

1. Parish: Fritton

Meaning: Enclosed place/fenced in homestead (Ekwall)

2. **Hundred:** **Lothingland (-1764), Mutford and Lothingland (1764-1974), transferred to Norfolk (1974)**

Deanery: Lothingland

Union: Mutford and Lothingland

RDC/UDC: (E. Suffolk) Mutford and Lothingland (1894-1934), Lothingland RD (1934-1974), transferred to Norfolk (1974)

Other administrative details:

Mutford and Lothingland Petty Sessional Division
Lowestoft County Court District

3. **Area:** 1,420 acres land, 53 acres water, 17 acres tidal, 71 acres foreshore (1912)

4. **Soils:**

Mixed: a) Deep well drained sandy soils, some very acid especially under heath and woodland, risk wind erosion
b) Deep stoneless mainly calcareous clay soils, flat land adjacent to river, risk of flooding

5. **Types of farming:**

1086		Wood for 20 pigs, 2 cobs, 8 cattle, 16 pigs, 160 sheep, 3 goats, 3 beehives, formerly 1 salt house
1500–1640	Thirsk:	Sheep corn region, where sheep are main fertilizing 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, roots, hay
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet

6. Enclosure:

1814 230 acres enclosed under Private Acts of Land 1809

7. Settlement:

Complete maps available – see Norfolk Record Office for details.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 16, 1801 – 21, 1851 – 47, 1871 – 50, 1901 – 65, 1951 – 78, 1981 – see Norfolk

8. Communications:

Road:	Turnpike road crosses parish (18/19 th cent.)
Rail:	1891 ½ mile St. Olaves station: Southtown (Yarmouth) – Beccles line, opened (1859), station closed (1959)
Water:	River Waveney: Act passed to make Waveney navigable (1670), decline marked by beginning of rail travel (1852)

9. Population:

1086 — 16 recorded (includes Domesday vill of Caldecott)
 1327 — 12 taxpayers paid £1. 4s. 9d.
 1524 — 11 taxpayers paid 12s.
 1603 — 63 adults
 1674 — 21 households
 1676 — Not recorded
 1801 — 174 inhabitants
 1831 — 170 inhabitants
 1851 — 215 inhabitants
 1871 — 221 inhabitants
 1901 — 270 inhabitants
 1931 — 230 inhabitants
 1951 — 239 inhabitants
 1971 — 225 inhabitants
 1981 — See Norfolk

10. Benefice: Rectory (1831) Discharged Rectory (1891)

1254	Valued £5. 6s. 8d.
1291	Valued £6. 13s. 4d.

1535	Valued £6. 15s. 4d. Parsonage house has 3 hearths (1674)
1831	Glebe house unfit for occupation, gross income £267 p.a. Incumbent also holds Vicarage of Thraston, Norfolk
1844	13 acres glebe. Modus of £270 p.a. Rectory house built (1884)
1912	Average nett value £135 p.a. 10 acres glebe and residence

Patrons:

Agetha Fretton (1306), FitzOsbern family (1318-32), Mauteby family (1349-89), Simon Felbrigg (1425-30), Paston family (1445-1563), William Sydnor (1585-1624), Talbot family (1640), Thomas Allin (1674/75), Clarke family (1720-27), Burkin Family (1731-42), Sarah Allin (1767), Catherine Buckle (1788), T. Hoves (1831), Rev. F.W. Cubitt (1844), Mrs. Cubitt (1891), Major F.A. Cubitt (1912)

- 11. Church** **St. Edmund (thatched)**
(apsidal church, nave, north porch, south porch, round west tower)
- Norman Chancel and tower
1350 Nave extended from 11' to 21'
Note: Chancel is tunnel-vaulted and vaulted apse.
 Above chancel is space used (1838/48) by
 smugglers for stowage of contraband including rum
- 1855 Restoration
- Seats:** 150 (1912)

12. Nonconformity etc:

13. Manorial:

1066	Manor of 2 carucates held by Godwin, a free man under patronage of Gyrth
1086	Manor of 2 carucates belonging to the King

Domesday vill of Caldecott

1066	Manor of 1 carucate held by Bondi under patronage of Gyrth
1086	Manor of 1 carucate belonging to Ralph the Crossbowman

Fritton al Fritton Paston's

13 th cent.	Nicholas de Fretton owns
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1306	Roger FitzPeter FitzOsborn died seised (linked to Herringfleet)
1349	Sir Robert de Mauteby/Maulteby owns
1568	John Throgmorton owns Conveyed to William Sydnor (linked to Henstead and Blundeston)
Circa 1613	William Tompson owns
1651	William Heveningham owns (linked to Blundeston and Lound)
1668	Thomas Allin owns (linked to Ashby, Belton, Blundeston, Bradwell, Carlton Colville, Corton, Flixton, Somerleyton, Mutford, Lound and Gorleston)
1710	Samuel Fuller owns
1819	A.G. Johnston owns
1830	Francis Turner owns
1896	Rt. Hon. Sir Saville Brinton Crossley owns
1909	Col. Henry Edmund Buxton owns

Sub-Manors:

Caldecot Hall

1270	Henry Caldecot owns (linked to Onehouse)
1390	Sir John Falstof owns (linked to Flixton)
1814	Magdalen College, Oxford owns
1909	Rt. Hon. Sir Saville Brinton Crossley owns (absorbed by main manor)

14. Markets/Fairs

Grant of market and fair to Henry Caldecot (1269/70)

15. Real property:

1844	£1,441 rental value
1891	£1,894 rateable value
1912	£2,077 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844-1912 Land sub-divided

17. Resident gentry:

1844	Richard Rust D'Eye and Rev. F.W. Cubitt
1891	H.E. Buxton JP and G.J. Larkman JP
1912	Rev. S.H. Cubitt MA, Maj. Gen. R. Upcher CB, DSO, JP

18. Occupations:

1550–1599 1 husbandman, 1 tailor, 1 yeoman

1600–1649 6 husbandmen
 1650–1699 1 husbandman, 2 yeomen
 1831 36 in agriculture, 10 in retail trade, 2 in labouring, 4 in domestic service
 1844 Wheelwright, cattle dealer/beerhouse keeper, baker/shopkeeper, beerhouse keeper, 7 farmers
 1912 Sub-postmaster, schoolmistress, 2 shopkeepers, 4 farmers, 2 beer retailers, market gardener

19. Education:

1818 1 Sunday school (26 attend)
 1833 1 day and Sunday school (12 girls attend)
 National school built (circa 1850), 45 attend 91891), enlarged (1895), average attendance (1912) 46

20. Poor relief:

1776	£27. 10s. 1d.	spent on poor relief
1803	£39. 4s. 5d.	spent on poor relief
1818	£41. 5s.	spent on poor relief
1830	£75. 12s.	spent on poor relief
1832	£82. 10s.	spent on poor relief
1834	£115.	spent on poor relief

21. Charities:

Poors Allotment:

1840 Allotment of 14 acres 2R 38P let at £12. 12s. p.a. applied to purchase of coals for poor in winter.

22. Other institutions:

23. Recreation:

1844-1912 2 beerhouses/retailers

24. Personal:

25. Other information:

Fritton Decoy: fresh water lake 2 miles long and in some places $\frac{1}{4}$ mile wide.

Account rolls (1317/18) shows that in Fritton 67% of manorial income was gained from the extraction of peat (turbary), produced 1.2 million sods of peat. Suffolk Landscape by N. Scarfe. These can be used as accurate assessor of date for creation of Fritton Lake.

Local tradition has an alternative name for Fritton Lake as 'Gunhilde's Mere'.

Fritton Old Hall and Lake: open to the public for leisure pursuits and water sports (20th cent.), consisted of 73 acres 3R 9P and lake of 17 acres (1851).

Engraving of Fritton Church and plan by John Neale (1846) reproduced in History and Antiquities of the County of Suffolk by Rev. A. Suckling.

Engraving of church interior by John Weale (1846) also reproduced in above.

Archaeological Sites

See Norfolk.