

1. Parish: Boulge

Meaning: Uncultivated ground covered with heather and the like (Ekwall)

2. **Hundred:** Wilford

Deanery: Loes (- 1914), Carlford (1914 - 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 and County Court District

3. **Area:** 545 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:**

Slowly permeable calcareous/non calcareous clay soils, slight risk water erosion

5. **Types of farming:**

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

1818 Marshall: Course of crops varies usually including summer fallow as preparation for corn products

1937 Main crops: Wheat, beans, barley

1969 Trist: More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet

6. **Enclosure:**

7. **Settlement:**

1983 Very small community on edge of parish, expansion possibly influenced by growth of Boulge Park to the west of settlement. Development is situated on link road between the Debach to Bredfield road and the Hasketon to Bredfield road. Some scattered farms

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 9, 1801 – 6, 1851 – 8, 1871 – 9, 1901 – 12,
1951 – 16, 1981 – 12

8. Communications:

Road: Roads to Debach, Bredfield and Hasketon
Rail: 1891 3½ miles Woodbridge station: Ipswich – Lowestoft line,
opened (1859)
Air: Debach airfield: built by US Army (1943/44), used as POW
holding camp (circa 1945), later accommodated displaced
persons.

9. Population:

1086 — 13 recorded
1327 — 28 taxpayers paid £2. 3s. 7d. (includes Bredfield and Debach)
1524 — 8 taxpayers paid £2. 0s. 6d. (includes Debach)
1603 — 60 adults (includes Debach)
1674 — 11 households
1676 — Not recorded
1801 — 39 inhabitants
1831 — 55 inhabitants
1851 — 39 inhabitants
1871 — 42 inhabitants
1901 — 57 inhabitants
1931 — 68 inhabitants
1951 — 53 inhabitants
1971 — 35 inhabitants
1981 — 36 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Rectory (with Debach)

1254 Valued £1. 6s. 8d.
1291 Not recorded
1535 Valued £3. 12s. 1d.
Consolidated with Debach (1730)
1831 Glebe house, Gross income £235 p.a.
Tithes commuted for £134 p.a. 4 acres 1R 31P glebe land
(1838)
1912 Joint nett value £184. 20 acres glebe and residence

Patrons:

Thomas Seckford (1603), Mrs. Reynolds (1831), Incumbent (1844), R.
Eaton White (1912)

11. Church St. Michael and All Angels
(Chancel, nave, S. aisle, N. porch, W. tower)

1086 Church + 25 acres, 1 priest

16th cent. Situated in grounds of Boulge Hall
Brick tower
1853-95 Thorough restoration

Seats: 120 (1912)

12. Nonconformity etc:

Primitive Methodist chapel built (1872)

13. Manorial:

Boulge Manor

Circa 1267 Boville family owns (linked to Alderton)
1281 Queen Margaret owns (annexed to Debach)
1334 Seckford family owns (linked to Gt. Bealings and
Dallinghoo)
1673-1776 Sir Henry North owns (linked to Mildenhall)
Circa 1800 John FitzGerald owns
1885 Robert Holmes White owns

14. Markets/Fairs

15. Real property:

1844 £988 rental value
1891 £799 rateable value
1912 £647 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844 J. FitzGerald, principle owner
1891 R. Holmes White, principle owner
1912 Sir R.E. White, principle owner

17. Resident gentry:

1680 1 gent recorded
1824 John FitzGerald, High Sheriff of Suffolk

18. Occupations:

1550–1599 1 yeoman, 1 labourer
1600–1649 2 yeomen, 1 husbandman
1650–1699 3 yeomen
1831 11 in agriculture, 1 labourer, 5 in domestic service
1844 3 farmers, 1 parish clerk
1912 1 farmer, 1 estate agent, 1 head gardener, 1 farm bailiff

19. Education:

1597 Vicar teaches children
1818 Parish clerk instructs 14 children
1833 No school in parish
1912 Children attend school in Debach or Bredfield

20. Poor relief:

1776	£28. 18s. 7d.	spent on poor relief
1803	£68. 5s. 3d.	spent on poor relief
1818	£220. 1s.	spent on poor relief
1830	£104. 19s.	spent on poor relief
1832	£96. 17s.	spent on poor relief
1834	£110. 13s.	spent on poor relief

21. Charities:

Town Lands:

1894 4 tenements with gardens occupied at low rents (freely administered) by poor persons
26 acres "R 21P let at £40. 5s. p.a. for repairs to cottages and church, 6d. a week for teaching a few poor children to read, £6/7 p.a. to fuel and for urgent cases of distress

22. Other institutions:

23. Recreation:

24. Personal:

Edward FitzGerald (no dates): translator of Persian poetry, particularly 'Omar Kyam'. Friend of Thackeray. Born at Bredfield Hall, buried in Boulge

25. Other information:

Manorial custom: youngest son inherits, tenant by courtesy, timber one-third value

Archaeological Sites

None recorded