

1. Parish : Wangford

Meaning: Ford that can be passed by a wagon

2. **Hundred:** Lackford

Deanery: Fordwich (–1862), Fordwich (Suffolk) (1862–1884)
Mildenhall (1884–)

Union: Mildenhall

RDC/UDC: Mildenhall RD (–1974), Forest Heath DC (1974–)

Other administrative details:

Lackford Petty Sessional Division
Mildenhall County Court District

3. **Area:** 3,295 acres of land (1912)

4. **Soils:**

Mixed: a. Well drained calcareous sandy soils, deep well drained sandy soils, acid in places, risk of wind erosion
b. Deep permeable sand and peat soils affected by ground water near river

5. **Types of farming:**

1086		11 acres meadow, 5 cobs, 18 cattle, 26 pigs, 413 sheep, 2 beehives
1500–1640	Thirsk:	Sheep-corn region, sheep main fertilising agent, bred for fattening. Barley main cash crop. Fen – little arable, commons for hay and grass plus peat for fuel
1818	Marshall:	Management varies with condition of sandy soils. Rotation usually turnip, barley, clover, wheat or turnips as preparation for corn and grass. Fenlands: Large areas of pasture with little ploughed or arable land
1937	Main crops:	Extensive rabbit warrens. Wheat, barley
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 Deficiencies in minerals are overcome and these lands are now more suited to arable farming with wide range of produce grown. Some tree plantation.

6. Enclosure:

7. Settlement:

1958 Line of Brandon turnpike road crosses SW–NE.
Parish consists mainly of tree plantation and fen.
Settlement now consists only of church and hall with few scattered dwellings.
Lakenheath airfield situated to SW.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 12, 1801 – 7, 1851 – 8, 1871 – 9,
1901 – 7, 1951 – 9, 1981 – 8

8. Communications:

Roads: To Brandon

Rail: 1891 3 miles Brandon station: Birmingham –
Norwich line opened 1845 closed for
goods 1966, unmanned halt 1967.

Air: 1941: Lakenheath airfield established as satellite
station of RAF Mildenhall, became
independent station 1943, active as USAF
base 1948

9. Population:

1086 – 20 recorded
1327 – 17 taxpayers paid £2 12s. 3¾d.
1524 – 13 taxpayers paid £0 12s. 2d.
1603 – 38 adults
1674 – 17 households
1676 – 58 adults
1801 – 43 inhabitants
1831 – 53 inhabitants
1851 – 33 inhabitants
1871 – 54 inhabitants
1901 – 38 inhabitants
1931 – 42 inhabitants
1951 – 33 inhabitants
1971 – 25 inhabitants
1981 – 26 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Annexed to Brandon (1831)

1254 Valued £6 13s. 4d.
To the grange/tithe barn of Elmeremere £10 £16 13s. 4d.
1291 Valued £10.
1535 Valued £9 11s. 10½d.
1831 No glebe house.
1844 £240 p.a. in lieu of tithes

Patrons: T.E. Cartwright (1831)

11. Church **St. Denis**
(Chancel, nave, S. porch, W. tower)

1086 1 church plus 15 acres free land
Norman Nave and chancel
14th cent. Tower, 12th cent. doorways
1875 Complete restoration at expense of Mrs Norman of
Brandon Hall

Seats: 100

12. Nonconformity etc:

13. Manorial:

1066/1086 Manor of 2 carucates belonging St. Edmunds held by
Wulfward

Wangford/Wangford Grange

13th cent. Inquis p.m. of Philip de Ikeworth
1461 Linked to Cavenham, Eriswell, Sutton and Brandeston
(Sir Thomas Tuddenham)
1499 Linked to Milden and Brent Eleigh (Shelton family)
1541 Sir John Croftes owns, passing by marriage and
inheritance to Sir Robert Wright 1681 (linked to Santon
Downham)
c.1689 Sir John Holt (linked to Brandon)
1885 William Angerstein owns
1909 Lord Iveagh (linked to Elveden, Eriswell and Icklingham)

Sub-Manors:

Hakbeck/Hagbeche

1277 Sir Adam de Hackbeck owns
1541 Absorbed by main manor (Sir John Croftes)
1609 John Southwell owns

Flemings

1541 Absorbed by main manor (Sir John Croftes)

Crepping

13th cent. William de Crippinges owns
1541 Absorbed by main manor (Sir John Croftes)

14. Markets/Fairs

15. Real property:

1844	£950 rental value
1891	£812 rateable value
1912	£785 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844	George St. Vincent Wilson sole owner
1891	William Angerstein (Weeting Hall) and Prince Duleep Singh (Elveden Hall) main owners
1912	Viscount Iveagh sole owner

17. Resident gentry:

18. Occupations:

1550–1549	2 husbandmen, 1 shepherd
1550–1599	1 yeoman, 1 husbandman
1600–1649	3 yeomen, 3 husbandmen, 2 shepherds
1650–1699	2 yeomen
1831	13 in agriculture, 2 others
1844	1 farmer
1912	Rabbit warrens (approx. 1,200 sent to London market per week in high season). Gamekeeper, overseer/parish clerk

19. Education:

1818/1833	None School built by Mrs Norman of Brandon Hall (no date), disused by 1891. Children attend school in Brandon
-----------	---

20. Poor relief:

1776	£21 6s. 2d.
1803	£36 2s. 5¼d.
1818	£17 10s.
1830	£62 13s.
1832	£43 14s.
1834	£57 8s.

21. Charities:

22. Other institutions:

23. Recreation:

24. Personal:

Lord Chief Justice Wright held Wangford Hall in reign of James II

25. Other information:

Abolished ecclesiastically to create Brandon Ferry and Wangford 1962.
Grange belonging to Wardon Abbey, Beds., situated in parish (known as Livermere) (unrelated to parishes of Great and Little Livermere) for sheep husbandry. Valued £13 13s. 1291. Dissolved 1537 and leased to Crown at £4. p.a.

Drilling for oil (none found) 1964.

Hall built 1680's seat of Lord Chief Justice Wright.