

1. Parish : Fornham All Saints

Meaning: Village by trout stream

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:

Civil boundary change 1934 part of parish transferred to Bury St. Edmunds, gains part of Westley
Ecclesiastical boundary change to create Bury St. Edmunds parish of St. George 1958
Thingoe and Thedwastre Petty Sessional Division
Bury St Edmunds County Court District

3. **Area:** 1,697 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:**

Mixed:

- a. Deep well drained sandy soils, some very acid. Risk wind erosion
- b. Well drained calcareous coarse and fine loam soils over chalk rubble, deep non calcareous loam soils in places, slight risk water erosion
- c. Deep well drained fine loam over clay, coarse loam over clay and fine loamy soils, some with calcareous clay subsoils

5. **Types of farming:**

1086		4 acres meadow, 1 mill, 2 cobs, 14 cattle, 30 pigs, 60 sheep
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, barley, sugar beet
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet

6. Enclosure:

1804 1,232 acres enclosed under Act of 1801

7. Settlement:

1977 River Lark forms part of eastern boundary. Compact development at area where many roads link. Church centrally situated at one of these junctions

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 24, 1801 – 41, 1851 – 70, 1871 – 80,
1901 – 79, 1951 – 74, 1981 – 269

8. Communications:

Roads: To Bury St. Edmunds, Fornham St. Martin and Hengrave
Carriers from Bury St. Edmunds twice weekly on
Wednesday and Saturday at 3pm 1839

Water: River Lark: Wharf at termination of Lark Navigation,
Coalyard at termination contained timberyard,
coalhouse, carpenters shop, granary, repair shed owned
by Sir Thomas Cullum.
Lark Navigation Scheme 1889–1901. Nothing left of
Fornham Lock.
Flooding caused at Fornham because locks were not
being maintained 1903.

9. Population:

1086 – 15 recorded
1327 – 20 taxpayers paid £1 11s. 7d.
1524 – 29 taxpayers paid £2 3s. 8d.
1603 – 82 adults
1674 – 30 households
1676 – 104 adults
1801 – 236 inhabitants
1831 – 310 inhabitants
1851 – 358 inhabitants
1871 – 375 inhabitants
1901 – 333 inhabitants
1931 – 310 inhabitants
1951 – 218 inhabitants
1971 – 550 inhabitants
1981 – 746 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Rectory (consolidated with Westley)

1254	Valued £20 Paid annually to the son of Earl Bonen (Bohun?) £12 <u>£32 0s. 0d.</u>
1291	Valued £20
1535	Valued £19 10s. 5d.
1674	Parsonage has 5 hearths
1831	Glebe house. Joint gross income £770 p.a.
1844	14 acres glebe in Fornham, 32 acres 2R 26P in Westley. Valued £738. Yearly rent of £444 plus £329 6s. (from Westley) in lieu of tithes
1912	Joint nett value £450. 12 acres glebe and residence

Patrons: Lady Kytson (1603), Clare Hall, Cambridge (1831–)

11. Church All Saints
(Chancel, nave, N. aisle, S. chapel, S. porch, W. tower)

1086	Church plus 30 acres free land
12 th cent.	S. door (much restored)
c.1300	Nave
c.1600	S. porch and S. aisle

Seats: 250 (1900)

11a. Other religious institutions

Babwell Friary Franciscan Friars

1263	Founded by Richard, Earl of Gloucester and his son, Gilbert to provide for Franciscans who had been ejected from Bury St Edmunds
1538	Dissolved

Remains include part of church, cemetery and claustral walls, parts of Friary wall along NE site boundary. Site now incorporated into Bury St. Edmunds and occupied by Priory Hotel

12. Nonconformity etc:

1826	50 persons attending evening service in part of dwelling house. Seating capacity: 75
No dates	Baptist chapel

13. Manorial:

Fornham All Saints Manor

1066/1086	Manor of 2½ carucates belonging to the Abbot of St. Edmunds
1286	Consists of messuage, 360 acres land, 60 acres meadow, 7 acres wood with liberty of feldage and warren
c.1539	Sir Thomas Kytson owns (linked to Hengrave)
1768	Extent of manor contained in Copinger 'Manors of Suffolk' Vol.VII, valued £489 12s.
1911	John Wood owns

Sub-Manors

Aldreds

1446	Richard Aldred owns, subsequently absorbed into main manor
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14. Markets/Fairs:

15. Real property:

1454	£1 16s. rateable value
1844	£2,119 rental value
1891	£2,701 rateable value
1912	£2,459 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844	Sir Thomas Gage and Sir T.G. Cullum, principal owners
1891/1912	Land sub-divided

17. Resident gentry:

c.1430	Richard Aldred, Sheriff of Essex and Herts
1680	2 gents recorded

18. Occupations:

1500–1599	Roper
1600–1700	Collarmaker, tailor, yeoman, blacksmith
1813	Fornham Maltings owned by Sir Thomas Cullum (now used as furniture warehouse Coal warehouse owned by Mr. Ridley
1831	48 in agriculture, 18 in retail trade, 6 professionals, 1 in labouring, 25 in domestic service, 5 others
1844	Farmers, blacksmith, shoemaker, wheelwright/smith, shopkeepers, victualler, tithe commissioner, coal agent/wharfinger

1912 Farmer, publican, carriage builder/undertaker/
wheelwright/blacksmith/joiner, shopkeeper, coal merchant

19. Education:

1818 2 day schools (44 attend), 1 evening writing school (30 attend, only 16 belong to parish), 1 Sunday school (41 attend)
1833 2 daily schools (36 attend, 10 paid for by Rector, remainder are fee paying)
1879 1 Sunday school, supported by Rector (52 attend)
Public Elementary school built, average attendance 1912
64
1900 1 boarding school, 1 Sunday school

20. Poor relief:

1776 £89 13s. 7d.
1803 £207 8s. 6d.
1818 £342 17s.
1830 £251 1s.
1832 £250 2s.
1834 £314 6s.

21. Charities:

Doles:

1599 William Furmage: benefaction distributed in fuel
1633 Lady Kytson: sum for distribution in fuel plus 1 gown per year (male/female alternately)
1759 R. Booty/T. Mannock: sum for distribution in fuel
1822 J. Spink: sum for distribution in bread

Fuel Allotment:

1895 Proceeds distributed in fuel

22. Other institutions:

1803 Friendly Society (35 members)
1895 Village Hall and Reading Room opened

23. Recreation:

1844/1912 The Three Kings public house
20th cent. Football Club, Mothers Union

24. Personal:

1289 Sir Thomas de Weyland: Chief Justice of Common Pleas,
sought sanctuary at Babwell Priory after a misdemeanour
c.1430 Richard Aldred, executor of Queen Catherine's will

25. Other information:

Site of group of Bronze Age barrows

Possible Roman settlement

Cursus identified 1960 by air photography
'Cursus at Fornham All Saints', by I.E. Moore. Suffolk Review Vol.4 part 3,
p.135.

'When is a Henge not a Henge', by E.A. Martin. PSIA Vol.35, p.141.

Reputed site of battle between Edward, son of King Alfred and Ethelwald.

Site of battle between Royalist troops and Earl of Leicester and his Flemish
Army 1173.

Map existed dated 1768 held by J.M. Gorst 1965.

Manor courts were held at Fornham Hall 1539.

Aldreds manor house: (now private residence 'Aldridges'), moated building,
occasional retreat of Abbot Boon.

Sale particulars for Fornham Park Estate 1950.