

# 1. Parish : Lackford

**Meaning:** Ford where leeks grew

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:

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

3. **Area:** 2,338 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:**

- Mixed:**
- a. Deep well drained sandy soils, some very acid, risk wind erosion
  - b. Well drained calcareous sandy soils, risk wind erosion
  - c. Small section of deep peat soils close to river

5. **Types of farming:**

1086		30 acres meadow, 2 mills, 2 cobs, 9 cattle, 13 pigs, 160 sheep
1283		224 quarters to crops (1,792 bushels), 23 head horse, 76 cattle, 1,097 sheep*
1500–1640	Thirsk:	Sheep-corn region, sheep main fertilising agent, bred for fattening. Barley main cash crop.
1818	Marshall:	Management varies with condition of sandy soils. Rotation usually turnip, barley, clover, wheat or turnips as preparation for corn and grass.
1937	Main crops:	Wheat, barley, oats, sugar beet, turnips
1969	Trist:	Barley and sugar beet are the main crops with some rye grown on poorer lands and a little wheat, herbage seeds and carrots

6. **Enclosure:**

7. **Settlement:**

1974 River Lark forms natural boundary to NE. Scattered development along line of Bury St. Edmunds to

Mildenhall road at junction with Icknield Way. Church and manor house situated at opposite ends of village.

**Inhabited houses:** 1674 – 12, 1801 – 16, 1851 – 35, 1871 – 33, 1901 – 37, 1951 – 49, 1981 – 83

**8. Communications:**

**Roads:** To Bury St. Edmunds and Mildenhall. On line of Icknield Way.  
1839: Carrier from Bury St Edmunds Wednesday and Saturday

**Rail:** 1891 3½ miles Saxham station: Newmarket to Bury St Edmunds line opened 1854, station closed for goods 1964, closed for passengers 1967

**Water:** River Lark: navigable from Ouse to Fordham 1844. Lock.

**9. Population:**

1086 – 27 recorded  
1327 – 24 taxpayers paid £3 4s. 4d.  
1524 – 22 taxpayers paid £0 16s. 2d.  
1603 – 50 adults  
1674 – 20 households  
1676 – 63 adults  
1801 – 162 inhabitants  
1831 – 193 inhabitants  
1851 – 216 inhabitants  
1871 – 181 inhabitants  
1901 – 178 inhabitants  
1931 – 151 inhabitants  
1951 – 163 inhabitants  
1971 – 159 inhabitants  
1981 – 256 inhabitants

**10. Benefice: Rectory**

1254 Valued £10 13s. 4d.  
Portion to St. Peter Leper Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds  
£2 13s. 4d.  
£13 6s. 8d.

1291 Valued £20  
1535 Valued £19 10s. 5d. 26 acres 2R 22P glebe.  
1831 Glebe house. Gross income £288 p.a. Incumbent also holds rectory of Hessett  
1855 Yearly rent £323 from Lackford and £8 14. 6d. tithes from Flempton  
1873 Valued £280  
1912 Nett value £200. 14 acres glebe and residence

**Patrons:** Lady Kytson (1603), Sir C. Kent (1831), Mrs Litchfield and Mrs Childers (1855), J.S. Holden (1912)

**11. Church**      **St. Lawrence**  
(Chancel, nave, N. aisle, S. porch, W. tower)

1086            Church plus 20 acres free land  
14<sup>th</sup> cent.      Main structure and S. Porch  
16<sup>th</sup> cent.      Tower  
1868           Chancel, N. aisle, N. chapel restored  
19<sup>th</sup> cent.      Aisle rebuilt (originally arcaded)

Seats: 181 (1876)

**12. Nonconformity etc:**

**13. Manorial:**

Original manor given a gift to the monks by 'a lady'

**Lackford Manor**

1066/86        Manor of 5 carucates belonging to the Abbot of St. Edmund  
1203            Granted to Benedict de Blakeham in fee farm  
1350            Sir John de St. Philibert holds  
c.1402         William Geddyng owns  
1495            Lucas family owns  
1574            Sir Thomas Kytson owns (linked to Hengrave)  
1632            Sir John Gage owns  
1717            Philip Holman owns  
1760            Sir Charles Egleton owns  
1885            Rev. James R. Holden holds

**14. Markets/Fairs**

**15. Real property:**

1454            £3 15s. 8d. rateable value  
1844            £1,642 rental value  
1891            £1,562 rateable value  
1912            £1,196 rateable value

**16. Land ownership:**

1844            Sir C. Egleton Kent, principal owner  
1891            Rev. J. Holden, sole owner  
1937            D.S. Gough, sole owner

**17. Resident gentry:**

1680 2 gents recorded  
1743 Sir Charles Egleton, Sheriff of London

**18. Occupations:**

1500–1600 Labourer  
1600–1700 Shepherd, blacksmith, tailor  
1700–1800 Labourer, shepherd  
1831 46 in agriculture, 1 professional, 6 in domestic service, 2 others  
1844 Farmers  
1912 Head gamekeeper, head gardener, carrier/shopkeeper, farmers

**19. Education:**

1818 1 Sunday school (10 attend)  
1833 Daily school, 1 Sunday school supported by rector (24 attend)  
1874 Day and Sunday school rebuilt  
1912 Day school, average attendance 32

**20. Poor relief:**

1776 £18 7s. 0d.  
1803 £52 14s. 5d.  
1818 £213 2s.  
1830 £159 10s.  
1832 £109  
1834 £86 12s.

**21. Charities:**

**Furmage/Kirk Gifts**

1611 By W. Furmage and E. Kirk: for distribution as fuel

**Kytson Charity**

1622 By Lady Kytson: sum for distribution as fuel and gown piece for 1 poor person

**Booty's Charity:**

1771 By J. Booty: sum for distribution as fuel

**22. Other institutions:**

**23. Recreation:**

**24. Personal:**

**25. Other information:**

Benedict de Blakeham claimed assize of bread and ale 1275.

Lackford Lake: restored after gravel extraction finishes 1981. To be restocked with 30,000 fish.

14<sup>th</sup> century font rediscovered in church 19<sup>th</sup> cent. had been plastered over in Puritan times.

Lackford Lock: straight gate recesses and paddle recesses remain 1969 also part of left gate post with hinge. Cottage dates 1842 called The River House.