

1. Parish: Burgh Castle

Meaning: Fortified place (Ekwall)

2. **Hundred:** Lothingland (- 1764), Mutford and Lothingland (1764 – 1974), transferred to Norfolk

Deanery: Lothingland (- 19770), Flegg (1970 -)

Union: Mutford and Lothingland

RDC/UDC: (E. Suffolk) Mutford and Lothingland RD (1894 – 1934), Lothingland RD (1934 – 1974), transferred to Norfolk (1974)

Other administrative details:

Mutford and Lothingland Petty Sessional Division
Great Yarmouth County Court District

3. **Area:**

1,495 acres land, 43 acres tidal water, 133 acres foreshore (1912)

4. **Soils:**

Mixed:

- a) Deep well drained coarse loam often stoneless soils, risk water erosion
- b) Deep stoneless mainly calcareous clay soils, flat land, risk of flooding

Marshland adjoining Breydon Water and River Yare

5. **Types of farming:**

1086		10 acres meadow, 3 salt houses, 3 cobs, 6 cattle, 17 pigs, 160 sheep
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, turnips
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet

6. Enclosure:

1819 376 acres enclosed under Private Acts of Lands 1812

7. Settlement:

Complete maps unavailable – See Norfolk Records Office for details

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 24, 1801 – 28, 1851 – 62, 1871 – 92, 1901 – 118, 1951 – 176, 1981 – see Norfolk

8. Communications:

Rail: 1891 2 miles Belton station: Southtown (Yarmouth) – Beccles lone, opened (1859), closed for passengers (1959), closed for goods (1965)

Water: River Waveney: Act passed to make Waveney navigable (1670), decline marked by beginning of rail travel (1852)
River Yare: Navigable to Norwich

9. Population:

1086 — 16 recorded
1327 — 10 taxpayers paid 18s. 2¼d.
1524 — 19 taxpayers paid 16s. 4d.
1603 — 74 adults
1674 — 32 households
1676 — Not recorded
1801 — 189 inhabitants
1831 — 270 inhabitants
1851 — 344 inhabitants
1871 — 409 inhabitants
1901 — 527 inhabitants
1931 — 595 inhabitants
1951 — 593 inhabitants
1971 — 715 inhabitants
1981 — see Norfolk

10. Benefice: Rectory (1831), Discharged Rectory (1891)

1254 Valued £6.
1291 Valued £6. 13s. 4d.
1535 Valued £6. 13s. 4d.
Curate, stipend £4 (1603)
Parsonage has seven hearths (1674)
1831 Glebe house. Gross income £411 p.a.
Rectory house rebuilt (1832)
Value £400 (1835)
1844 47 acres 3R 13P glebe, modus of £369. 10s. p.a. in lieu of tithes
1912 Nett value £240 p.a. 48 acres glebe and residence

Patrons: The King (1603), The Crown (1831), Lord Chancellor (1891 -)

11. Church **St. Peter and St. Paul**
(Chancel, nave, N. aisle, S. porch, round W. tower)

1086	Church + 10 acres, 1 acre meadow
Norman	Tower with brick top
1847	N. aisle added
1851	Thatch replaced
1853	Vestry built
1857/58	S. porch added

Seats: 150 (1912)

Other religious institutions:

Saxon Monastery

Reputedly founded on or near castle by Sigebert, 5th King of East Angles (AD 640)
Enriched by King Anna (AD 654)
Granted site and appurtenances to Priory of Bromholm (13th cent.)

12. Nonconformity etc:

United Methodist chapel built (1864), seats 50

13. Manorial:

1066	Manor of 4 carucates held by Bishop Stigand
1086	Manor of 4 carucates belonging to Ralph the Crossbowman
1246	Prior of Bromholm had right of wreck, view of frankpledge, free warren and assize of bread and beer
1560	William Roberts owns (town clerk of Yarmouth) (linked to Kessingland)
1703	John Smith owns
1759	Rev. William Garrod owns
Circa 1840	William Killett owns
Circa 1846	Richard Ferrier owns
1847	William Collett Reynolds owns
1871	Robert Seaman owns
1875	Charles Diver owns
1877	James Hargrave Harrison owns
1906	W.M.W. Fison owns

14. Markets/Fairs

15. Real property:

1844	£2,264 rental value
1891	£2,565 rateable value
1912	£2,527 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844-1912 Land sub-divided

17. Resident gentry:

1674	Capt. Ravens
1891	J.H. Harrison
1912	Rev. L.H. Dahl MA

18. Occupations:

1550–1599	6 husbandmen, 2 labourers
1600–1649	4 husbandmen, 1 labourer, 4 yeomen
1650–1699	1 husbandman, 2 farmers, 5 yeomen, 1 woollen draper
1831	52 in agriculture, 11 in retail trade, 3 professionals, 2 in labouring, 19 in domestic service, 2 others
1844	Parish clerk, solicitor, shopkeeper, victualler, 8 farmers, corn miller Portland Cement and Suffolk brick manufacture established (1859), employs 150 men (1891)
1912	Sub-postmaster, schoolmaster, 8 farmers, 8 market gardeners, boarding house keeper, publican, corn dealer, cowkeeper, grocer/beer retailer, 2 shopkeepers, dairymen, grocer, apartment keeper

19. Education:

1833	1 Sunday school established (1827) (32 attend) School built (1836); contains beam removed from ancient house, inscription shows that house was itself rebuilt by Robert Thorne (1548) Bowgin's National School built (1863) and endowed with £60 p.a. by John Bowgin, average attendance (1912) 71
------	--

20. Poor relief:

1776	£42. 15s. 5d.	spent on poor relief
1803	£52. 4s. 5d.	spent on poor relief
1818	£118	spent on poor relief
1830	£152. 7s.	spent on poor relief
1832	£128. 13s.	spent on poor relief
1834	£126. 5s.	spent on poor relief

21. Charities:

Poor Allotments:

1840 Allotments (15 acres) let at £27. 10s. p.a. applied to purchase of coals for poor in winter

22. Other institutions:

Burgh Castle Institute opened (1889) in former school building

23. Recreation:

1844 BURGH CASTLE public house

1891 Beer retailer, beerhouse, CASTLE INN public house

1912 QUEENS HEAD public house, beer retailer

24. Personal:

25. Other information:

Suggested site of Roman Garianonium

Extensive remains of Roman fortification occupying approx. 5 acres 2R 20P

Parish was formerly also known as CNOBERSBURG (named after Saxon chief who lived in the parish)

Tradition states that when the monastery was deserted by the monks it became occupied by Jews. This is only substantiated by the flimsy evidence of an entrance called 'Jews Way'

Camp forms parallelogram 214 yards x 107 yards. One of the best examples remaining in the country

'The Roman Camp and the Irish Saint at Burgh Castle' by Louis H. Dahl (1913)

It has been suggested parish held site of early British settlement prior to Roman occupation

Plan drawing of camp by Dr. W. Stukeley (1687 – 1765) reproduced in 'The Roman Camp and the Irish Saint at Burgh Castle' by L.H. Dahl

Great Water Feast originated from the custom of beating bounds but became an annual festive event of "perambulation of the waters" and aquatic sports. After (circa 1670) it was continued irregularly in 1777 and 1779. It was revived in 1816. in 1889 it was held on 4th July which was the last such event to be held. See account of revival in 'Short Historical Notices of Burgh Water Frolic' by J. Bately (1889) contained I Raven Pamphlets Vol. 21

500 acres of the parish is marshland

The Old Hall (circa 17th cent.) believed built by a Dutchman. Renamed Hall Farm.

Stocks last used in parish (circa 1855), stood outside churchyard gates. Removed (1855) to Butt Lane corner opposite school.

Road connecting Burgh Castle with Belton constructed over marshland (circa 1800). Previously the area was crossed at low tide by stepping stones and at high tide on boat.

'Saxon shore fort at Burgh Castle' by A.J. Morris. PSIA Vol. XXIV p.100

Roman fort (built 3/4th cent.) made a scheduled ancient monument (1921), walls placed under protection of Ministry of works (1929)

SW corner of fort formerly held mound (part removed 1770) – suggested site of motte of Norman castle (unsubstantiated)
'Burgh Castle' PSIA Vol. XI p.308

'Garianonum and the Count of the Saxon Shore' by Rev. J.J. Raven. PSIA Vol. VI p.345

Engraving by H. Watling (1885) reproduced on page 360

'A Roman Mars-Barb from Burgh Castle' by D. Sherlock. PSIA Vol. 34 p.141

'An intaglio from Burgh Castle' PSIA Vol. 33 p.313

'Burgh Castle – Gates' (Victoria County History Vol. 1 p.285), 'The Mound' (Victoria County History Vol. 1 p.286), 'The Roman Fort' (Victoria County History Vol. 1 p.282-286 and 301-302)

Archaeological Sites
See Norfolk