

# 1. Parish: Cretingham

**Meaning:** The Greutungi people living in sandy or gravelly district (Ekwall)

## 2. Hundred: Loes

**Deanery:** Loes ( -1931), Claydon (1931-1968), Loes (1968 -)

**Union:** Plomesgate

**RDC/UDC:** (E. Suffolk) Plomesgate RD (1894-1934), Deben RD (1934-1974), Suffolk Coastal DC (1974- )

Other administrative details:

Framlingham Petty Sessional Division  
Framlingham and Saxmundham County Court District

## 3. Area: 1,644 acres land, 5 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 soils
  - c) Stoneless clay soils mostly over peat, variably affected by groundwater, flat land, risk of localized flooding

## 5. Types of farming:

1086		30 acres meadow, wood for 20 pigs, 4 cobs, 7 cattle, 40 pigs, 64 sheep, 32 goats, 4 beehives, 1 mill, 8 acres laid waste, valued 16d.
1500–1640	Thirsk:	Wood-pasture region. Mainly pasture, meadow, engaged in rearing and dairying with some pigs 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 River forms natural boundary to east, River Deben forms part of western boundary and continues across parish W-E.  
Length of Roman road forms part of northern boundary. Small ribbon type development close to western boundary to south of River Deben. Church situated on border with Framsdon. Secondary settlement at Kittles Corners.  
Few scattered farms.

**Inhabited houses:** 1674 – 28, 1801 – 40, 1851 – 56, 1871 – 81, 1901 – 58, 1951 – 54, 1981 – 68

**8. Communications:**

Road: Roads to Brandeston, Framsdon, Monewden, Earl Soham, Ashfield cum Thorpe and Otley  
Rail: 1891 5 miles Framlingham station: Wickham Market – Framlingham line, opened (1859), closed for passengers (1952), closed for goods (1965)  
Water: River Deben

**9. Population:**

1086 — 80 recorded  
1327 — 48 taxpayers paid £4. 8s. 11d. (includes Brandeston and Monewden)  
1524 — 20 taxpayers paid £3. 19s. 8d.  
1603 — 99 adults  
1674 — 33 households  
1676 — Not recorded  
1801 — 246 inhabitants  
1831 — 387 inhabitants  
1851 — 423 inhabitants  
1871 — 328 inhabitants  
1901 — 256 inhabitants  
1931 — 224 inhabitants  
1951 — 171 inhabitants  
1971 — 135 inhabitants  
1981 — 175 inhabitants

**10. Benefice: Vicarage**

1254 Valued £14. 13s. 4d.  
1291 Valued £13. 16s. 8d.  
1535 Valued £9. 10s. 10d.

1603 Valued £9. 10s. 10d.  
 1831 Glebe house. Gross income £144 p.a. Incumbent also holds rectory of Athelington  
 Rectorial tithes commuted for £321 (1841)  
 1844 22 acres glebe. Modus of £173 in lieu of tithes  
 1912 Nett value £96. 23 acres glebe and residence. Incumbent also holds Framsdén.

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

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

1086 Church + 18 acres valued 3s. church + 8 acres valued 16d.  
 14<sup>th</sup> cent. Nave and chancel. tower  
 14/15<sup>th</sup> cent. Remainder of structure

**Seats:** 120 (1915)

**All Saints otherwise Over Cretingham Church**

Disused prior to 1254 taxation  
 Site unknown. It has been suggested as situated at Chapel Hill (unsubstantiated)

**12. Nonconformity etc:**

**13. Manorial:**

**Cretingham al Tye's:**

1066 Manor of 83 acres held by Brictwold under patronage of the Queen  
 1086 Manor of 83 acres belonging to Humphrey the Chamberlain and held by Amund  
 1251 Nicholas de Cretingham owns  
 1341 John de Hoo owns  
 1375 Sir Peter de Tye owns  
 1415 Sir William Phelip owns (linked to Brundish, Dennington and Wilby)  
 1543 Sir Anthony Rouse owns (linkd to numerous manors throughout Suffolk)  
 1544 Andrew Rivett owns (linked to Brandeston)  
 1845 Charles Austin owns (linked to Brandeston, Monewden and Sutton)  
 Note: Customs of this manor are reproduced in 'Manors of Suffolk' by W.A. Copinger Vol. IV p.240/241

## **Sub-Manors:**

### **Harolds**

Circa 1415	Sir William Phelip settled manor on Chantry at Dennington
1536	Richard Fulmerstone owns (linked to Lt. Glemham, Elveden and Brundish)
16 <sup>th</sup> cent.	mid 16ht cent. Thomas, Lord Wentworth owns (linked to Burstall, Flixton, Flowton, Somersham, Bramford and Coddenham)
1581	Reginald Barker owns (linked to Burstall)
1607	Rober Mildmay owns
1642	John Cotton owns (linked to Earl Soham)
1744	Robert May owns
1746	John Rivett owns (linked to Campsey Ash and Hacheston) (probably absorbed by main manor)

### **St. Margaret**

13 <sup>th</sup> cent.	Hugo de Naunton owns
1428	James Joce/Joyce owns
Circa 1516	Lionel Talmach owns (linked to numerous manors throughout Suffolk)
Circa 1713	William Acton owns
1779	William Legget owns
Circa 1795	Thomas Morse owns

### **Kettlebars**

13 <sup>th</sup> cetn.	Richard de Kettlebars held of the Honor of Chester
1603	John Cornwallis owns (linked to Earl Soham and Badingham)
1718	Reginald Rabitt owns
1853	Charles Austin owns (absorbed by main manor)

### **Little Gretingham**

13 <sup>th</sup> cent.	Nicholas de Cretingham (annexed to main manor)
1361	held by William Clere

### **Cretingham al Sulyard**

1624	Sir Henry Kingsmill died seised
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### **St. Peters**

- 1528	St. Peters Priory, Ipswich owns
1528	Cardinal Wolsey owns (linked to numerous manors throughout Suffolk)

1577	George Bacon died seised
Circa 1598	Lionel Wythe owns
1837	Henry Chenery owns

**14. Markets/Fairs**

**15. Real property:**

1844	£2,637 rental value
1891	£2,162 rateable value
1912	£1,656 rateable value

**16. Land ownership:**

1844	Land sub-divided
1891	Lord Rendlesham and A. Heywood, principle owners
1912	Lord Rendlesham and C. Austin, principle owners

**17. Resident gentry:**

1891	Rev. H. Brown MA
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**18. Occupations:**

1550–1599	1 cooper, 1 husbandman, 4 yeomen, 1 carpenter
1600–1649	2 husbandmen, 10 yeomen, 1 clerk
1650–1699	9 yeomen, 1 clerk, 1 cheese factor, 1 spinster
1831	89 in agriculture, 18 in retail trade, 1 professional, 1 in labouring, 13 in domestic service
1844	2 grocer/drapers, 2 blacksmiths, corn miller, 2 boot/shoemakers, wheelwright, victualler, 10 farmers, brickmaker
1912	Sub-postmaster, 2 school teachers, 11 farmers, publican, wheelwright, shopkeeper, 2 grocer/drapers, wheelwright/carpenter, blacksmith, shoemaker

**19. Education:**

1818	1 Sunday school (40 attend) School Board formed (1874) School built (1875), 58 attend (1891), average attendance (1912) 44 School Council formed (1903)
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**20. Poor relief:**

1776	£80. 2s. 3d.	spent on poor relief
1803	£166. 10s. 2d.	spent on poor relief
1818	£822. 4s.	spent on poor relief
1830	£828. 18s.	spent on poor relief

1832	£944. 8s.	spent on poor relief
1834	£673. 11s.	spent on poor relief

**21. Charities:**

**Town Lands:**

1826 Bell Inn, property + 7 acres 0R 26P let at £38. 15s. p.a. (origins in 16<sup>th</sup> cent.) applied to church repairs, churchwardens expenses, surplus applied to reducing parochial rates

**Jefferson's Gift:**

1819 by settlement of Rev. Joseph Jefferson. 2 acres attached to glebe land from which 40s. p.a. is laid out in coals for the poor

**22. Other institutions:**

1803 Friendly Society (34 members)  
1844 3 cottages occupied by the poor

**23. Recreation:**

1844 THE BELL public house  
1891/1912 THE BELL public house and brewer

**24. Personal:**

**25. Other information:**

Moat Farmhouse: (1602), timber-framed  
Iron Age Settlement: Otley-Cretingham road  
Anciently divided into 2 parishes called Great Cretingham and Little Cretingham next Otley (formerly had a chapel attached)  
Severe storms (1881) uprooted 50 large poplar trees  
'The Potash, Cretingham' (late 16<sup>th</sup>/early 17<sup>th</sup> cent.) timber-framed building features in 'How Old is your house' by P. Cunnington (1980)

**Archaeological Sites**

Med. moated sites (CRN 3234, 3235, 3236)  
Un. Quarry (CRN 3237)  
Stray finds: Neo. Axe (CRN 3232)  
Rom. Vessel (CRN 3233)  
Pottery (CRN 7453)