

1. Parish: Alderton

Meaning: Alder homestead or village

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:
Woodbridge Petty Sessional Division
Woodbridge County Court District

3. **Area:** 2,575 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:**

Mixed

- a. Deep, well drained sandy soil, some very acid with bleached sub-surface especially under heath and woodland. Risk of wind erosion
- b. Some clay soil with peaty surface, subsoil loam and crag. Numerous antediluvian shells and fossils

5. **Types of farming:**

1086		20½ acres meadow Problems of acidity and trace elements deficiencies
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 a carrot growing region
1818	Marshall:	Management varies with condition of sandy soils. Rotation usually turnip, barley, clover, wheat or turnips as preparation for corn and grass
1937	Main crops:	Wheat and barley
1969	Trist:	Dairying has been replaced by arable farming

6. **Enclosure:**

7. **Settlement:**

1975 Compact development around junctions of the Shottisham, Hollesley and Bawdsey roads with that to Ramsholt. Main concentration of settlement along line of Ramsholt road. Hall, church and rectory all centrally situated. Few scattered farms

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 23, 1801 – 87, 1851 – 130, 1871 – 128, 1901 – 103, 1951 – 103, 1981 – 140

8. **Communications:**

Road: To Ramsholt, Shottisham, Hollesley, Bawdsey
1844 Carriers to Woodbridge on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, to Ipswich on Thursday
1874 Carriers to Woodbridge on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, to Ipswich on Saturday
1912 Dailey carrier to Woodbridge

Rail: 1891: 7 miles Melton station: Ipswich–Lowestoft Line opened
1859, closed for passengers 1955, used for coal traffic 1984

Water: River Deben. Ferry to Woodbridge (no dates)

9. **Population:**

1086 – 41 recorded
1327 – 36 taxpayers paid £1 19s.
1524 – 26 taxpayers paid £4 13s. 6d.
1603 – 82 adults
1674 – 25 households
1676 – Not recorded
1796 – 415 recorded
1801 – 425 inhabitants
1831 – 575 inhabitants
1851 – 630 inhabitants
1871 – 557 inhabitants
1901 – 469 inhabitants
1931 – 380 inhabitants
1951 – 322 inhabitants
1971 – 427 inhabitants
1981 – 365 inhabitants

10. **Benefice: Rectory**

1254 Valued £13 6s. 8d.
1291 Valued £11 6s. 8d.
Portion to Bromholm 10s.
Portion to St. Faiths 1s. 6d. £11 18s. 2d.
1535 Valued £14 18s. 4d.
1831 Curate, stipend £92 p.a. Glebe house. Gross income £591 p.a. Incumbent also holds rectory of Shelton with

Hardwick, Norfolk. Valued £565. tithes commuted for £733 1831
 1844 Large rectory house built
 1912 Nett value £443. 14 acres glebe and residence

Patrons: James Bacon (1603) Bishop of Norwich (1831–)

11. Church St Andrew
 (Chancel, nave, N. porch, W. tower)

1086 Church +24 acres land, 1 acre meadow, valued 3s.
 N. wall nave and N. porch ancient structures (no dates)
 East part of church said to be 'suffered to ruinate' 1597
 1862–65 Largely rebuilt
 1865 14th. Nave restoration completed
 1937 Tower in dangerous condition (half missing).
 Church said to be in bad state of repair

Seats: 350 (1912)

12. Nonconformity etc:

Congregational chapel opened 1836, 77 members 1842, seats 350

13. Manorial:

Alderton Hall

1113 William de Glanville owns (linked to Dallinghoe and Shottisham)
 1428 de Ufford family owns (linked to numerous manors throughout Suffolk)
 1550 Granted to Bishop of Norwich
 1641 Survey of Alderton Manor in MSS in Cambridge University Library
 1822 Good dwelling house, bailiffs house, barn, stables, outbuildings, cottages, 755 acres, 39P arable meadow, woods and plantation
 Note: Manor said to form part of endowment of the College of Ravensingham

Sub-Manors:

Naunton's

c.1200 Division of manor assigned to Emma de Glanville
 1589 John Soone owns (linked to Boville's and Peche's)

Boville's

c.1200 Division of main manor assigned to Basilia, sister of Geoffrey de Glanville. Passes by marriage to the Boville and Naunton families

1428 Absorbs Peche's, probably linked to Naunton's
 1589 John Soone owns (linked to Naunton's)
 1618 Annexed to Manor of Friston

Peche's

c.1200 Division of manor assigned to Alianore, 4th sister of Geoffrey de Galville. Passes by marriage to Peche family
 1428 Naunton family owns (absorbed by Bovilles)

Manor of Alderton Comtis/Earl Alderton

Nothing known

14. Markets/Fairs

15. Real property:

1844 £3,418 rental value
 1891 £3,522 rateable value
 1912 £2,389 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844 Land sub-divided
 1891 Lord Rendlesham and Lady Huntingfield, principle owners
 1912 Sir W. Quilter and Lord Rendlesham, principle owners

17. Resident gentry:

Sir Bartholomew de Glanville, Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk and Governor of Orford Castle c.12th cent.
 William de Boville, Keeper of the Peace in Suffolk 1264

18. Occupations:

1500–1549 1 cooper
 1550–1599 2 husbandmen, 2 yeomen, 1 sawyer, 1 carpenter
 1600–1649 6 yeomen, 6 husbandmen, 1 blacksmith, 1 butcher, 1 clerk, 1 carpenter, 1 labourer
 1650–1699 8 yeomen, 1 husbandmen, 1 blacksmith, 1 farmer, 1 butcher
 1831 69 in agriculture, 42 in retail trade, 3 professionals, 3 in labouring, 37 in domestic service, 5 others
 1844 1 vet, 1 plumber/glazier, 1 joiner, 2 tailors, 1 butcher, 2 grocers/drapers, 1 baker, 1 corn miller, 1 brick/tile maker, 1 surgeon, 1 chief constable, schoolmaster, victualler, beerhouse keeper, collar/harness maker, 2 blacksmiths, 2 wheelwrights, 4 boot/shoemakers, 7 farmers

1912 sub-postmistress, police officer, surgeon, carrier, baker, inn keeper, butcher, miller, 2 grocer/drapers, 1 pork butcher, wheelwright, saddler, publican, 5 farmers

19. Education:

1818 School endowed by Frank Charity, 24 clothed and say school (80 attend)

1833 Daily school (80 attend), 2 Sunday schools
School established 1839 by subscription and grant from British Foreign School Society
National school erected 1858, average attendance 1912 77

20. Poor relief:

1776	£59 15s. 1d.
1803	£189 3s.
1818	£835 9s.
1830	£348
1832	£562 3s.
1834	£472 4s.

21. Charities:

Charity Estate:

1894 House, garden, 2 acres land let at £19 10s. p.a. applied to bread and fuel for poor

Trusson's Charity

1687 by will of Thomas trusson: proceeds from estate provide £3 p.a. to weekly bread for poor

22. Other institutions:

1803 3 Friendly Societies (90 members)
Warner Almshouses c.1892
1912 Police station

23. Recreation:

1844 1 beerhouse, The Swan public house
1891 1 beer retailer, The Swan public house
1912 1 innkeeper, The Swan public house

24. Personal:

25. Other information:

Alderton Hall: 15th cent. stone arches and buttressed angle to be found
in farm buildings

Martello Towers: built by Royal Engineers as defence against
Napoleonic invasion. Three built 1810–1812.

Radar station built on parish boundary 1972.

Derelict smock mill exists 1975.