

1. Parish : Flempton

Meaning: The homestead/village of the Flemings

2. **Hundred:** Thingoe

Deanery: Thingoe

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

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

Other administrative details:

Abolished as ecclesiastical parish to create Flempton with Hengrave 1589

Thingoe and Thedwastre Petty Sessional Division
Bury St Edmunds County Court District

3. **Area:** 947 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:**

Mixed:

- a. Deep well drained sandy soils, some very acid. Risk wind erosion
- b. Deep well drained fine loam over clay, coarse loam over clay and fine loamy soils some with calcareous clay subsoils
- c. Small section of deep peat soils close to river

5. **Types of farming:**

1086		1 acre meadow, 1 mill
1500–1640	Thirsk:	Sheep-corn region, sheep main fertilising agent, bred for fattening. Barley main cash crop. Also has similarities with wood–pasture region with pasture, meadow, dairying and some pig keeping.
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, oats, barley, sugar beet. Some heathland for rough grazing.
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet

6. **Enclosure:**

7. Settlement:

1977 River Lark forms natural boundary to the north.
Compact development around crossroads where West
Stow/Risby and Mildenhall/Hengrave roads meet.
Church and hall centrally situated.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 9, 1801 – 23, 1851 – 42, 1871 – 39,
1901 – 35, 1951 – 36, 1981 – 55

8. Communications:

Roads: To West Stow, Risby, Mildenhall and Hengrave
1937 Bus to Bury St Edmunds on
Wednesday and Saturday
1939 Carrier from Bury St Edmunds |
Wednesday and Saturday

Water: River Lark: Lark Navigation Scheme 1839–1901.
Lock.

9. Population:

1086 – 17 recorded
1327 – 19 taxpayers paid £1 11s. 9d.
1524 – 12 taxpayers paid 10s. 8d
1603 – 19 adults (includes Hengrave)
1674 – 19 households (includes Hengrave)
1676 – 110 adults (includes Hengrave)
1801 – 99 inhabitants
1831 – 188 inhabitants
1851 – 247 inhabitants
1871 – 176 inhabitants
1901 – 162 inhabitants
1931 – 127 inhabitants
1951 – 108 inhabitants
1971 – 140 inhabitants
1981 – 155 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Rectory (consolidated with Hengrave)

1254 Valued £4 13s. 4d.
1291 Valued £5 6s. 8d.
1535 Valued £5
Consolidated with Hengrave 1589
1674 Parsonage has 3 hearths
1831 Glebe house. Joint gross income £400 p.a. Incumbent
also holds sinecure rectory of Great Tey, Essex
19th cent. Rectory house plus 40 acres glebe
1844 Joint value: £400 p.a.
1855 Yearly rent–charge of £445 13s. 4d. in lieu of tithes

1912 Joint nett value £300 p.a. 10 acres glebe and residence

Patrons: Lady Kytson (1603), R.S. Dixon (1831), Rev. W.R. Bain (1873), J. Wood (1912)

11. Church **St. Catherines**
(S. porch, W. tower, nave)

1086 Church plus 8 acres free land
13/14th cent. Main structure
15th cent. Porch
1839 Partly rebuilt, including tower
1885 General restoration

Seats: 50 appropriated, 150 free (1873)

12. Nonconformity etc:

1606 1 person not receiving communion
1611 1 person refused communion
1676 6 catholics
25 others had not recently received communion

13. Manorial:

Flempton/Geddings

1086 Estate of 1 carucate belonging to Abbot of St. Edmunds and held by Wulfward
13th cent. Sir Benedict de Blakenham held
1350 Sir John St. Philibert held
1352 Thomas de Aspal owns
1529 Thomas Lucas owns
c.1559 Sir Thomas Kytson owns
1911 John Wood owns

14. Markets/Fairs:

15. Real property:

1454 £1 17s. 2d rateable value
1844 £1,049 rental value
1891 £987 rateable value
1912 £899 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844 Sir Thomas Gage, principal owner
1891 Earl of Kenmore, sole owner
1912 J. Wood, sole owner

17. Resident gentry:

c.1272 Sir Benedict de Blakenham

18. Occupations:

1600–1700 Miller, yeoman
1700–1800 Shepherd
1831 24 in agriculture, 13 in retail trade, 1 professional, 4 in labouring, 12 in domestic service
1844 Tailor, wheelwright, shoemaker, farmers, beerseller, shopkeeper, blacksmith, miller
1912 Retail shopkeepers, wheelwright, beerseller, blacksmith, schoolmaster, farmer

19. Education:

1818 1 endowed school
2 Dames schools (24 attend)
1833 1 endowed daily school (12 attend)
1 Sunday school (38 attend)
1866 Public Elementary school built, enlarged 1872, average attendance 1912 56

20. Poor relief:

1776 £38 10s. 2d.
1803 £96 1s. 9d.
1818 £139 11s.
1830 £95 14s.
1832 £73 8s.
1834 £53 5s.

21. Charities:

Kytson's Gifts

1623/24 Piece of cloth for coat or stuff for gown per year given by Lady E. Kytson, also yearly gift of fuel

Carter's Charity

1817 Rev. Carter: £3 10s. for teaching 4 girls to read and sew plus £2 for church purposes

Poor Lands

1895 For fuel

22. Other institutions:

Records of Womens Institute 1949–1978

23. Recreation:

1844/1512 Beerhouse/retailer
20th cent. Flempton Golf Course

24. Personal:

25. Other information:

'Flempton Forge' by J. Gibson. East Anglian Magazine Vol.31, p.29.