

1. Parish: Creeting St Mary

Meaning: Craeta's people (Ekwall)

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:

Abolished as Civil Parish (1884), gains Creeting All Saints and St. Olaves

Abolished ecclesiastically (1792) to create Creeting St. Mary with Creeting All Saints and St. Olave

Civil Boundary change (1907), loses part to Needham Market

Bosmere and Claydon Petty Sessional Division

Stowmarket County Court District

3. **Area:** 2,694 acres land, 16 acres water (includes Creeting All Saints and St. Olave) (1912)

4. **Soils:**

- Mixed:**
- a) Well drained calcareous course and fine loam over chalk rubble, non calcareous in places, slight risk water erosion
 - b) Slowly permeable calcareous/non calcareous clay soils, slight risk water erosion
 - c) Stoneless clay soils mostly overlying peat by river, variably affected by groundwater, risk localized flooding

5. **Types of farming:**

1086		4 acres meadow, 6 cattle, 15 pigs, 36 sheep
	Creeting:	1 ox, 2 acres meadow, 1 part of dam, 8 pigs, 9 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 as preparation for corn products
1937	Main crops:	Wheat, barley, beans
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet

6. Enclosure:

7. Settlement:

1958 Former Roman road (Colchester – Caister) crosses parish from N-S. river Gipping forms natural western boundary for most of its length. Small compact development slightly offset to east of church. Further dispersed settlement at Jacks Green, and Creeting Bottoms.
 Site of Creeting St. Olave is near to Woolney Hall on NW boundary.
 Site of Creeting All Saints appears to have been slightly to west of Creeting St. Mary, churches situated in close proximity to each other.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 19, 1801 – 22, 1851 – 48, 1871 – 52
 Combined with Creeting St. Mary and St. Olave-]
 1901 – 159, 1951 – 148, 1981 – 243

8. Communications:

Road: Roads to Earl Stonham and Needham Market. Main Stowmarket – Ipswich road
 1891 Carriers to Ipswich Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
 1912 Carriers to Ipswich Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
 Rail: 1891 1½ miles Needham Market station: Ipswich – Bury St. Edmunds line, opened (1845), closed (1967), re-opened (1971)
 Water: River Gipping: Canalized (1789)
 Navigation Act (1790), river became navigable to Ipswich

9. Population:

1086 — 18 recorded
 1327 — 42 taxpayers paid £3. 1s. 10d. (includes Creeting St. Mary and Olave)
 1524 — 41 taxpayers paid £5. 8s. 9d. (includes Creeting St. Mary and Olave)
 1603 — 60 adults
 1674 — 27 households

1676 — Not recorded
 1801 — 437 (combined inhabitants)
 1831 — 467 (combined inhabitants)
 1851 — 575 (combined inhabitants)
 1871 — 558 (combined inhabitants)
 1901 — 636 (combined inhabitants)
 1931 — 483 (combined inhabitants)
 1951 — 508 (combined inhabitants)
 1971 — 719 (combined inhabitants)
 1981 — 705 (combined inhabitants)

10. Benefice: Rectory (with All Saints and St. Olave)

1254 Valued £5. 6s. 8d.
 1291 Valued £5. 6s. 8d.
 1535 Valued £7. 14. 2d.
 1720 Valued £46. 14s.
 1831 Curate, stipend £100 p.a. Glebe house in Creting St. Mary, Joint gross income £686 p.a.
 1844 Consolidated with Creting All Saints and Creting St. Olave
 50 acres glebe, joint modus of £766 in lieu of tithes (1839)
 1891 50 acres joint glebe. Joint rent-charge of £580 p.a. in lieu of tithes.
 Rectory house destroyed by fire (circa 1863), rebuilt (1863)
 1912 Joint nett value £450 p.a. 56 acres glebe and residence
 Patrons: Eton College (1831-)

11. Church St. Mary
 (Chancel, nave, N. transept, S. porch, W. tower)

Norman S. doorway
 12th cent. Chancel
 15th cent. Porch
 1884-87 W. tower and N. aisle rebuilt. Restoration.

Seats: 230 (1915)

Note: small building in churchyard used as vestry

Other religious institutions:

Alien Priory: Benedictine Monks

Chief cell in England to Berney Abbey, Normandy

Circa 1156	Foundation
1291	Parish church and rectory appropriated to the Priory Said to hold possessions in 4 parishes valued £12. 6s. 10d. Also believed to hold the Alien Priory of Everden, Northants. in its possession
1414	Suppressed by statute of Leicester
1462	Granted to Royal College of Eton

12. Nonconformity etc:

Samuel Spring ejected from Creting St. Mary (1672), licensed as Presbyterian teacher in Needham Market

13. Manorial:

Creting:

1066	Manor of 30 acres held by Osgot a free man
1086	Manor of 30 acres belonging to Bishop of Bayuex and held by Roger Bigot

Creting St. Mary

1066	Manor of 1½ carucates held by Aelfric a free man
1086	Manor of 1½ carucates belonging to Abbot of Bernay
Circa 1414	Granted to Eton College

14. Markets/Fairs

15. Real property:

1844	£2,010 rental value
1891	£3,989 rateable value
1912	£3,026 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844-1912 Land sub-divided

17. Resident gentry:

1679	Creting: Sir Robert Clench, Jacob Garwood, William Scutt and Mr. Spring
1684	Jacob Garrett (Creting St. Mary)
1891	R.H. Tidswell JP and Rev. F.F. Vidal MA
1912	Rev. H.A. Fleetwood MA and R. Tidswell JP

18. Occupations:

1600–1649	1 clothier, 1 weaver, 1 linen weaver
1650–1699	1 clothier, 3 yeomen, 1 clerk
1771	Edward Johnson advertised his new paper mill (it appears he formerly owned paper mill in Bramford). East Anglian Miscellany (1958). P.30/31
1831	27 in agriculture, 7 in retail trade, 2 professionals, 9 in domestic service
1844	Cattle dealer/victualler, bricklayer, corn miller, 6 farmers, 2 joiners, wheelwright
1912	Creting: Sub-postmaster, teacher, blacksmith, 2 shopkeepers, 11 farmers, bootmaker, thrashing machine owner, cattle dealer, 2 farm bailiffs, 2 publicans, wheelwright

19. Education:

National school built (1871), 72 attended (1891), average attendance (1912) 70

20. Poor relief:

1776	£44. 8s. 6d.	spent on poor relief
1803	£61. 8s. 4d.	spent on poor relief
1818	£155. 10s.	spent on poor relief
1830	£187. 12s.	spent on poor relief
1832	£380. 14s.	spent on poor relief
1834	£343. 5s.	spent on poor relief

21. Charities:

Dunche's Charity Estate:

	Origins unknown
1840	6s. 8d. from rents on 40 acres 2R 39P distributed among poor

Campe's Gift:

1619	by will of John Campe: £1 p.a. distributed among poor
------	-------------------------------------------------------

22. Other institutions:

23. Recreation:

1844	THE KINGS HEAD public house
1891	THE KINGS HEAD and THE BUCKS HEAD public house

24. Personal:

25. Other information:

“The Mercho”: almshouse purchased from the parish by Samual Uvedale (1768). Site unknown

Archaeological Sites

Neo. Pottery (CRN 4269)

BA pottery (CRN 4270)

Un. Hearth (CRN 7454)

Med. church (documentary evidence) (CRN 4277, 4278)

Church of St. Mary (CRN 4297)

Ring ditches (CRN 4286, 4291, 4292, 4293, 4296, 4133-4136)

Med. moated sites (CRN 4287, 4288, 4289, 4290)

Stray finds: I.A. pottery (CRN 4271)

Rom. Coin (CRN 4276, 4295)

Spindle whorl (CRN 4302)

Pottery (CRN 4301)

Neo. Worked flint (CRN 4294, 4299)

Un. Quern (CRN 4298)

Scatter finds: Rom. Pottery (CRN 4272)

Tile (CRN 4275)

Mes. Worked flint (CRN 4273)

Neo. Worked flint (CRN 4274, 4300)