

1. Parish: Higham

Meaning: High meadow

2. **Hundred:** Samford

Deanery: Samford (–1946), Hadleigh (1946–)

Union: Samford

RDC/UDC: (E. Suffolk) Samford R.D. (–1974), Babergh D.C. (1974–)

Other administrative details:

Samford Petty Sessional Division
Ipswich County Court District

3. **Area:** 893 acres land, 7 acres water (1912)

4. **Soils:**

Mixed:

- a. Deep well drained fine loam, coarse loam and sandy soils, locally flinty and in places over gravel. Slight risk water erosion.
- b. Deep stoneless non-calcareous/calcareous clay soils, locally having humose/peaty surface horizons. Groundwater controlled by ditches/pumps. Flat land. Risk of flooding.

5. **Types of farming:**

1086		20½ acres meadow, woodland for 10 pigs, 1 mill, 3 cattle, 8 pigs, 6 sheep, 8 goats
1500–1640	Thirsk:	Wood-pasture region, mainly pasture, Meadow, engaged in rearing and dairying with some pig-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 crop.
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, turnips
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet.

6. Enclosure:

7. Settlement:

1958 Small development along East Bergholt road to Higham Bridge. River Brett forms natural boundary to the west. Church and hall isolated from main development near to Southern boundary. River Stour runs to the south. Scattered farms.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 32, 1801 – 35, 1851 – 35,
1871 – 48, 1901 – 46, 1951 – 60,
1981 – 56

8. Communications:

Road: Roads to Stratford St. Mary, Holton St. Mary, Stoke by Nayland and Shelley

Rail: 1891 5 miles Hadleigh station. Bentley–Hadleigh line opened 1847, closed for passengers 1932, closed for goods 1965

9. Population:

1086 – 11 recorded
1327 – 10 taxpayers paid £1 6s. 6d.
1524 – 12 taxpayers paid £0 18s. 6d.
1603 – not listed
1674 – 32 households
1676 – Not listed
1801 – 202 inhabitants
1831 – 260 inhabitants
1851 – 292 inhabitants
1871 – 219 inhabitants
1901 – 177 inhabitants
1931 – 185 inhabitants
1951 – 181 inhabitants
1971 – 155 inhabitants
1981 – 146 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Perpetual Curacy

1254 Valued £3 6s. 8d.
1291 Value not listed
1535 Valued £5 6s. 8d.
Appropriated to Trinity Priory, Ipswich by Maude de Munchmensi (no date)
Thomas Bedfield charged his house and lands with Payment to minister of 10s. p.a. 17th cent.

1831 Rectorial tithes purchased by subscription, held by Trustees (vicar is lessee) 1656
 1912 Glebe house. Tithes commuted to £220 p.a. 1840
 1912 Nett value £780 p.a. 52 acres glebe and residence

Patrons: Trustees (1831), Bishop of Norwich (1912)

11. Church

St. Mary

(Chancel, nave, N. aisle, S. porch, W. Tower)

1086 5th part of church + 4 acres, Part of church + 2 acres,
 1 church + 4 acres

13th/14th
 cent.

Tower

15th cent.

Main structure

1602

The chancel of Higham is ruinous and so hath been by the space of two yeares ('East Suffolk' by Barker)

1888

Resotration

Seating capacity unknown

12. Nonconformity etc:

13. Manorial:

1066

Manor of 1 carucate held by Ledmer, a free man

1036

Manor of 1 carucate belonging to Count Eustace

1066

Manor of 1 carucate held by Godric, a free man

1086

Manor of 1 carucate belonging to Richard, son of Count Gilbert and held as of Finn's Honor

1066

Manor of 30 acres held by Siric, a free man

1086

Manor of 30 acres belonging to Roger of Raimes

1066

Manor of 1 carucate held by Aescman, a free man under patronage of Robert, son of Wymarc

1086

Manor of 1 carucate belonging to Gundwin the Chamberlain

Domesday vill of Stanfelda

1066

Manor of 1 carucate 15 acres held by Aelfric, a free man

1086

Manor of 1 carucate 15 acres belonging to Cont Eustace

Higham Hall

1086

Believed to be the lands of Roger of Raimes above

1270

William de Reymes owns

1385

Linked to Eye, Thorndon, Haughley and Stratford St. Mary (Michael de la Pole)

16th cent.

Richard Welbeck owns

1680

Linked to Raydon and Wenham magna (Maurice Shelton)

1811 Linked to Stoke by Nayland and Holton St. Mary
(William Mannock)
1885 John Dawson owns

Sub-manors:

Minotts/Minetts

13th cent. Maud de Munchensi is said to have granted the manor to
the Priory of Holy Trinity, Ipswich
Late 13th
cent. Roger Mynoth owns
1395 John Withermersch owns
1458 William Mynett owns
c.1550 Linked to Gislingham, Mendlesham, Debenham and
Stonham Parva (Robert Crane)

Raven's Hall/Reymes

1433 John Reymes/Raimes owns
1464 Linked to Stoke by Nayland and Holton St. Mary (John
Mannock)
Manor continues in the Mannock family and was probably
absorbed by main manor at some point

14. Markets/Fairs

15. Real property:

1844 £1,407 rental value
1891 £1,361 rateable value
1912 £1,397 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844 Land sub-divided
1891 Mrs. Squirl-Dawson and Edward Cooper principal owner
1912 Mrs. Squirl-Dawson principal owner

17. Resident gentry:

1680 2 gents
1844 Sir C. Witham, Mrs. E. Stutter

18. Occupations:

1550–1599	2 yeomen, 1 clothier, 1 weaver, 3 husbandmen
1600–1649	1 thatcher, 1 yeoman, 1 clothier, 1 clothmaker, 1 weaver, 1 husbandman
1650–1699	3 yeomen, 1 clerk, 1 tailor, 1 potmaker, 1 blacksmith, 1 tanner
1831	37 in agriculture, 1 in manufacturing, 12 in retail trade, 11 Labourers, 24 in domestic service, 4 others
1844	Maltster, brickmaker, grocer, seed crushers and oil Millers, shopkeeper, 4 farmers
1912	Sub–postmaster, 2 shopkeepers, 2 farmers, 2 farm bailiffs, lady superintendent to Miss Mary Copeland, gardener, builders, blacksmith, publican

19. Education:

1818	1 Sunday school (26 attend)
1833	1 Sunday school (23 attend)
1891/1912	Children attend school at Stratford St. Mary

20. Poor relief:

1776	£32 10s. 0d.
1803	£91
1818	£195 14s.
1830	£120 1s.
1832	£100 1s.
1834	£104 4s.

21. Charities:

Glanville's Charity

1725	Gift of Thomas Glanville: Cottage let at £3 p.a. to repairs, residue divided among poor widows of Higham, Holton and Raydon
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22. Other institutions:

Guild of Our Lady 1534

23. Recreation:

1844–1912	The King's Head public house
1891	Brewer and beerhouse listed

24. Personal:

1766–1836 Robert Bradstreet, born in Higham, lived at Higham Hall, Raydon, poet and author of 'The Sabine Farm' 1810.

25. Other information: