

1. Parish: Blyford/Blythford

Meaning: Ford over the Blyth (Ekwall)

2. Hundred: Blything

Deanery: Dunwich (- 1868), Dunwich (North) (1868 – 1914), N. Dunwich (1914-1972), Halesworth (1972 -)

Union: Blything

RDC/UDC: Blything RD (1894 – 1934), Wainford RD (1934 – 1974), Waveney DC (1974 -)

Other administrative details:

Blything Petty Sessional Division
Halesworth County Court District

3. **Area:** 863 acres of land, 5 acres of water (1912)

4. Soils:

- Mixed:**
- a) Deep well drained sandy soils, some very acid especially under heath or woodland. Risk wind erosion
 - b) Fine loams over clay, slowly permeable, seasonally waterlogged
 - c) Some deep peat soils associated with clay over sand, some parts very acid. Risk flooding near River

5. Types of farming:

1086		Wood for 160 pigs, 1 mill, 9 cattle, 17 pigs, 3 sheep
1500–1640	Thirsk:	Light lands, sheep-corn region, sheep main fertilizing agent, bred for fattening. Barley main cash crop
1818	Marshall:	Management varies with the condition of sandy soils. Universal feature – turnips as preparation for corn and grass
1937	Main crops:	Wheat, barley, beans, roots. Fruit growers
1969	Trist:	Main crops are barley and sugar beet but on better sands rotation of wheat, barley, sugar beet or kale is practiced. Also cattle farming

6. Enclosure:

7. Settlement:

1975 Small well scattered settlement to north of Blyford bridge. Church situated at junction of Blythburgh Road with Southerton Road. Development restricted by wetlands to south. River Blyth forms southern boundary. Some scattered farms

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 22, 1801 – 21, 1851 – 41, 1871 – 44, 1901 – 32, 1951 – 47, 1981 – 38

8. **Communications:**

Road: To Blythburgh, Holton and Southerton
Rail: 1891 ¼ mile from Wenhaston station: Southwold – Halesworth line opened 1879, closed 1929
3 miles Halesworth station: Ipswich –Lowestoft line opened 1854
Water: River Blythe. Bridge gives access to Wenhaston

9. **Population:**

1086 — 12 recorded
1327 — not listed
1524 — 12 taxpayers paid £1. 10s. 6d.
1603 — 58 adults
1674 — 25 households
1676 — Not recorded
1801 — 163 inhabitants
1831 — 197 inhabitants
1851 — 194 inhabitants
1871 — 189 inhabitants
1901 — 144 inhabitants
1931 — 127 inhabitants
1951 — 159 inhabitants
1971 — 99 inhabitants
1981 — 106 inhabitants

10. **Benefice: Donative (1831) Vicarage (1918)**

1650 Valued £13
1831 not mentioned
1844 Yearly modus of £411. 18s. in lieu of tithes
1891 Valued £60

Patrons:

H. North (1650), Incumbent (1844), R.J. Day (1891)

11. **Church All Saints** (Chancel, nave, N. porch, W. tower)

1086 1 church + 12 acres

	Norman walls of nave and N. & S. doorways
1300	Chancel
15 th cent.	Porch and tower
1643	30 superstitious picture destroyed, steps to be leveled by order of William Dowsing (Puritanical Vandals)
1875	Restoration

Seats: 80

12. Nonconformity etc:

1606	6 recusants
1644	Rev. William Raymond ejected for alleged gross immorality by Suffolk Committee for Scandalous Ministers

13. Manorial:

1066	Manor of 2 carucates held by Edwin
1086	Manor of 2 carucates belonging to Godric the Steward
12 th cent.	De Criketot family owns
1281	Thomas de Bavent owns
Circa 1313	Edmund de Mikalfield owns
1519	Links with Lt. Waldringfield, Cockfield, Shimpling, Preston, Polstead, Milden, Melford (Thomas Spring)
1546	Links with Trimley St. Martin, St. Mary and Walton (Hobart family)
16/17 th cent.	Links with Bromeswell, Hollesley, Ufford, Sogenhoe and Loundham (Sir Henry Wood)
18 th cent.	John Dresser owns
1909	Richard Jeremy Day owns

14. Markets/Fairs

15. Real property:

1844	£709 rental value
1891	£874 rateable value
1912	£721 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844	Earl of Stradbroke, principle owner
1891	Richard J. Day and Earl of Stradbroke, principle owners
1912	Richard J. Day, principle owner

17. Resident gentry:

1680	1 gent listed
1809	John Dresser, High Sheriff of Suffolk

18. Occupations:

1500-1549	1 husbandman
1550-1599	6 yeomen, 1 husbandman, 2 tanners, 1 servant
1600-1649	3 yeomen, 6 husbandmen, 1 linen weaver
1650-1699	7 yeomen, 1 bricklayer, 1 gardener, 1 innholder, 1 linen weaver
1831	38 in agriculture, 3 in retail/handicrafts, 1 professional, 1 in labouring, 11 in domestic service, 2 others
1844	2 boot/shoemakers, victualler, grocer, 2 bricklayers, shopkeeper, blacksmith, 6 farmers
1912	7 farmers, publican, market gardener

19. Education:

1818	Some children attend House of Industry in neighbouring parish
1833	None
1912	Children attend school in Holton

20. Poor relief:

1776	£39. 18s. 7d.	spent on poor relief
1803	£78. 8s. 4½d.	spent on poor relief
1818	£184. 13s.	spent on poor relief
1830	£241. 2s.	spent on poor relief
1832	£303. 18s.	spent on poor relief
1834	£236. 19s.	spent on poor relief

21. Charities:

1888	will of Thomas Croft: interest on £100 for division between poor widows
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22. Other institutions:

23. Recreation:

1685	1 innholder listed
1844/1912	THE QUEENS HEAD public house

24. Personal:

25. Other information:

Volunteer company formed against Napoleonic invasion (83 men from Blythford joined) (1803)

Archaeological Sites

Enclosures and ditches (CRN 1103)
Stray finds: Rom. Figurine (CRN 1104)
Scatter finds: Rom. Pottery and tile (CRN 1105)
Pot (CRN 1108)
Pottery and coin (CRN 1107)
Neo. Worked flint (CRN 1106)