

1. Parish : Langham (otherwise Langham St. Mary)

Meaning: Long village/homestead

2. **Hundred:** Blackbourn

Deanery: Blackburne (–1884), Thedwastre (1884–1972), Lavenham (1972–)

Union: Stow

RDC/UDC: (W. Suffolk) Thedwastre RD (–1974), Mid Suffolk DC (1974–)

Other administrative details:

Blackbourn Petty Sessional Division
Bury St Edmunds County Court District

3. **Area:** 970 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:** Slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loam over clay

5. Types of farming:

1086		18 acres meadow, wood for 12 pigs, 1 cob, 2 cattle, 16 pigs, 12 sheep, 2 oxen
1283		229 quarters to crops (1,832 bushels), 36 head horse, 118 cattle 74 pigs, 121 sheep*
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.
1818	Marshall:	Course of crops varies usually including summer fallow in preparation for corn products
1937	Main crops:	Wheat, barley, oats, beans, turnips
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet.

* 'A Suffolk Hundred in 1283', by E. Powell (1910). Concentrates on Blackbourn Hundred. Gives land usage, livestock and the taxes paid.

6. Enclosure:

7. Settlement:

1978/84 Small well spaced development along road from Hunston. Church situated separately to SE within Langham Hall grounds. Wet lands to S. restrict development in this area. Few scattered farms

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 22, 1801 – 27, 1851 – 52, 1871 – 50, 1901 – 39, 1951 – 35, 1981 – 29

8. Communications:

Roads: Roads to Hunston, Badwell Ash, Ixworth and Walsham le Willows
1891 Carrier to Bury St Edmunds on Wednesday and Saturday

Rail: 1891 4 miles Elmswell Station:
Bury St Edmunds –Cambridge line opened 1846, closed for goods 1964, became unmanned halt 1967

9. Population:

1086 – 18 recorded
1327 – 13 taxpayers paid £1 4s.
1524 – 11 taxpayers paid £1 1s. 6d.
1603 – 74 adults
1662 – 23 householders and 6 poor paid £3. 19s.*
1674 – 32 households
1676 – 96 adults
1801 – 207 inhabitants
1831 – 264 inhabitants
1851 – 281 inhabitants
1871 – 200 inhabitants
1901 – 154 inhabitants
1931 – 137 inhabitants
1951 – 102 inhabitants
1971 – 92 inhabitants
1981 – 80 inhabitants

* 'The Hearth Tax Return for the Hundred of Blackbourn 1662', transcribed by S. Colman. PSIA Vol. XXXII part 2, p.168.

10. Benefice: Rectory

1254	Valued £6 13s. 4d.	
1291	Valued £6 13s. 4d.	
1341	Valued £7 0s. 8d.	
1535	Valued £5 16s. 9d.	
	Portion of Prior of Ixworth 13s. 4d.	<u>£6 10s. 1d.</u>
1831	Not recorded	

1842 Modus of £280 p.a. in lieu of tithes
 1886 Living augmented by £237 p.a. by Ecclesiastical Commissioners
 1887 Rent charge of £268 in lieu of tithes. 46 acres 2R 20P glebe
 1891 Residence plus 50 acres glebe
 1912 Nett value £350 p.a. 50 acres glebe

Patrons: The King (1603), The Crown (1844), A. Maitland Wilson (1891)

11. Church **St. Mary**
 (Chancel, nave, S. porch, W. turret)

1086 Church plus 20 acres free land
 15th cent. Chancel, rebuilt 1887
 1877 Rebuilding using old materials
 1887 Restoration
 1987 Church is without electricity

Seats: 50 appropriated, 140 free (1873)

12. Nonconformity etc:

1800–1845 3 houses set aside for worship

13. Manorial:

11/12th cent. Le Blund family owns (linked to Ixworth, Sapiston, Ixworth Thorp and Walsham le Willows)
 c.1264 William de Criketot owns (linked Ixworth, Walsham le Willows and Great Ashfield)
 14th cent. Sir William de Langham owns (linked to Hunston)
 15th cent. Alice Cotton owns
 1602 Robert Cooke owns
 1642 Thomas Frost dies seised (linked to Hunston)
 18th cent. William Turner owns
 c.1766 Patrick Blake owns (Linked to Bardwell)
 1832 Joseph Wilson owns (linked to Stowlangtoft)
 1875 Arthur Maitland Wilson owns (linked to Stowlangtoft and Bardwell)

14. Markets/Fairs

1225/26 Charters for market
 1256/57

15. Real property:

1844 £1,103 rental value
 1891 £1,227 rateable value

1912 £953 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844 Joseph Wilson, principal owner
1891/1912 A. Maitland Wilson, sole owner

17. Resident gentry:

1674 Capt. Utber
1679 Capt. Richard Maltwood (Maltywood)
1891 Rev. A.G., Lee MA and Mrs Maitland Wilson
1912 Mrs F. Maitland Wilson

18. Occupations:

1550–1599 1 husbandman, 5 yeoman, 1 clerk, 1 parson, 1 tailor
1600–1649 3 husbandmen 11 yeomen, 1 tanner, 1 spinster
1650–1699 1 husbandman, 3 yeomen, 1 clerk 1 tailor
1831 51 in agriculture, 6 in retail trade, 5 in domestic service, 6 others
1844 Gardener, blacksmith, shopkeeper, schoolmistress, 4 farmers
1912 Schoolmistress, head gamekeeper, 7 farmers, farm bailiff, shopkeeper, head gardener

19. Education:

1833 1 daily school (25 attend), 1 Sunday school established (1820) (50 attend)
1844 School supported by rector. Schoolmistress listed
1891 School under Government inspection
1912 Public Elementary school, average attendance 36. Closed c.1920

20. Poor relief:

1776 £93 14s. 9d.
1803 £259 6s. 10d.
1818 £547 12s.
1830 £584 1s.
1832 £562 18s.
1834 £426 9s.

21. Charities:

Jolly's Charity:

1630 by will of John Jolly: House occupied by poor. 12 acres 3R 13P let at £11 12s. p.a. distributed among poor at Christmas

Church Lands:

1840 House called Hollymote lands let at £2 p.a. applied to church repairs.
6 acres let at £3 15s. 6d p.a. applied to church repairs and charges of churchwardens office.

22. Other institutions:

1912 Village Club and Reading Room

23. Recreation:

24. Personal:

25. Other information:

Langham Hall: built by Sir Patrick Blake 1760.

Village sign erected 1987.

German P.O.W.s worked at Hall Farm during 1914–18 war.