

1. Parish: Ashbocking

Meaning: Land where ash trees grew and owned by bocking family (Ralph de Bocking owned manor in 1338)

2. **Hundred:** Bosmere (–1327), Bosmere and Claydon

Deanery: Bosmere (–1914), Claydon (1914–1972), Bosmere (1972–)

Union: Bosmere and Claydon

RDC/UDC: Bosmere and Claydon RD (1894–1934), Gipping RD (1934–1974), Mid Suffolk DC (1974–)

Other administrative details:

Bosmere and Claydon Petty Sessional Division
Ipswich County Court District

3. **Area:** 1,413 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:** Slowly permeable calcareous/non-calcareous clay soils, slight risk of water erosion

5. **Types of farming:**

1086		7 acres meadow
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 preparations for corn products
1937	Main crops:	Wheat, barley and beans
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet

6. **Enclosure:**

7. **Settlement:**

1958 Roman road forms part of southern boundary. Small ribbon type development along line of Witnesham – Helminham road. Church situated separately adjacent to

Ashbocking Hall

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 19, 1801 – 28, 1851 – 64, 1871 – 70,
1901– 66, 1951 – 69, 1981 – 86

8. **Communications:**

Road: To Witnesham, Otley, Hemingstone and Helmingham
1891 Carrier to Ipswich Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday
1912 3 carriers to Ipswich: 1 daily, 1 Tuesday, Thursday,
Saturday and 1, Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Rail: 1891 6 miles Needham Market Station: Ipswich–Bury St.
Edmonds line opened 1845, closed 1967, re-opened
1971

9. **Population:**

1086 – 28 recorded
1327 – 20 taxpayers paid £1 10s. 8d.
1524 – 19 taxpayers paid £7 12s. 2d.
1603 – 73 adults
1674 – 22 households
1676 – Not recorded
1801 – 186 inhabitants
1831 – 234 inhabitants
1851 – 314 inhabitants
1871 – 320 inhabitants
1901 – 289 inhabitants
1931 – 241 inhabitants
1951 – 191 inhabitants
1971 – 259 inhabitants
1981 – 241 inhabitants

10. **Benefice: Vicarage**

1254 Valued £6 13s. 4d.
1291 Valued £8 13s. 4d.
Portion of Caumpes in same £1 6s. 8d.
Portion of Castleacre in same 6s. 8d. £10 6s. 8d.
1535 Valued £9 18s. 6½d.
1603 Vicarage valued at £9 18s. 4d.
1720 Valued £43 17s. 5½d
1831 Curate, stipend £47 p.a. Glebe house, gross income £340 p.a.
1844 14 acres glebe, modus £375 p.a. in lieu of tithes 1839
1891 Valued £333. Good vicarage house, 20 acres glebe
1912 Nett value £280 p.a. 22 acres glebe residence

Patrons: The King (1603), The Crown (1844), Lord Chancellor (1912)

11. **Church All Saints**

(Chancel, nave, S. porch, W. tower)

1086	½ church + 16 acres. Church and 3 acres valued 6d.
c.1270	Chancel
14 th cent.	Main structure
16 th cent.	Tower
1872	Restoration

Seats: 200 (1915)

12. Nonconformity etc:

Vicar does not wear surplice and only administers communion once a year 1597
Theodore Beale ejected by Suffolk Committee for Scandalous Ministers 1644

13. Manorial:

1066	Manor of 93 acres + 20 acres pasture held by Aelmer, a free man under patronage of Edeva the Fair
1086	Manor of 93 acres + 20 acres pasture belonging to the King
1066	Manor of 60 acres held by Wulfric, a free man
1086	Manor of 60 acres held by Richard, son of Count Gilbert
1066	Manor of 60 acres held by Yric a free man
1086	Manor of 60 acres belonging to Richard, son of Count Gilbert
1066	Manor of 40 acres held by Edric, a free man
1086	Manor of 40 acres belonging to Richard, son of Count Gilbert

Ashbocking Manor/Ash Hall/Bocking Hall

1281	Philip Hervey held of the Honor of Clare
1290	Margery de Weyland owns
1342	Sir Ralph de Bockyng owns (linked to Crowfield)
1763	James Wilkinson owns
1764	Capt. Samuel Cockeril owns
1810	John Stanford owns
1821	Wilbraham, Earl of Dysart owns

Sub-Manors:

Harney's/Harvey's

1296	John Harneis had free warren
c.1430	John Woodhouse owns (linked to Crowfield)

1535 Lionel Talmache owns (linked to numerous manors throughout Suffolk)

Supposed Manor of Ashbocking Green

1902 Manor house stands on W. side of green on north road from Helmingham – Ipswich
Sir Alfred Garrod owns
Traditionally said to have been owned by John Felton 1628

14. Markets/Fairs:

15. Real property:

1844 £1,646 rental value
1891 £1,763 rateable value
1912 £1,273 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844/1891 J. Tollemache, principle owner
1912 Lord Tollemache, principle owner

17. Resident gentry:

1679 Edward Man
1891 Rev. M.B. Cowell MA
1912 Rev. Canon M.B. Cowell MA

18. Occupations:

1550–1599 1 tailor, 5 husbandmen
1600–1649 1 husbandmen, 3 yeomen
1650–1699 6 yeomen
1831 48 in agriculture, 10 in retail, 1 professional, 1 in labouring, 14 in domestic service, 2 others
1844 2 shoemakers, victualler, schoolmaster, corn miller, vicar, 9 farmers
1912 Sub-postmistress, school teacher, police officer, beer retailer/grocer, 3 shopkeepers, 7 farmers, publican, thatcher, vet

19. Education:

1833 1 Sunday school (22 attend)
1844 Schoolmaster listed
Ashbocking school Board formed 1873
School built 1875 to accommodate 55, enlarged 1891, average attendance 1912 60

20. Poor relief:

1776	£40 19s. 2d.
1803	£51 3s. 11d.
1818	£144 1s.
1830	£170 1s.
1832	£232 8s.
1834	£202 18s.

21. Charities:

<u>Town Estate:</u>	1432	Settlement by John Austin: house, outbuildings and 26 acres
	1840	let at £25 p.a. applied to support Sunday school

22. Other institutions:

1912	Police officer enlisted
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23. Recreation:

1844	The Lord Nelson public house
1891	Beer retailer and The Lord Nelson public house
1912	Beer retailer and The Lord Nelson public house

24. Personal:

Traditionally Wodehouse family associated with this parish. Henry Wodehouse (son of John Wodehouse, famed warrior of Agincourt 1415) lived in parish. His godfather was King Henry V. A later Henry Wodehouse is said to have moved to Kemberley, Norfolk and to have been actively involved in the suppression of Ketts rebellion 1549

25. Other information:

Ashbocking Hall: 16th cent., timber-framed. Contains panelled room with Corinthian pilasters; moated site.

Walnut Tree Farm: 16th cent. Contains preserved kingpost truss. 'Ashbocking'. PSIA Vol. XI, p.228.

Parish anciently stood beside large mere or lake (Med. expanse – 100 acres of water).

Roman camp. Victoria County History Vol. I, p.583.