

1. Parish: Flixton

Meaning: Flik's people (Ekwall)

2. Hundred: Wangford

Deanery: South Elmham (-1912)

Union: Wangford

RDC/UDC: (E. Suffolk) Wangford RD (1894-1934), Wainford RD (1934-1974), Waveney DC (1974-)

Other administrative details:

Bungay Petty Sessional District
Harleston County Court District

3. Area: 1,763 acres (1912)

4. Soils:

- Mixed:**
- a) Slowly permeable calcareous/non calcareous clay soils, slight risk water erosion
 - b) Slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loam over clay
 - c) Deep peat soils associated with clay over sandy soils in part very acid, high groundwater levels, risk of flooding near river.
 - d) Deep well drained sandy soils, some very acid especially under heath or woodland, risk wind erosion

5. Types of farming:

1086 Wood for 30 pigs, 6 pigs
1500–1640 Thirsk: Wood-pasture region. Mainly pasture, meadow, engaged in rearing and dairying with some pigs 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. Carrots and turnips were being grown...by the more enterprising farmers in the Waveney Valley.

1818	Marshall:	Wide variation of crop and management techniques including summer fallow as preparation for corn products and rotation of turnip, barley, clover, wheat or turnips as preparation for corn and grass.
1937	Main crops:	Wheat, barley, mangold wurtzel, turnips
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet.

6. Enclosure:

7. Settlement:

Settlement around road junctions. Church centrally situated. Development probably influenced by growth of park and marshland to north of parish. Airfield intrudes into eastern sector of parish. Scattered farms.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 20, 1801 – 24, 1851 – 39, 1871 – 40, 1901 – 39, 1951 – 39, 1981 – 55

8. Communications:

Road:	Roads to Homersfield, South Elmham St. Margaret and South Elmham St. Michael. New road to Homersfield constructed (1870). Roads unsafe and impassable for several months of the year (18 th cent.)
Rail:	1891 2½ miles Homersfield station: Tivetshall – Lowestoft line, opened (1860), closed (1964).
Water:	River Waveney: Act passed to make Waveney navigable (1670).
Air:	Bungay airfield built (1942), 3 runways, operational for USAF Squadrons. Heavy bomber station (1943), last mission flown 25 th April (1945), used for bomb storage (1945-550, sold (1961/62). Perimeter track and runways still remaining. Martlesham Parachute Club moved in and operates most weekends (1977).

9. Population:

1086 — 62 recorded
1327 — 133 taxpayers paid £12. 15s. 9d. (includes South Elmhams)
1524 — 24 taxpayers paid £5. 7s. 3d.
1603 — 87 adults
1674 — 22 households
1676 — Not recorded
1801 — 219 inhabitants
1831 — 206 inhabitants
1851 — 210 inhabitants

1871 — 217 inhabitants
 1901 — 193 inhabitants
 1931 — 148 inhabitants
 1951 — 138 inhabitants
 1971 — 145 inhabitants
 1981 — 151 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Vicarage

1254 Not recorded
 1291 Valued £6. 13s. 4d.
 1535 Valued £6.
 1831 No glebe house. Gross income \$140 p.a. Incumbent also holds rectories of Kirby Cane, Norfolk and Alexton, Leicestershire. Parsonage house built (1843) on site of house built by Tasburghs for Catholic Priest. Vicarage built (1871)
 1912 Nett value £200. 30 acres glebe and residence

Patrons:

Bishop (1301), prioress/convent of Flixton (1316-1555), John Tasburgh (1557-1590), University of Cambridge (1639), Samuel Game (1674), Edward Merry (1690-95), Matthew Britten (1727), Adair family (1754), A. Adair (1831), Sir F.E.S. Adair (1912)

11. Church St. Mary

(Chancel, nave, north aisle, west chapel, south porch, west tower with pointed roof)

1086 ½ church + 12 acres land
 ½ church + 10 acres land, valued 16d.
 Original building believed to be Saxon
 14th cent. North arcade of 4 bays
 1835 Tower fell in, rebuilt (1856) during major rebuilding project
 1861 Nave rebuilt
 1893 Chancel rebuilt
 1895 Memorial chapel to Theodosia, Lady Waveney built

Seats: 200 (1915)

11a Other religious institutions

Nunnery: St. Mary and St. Catherine

Augustinian Canonesses:

1258 Founded by Margery Creyke (evidence suggests it was begun as Benedictine and later became Augustinian)

1291	Temporal income: £41
1478	Bad reports on several nuns
16 th cent.	Circa 16 th cent. housed 6/7 nuns and Abbess
1528	Papal Bull of Pope Clement VII suppressed the nunnery which was then disestablished
1534	Valued £40. 15s. 0½d.
1544	Granted to John Tasburgh
1915	Remains visible in gardens of abbey Farm. Chapel incorporated into farmhouse.

12. Nonconformity etc:

Johannes Skyllly (miller) accused and tried at Norwich for heresy (Lollard) (1429)
 1 person accused of incontinency (1597)
 Estate of John Tasburgh sequestered for 8 years for recusancy (1651)
 Robert Gilbert (vicar) ejected by Puritans (1639)
 Worship held in private house (1658/59)

13. Manorial:

1086	Manor of 30 acres belonging to the Bishop of Thetford in hands of Ascell under patronage and jurisdiction of Bishop Stigand
1086	Manor of 30 acres belonging to Bishop of Thetford in hands of free man under patronage of Stigand
1086	Manor of 30 acres belonging to the Bishop of Thetford in hands of Bricthnoth

Flixton Manor:

13 th cent.	Bartholomew de Creke owns
1252	Belongs to Augustin Nunnery: Order of Fontebault in Flixton
1532	Cardinal Wolsey owns (linked to numerous manors throughout Suffolk)
1544	Tasburgh family owns (linked to South Elmham)
1738	Adair family owns (linked to South Elmham)

Sub-Manor:

Boyses

1066	Manor part of estate of Offa
1086	Manor of 2 carucates belonging to Eudo, son of Spirwic, in hands of Offa
16 th cent.	Tasburgh family owns (absorbed by main manor)

14. Markets/Fairs

15. Real property:

1844	£1,507 rental value
1891	£2,051 rateable value
1912	£1,690 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844	Closed parish: Adair family sole owners
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17. Resident gentry:

1680	2 gents recorded Alexander Adair, High Sheriff of Suffolk (1792) Sir Frederick Adair, 4 th Bart., High Sheriff of Suffolk (1910-11)
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18. Occupations:

1500-1549	1 vicar, 1 husbandman
1550-1599	2 masons, 1 yeoman
1600-1649	1 mason, 4 yeomen, 1 blacksmith
1650-1699	10 yeomen
1831	38 in agriculture, 5 in retail trade, 1 professional, 1 in labouring, 16 in domestic service, 3 others
1844	1 victualler, 1 blacksmith, 7 farmers
1912	1 sub-postmistress, 2 teachers, 1 publican, 3 farmers, 1 estate clerk/overseer, 1 farm bailiff, 1 gamekeeper, 1 agent, 1 sexton

19. Education:

	Vicar teaches children in church (1597)
1818	Sunday School supported by Mr. Adair
1833	Day school supported by Mr. Adair (19 attend) Sunday school (22 attend) National school built (1861) to serve Flixton, Homersfield and South Elmham Sancroft, average attendance (1912) 33

20. Poor relief:

1776	£64. 15s. 0d.	spent on poor relief
1803	£141. 2s. 6d.	spent on poor relief
1818	£226. 5s.	spent on poor relief
1830	£390. 18s.	spent on poor relief
1832	£463 .	spent on poor relief
1834	£345. 10s.	spent on poor relief

21. Charities:

Town Estate:

1828 Yearly sum from estates £1. 4s.

Town Lands:

1828 Land and property in Flixton and Mendham let at £24 p.a. applied to expenses of Churchwardens office and other public charges

Adair's Charity;

1782 by will of William Adair: dividends paid to and for the benefit of the labouring and industrious poor in Flixton, Homersfield and South Elmham Sancroft.
Used to purchase coals and support of schools (1828)

22. Other institutions:

23. Recreation:

1844-1912 The Buck public house

24. Personal:

Sir Frederick Adair, 4th Bart. (20th cent.): author of 'Sport in Ladakh' and 'A Summer in High Asia'. Contributed rare specimens of Tibetan moths to British Museum.

Watermill situated near ford over River Waveney (1264). Remains of ancient road to South Elmham also evident at this spot (20th cent.)

Effects of the Black death reduced the nuns at Flixton Priory to a state of pverty causing church to fall into disrepair (1349).

Flixton Hall built (circa 1615) by Sir John Tasburgh. Originally moated with drawbridge approach. Said to be site of ancient manor house of Bateman family. Totally destroyed by fire (1846). Reconstructed (F. Wade, architect) (1888-92).

The Shropshire Yeomanry were stationed at the Hall (1914)

Herd of Fallow Deer in Flixton Park (1915)

'Records of Flixton' (1915)

'Flixton Priory Inventory'. PSIA Vol. VIII p.88

25. Other information:

Med. moated site (CRN 899, 901)

Med. Priory (CRN 900)
PMed great house (CRN 902)
Un. Settlement (CRN 903, 904, 905)
Ring ditches (CRN 906, 908-911)
Un. Square enclosure (CRN 907)
Rom. Tile production site (CRN 2216)

Archaeological Sites

Stray finds: Mes. Worked flint (CRN 912)
 Neo. Worked axe (CRN 913)
Scatter finds: Med. pottery (CRN 2215, 8376, 8377, 8378, 9440, 9441,
 9442, 9447, 9448)
 Rom. Pottery (CRN 9489, 9443)
 Un. Burnt flint patch (CRN 9445, 9446)