

# 1. Parish: Bredfield

**Meaning:** A space in a field /broad strip of cultivated land (Ekwall)

2. **Hundred:** **Wilford (part), Loes (part)**

**Deanery:** Wilford ( - 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:** 1,107 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:**

Deep well drained sandy soil, some very acid with bleached sub-surface especially under heath and woodland. Risk of wind erosion. Subsoil sand and clay. Problems of acidity and trace element deficiency

5. **Types of farming:**

1086		2 cobs, 1 cattle, 3 oxen, 50 sheep
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, barley, clover, wheat or turnips as preparation for corn and grass
1937	Main crops:	Wheat, barley, beans
1969	Trist:	Dairying has been replaced by arable farming

6. **Enclosure:**

7. **Settlement:**

1983 Main development concentrated between two road junctions i.e. at point where roads to Dallinghoo Wield

and Dallinghoo meet and where Ufford Road meets Woodbridge Road. A secondary settlement has evolved around junction of 3 minor roads with Woodbridge Road and the chapel. At former junction is an area which could indicate the possible site of village green. Scattered farms.

**Inhabited houses:** 1674 – 28, 1801 – 46, 1851 – 100, 1871 – 98, 1901 – 91, 1951 – 97, 1981 – 126

**8. Communications:**

Road: 1891 Carrier to Ipswich on Saturday  
Others pass through to Woodbridge on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday  
1912 Carriers to Woodbridge on Monday and Thursday  
A12 trunk road passes through parish to SE  
Roads to Dallinghoo Wield, Dallinghoo, Ufford and Woodbridge

Rail: 1891 2 miles Melton station: Ipswich – Lowestoft line, opened (1859), closed for passengers (1955), used for coal traffic (1984)

**9. Population:**

1086 — 64 recorded  
1327 — 28 taxpayers paid £2. 3s. 7d. (includes Boulge and Debach)  
1524 — 27 taxpayers paid £2. 18s. 6d.  
1603 — 108 adults  
1674 — 31 households  
1676 — Not recorded  
1801 — 334 inhabitants  
1831 — 466 inhabitants  
1851 — 462 inhabitants  
1871 — 429 inhabitants  
1901 — 345 inhabitants  
1931 — 372 inhabitants  
1951 — 323 inhabitants  
1971 — 263 inhabitants  
1981 — 360 inhabitants

**10. Benefice: Vicarage (with Pettistree)**

1254 Valued £6. 13s. 4d.  
1291 Valued £6. 13s. 4d.  
Portion of same place to the chapel of Sogenhoe £2. 13s. 4d. £9. 6s. 8d.  
1535 Valued £4. 4s.  
1603 Valued £4. 4s.  
1831 Glebe house unfit for occupation. Gross income £250

Vicarage endowed with rectorial tithes. Tithes commuted for £325. p.a. (1831)  
 New vicarage house erected (1836), 30 acres glebe  
 1912 Joint nett value £217. 29 acres glebe and residence

Patrons:

The Crown (1831), Lord Chancellor (1912), Trustees of Mrs. Mary Warner (1918)

- 11. Church**      St. Andrew  
 (Chancel, nave, N. porch, lofty W. tower)
- 1086      Church + 36 acres land, value 3s.  
 Church + 31 acres free land, 2 acres meadow.
- 15<sup>th</sup> cent.      Main structure. Tower parapet – Tudor brickwork  
 S. door blocked – internal stoup remains  
 N. porch – single hammerbeam roof
- 1839      Restoration to roof
- 1874      Norman font sold to tenant of Partridge farm
- 1875      Thorough restoration, west gallery removed
- 1937      Stuart pulpit sounding board on wall of Bredfield House  
 Stuart Holy table – in house of Mr. Cane the builder

**Seats:**                      150, 75 of which are free (1912)

**12. Nonconformity etc:**

Land purchased for Quaker burial ground (1720)  
 Small independent chapel built (1813)

**13. Manorial:**

- 1066      Estate of 41 acres belonging to Aethelwold the priest  
 under patronage of St. Etheldreda
- 1086      Manor of 41 acres belonging to County Alan

**Bredfield Manor**

- Pre 1199      Peche family hold
- 1308      Grant of Edward II to Queen Margaret (Patent Rolls)  
 (linked to Dalham)
- 14<sup>th</sup> cent.      Willoughby family owns (linked to Parham)
- 1546      Sir William Drury owns (linked to Hawstead, absorbs  
 Windeviles)
- 1602      Sir Anthony Wingfield owns (linked to Easton)
- 1663      Robert Marryott owns (linked to Woodbridge, Hasketon  
 and Chelsworth)
- 1675      Jenny family own

### **Sub-Manors:**

1298 Robert de Ufford owns (linked to Parham and Bawdsey)  
1546 Sir William Drury owns (absorbed by main manor)  
1675 Robert Marryott devised (by will) the manor to his wife according to settlement in jointure

Note: Copinger notes an apparent manor “formed of lands given to the Abbey of Campsey known as Bredfield Campsey which had an alternate right of presentation to the vicarage”

1808 John Wood held court  
Nothing else known

### **14. Markets/Fairs**

### **15. Real property:**

1844 £2,078 rental value  
1891 £1,866 rateable value  
1912 £1,658 rateable value

### **16. Land ownership:**

1844/1912 Land sub-divided

### **17. Resident gentry:**

Sir George le Hunt, High Sheriff of Suffolk (1610)  
2 gents recorded (1680)  
1686 John Jeffry and Robert Marryot  
Edmund Jenney, High Sheriff of Suffolk (1740)

### **18. Occupations:**

1500-1549 1 yeoman  
1550-1599 3 husbandmen, 1 yeoman, 1 twill weaver  
1600-1649 9 yeomen, 1 house carpenter, 1 husbandman, 1 weaver, 1 twill weaver  
1650-1699 9 yeomen, 1 butcher, 2 clerks  
1831 69 in agriculture, 21 in retail trade, 2 professionals, 11 in labouring, 20 in domestic service, 7 others  
1844 Grocer/draper, bricklayer, harness maker/shopkeeper, 2 tailors, victualler, hurdle maker/beerhouse keeper, school teacher, 3 boot/shoemakers, 3 joiners/wheelwrights, 11 farmers, 1 miller  
1912 Sub-postmaster, teacher, farm bailiff, 2 carpenters, 6 farmers, shopkeeper, horse dealer, grocer, corn

merchant, florist, publican, wheelwright/general smith,  
gamekeeper, head gardener

**19. Education:**

Daniel Titrington recorded as teaching children to write without a licence (1597)  
1818 Some children attend the National school at Woodbridge  
Day schools: 1 infants (22 attend), 1 day school (40 attend)  
1833 1 infants daily school (10 attend), 2 day schools (44 and 20 attend)  
1 Sunday school (9 attend)  
National school erected (1853/54) (60 attend), average attendance (1912) 70  
School board elected (1874)

**20. Poor relief:**

1776	£73. 17s. 9d.	spent on poor relief
1803	£165. 9s. 4d.	spent on poor relief
1818	£684. 13s.	spent on poor relief
1830	£589. 13s.	spent on poor relief
1832	£552. 13s.	spent on poor relief
1834	£513. 7s.	spent on poor relief

**21. Charities:**

**Town Lands:**

1894 6 acres let at £7. 10s. p.a. managed by the Churchwardens

**22. Other institutions:**

**23. Recreation:**

1844 THE CASTLE public house, 1 beerhouse  
1891 THE CASTLE public house, 1 beerhouse  
1912 THE CASTLE public house

**24. Personal:**

Walter de Norwich: Baron of the Exchequer (1311), Treasurer of the Exchequer (1320)

**25. Other information:**

Suggested site of Roman encampment (1 mile from church)  
Bredfield Hall built (1665), demolished (1950), stables only remains  
Village pump: (18<sup>th</sup> cent.) wrought iron

## **Archaeological Sites**

Med. Moated sites (CRN 3309, 3313)

PMed. cemetery (CRN 9502) and windmill (CRN 9503)

Stray finds: Rom. Coin (CRN 1594)

B.A. axe (CRN 3310)

Sax. Pin (CRN 2934)

Coin (CRN 9509)

Pal. Worked flint (CRN 3311)

Neo. Axe (CRN 3312)

Scatter finds: Med. pottery (CRN 3308, 9504, 9506, 9507, 9508)

I.A. pottery (CRN 5690)

Rom. Pottery (CRN 5691, 9505)