customs officers, shopkeeper, horse dealer, blacksmith

19. Education:

1818 1 Sunday school (45 attend)
 1833 1 daily school (18 attend), 1 Sunday school (55 attend)
 National school built (1854), average attendance (1891) 65, enlarged (date unknown), average attendance (1912) 104
 School built at Cattawade (1896), enlarged (1911), average attendance (1912) 77

20. Poor relief:

1776	£54. 9s. 10d.	spent on poor relief
1803	£149. 8s.	spent on poor relief
1818	£206. 17s.	spent on poor relief
1830	£206. 5s.	spent on poor relief
1832	£178. 9s.	spent on poor relief
1834	£133. 10s.	spent on poor relief

21. Charities:

White's Gifts

1773 by will of Rev. Stephen White: £500 in trust.
 Interest to be applied to Holton, Stratford, Nayland and Brantham for distribution among poor

22. Other institutions:

1803 Friendly Society (15 members)
 1912 Athletic and Social Club
 Police officer at Cattawade listed

23. Recreation:

1844 2 public houses (THE CROWN and THE BULL)
 1891 1 beerhouse, 3 public houses (THE BULL, THE ARK and THE CROWN)
 1912 1 public house (THE BULL INN)
 Cattawade: 2 public houses (THE CROWN, THE ARK)
 1 beer retailer

24. Personal:

Thomas Tusser: said to be first farmer to cultivate barley in the parish.
Occupied Braham Hall. Author of 'Five Hundred Points of
Good Husbandry'. Died 1580 in a London debtors prison

25. Other information:

Brantham Court: Built 1850/52 in Elizabethan style overlooking River
Stour

Braham Hall: dates from 1427. farmhouse by 1891

British Zylonite Co. Ltd., built Brantham New Village (circa 1891). A
community of 56 double cottages for company
employees.

Servant girl (Fanny Clarke) murdered. F. Page of Braham Hall accused
of the crime but was never convicted (taken to Broadmoor
Lunatic Asylum before he could stand trial) (1875)

Brantham Place: built (1597), rebuilt (1906), formerly Church House
Farm.

Article outlining history of, and commemorating centenary of, British
Zylonite Co. in parish folder

Archaeological Sites

Med. moated enclosure, site of chapel

BA cemetery

3 oval cropmarks

Cropmark complex

Stray finds: Mes. Tranchet axe

B.A. urns, saddle quern, hoard and socketed axe

Pal. Handaxe

I.A. pottery

Neo. Polished axe, stone axe, polished white flint axe

Animal bone brooch

Scatter finds: R.B. sherds

Worked flint

Neo. Worked flint

Belgic pottery (CRN 99)