

1. Parish: Hollesley

Meaning: a. Holo's clearing/glade or b. a hollow glade/clearing

2. **Hundred:** Wilford

Deanery: Wilford (–1972), Woodbridge (1972–)

Union: Woodbridge

RDC/UDC: (E. Suffolk) Woodbridge RD (1894–1934), Deben RD (1934–1974), Suffolk Coastal DC (1974–)

Other administrative details:

Ecclesiastical boundary change 1960.
Woodbridge Petty Sessional Division and Country Court District.

3. **Area:** 3,974 acres land, 6 acres inland water, 73 acres tidal water and 48 acres foreshore 1912.

4. **Soils:** Deep well drained sandy soils. Some very acid with bleached sub-surface especially under heath and woodland. Risk of wind erosion. Some clay soil with peaty surface. Subsoil crag and loam.
Problems of acidity and trace element deficiency.

5. Types of farming:

1086		34 acres meadow, 1 fishery, 2 cobs, 8 cattle, 30 pigs, 100 sheep, 1 mill.
1500–1640	Thirsk:	Sheep-corn region, sheep main fertilizing agent, bred for fattening, barley main cash crop.
1804	Young:	'This corner of Suffolk practices better husbandry than elsewhere'...identified as carrot growing region.
1818	Marshall:	Management varies with condition of sandy soils. Rotation usually turnip, barely, clover, wheat or turnips as preparation for corn and grass.
1937	Main crops:	Land use divided between fruit, market gardening, potato growing and arable. Wheat, barely, oats and sugar beet.
1969	Trist:	Dairying has been replaced by arable farming.

6. Enclosure:

1844 44 acres of heath enclosed in Orford
Heath reclamation: 1952–55 140 acres Hollesley Heath
1955–64 133 acres in Hollesley, Shottisham
and Sutton incorporated into Broxtead
Estate.

7. Settlement:

1979 Large coastal development with several settlement centres. The main being along the Boyton–Alderton Road, church is situated at the southern end of the village. Secondary settlements occur at a. Stores Corner/Boyton Road, b. Oak Hill, c. Borstal Detention Centre, d. Duck Corner. The area to the east of these developments is crisscrossed by drainage ditches leading to the mouth of the River Ore and the coast.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 23, 1801 – 55, 1851 – 134,
1871 – 129, 1901 – 107, 1951 – 254, 1981 – 308.

8. Communications:

Road: To Alderton and Boyton.

1844 Carriers to Woodbridge on Wednesday and Saturday.

1891 Carriers to Ipswich on Saturday, to Woodbridge on Monday, Thursday and Saturday.

1912 Carrier to Woodbridge on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Rail: 1912 6½ miles Melton station: Ipswich–Lowestoft line, opened 1859, closed for passengers 1955 used for coal traffic 1984.

Water: River Deben: New quay erected c.1844.
1½ miles Orford Haven and Hollesley Bay.

9. Population:

1086 – 53 recorded

1327 – 36 taxpayers paid £1 12s. 11d. (includes Shottisham)

1524 – 39 taxpayers paid £6 6s. 4d.

1603 – 159 adults

1674 – 25 households

1676 – Not recorded

1801 – 461 inhabitants

1831 – 604 inhabitants

1851 – 578 inhabitants

1871 – 602 inhabitants

1901 – 551 inhabitants

1931 – 850 inhabitants
 1951 – 1,202 inhabitants
 1971 – 1,379 inhabitants
 1981 – 1,257 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Rectory

1254 Valued £10
 1291 Valued £10
 Portion to Prior of Eye £3 £13 0s. 0d.
 1535 Valued £12 16s. 8d.
 1546 Valued £7 5s. 7d. Clerks stipend £5 9s. 9½d.
 1831 Curate, stipend £122. Glebe house. Gross income £850 p.a.
 Incumbent also holds rectory of North Creek, Norfolk.
 Tithes commuted for £943 p.a. 1842
 Rectory house built 1845, 31 acres glebe.
 1912 Nett value £493. 30 acres glebe and residence.

Patrons: The Crown (1603), W. Bolton (1831), Mrs. G.B. Hall (1912).

11. Church All Saints
 (Chancel, nave, N. aisle, lofty W. tower)

1086 Church + 14 acres land, valued 2s.
 13th cent. Arcade of 4 arches found during restoration work 1886
 Sepulchral slab apparently for cleric (possibly from Butley), positioned near internal base of tower (much worn and damaged).
 1453 Tower – serves as seamount.
 15th cent. Main structure.
 18th cent. Tower cracked and in need of repair 1707 and 1824.
 1895 N. aisle built.
 1886 Exterior re-cased in flint, restoration.

Seats: 250 (1912)

12. Nonconformity etc:

1644 Henry Rolinson, Rectory of Hollesley and Vicar of Bawdsey ejected by Suffolk Committee of Scandalous Ministers.
 1647 He was summoned before Westminster Committee for Plundered Ministers for harassing his replacement at Hollesley.
 1874 Wesleyan Chapel in existence.

13. Manorial:

1066 Manor of 6 carucates held by Edric
 1086 Manor of 6 carucates held by Robert Malet's mother.

Outliers Culeslea: Manor of 1 carucate 80 acres belonging to Robert Malet's mother 1086.
Bawdsey: Manor of 1 carucate belonging to Robert Malet's and held by Robert of Glanville 1086.

Hollesley Manor

1269 Robert Bigot owns.
1572 Forfeited to the Crown on attainder and execution of Thomas Howard, 4th Duke of Norfolk.
1605 Sir Michael Stanhope owns (linked to Bromeswell and Ufford).
1671 Sir Henry Wod owns (linked to Blytheford, Bromesewell, Sutton, Sogenhoe and Loudham).
1770 Charles Kent owns (linked to Lackford).
1896 Colonial College and Training Farms Ltd. owns.

Sub-manors:

Caldwell Hall

14th cent. Wingfield family owns (linked to Dallighoo).
15th cent. Probable links with Debach.
1595 John Purpett owns (linked to Ramsholt).
1835 Robert Bartholp owns.

14. Markets/Fairs

William de Stirston, bailiff of the Earl Marshall at Hollesley moved a fair to a new site 1279 (original site unknown). Site suggested as Holy Stile crossroads. He exacted tolls from the people without warrant.

15. Real property:

1844 £3,726 rental value.
1891 £4,622 rateable value.
1912 £4,303 rateable value.

16. Land ownership:

1844–1912 Land sub-divided.

17. Resident gentry:

18. Occupations:

1550–1599 8 husbandmen, 1 mariner.
1600–1649 1 butcher, 15 yeoman, 1 mariner, 5 husbandmen, 1 tailor.
1650–1699 5 husbandmen, 2 mariners, 6 yeomen, 1 mariner from the 'Hope', 1 weaver, 1 shepherd, 1 spinster, 1 blacksmith.

1831	128 in agriculture, 24 in retail trade, 3 professional, 21 in domestic service, 2 others.
1844	1 sieve/basket maker, 2 gardeners, 2 mariners, victualler, corn miller, shopkeeper, surgeon, teacher, bricklayer, grocer/draper/tailor, 3 blacksmiths, 3 boot/shoemakers, 10 farmers, 4 joiners.
1912	Sub-postmaster, teacher, 5 farmers, 3 shopkeepers, agricultural engineer, draper, farm manager, builder, blacksmith, carriers, boot repairer, beer retailer, publican.

19. Education:

1818	1 day school (40 attend).
1833	1 daily school (44 attend).
	Public Elementary school erected 1877, enlarged 1895 and 1912, average attendance 1912 170.

20. Poor relief:

1776	£92 15s. 0d.
1803	£143 6s. 8½d.
1818	£1,819 19s.
1830	£322 19s.
1832	£360 4s.
1834	£332 12s.

21. Charities:

Sir Michael Stanhope's Gift:

1618/19	Yearly rents from estate of £5 p.a. distributed among the poor.
---------	---

22. Other institutions:

1803	Friendly Society (41 members).
	Borstal Detention Centre 1972.

23. Recreation:

1844	The Fox public house
1891	The Fox public house and 1 beerhouse.
1912	The Fox Inn public house and 1 beer retailer.

24. Personal:

25. Other information:

Hollesley once held anchorage sheltered by shingle spit – silted up and reclaimed c.13th cent.

Martello Tower: built 1810–1812 by Royal Engineers as defence against

Napoleonic invasion.
'Communication regarding the Court Roll of the Manor of Hollesley' –
Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries, 2nd Series Vol.III, p.260.