

**Milestone Ipswich to South Town and from Beech Lane to Bungay (A144)**

J GARRET  
 IRON FOUNDER  
 ST MARGARET'S  
 IPSWICH  
 1818      TM389741



Journals of House of Commons 1785  
Vol 40 p 990

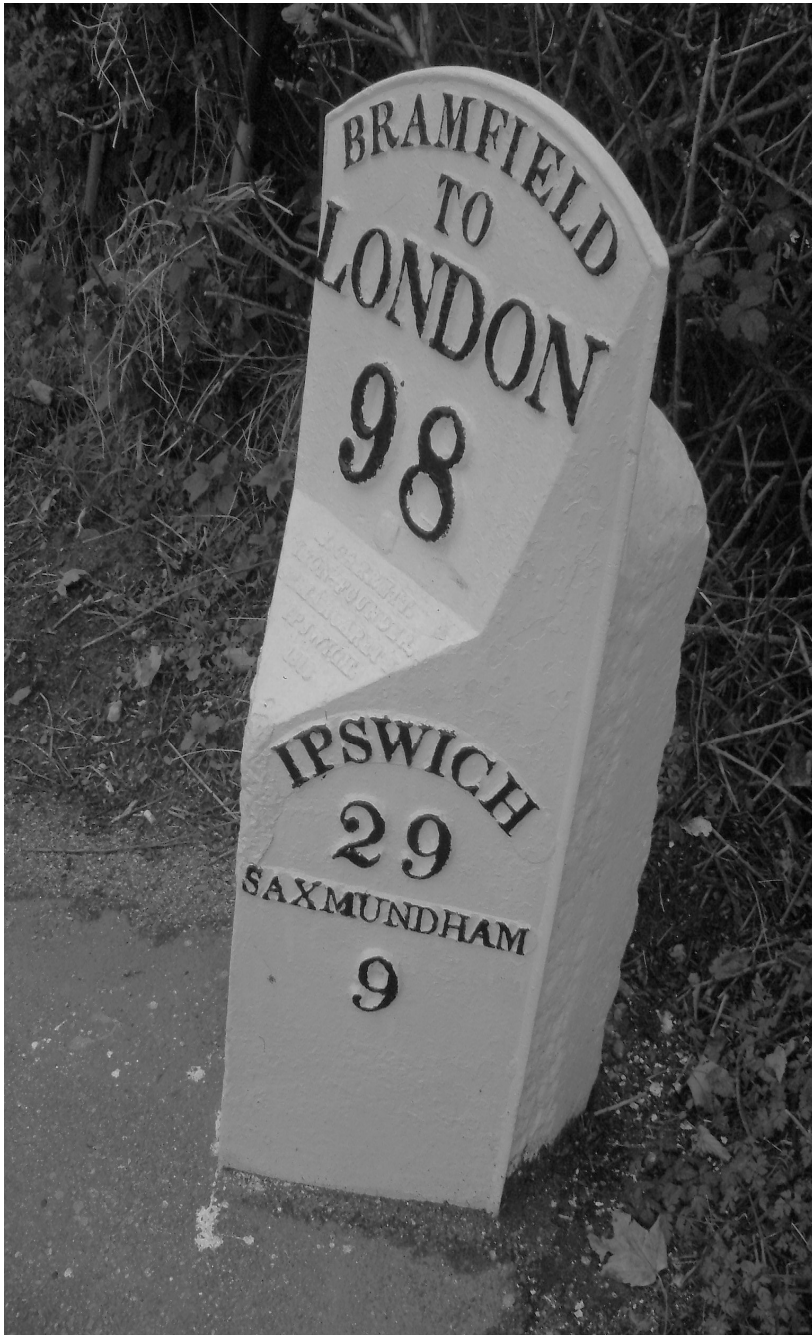
An Act for Amending and keeping in Repair the Road leading from Ipswich to South Town and from the said Road at Beech Lane in the Parish of Darsham to Bungay in the county of Suffolk.

Extract from the minutes of the Trustees of the Ipswich to SouthTown and from Beech Lane in the Parish of Darsham in the County of Suffolk  
30<sup>th</sup> August 1793

Mr John Hare the surveyor reported at this meeting that the course

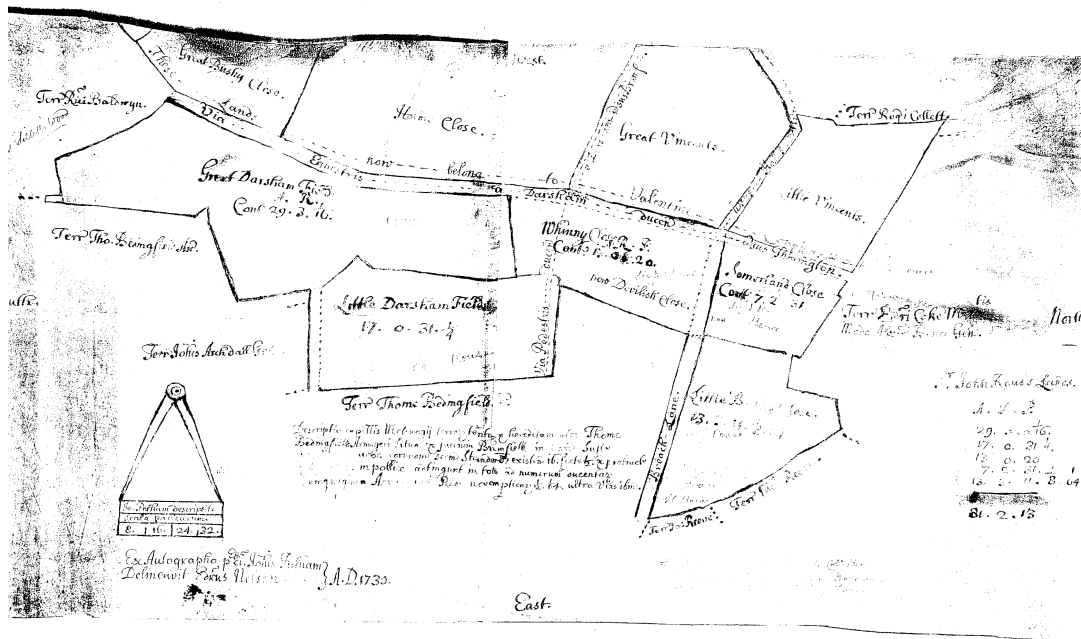
of the road for the length of 80 rods in the parish of Bramfield opposite the house of Reginald Rabett Esquire may be conveniently turned and altered by carrying the same over two pieces of land called Kiln Piece and the Long Meadow belonging to the said Reginald Rabett and the line proposed for such new road not being further than the present road and the said Reginald Rabett making such new road and also proposing to the said Trustees to pay the whole expense of making the same a good road under the direction of the said surveyor (on having the soil of the old road as a compensation)...

It is ordered that the said road be diverted and turned over the lands of the said Reginald Rabett and that upon completing the same the soil of the said old road shall be conveyed to the said Reginald Rabett in lieu of the said new road according to the said act [SRO I EN1/C1]



To enlarge maps right click and choose zoom

HA11/C9/2 SRO I



HD42/1 SRO I Rabett Estate Map 1745



In a 1730 map [HA11/C9/2] SRO I drawn by John Pulham the landowners this section of the A144 the name Breach Lane, indicating a 'breach' in the tree cover. This name persists in the farm south of the T junction 'Beech Lane Farm' or Breech Lane Farm and a footpath labelled 'Beech Lane on OS map revised 1952. The Turnpike Act names the A144, Beech Lane Darsham and I have heard it called that and 'Brake Lane by old residents. In 1737 John Kirby shows no road through Bramfield at all but marks at the A12 T junction 'Brushet Green' and the Thorington Tithe map names that area 'Wilderness Corner' in 1840 indicating a wild scrubby area. This is a completely artificial junction just making a better connection for the growing market town of Halesworth with Ipswich.

### **Beech Lane in Darsham**

In the early 18<sup>th</sup> century the only connection between Bramfield and Darsham was a footpath labelled *via pedestris* and Beech lane. Beech Lane or Breach Lane was an extension of a track leading through from the village along the bottom of the valley where the uncontained stream made the terrain was very boggy. See Rabett Estate Map. This is why the main way out of the village to the south was over the parkland of Bramfield Hall to Sibton.