

1. Parish: Barking

Meaning: Berica's people

2. **Hundred:** Bosmere (-1327), Bosmere and Claydon

Deanery: Bosmere

Union: Bosmere and Claydon

RDC/UDC: Bosmere and Claydon RD (1894-1934), Gipping RD (1934-1974), Mid Suffolk DC (1974-)

Other administrative details:

Separated from Needham Market to create civil parish 1901

Separated ecclesiastically from Darmsden 1901

Separated ecclesiastically to create St. John the Baptist, Needham Market 1902

Civil boundary change 1907, part transferred to Needham Market in rationalization of boundaries

Bosmere and Claydon Petty Sessional Division

Stowmarket County Court District

3. **Area:**

3,121 acres land (300 acres woodland, 50 acres common, 12 acres water) (1912)

4. **Soils:**

- Mixed:**
- a. Slowly permeable calcareous/non-calcareous clay soils, slight risk water erosion
 - b. Slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loam over clay, some slight seasonal waterlogging, some calcareous clay soils

5. **Types of farming:**

1086 52 acres meadow, wood for 50 pigs, 1 mill + dam for another mill, 2 arpents of vines, 11 cobs, 23 cattle, 30 pigs, 100 sheep, 48 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

1818	Marshall:	Course of crops varies usually including summer fallow as preparation for corn products
1937	Main crops:	Wheat, barley, beans, 300 acres woodland and common
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet

6. Enclosure:

c.1611 Licence to impark 400 acres

7. Settlement:

1958 Well spaced development along Needham Market–Willisham road, stretching from the church (centrally situated within the parish) to Barking Tye to the South
Former parish of Darmsden occupies position in SE corner of parish
Few scattered farms

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 37, 1801 – 45, 1851 – 95, 1871 – 91, 1901 – 395, 1951 – 127, 1981 – 160
(1901–1981 includes Darmsden)

8. Communications:

Road: Roads to Needham Market, Willisham, Great Bricett and Battisford

Rail: 1891 1 mile Needham Market station: Ipswich–Bury St. Edmunds line opened 1845, closed 1967, re-opened 1971

9. Population:

1086 – 60 recorded
1327 – 64 taxpayers paid £4 4s. 7d. (includes Needham Market)
1524 – Not recorded
1603 – 200 adults
1674 – 42 households
1676 – Not recorded
1801 – 470 inhabitants
1831 – 418 inhabitants
1851 – 435 inhabitants
1871 – 1,842 inhabitants (includes Needham Market and Darmsden)
1901 – 1,657 inhabitants (includes Needham Market and Darmsden)
1931 – 425 inhabitants
1951 – 416 inhabitants
1971 – 428 inhabitants
1981 – 439 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Rectory (with Darmsden)

1254	Valued £16 13s. 4d.
1291	Valued £40
1535	Valued £27 10s. 7½d. Anciently consolidated with Darmsden
1603	Incumbent also holds Wilby. Valued £27
1819	Large rectory house built
1831	Glebe house, gross income £529 p.a. Incumbent also holds Rectories of Combes and Perpetual Curacy of Badley
1844	Joint tithes commuted 1842 for £800 p.a.
1891	Valued £840
1912	Joint nett income £460 p.a., 6 acres glebe and residence
Patrons:	Earl of Ashburnham (1831), Hon. T. Ashburnham (1912)

11. Church St. Mary

(Chancel, nave, aisles, porches, W. tower)

1086	Church + 83 acres free land, 2 ploughs Church + 6 acres
13 th cent.	S. porch, chancel, S. doorway
14 th cent.	Main structure, including S. arcade, N. doorway and tower (rebuilt 1870)
14 th /15 th cent.	N. arcade and clerestory
1643	Puritanical Vandals (William Dowsing) – many superstitious pictures had already been removed or destroyed prior to his visit
1974	Fire severely damaged S. chapel parclose screen

Seats: 600 (1915)

Other religious institutions

Chantry: Lands and tenements sold to Sir Edward Warner and William Aldys 1545

12. Nonconformity etc:

1597	Rector does not wear surplice One case of bigamy recorded
1662	John Fairfax, ejected as minister of Barking
1850	School room set aside for worship
1903	Mission room built by Society of Friends

13. Manorial:

Barking cum Needham

1066/1086	Manor of 7 carucates belonging to Abbot of St. Etheldreda, valued £20, vested in the Bishopric
1561	Vested in the Crown for pension to the Bishop of £135 7s. 2d.
1611	Sir Francis Needham owns
17 th cent.	Francis Theobald owns
c.1690	Rev. Joseph Gascoigne owns
c.1754	John Crowley owns (linked to Badley and Darmsden)
c.1756	John, Earl of Ashburnham owns (linked to Badley)

Sub-manors:

Overhall

1609 held by Kings College, Cambridge

14. Markets/Fairs

1225/6	Bishop of Ely has grant of fair on eve and day of St. John Baptist and the two following days Church tower contains inscription referring to Kings grant of a fair The corner of Barking parish occupied by the market at Needham exploited its position close to the main through road and in time gained precedence over Barking
1839	Fair held 28 th /29 th October

15. Real property:

1844	£2,709 rental value
1891	£6,165 rateable value (includes Needham Market and Darmsden)
1912	£3,501 rateable value (includes Darmsden)

16. Land ownership:

1844	Earl of Ashburnham, principle owner
1891	Land sub-divided
1912	Earl Ashburnham and Lord de Saumarez, principle owners

17. Resident gentry:

1674	Sir Francis Theobald has house with 22 hearths
1679	William Blomfield and Sir Francis Theobald
1844/1891	Rev. F. Steward MA, JP
1912	Rev. H. Carter MA

18. Occupations:

1500–1549	1 husbandman, 1 carpenter
1550–1599	1 yeoman, 2 husbandmen, 1 tailor, 1 miller
1600–1649	9 yeomen, 1 husbandman, 1 spinster
1650–1699	7 yeomen, 1 husbandmen, 1 maltster, 1 clerk
1831	75 in agriculture, 28 in retail service, 1 professional, 1 in labouring, 24 in domestic service, 2 others
1844	Shopkeeper, 2 victuallers, 3 blacksmiths, 2 joiners, 2 corn millers, relieving officer, shoemaker, 2 wheelwrights, schoolmaster, 12 farmers
1912	Police officer, school teacher, 12 farmers, 2 carpenters, 2 hurdle makers, farm bailiff, shopkeeper, blacksmith, beer retailer/carpenter, timber dealer, carter, thatcher, publican
1970's	Lion Barn Industrial Estate

19. Education:

1818	7 attend free at endowed school in Needham Market
1833	7 free scholars as above 20 taught 3 days per week, 1 Sunday school (69 attend)
1891	Church school, 40 attend
1912	Public Elementary school, average attendance 70, converted into Community Centre by 1974
1974	Children attend school at Ringshall and Needham Market Middle school

20. Poor relief:

1776	£101 5s. 10d.
1803	£164 4s.
1818	£478 4s.
1830	£491 9s.
1832	£594 10s.
1834	£542 18s.

21. Charities:

Town Lands: 1840 21½ acres + arable land in Creeting let at £40 12s. 6d. p.a. for distribution on St. Thomas's Day among the poor of Barking and Needham Market

22. Other institutions:

1546	Guild with no land, stock of ready money 20s.
1637	Notice of intention to build almshouse given by Sir Francis Needham
1912	Police Officer listed

23. Recreation:

1844	The Lion and The Fox public houses
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1891 Beerhouse, The Lion and The Fox public houses
1912 Beer retailer, The Fox public house, renovated 1974
1974 The Blackbirds public house, dates from 1860's, closed 1978

24. Personal:

Francis Theobald: Knight: will of 1680 entered under this parish, occupied Barking Hall.
Pedigree of Theobald of Barking Hall. East Anglian Notes and Queries, New Series Vol. 4, p.158
John Crowley: settled in Barking after inheriting the largest iron works in County Durham c.1754

25. Other information:

Barking Hall: ancient mansion, had 22 hearths 1674, divided into tenements and occupied by poor c.1836.
Barking Hall: early 18th cent. house with later wings, demolished 1926, stables remain. Former seat of Earls of Ashburnham.
Rectory grounds contain 3 cedar trees planted in 1712 by Samuel Uvedale, botanist and traveller.
Chalk pits situated in parish 1912.
Conservation project begun at Bonny Wood 1982.
Ivydale smock mill: demolished c.1890.
Barking Tye post mill: demolished 1910.
Village sign unveiled 1983.
The Causeway: 1 mile stretch of pathway leading from centre of Needham to Barking church. Said to have been constructed by a lady living at Barking Hall (no dates). Used for funeral processions –1902 and bridle way.
'Barking': chapter found in 'Rambles around....Needham Market', by E.W. Platten 1925.
Formerly the largest village in the Hundred (Needham Market and Darmsden were hamlets of Barking).
'Some Suffolk Church Notes: Barking'. East Anglian Notes and Queries, New Series Vol. 6, p.292.