

1. Parish : Hengrave

Meaning: Hemma's meadow, pasture land, water meadow

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 Hargrave 1589

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

3. **Area:** 897 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

5. **Types of farming:**

1086 1 acre meadow, 1 mill, 2 cobs, 12 cattle, 20 pigs, 40 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

1969 Trist: More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet

6. **Enclosure:**

Licence granted to impark 300 acres in Hengrave, Fornham All Saints, Risby, Flempton and Lackford, known as Great Park 1587.
Area known as Little Park is more ancient enclosure.

7. Settlement:

1977 Development along Flempton/Fornham All Saints road, bordered on one side by River Lark and on the other by Hengrave Hall and Park.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 7, 1801 – 14, 1851 – 43, 1871 – 45, 1901 – 49, 1951 – 55, 1981 – 53

8. Communications:

Roads: Roads to Flempton and Fornham All Saints
1839 Carriers to Bury St Edmunds on Wednesday

Rail: 1891 2½ miles Saxham station: Newmarket–Bury St Edmunds line opened 1854, station closed for goods 1964, closed for passengers 1967

Water: River Lark

9. Population:

1086 – 20 recorded
1327 – 15 taxpayers paid £1 0s. 9d
1524 – 19 taxpayers paid £5 10s.
1603 – 138 adults (includes Flempton)
1674 – 19 households (includes Flempton)
1676 – 110 adults (includes Flempton)
1801 – 196 inhabitants
1831 – 238 inhabitants
1851 – 240 inhabitants
1871 – 200 inhabitants
1901 – 222 inhabitants
1931 – 176 inhabitants
1951 – 187 inhabitants
1971 – 227 inhabitants
1981 – 160 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Rectory (consolidated with Flempton)

1254 Valued £8
1291 Valued £12
1535 Valued £9 7s. 1d.

1831 Glebe house. Joint gross income £400 p.a. Incumbent also holds sinecure rectory of Great Tey, Essex
1912 Joint nett value £300 p.a. 10 acres glebe and residence

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

11. Church **St. John Lateran**
(Chancel, nave, S. porch, round W. tower)

1086 Church plus 30 acres free land
pre 1086 Tower
1419 Sir Thomas de Hemegrave rebuilt
16th cent. Restoration
1589 Ceased to be used for worship
1898–1900 Restored by Sir John Wood
Used as private chapel by family at Hall
1952 Dedicated to Church of Reconciliation by Sisters of the Assumption and run as Ecumenical Centre

Seats: Unrecorded

Note: There is no such saint as St. John Lateran. It was probably re-dedicated c.1419 as feast day of Church of St. John at Lateran Palace, Rome

12. Nonconformity etc:

1788 £100 left to poor persons belonging to Quakers of Bury St Edmunds

Hengrave Hall:

1796 Roman Catholic school mistress
Chapel registered as place of worship for Roman Catholics
Andrew Oliver recorded as Roman Catholic priest

13. Manorial:

Hengrave Manor

1066/1086 Manor of 3 carucates belonging to Abbot of St. Edmunds
1411 Having been previously held by the Hemegrave family from the Abbey, deeds limited the manor to Sir Thomas Hemegrave for life (d. 1419)
1421 Sir Roger Drury held with others
c.1440 Stafford family owns
1521 Sir Thomas Kytson owns passing by marriage to Gage family 1622
1894 John Lysaght owns
1897 John Wood owns

14. Markets/Fairs:

15. Real property:

1454	£1 8s. 9d. rateable value
1844	£1,712 rental value
1891	£1,202 rateable value
1912	£1,221 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844	Sir Thomas Gage, sole owner
1874	A closed parish: land all in one estate
1891	Earl of Kenmore, sole owner
1912	J. Wood, sole owner

17. Resident gentry:

1234	Sir Thomas de Hemegrave, Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk
1320	Sir Edmund de Hemegrave, Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk
1533	Sir Thomas Kytson, Sheriff of London
1660	Sir Edward Gage and Kitson of Hengrave

18. Occupations:

1550–1599	Shepherd, yeoman
1600–1700	Miller, wage labourer, tailor, husbandman
1831	32 in agriculture, 7 in retail trade, 2 professionals, 5 in labouring, 16 in domestic service, 7 others
1844	Gamekeeper, shopkeeper, farmers, land agent, shoemaker, swine dealer
1912	Dressmaker, farm steward, land agent, farmer, head gamekeeper, head gardener, miller

19. Education:

1833	Daily school (16 attend, 14 taught at expense of Lady Anne Gage). 1 Sunday school (22 attend)
1912	Children attend school at Flempton
1947	Boarding school for girls established, closed 1974

20. Poor relief:

1776	£27 14s. 6d.
1803	£174 14s. 6d.
1818	£291 19s.
1830	£265 15s.
1832	£270
1834	£208 9s.

21. Charities:

Kytson Charity:

1623 by Lady E. Kytson: £30 p.a. to poor. £4 p.a. to provide 12 gowns to the 12 most aged poor in November

22. Other institutions:

16th cent. Almshouses endowed by Sir Thomas Kytson (4 tenants)

23. Recreation:

24. Personal:

Sir Thomas de Hemegrave 1242/1251 Kings Justice in Eyre, custodian of Stewardship of the Abbey

Sir Edmund de Hemegrave c.1307: Assessor and Collector of aid, Supervisor and Commissioner of array in Suffolk, Conservator of peace in Norfolk and Suffolk, Justice of Oyer and Terminer and Governor of Norwich Castle

John Gage: 1822/38 author of Histories of Hengrave and Thingoe Hundred

25. Other information:

Hengrave Hall: built 1525–1538 by Sir Thomas Kytson. Elizabeth I entertained at Hall on two occasions.

Sir Thomas was patron to John Wilbye, Elizabethan composer of madrigals
The Gage family introduced greengages from France into the country 18th cent.

Roman Catholic Sisters of the Assumption acquired the Hall and established a boarding school for girls there 1947, closed 1974.

Building used as ecumenical centre 1974.

The Manor held free fishing rights in River Lark 1587.

Moated hall still exists: probable site of ancient hall of de Hemegrave family, moat filled in, causeway approach.

Air survey showed traces of field system in Hengrave Park 1976.

'The Stained and Painted Glass in Hengrave Hall, Suffolk', by Rev. C. Woodforde PSIA Vol.22, p.1.

'The Nuns at Hengrave Hall 1794–1822', by Audrey Butler. East Anglian Magazine Vol.39 No.3, p.132.

'Hengrave Hall',. PSIA Vol.1, p.331.

'Hengrave Hall: A Suffolk House of History', East Anglian Life Vol.5, No.40.
Map of Hengrave estate exists early 17th cent.

Plans of Hengrave 1742 and 1769.

Hengrave Papers (2 volumes)

Hengrave Hall diminished in size by demolition 1757 and moat filled in, end
18th cent. house derelict. Used as military hospital 1914–1918.

Catalogue of Sale Contents of Hengrave Hall 1952.

'Hengrave Hall', by H.R. Gage.

'Portraits at Hengrave Hall'.