

**1. Parish: Belstead (otherwise Little Belstead or Belstead Parva)**

**Meaning:** a) Bele's pace, b) a cleared place (Ekwall)

**2. Hundred: Samford (part Ipswich Borough)**

**Deanery:** Samford

**Union:** Samford

**RDC/UDC:** (E. Suffolk) Samford RD ( -1974), Babergh DC (1974- )

Other administrative details:

Civil boundary change (loses part to Ipswich St. Mary Stoke) (1894)

Ecclesiastical boundary change (helps create Ipswich St. Francis)

Samford Petty Sessional Division

Ipswich County Court District

**3. Area:** 1,018 acres (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 often stoneless coarse loam. Some slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged coarse and fine loam over clay

**5. Types of farming:**

1086		24 acres meadow, 1 mill, 1 cob, 11 pigs, 30 sheep, woodland for 20 pigs
1500–1640	Thirsk:	Sheep-corn region where sheep are main fertilizing agent, bred for fattening. Barley main cash crop. Also has similarities with wood-pasture region with pasture, meadow, dairying and some pig keeping.
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, roots
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet

**6. Enclosure:**

**7. Settlement:**

1974 Small compact development close to eastern boundary.  
Church and Hall situated separately from main settlement.  
Scattered farms

**Inhabited houses:** 1674 – 25, 1801 – 26, 1851 – 57, 1871 – 62, 1901 – 61, 1951 – 79, 1981 – 123

**8. Communications:**

**Road:** Roads to Copdock, Bentley, Ipswich and Wherstead  
1891 Carrier to Ipswich daily  
1912 2 carriers to Ipswich 5 days per week  
**Rail:** 1891 4 miles Ipswich station. Ipswich – Bury St. Edmonds line opened (1846), line to Norwich opened (1849), East Suffolk line opened (1859), extension to Felixstowe opened (1877)

**9. Population:**

1086 — 44 recorded  
1327 — 17 taxpayers paid £1. 13s. 8d.  
1524 — 13 taxpayers paid £1. 13s. 8d.  
1603 — 56 adults  
1674 — 25 households  
1676 — Not recorded  
1801 — 212 inhabitants  
1831 — inhabitants  
1851 — 248 inhabitants  
1871 — 308 inhabitants  
1901 — 343 inhabitants  
1931 — 214 inhabitants  
1951 — 230 inhabitants  
1971 — 247 inhabitants  
1981 — 377 inhabitants

**10. Benefice: Rectory**

1254 Valued £2. 13s. 4d/  
1291 Valued £4. 13s. 4d.  
1535 Valued £7. 6s. 0½d.  
1831 1 curate, stipend £50 p.a. Glebe house. Gross income £340 p.a. Valued £295. 54 acres glebe (1835)  
1848 Rectory house built  
1891 Valued £370. 56 acres 1R 36P glebe  
1912 Nett value £215 p.a. 54 acres glebe and residence

### Patrons:

Henrie Reignold (1603), A. Steward (1831), Rev. J. Freeman (1844), Rev. F.R. Gorton (1891)

11. **Church**      St. Mary  
(Chancel, nave, N. transept, S. porch, tower on S. side  
(lower part of porch))

1086            2 4<sup>th</sup> parts of church. Church + 34 acres free land  
14/15<sup>th</sup> cent.    Porch and tower  
15<sup>th</sup> cent.        Main structure  
1643            Puritanical vandals (William Dowsing) destroyed 7  
                     superstitious pictures, removed 4 brass inscriptions

Seats:            Unknown

### 12. **Nonconformity etc:**

1597            Rector has not worn surplice for 2 years  
1790            Congregational chapel founded, seats 100  
1891            Small Independent chapel listed

### 13. **Manorial:**

#### Belstead

1066            Manor of 3 carucates 40 acres held by Aelfric of Weinhou  
1086            Manor of 4 carucates 40 acres belonging to Countess of  
                     Aumale  
1066            Manor of 2 carucates held by Godwin son of Alsi, a thane  
                     of Queen Ediths  
1086            Manor of 2 carucates belonging to Robert Malet  
1066            Manor of 80 acres held by Toki a free man under  
                     patronage only  
1086            Manor of 80 acres belonging by Aubrey de Vere  
1066            Manor of 80 acres held by Thorgils a free man under  
                     patronage only  
1086            Manor of 80 acres belonging to Aubrey de Vere  
1066            Manor of Manor of 80 acres held by Thuri  
1086            Manor of 80 acres belonging to Robert de Startford  
1066            Manor of 30 acres held by Aelfric a free man  
1086            Manor of 30 acres belonging to Bishop of Bayeux

#### Little Belstead

“Robert Malet gave....Hugh de Goldringham....all his lands in the town  
of Belstead lying between the fee of the King and the

lands of the Earl of Albemarle....held of the Honor of Eye”  
 (Copinger: Manors of Suffolk)  
 13<sup>th</sup> cent. William de Goldringham owns  
 Circa 1566 Thomas Blosse owns  
 Circa 1737 Linked to Burstall (Robert Harland)  
 Circa 1855 Linked to Wherstead (Capt. G.A.C. Dashwood)  
 1885 C.E. Dashwood

**14. Markets/Fairs**

**15. Real property:**

1844 £1,198 rental value  
 1891 £1,595 rateable value  
 1912 £1,770 rateable value

**16. Land ownership:**

1844 Land sub-divided  
 1891 C.H. Dashwood/Lord Gwydyr principle owners  
 1912 C.C. Dashwood/Lord Gwydyr principle owners

**17. Resident gentry:**

1673 Tobias Blosse  
 1891 Lord Gwydyr  
 1912 Rev. T.G. Nash MA

**18. Occupations:**

1550–1599 3 husbandmen, 1 carpenter  
 1600–1649 1 clothworker, 1 husbandman  
 1650–1699 1 carpenter, 1 clerk, 1 yeoman  
 1831 55 in agriculture, 8 in retail trade, 8 in domestic service  
 1844 2 wheelwrights, 2 blacksmiths, corn miller, 3 farmers,  
 shoemaker, hurdle maker/victualler  
 1912 Schoolmistress, 2 carriers, assistant overseer, 2 market  
 gardeners, beer retailer, wheelwright, 3 farmers,  
 shoeing/general smith

**19. Education:**

1833 1 daily school (20 girls attend), 1 Sunday school (30  
 attend)  
 Parochial school built (1867) by the Dashwood Trustees  
 (50 attend). Average attendance (1912) 40

**20. Poor relief:**

1776 £67. 2s. 6d. spent on poor relief

1803	£69. 19s. 10d.	spent on poor relief
1818	£218. 3s.	spent on poor relief
1830	£187. 6s.	spent on poor relief
1832	£179. 13s.	spent on poor relief
1834	£151. 7s.	spent on poor relief

**21. Charities:**

**Bedingfield's and King's Charity:**

1749	by will of Charles Bedingfield: £80 laid out for perpetual relief of the poor.
1754	Gift of Mary King: £15 invested in property – rents to be added to the above bequest

**Mary King's Charity:**

1765	by will of Mary King: Dividends on investments distributed among poor
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**22. Other institutions:**

1803	2 Friendly Societies (65 members)
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**23. Recreation:**

1844	THE BUCKS HORN public house
1912	Beer retailer

**24. Personal:**

**25. Other information:**

**Archaeological Sites**

Field system/cropmark (CRN 4658, 4659)  
 Med. tower/gateway (CRN 4660)  
 Linear cropmarks, track, field system (CRN 4661)  
 Church of St. Mary's (CRN 4663)  
 Stray finds: I.A. pottery (CRN 4655, 4662)  
                   Rom. Bronze coin (CRN 4656)  
                   Silver coin (CRN 4664)  
                   Med. Bronze seal (CRN 4657)  
                   Sax. Scramasax (CRN 4665)  
 Scatter finds: Mes. Worked flint (CRN 4654)