

1. Parish: Yoxford

Meaning: Ford that could be passed by a yoke of oxen

County: Suffolk

2. Hundred: Blything

Deanery: Dunwich (–1868), Dunwich (South) (1868–1914), S. Dunwich (1914–1972), Saxmundham (1972–)

Union: Blything

RDC/UDC: (E. Suffolk) Blything RD (1894–1934), Blyth RD (1934–1974), Suffolk Coastal DC (1972–)

Other administrative details:

Blything Petty Sessional Division
Halesworth County Courty District

3. Area: 2,730 acres (1912)

4. Soils:

Mixed:

- a. Slowly permeable calcareous/non-calcareous clay soils, slight risk of water erosion.
- b. Slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged, some calcareous clay and fine loams over clay soils.
- c. Some deep peat soils associated with clay over sandy soils, high groundwater levels, risk of flooding by river.

5. Types of farming:

1086 25 acres meadow, wood for 30 pigs, 3 cobs,
14 cattle, 35 pigs, 12 sheep, 3 oxon.

Domesday vill of Hoppetune: 4 acres meadow, wood for 2 pigs.

Domesday vill of Strickland: 9 acres meadow, 1 cob, 8 cattle, 9 pigs,
16 sheep, 24 goats.

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.
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1818	Marshall:	Course of crops varies usually including summer fallow as preparation for corn products.
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1937	Main crops:	Wheat, barley, peas, beans.
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet.

6. Enclosure:

1819	62 acres of Sibton Green in Sibton and Yoxford enclosed under formal written agreement (1809 and 1819)
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7. Settlement:

1984 River Minsmere forms portion of northern boundary. Railway crosses eastern sector from N-S.
Large well-spaced settlement having characteristics of ribbon type development.
Church centrally situated.
Scattered farms.
Inhabited houses: 1674 – 88, 1801 – 112, 1851 – 266, 1871 – 257, 1901 – 212, 1951 – 268, 1981 – 259.

8. Communications:

Road: To Middleton, Kelsale, Sibton and Darsham
Ipswich–Yarmouth turnpike road c.1785
1844 Mail coach to London evenings
to Yarmouth mornings
Coaches to Halesworth evenings
to Ipswich mornings
to Norwich Monday, Wednesday and
Saturday
to Yarmouth afternoons
Omnibus to Ipswich Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and
Friday
to Halesworth Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and
Saturday
Carriers to Ipswich and London Monday, Tuesday and
Thursday
to Halesworth and Norwich Tuesday, Friday
and Saturday
1912 Bus meets trains at Darsham station

Rail: 1891 1 mile Darsham station: Ipswich–Lowestoft line, opened
1859, still operational

Water: River Minsmere

9. Population:

1086 – 29 recorded
Domesday vill of hoppentuna: 5 recorded
Domesday vill of Strickland: 35 recorded

1327 – Not recorded
 1524 – 53 taxpayers paid £6 8s. 2d.
 1603 – 261 adults
 1674 – 101 households
 1676 – Not recorded
 1801 – 851 inhabitants
 1831 – 1,149 inhabitants
 1851 – 1,272 inhabitants
 1871 – 1,148 inhabitants
 1901 – 988 inhabitants
 1931 – 897 inhabitants
 1951 – 789 inhabitants
 1971 – 708 inhabitants
 1981 – 690 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Vicarage

1254	Valued £13 6s. 8d.	
1291	Valued £13 6s. 8d.	
	To vicar of same £4 6s. 8d.	<u>£17 13s. 4d.</u>
1535	Valued £5 14s. 2d.	
1603	Vicarage valued £5 14s.	
1650	Valued £33	
1831	Curate, stipend £150 pa. Glebe house unfit for occupation. Gross income £166 pa	
1835	Valued £161	
	Tithes commuted for £248 pa to impropiator, £171 pa to vicar 1839	
1844	5 acres glebe. 5 cottages and small parsonage although incumbent does not reside in the parish.	
1891	Valued £230	
1912	Nett value £120. 5 acres glebe and residence	
Patrons:	Feoffees of Duke of Norfolk (1603), Phillip Bedingfield (1650), Earl of Stradbroke (1831), L. Heseltine (1912)	

11. Church St Peter

(Chancel with side chapels, nave, aisles W. tower)

1086	½ church + 4 acres land and ½ acre valued 3d. in Domesday vill of Hoppetuna Church + 24 acres land and 1 acre meadow in Domesday vill of Strickland
14 th cent.	Tower
14/14 th cent.	Main structure
1597	Chancel decayed in thatching, paving and ceiling
1837	N. aisle and N. chapel
1868/1920	Restorations and part rebuildings

Seats: 600 (1915)

12. Nonconformity etc:

1597	14 persons attend church only on rare occasions
1603	1 person not receiving communion
1834	Wesleyan chapel built, rebuilt 1889, seats 200 1912. Former chapel converted to use as Sunday school

13. Manorial:

Domesday vill of Hoppetuna:

1066	Manor of 42 acres held by Alnoth, a free man under patronage.
1086	Manor of 42 acres belonging to Robert Malet and held by Gilbert
1066	Manor of 60 acres held by Bondi, a free man under patronage of Toli
1086	Manor of 60 acres belonging to Roger Bigot

Domesday vill of Strickland:

1066	Manor of 1 carucate 40 acres held by Alwin
1086	Manor of 1 carucate 40 acres belonging to the King
1066	Manor of 80 acres held by Stanwin
1086	Manor of 80 acres belonging to Robert Malet and held by Walter of Caen
1066	Manor of 80 acres held by Swartling, a free man
1086	Manor of 80 acres belong to Roger Bigot and held by Cus and Akile Suffering, free men

Yoxford Manor

1066	Manor of 100 acres held by Norman, a thane
1086	Manor of 100 acres belonging to Roger Bigot and held by Hugh de Corbon
12 th cent.	William de Pirnho owns
13 th cent.	James de Creke owns
1294	Robert de Swillington owns (linked to Westhall, Westleton, Wissett, Blythburgh, Middleton and Walsham le Willows)
1597	Sir Robert Brooke owns (linked to Westleton and Henstead)
1909	Sir Ralph B M Blois owns (linked to South Cove and Blythburgh)

Sub-manors

Cockfield Hall

1066	Manor of 5 carucates held by Manni
1086	Manor of 5 carucates belonging to Robert of Tosny
13 th cent	Simon de Cokefeud owns
1359	John de Norwich owns (linked to Thorington and Wehnaston)
1462	John Hopton owns (linked to Thorington, Wissett,

	Blythburgh, Easton Bavents)
1555	Sir Edmund Duke owns
1597	Sir Robert Brooke owns (absorbed by main manor)

Murrills

13 th cent.	Adam de Muryel owns
14 th cent.	Sir Robert de Swillington owns (absorbed by main manor)

Stikingland

1322	Roger de Evenyngham owns
1417	Inquis pm of Roger Swillington (absorbed into main manor)

14. Markets/Fairs

15. Real property:

1844	£3,616 rental value
1891	£4,783 rateable value
1912	£4,926 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844–1912 Land sub-divided

17. Resident gentry:

1674	Lady Brooke has house with 18 hearths Mr Clube has house with 15 hearths
1679	Sir Robert Brooke, Richard Jennings and Thomas Man Henry Cooper, High Sheriff of Suffolk 1701
1844	Rev. S. Badeley LLB, Sir C. Blois, Rev. H. Packard MA and Rev. W. Weddell MA
1891	Sir R.B.M. Blois JP and T. Lomas JP
1912	Sir R.B.M. Blois JP, DL, and C.H. Lomax JP

18. Occupations:

1086	Bondi, the smith, recorded
1500–1549	1 husbandman, 1 yeoman, 2 glovers
1550–1599	3 husbandmen, 5 yeomen, 1 tailor, 1 mercer
1600–1649	1 tanner, 4 husbandmen, 2 weavers, 1 vintner, 1 spinster, 5 yeomen, 2 inn holders, 1 brickmaker, 1 gardner, 1 labourer, 1 tailor, 1 plumber, 1 shoemaker/cordwainer, 1 baker, 1 carpenter, 1 roper
1650–1699	1 tanner, 3 husbandmen, 3 spinsters, 13 yeomen, 2 inn holders, 3 govers, 1 woollen draper, 1 draper, 2 tailors, 1 shoemaker/cordwainer, 1 blacksmith, 1 apothecary, 1 waterman
1831	98 in agriculture, 76 in retail trade, 11 professionals, 56 in labouring, 91 in domestic service, 30 others

1844	2 farriers, tinner/brazier, 2 coad builders, postman, coachman, fishmonger, police officer, corn miller, dyer, magistrate's clerk, agent to Garrett & Sons of Leiston, horse letter, gamekeeper, 5 academics, attorney, 3 baker/flour dealers, basket maker, 2 blacksmiths, bookseller, 9 boot/shoemakers, 2 beerhouse keepers, 2 bricklayers, 3 butchers, cooper, druggist, carrier, 14 farmers, 3 grocers/drapers, hairdresser, 2 inns/taverns, 2 ironmongers 4 joiners/builders, 4 milliners, 2 painter/plumber/glazier, saddler, 4 shopkeepers, 3 surgeons, 6 tailors, stay maker, 4 watchmakers, 4 wheelwrights, gunsmith
1912	Sub-postmistress, school master and mistress, police officer, 8 farmers, 3 pork butchers, 2 butchers, bankers, surgeon, 2 head gardeners, draper, 2 tailors, registrar, 4 boot/shoemakers, tax assessor, matron of children's home, vermin destroyer, 4 beer retailers, tax collector, ironmonger, painter, hairdresser, cab owner, baker, plumber/decorator, upholsterer, grocer, bookseller, 3 farm bailiffs, 2 coach builders, grocer/drapper, harness maker, hotel owner, publican, watchmaker, hawker, stationer, chemist, coal dealer, market gardener, cycle repairer, coal merchant, district nurse, volunteer firebrigade, vet, blacksmith

19. Education:

	1 person had taught the children. Dead by 1597
1818	3 day and boarding schools (106 attend), 5 day schools (68 attend), 1 Sunday school (130–172 attend)
1833	2 daily schools (78 attend), 1 Sunday school (95 attend)
1844	National school built 1837, enlarged 1885, 180 attend (1891), 4 academics
1891	Day school run by Mrs E. Hurren
1897	Council school built, average attendance 180 1912, modernised in 1967, 64 attend.

20. Poor relief:

1776	£180 11s. 0d.
1803	£361 19s. 4 ¹ / ₂ d.
1818	£827 15s.
1830	£804 4s.
1832	£936 18s.
1834	£848 10s.

21. Charities:

Town land

1840	1½ acres let at £2 1s. pa applied to church repairs and
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providing communion wine

Sillett's Charity

1651 by will of Robert Sillett: 10 acres called Martin's Croft with rent-charge of £5 pa applied to purchase of linen for the poor

Beddingfield's Gift

1716 by Deed of Anthony Beddingfield: 4 acres with rent-charge of 50s pa to poor relief.

22. Other institutions:

1485 Guild of St Peter
1844 Petty Sessions held at Three Tuns Inn every 4th Wednesday
Farmers Club
Police officer recorded
1891 Petty Sessions held in this parish appear to have ceased.
Yoxford Institute established 1850, 80 members 1891
Gas works formed 1865
1912 Horticultural Society (holds annual show in July)
Blything No 1 sub-committee of East Suffolk Local Pension Committee: meetings held at the school last Saturday in every month
Childrens Home run by the Blything Union
District Nurse
Volunteer fire brigade
Working Men's Club

23. Recreation:

2 inn holders 1624 and 1628, 2 inn holders 1678 and 1679
1844 2 beerhouses, The Giffin and The Three Tuns public houses, Temperance Hotel
1891 4 beerhouses, The Three Tuns Hotel and the Griffin Inn public houses
1912 4 beer retailers, The Griffin Inn public house, The Three Tuns Hotel, burned down in 1926
1975 The Griffin, The Blois Arms, The Kings Head public houses, Satis House Hotel

24. Personal:

Lady Katherine Grey (sister of Lady Jane Grey) was kept under guard at Cockfield Hall until her death in 1567. She was buried in the church but later removed.

Ann Candler 1740–1814: born at Yoxford. Poetess, author of 'The Suffolk

Cottager'. Dictionary of National Biographies, Vol. VIII, p.405.

25. Other information:

Church House: timber-framed, S. side churchyard.

Signpost c.1830 cast-iron, one arm points to London.

Cockfield Hall: c.1613, sashed windows c.1770, to rear of house

are two original ranges (early Tudor), Victorian upper portions.

Includes Gatehouse with 4-centred arch. Seat of the Blois family since 1693.

Grove Park: built c.1815, probably incorporates older house.

'Brief Notes on Yoxford Church by R.T.L. Parr 1946.

Village often referred to as 'The Garden of Suffolk'.

Milestone (150 years old) damaged 1939-45 at which time it was given a cement coating.

Village sign erected 20th cent.

'Yoxford' by C. Delf 1971.

Drum House: half timbered building, formerly Muriell's Manor, part used as Ale-house (Fife and Drum).

'Yoxford Church', PSIA, Vol VIII, p.37.

Med. park of Kelsale intrudes into Yoxford. Map by John Middleton 1616 shows 'late disparked park of Kelsale and Yoxford ... divided into divers enclosures.' Suffolk Landscape by N. Scarfe, p.167.

Rookery Park: 19th cent.