1. Parish: Felixstowe

Meaning: St. Felix’s place (Ekwall)

2. Hundred: Colneis
Deanery: Colneya
Union: Woodbridge
RDC/UDC: (E. Suffolk) Felixstowe & Walton UD (1894-1914), Felixstowe UD (1914-1974), Suffolk Coastal DC (1974- )

Other administrative details:
Woodbridge Petty Sessional Division and County court District

3. Area: 1,921 acres land, 11 acres water, 374 acres of tidal water, 132 acres foreshore (1912)

4. Soils:
Urbanized area. Dune sand and marine shingle around Old Felixstowe.

5. Types of farming:
Mainly urbanized development. Some scattered farms – main crops (1937) wheat, barley and peas.

6. Enclosure:

7. Settlement:
Large coastal town development on main Ipswich road. Some scattered farms (1972).


8. Communications:
Road: Main Ipswich Road
1912 Carriers to Ipswich daily
Rail: 1891 Felixstowe station opened (1877), new station built (1898), Pier Trams opened (1904), closed (1939)
Water: 1886 up to the present – Felixstowe docks, port and ferry
Air: 1913 Air station commissioned, closed (1962), occupied by army.

9. Population:

1086 — 72 recorded
1327 — 47 taxpayers paid £5. 16s. 7¼d. (includes Walton)
1524 — 59 taxpayers paid £5. 18s. 10d.
1603 — 225 adults (includes Walton)
1674 — 40 households
1676 — Not recorded
1801 — 259 inhabitants
1831 — 363 inhabitants
1851 — 691 inhabitants
1871 — 760 inhabitants
1901 — 2,720 inhabitants
1931 — 12,067 inhabitants (includes Walton)
1951 — 15,081 inhabitants (includes Walton)
1971 — 18,750 inhabitants (includes Walton)
1981 — 20,893 inhabitants (includes Walton)

10. Benefice: Vicarage

1254 Valued £13. 6s. 8d.
1291 Valued £13. 6s. 8d.
1535 Valued £5. 9s. 7d.
No date United with Walton

Patrons:

1918 (St. John the Baptist) E.G. Pretyman (value £300 p.a.)
(St. Peter and Paul) Bishop Stratton (value £160 p.a.)

11. Church Saints Peter and Paul
(Apsidal chancel, nave, transepts, south porch, tower)

1086 1 church (burgh) and 12 acres valued 2s.
12th cent. Traces in doorways
14th cent. North doorway
1873 Chancel rebuilt using bricks from Martello Tower
1871/72 Restorations, 19th cent.

Seats: 650

St. John the Baptist (Orwell Road)
(Nave, north and south aisles, south porch, chancel, Lady Chapel, west tower)

1894/95 Built by Sir Arthur Blomfield to accommodate increased population and visitors
1899 Chancel and side chapels completed

Seats:  650

St. Andrew (St. Andrew’s Road)
(Nave, chancel, north and south aisles, south porch)

1929-31 Built on design by Hilda Mason and Raymond Erith
Lack of funds prevented construction of tower.

11a. Other religious institutions

Felixstowe/Walton St. Felix

Priory cell dependant on Rochester (Benedictine Monks)
Circa 1105 Founded, reputedly by Roger Bigot
1291 Valued £6. 16s. 1½d. with possessions in nine parishes
1381 3 monks
1528 Cell suppressed and given to Cardinal Wolsey for his
Cardinals College, Ipswich
1576 Granted to Thomas Seckford

12. Nonconformity etc:

1813-43 4 houses set aside for worship
1898 Congregational and Baptist chapel built, seats 350
1900 Presbyterian church of England built, seats 500
1912 St. Felix Roman Catholic church built, seats 400
Wesleyan Methodist chapel, Orwell Road
Society of Friends meeting house, Ranelagh Road

13. Manorial:

Felixstowe Priory

1086 Estate of Roger Bigot
1105 Given as gift to monastery of St. Andrew at Rochester
1528 Granted to Cardinal Wolsey
1530 Linked to Falkenham, Kirton, Hollesley, Snaton Downham
and Elveden (Thomas, Duke of Norfolk)
1576 Linked to Bucklesham, Nacton, Boulge, Dallinghoo and
Gt. Bealings (Thomas Seckford)

14. Markets/Fairs

15. Real property:

1844 £1,670 rental value
1891 £11,470 rateable value
1912 £66,847 rateable value
16. **Land ownership:**

1844  Land sub-divided
1891  Capt. E.G. Pretyman and executors of late J.C. Cobbold, main owners
1912  E.G. Pretyman, principle owner

17. **Resident gentry:**

1679  John Tasborough
1844  Rev. J.R. Edgar

18. **Occupations:**

1500-1549  1 yeoman, 1 husbandman
1550–1599  11 yeomen, 9 husbandmen, 3 sailors, 1 carpenter, 4 mariners, 1 clerk
1600–1649  14 yeomen, 6 husbandmen, 2 carpenters, 1 glover
1650–1699  11 yeomen, 1 carpenter
1831  63 in agriculture, 2 in retail trade/handicrafts, 4 professionals, 21 in labouring, 28 in domestic service
grocer/drapers, shoemaker, shopkeeper, lodging houses, blacksmith, 5 victuallers, 9 farmers
1887  Felixstowe Dock and Railway Co. founded
1891  The German Empress and her children visited the town and increased its popularity as a ‘spa’. From this time the town expands rapidly together with the corresponding service occupations and industries.

19. **Education:**

1818  1 school shared with Walton (situated in Walton)
1833  1 daily school (20 attend), 1 Sunday school (30 attend)
1844  1 boarding school
1876  School Board formed
Boys school built, average attendance (1912) 255
1891  1 College for boys, Ladies boarding and day school
1893  Infants school built, average attendance (1912) 200
1898  Girls school built, average attendance (1912) 250
1901  School at Felixstowe Ferry built, average attendance 60
Convent of Sisters of Jesus and Mary Boarding and Day school for girls (1912)
Eastward House College for Boys (1912)
Restormel Ladies College (1912)
20. Poor relief:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1776</td>
<td>£57. 10s. 9d.</td>
<td>spent on poor relief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1803</td>
<td>£119. 11s. 4d.</td>
<td>spent on poor relief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1818</td>
<td>£238. 9s.</td>
<td>spent on poor relief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1830</td>
<td>£303. 7s.</td>
<td>spent on poor relief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1832</td>
<td>£319. 6s.</td>
<td>spent on poor relief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1834</td>
<td>£300. 14s.</td>
<td>spent on poor relief</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

21. Charities:

**Poors Estate:**

1840 2 cottages, blacksmiths shop, farm and land called Town Piece and 2 acres 1R let at £17. 6s. 6d. p.a. distributed among poor widows.

22. Other institutions:

1868 Suffolk Convalescence Home established, enlarged (1883/84).
Golf Club (1880)
1884 Gas works built (in Walton Parish)
1891 Water works belong to private company
1902 Fire station built
1909 Cottage hospital built
1912 Reading Room and Working Men’s Institute
Nursing Home
Grenadier Guards Private Convalescence Home
2 H.M. Coast Guard Stations
Telephone Exchange
2 Police stations
Electricity Supply co.
Young Women’s Christian Association Holiday Home and Institute
1914 & 1937 2 Cinemas

23. Recreation:

1844 5 public houses, bathing machine owner
1891 Bath Hotel (built 1839) by John Cobbold (has hot and cold baths and bathing machines)
Victoria Hall let for entertainments and meetings
3 restaurants, 5 public houses, 3 hotels, 2 bathing machine owners, 4 pleasure boat owners, 1 library
1912 Golf Club, Croquet Club, Cricket, Lawn Tennis, Corinthian Yacht Club, 12 hotels, Conservative Club, Constitutional
Club, Rifle Club, Felixstowe and Walton Boys Club, Liberal Club, Football Club, Pier Pavilion, Spa Pavilion, Swimming Club, 9 restaurants, 4 public houses

24. Personal:

Col. George Tomline (d.1887) founder of port/dock complex
1847-1925 John Sell Cotman, Norwich water colourist, retired to Felixstowe (1912), dying there in 1925 (he designed Lloyds and Barclays banks in Felixstowe – 1890)

25. Other information:

Walton Castle

Built by Hugh Bigod. Stood on high cliff approximately one mile south of Felixstowe village. Destroyed by royal order (1174). Western foundations remained (1740), since washed away by the sea. Said to have occupied site of a Roman fortification.

Landguard Fort

(Forms S.E. point of Suffolk), name is corruption of Langar Fort, situated on estuary of Orwell and Stour opposite Harwich. 1st fort built during reign of Charles I and contained chapel, consecrated (1628). Present form built 1718. 1806 – Eight towers, each mounting 3 guns, built.

Doomsday vills – Wadgate, Mycelegata, Gurgate and Burgh.
Lighthouse near Landguard Fort burned down (1925)
Early fortifications at Landguard 1534-1588, Landguard ‘Bulwarkes’ (1588)
‘In and Around Victorian Felixstowe’ by Charles Corker – collection of photo’s.

Official Guides:
‘Port of Felixstowe Handbooks’ (1975/84)
‘History of Landguard Fort’ by Major J.H. Leslie (1898)
‘Seaplanes – Felixstowe’ by Gordon Kinsey 91978) (Story of Air Station 1912-63) Kings Cup Air Race starts at (1924)
‘Suffolk Invasion’ by Frank Hussay (1983)
Dutch attack Landguard Fort (1667), over 1,00 soldiers/seamen land.
New beach side leisure centre opened (1986)
Severe flooding – water 9 feet deep in places, 32 die (1953).
Felixstowe cut off by land, escape effected via ferry to Harwich.
Harvest House (formerly hotel) converted into Fisons organisation HQ (1950’s)
Lobster Boat races (1939)
Spa Pavilion built (1908), destroyed by bomb (1941), re-opened (1950)
Saxon Shore fort (known as Burgh) said to have been located at Walton/Felixstowe (lost by coastal erosion)

Roman Fort – submerged

Act to build dock and port granted (1879)

Urban District Council formed (1894)

Ecclesiastical boundary change to create Felixstowe St. John the Baptist (1894)

Civil Parish boundary change (gains Walton) (1914)

Archaeological Sites

Numerous – mainly Roman, some B.A., Neo. and Med.