

# 1. Parish: Dennington

**Meaning:** Denigifu's homestead/village (Ekwall)

## 2. Hundred: Hoxne

**Deanery:** Hoxne ( -1914), Loes (1914-1972), Hoxne (1972- )

**Union:** Hoxne (1835-1907), Hartismere (1907-1930)

**RDC/UDC:** (E. Suffolk) Hoxne RD (1894-1934), Blyth RD (1934-1974), Suffolk Coastal DC (1974- )

Other administrative details:

Framlingham Petty Sessional Division  
Framlingham and Saxmundham County Court District

## 3. Area: 3,259 acres land, 8 acres water (1912)

## 4. Soils:

- Mixed:**
- a) Slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loam over clay
  - b) Slowly permeable calcareous/non calcareous clay soils, slight risk water erosion

## 5. Types of farming:

1086		Wood for 160 pigs, 1 park, 20 acres meadow, 1 cob, 20 cattle, 40 pigs, 30 goats, 30 sheep, 5 beehives
1500–1640	Thirsk:	Wood-pasture region. Mainly pasture, meadow, engaged in rearing and dairying with some pigs 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, barley, beans, turnips
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet

## 6. Enclosure:

## 7. Settlement:

1958 Line of Roman Road forms part of southern boundary. Small compact development around central church and staggered crossroads (Framlingham – Stradbroke/Laxfield – Saxstead – Badingham roads) Secondary settlements at Maypole Green, Capons Green, Goddards Corner and Owls Green

**Inhabited houses:** 1674 – 76, 1801 – 86, 1851 – 216, 1871 – 202, 1901 – 156, 1951 – 166, 1981 – 159

## 8. Communications:

Road: Roads to Saxstead, Tannington, Brundish, Stradbroke, Laxfield, Badingham and Framlingham  
1891 Carrier passes through to Ipswich Monday and Friday. Bus service to and from Framlingham commenced (1920's)  
Bus service from Ipswich – Stradbroke daily (1977)

Rail: 1891 3 miles Framlingham station: Wickham Market – Framlingham line, opened (1859), closed for passengers (1952), closed for goods (1965)

Water: River Alde

## 9. Population:

1086 — 34 recorded  
1327 — 28 taxpayers paid £3. 8s. 8d.  
1524 — 55 taxpayers paid £10. 9s. 6d.  
1603 — 220 adults  
1674 — 101 households  
1676 — Not recorded  
1801 — 726 inhabitants  
1831 — 1,000 inhabitants  
1851 — 1,047 inhabitants  
1871 — 885 inhabitants  
1901 — 652 inhabitants  
1931 — 535 inhabitants  
1951 — 517 inhabitants  
1971 — 475 inhabitants  
1981 — 432 inhabitants

## 10. Benefice: Rectory

1254 Valued £20  
1291 Valued £33. 6s. 8d.  
Portion of Eye £1  
Portion of same in Hammondswoode 13s. 4d. £35  
1535 Valued £36. 3s. 6d.

1831 Glebe house, gross income £873 p.a. Incumbent also holds Prebend in Cathedral of Rochester and Rectory of Burnham St. Alberts, Norfolk  
Valued £841 (1835)  
Modus of £1,092 p.a. in lieu of tithes (1838)

1844 152 acres 2R 27P glebe. Large rectory house

1912 Nett value £725 p.a. 100 acres glebe and residence

Patrons: John Rowe (1603), Capt. Long (831), E.D. Alston (1844), Mr. Castleden (1912)

**11. Church**

**St. Mary**

(Chancel, N. vestry, nave, aisles, S. porch, W. tower)

1086 Church + 40 acres free land, ½ plough

1370 Money left to build S. aisle and repair of N. aisle

14<sup>th</sup> cent. Chancel, arcade of 5 bays

15<sup>th</sup> cent. Main structure, including tower and N. porch

1644 Puritanical Vandals (William Dowsing) destroyed angels, 2 holy water fonts, 9 pictures, 2 superstitious inscriptions, spear and nails on 2 stools at lower end of church, cherubim in Sir John Rouses stool (seat/stall occupied by gentleman)

Note: Box pews date from 1630 and 1765  
Rare pyx canopy made from one piece of wood (circa 1500)  
Parclose screens (circa 1450) remain intact

20<sup>th</sup> cent. Sympathetic restoration

Seats: 400 (1915)

**12. Nonconformity etc:**

1597 Neither rector or curate wear the surplice  
2 persons do not attend church or receive communion

1751 Estate of 41 acres granted to Quakers  
Primitive Methodist chapel built (1874)

**13. Manorial:**

**Dennington Manor**

1066 Manor of 6 carucates held by Edric of Lxfield

1086 Manor of 6 carucates belonging to Roger Malet

12<sup>th</sup> cent. Sir John de Bovile died seised

1398 Sir William Wingfield owns

Circa 1407 William Phelip owns (linked to Brundish and Wilby)

- 1538 Anthony Rous owns (linked to Badingham, Bedfield, Brundish, Fressingfield, Monk Soham, Southolt and Clopton)
- 1909 Earl of Stradbroke owns (linked to Tannington)

**14. Markets/Fairs**

**15. Real property:**

- 1844 £5,185 rental value  
 1891 £4,313 rateable value  
 1912 £2,824 rateable value

**16. Land ownership:**

- 1844/1891 Land sub-divided  
 1912 Earl of Stradbroke, principle owner

**17. Resident gentry:**

- 1674 Sir Nicholas Bacun  
 1679 Mr. Wolmer  
 1844 Hon. & Rev. Frederick Hotham MA and T. Barne  
 1891 Rev. G. Castleden MA  
 1912 Rev. E.M. Farrar MA

**18. Occupations:**

- 1500-1549 1 maid  
 1550-1599 8 yeomen, 2 husbandmen  
 1600-1649 15 yeomen, 2 tailors, 6 husbandmen, 1 cooper, 1 thatcher, 1 millwright, 1 turner, 1 tanner  
 1650-1699 16 yeomen, 1 tailor, 1 cutler, 1 linen weaver, 2 spinsters  
 1831 196 in agriculture, 1 in manufacturing, 40 in retail trade, 1 professional, 23 in domestic service, 28 others  
 1844 3 shoemakers, 3 grocer/drapers, land agent, 2 corn millers, victualler, wheelwright, beerhouse keeper, butcher, 2 blacksmiths, 3 tailors, carpenter, 11 farmers  
 1912 Sub-postmaster, police officer, school teacher, 2 grocers, 21 farmers, cattle dealer, 2 boot/shoemakers, market gardener, pork butcher, blacksmith, florist, basket maker, shopkeeper, boot repairer, wheelwright, beer retailer, horse slaughterer, watchmaker, publican, miller, carpenter, 2 furniture brokers

**19. Education:**

- 1818 2 day schools (31 attend)  
 1833 1 infant school (10 attend), 1 daily school (35 attend)  
 1 Sunday school established (1823) (51 attend)

School built (1875), 150 attend (1891), average attendance (1912) 120

**20. Poor relief:**

1776	£159. 14s. 8d.	spent on poor relief
1803	£747. 19s. 4½d.	spent on poor relief
1818	£1,359. 5s.	spent on poor relief
1830	£1,584. 19s.	spent on poor relief
1832	£1,453. 3s.	spent on poor relief
1834	£1,309. 14s.	spent on poor relief

**21. Charities:**

**Town Lands:**

1840 11 acres 21P called Cannons and Cobalds (vested in feofees pre 1483)  
Workhouse and cottage + 14 acres 2R 2P called Goldings and Sowgates  
Queens Head public house and lands of 3R 4P  
Rents on above amount to £55 p.a. applied to church repairs, repairs to premises and purchase of coals for poor.

**Wrights Charity:**

1657 by gift of Nathan Wright: 7 acres 11P let at £9. 9s. p.a. applied to apprenticing of poor children.

**Wrights Bread Charity:**

1654 by gift of Robert and Nathan Wright: 3 acres 34P called Pitmans Grove let at £9 p.a. applied to purchase of coals for poor

**Pauls Charity:**

1688 by will of John Paul: Rents of £7. 15s. 11d. p.a. (1840) applied equally with Laxfield for supply of four 3d. loaves every Sunday and purchase of coats for 6 poor men

**Bell Acre Land:**

1536 Rent of 10s. p.a. (1764)

**Warners Charity:**

1840 £5 applied to 10 poor families not receiving relief

### **Mills Charity:**

1703 by will of Thomas Mills: 5s. applied to distribution of bread quarterly

### **22. Other institutions:**

1803 2 Friendly Societies  
1912 Police officer listed. Last police officer recorded (1969), police house sold for private use  
Last village nurse recorded (1949)  
Womens Institute formed (1922)  
British Legion Mens Branch formed (1928), disbanded (1975)

### **23. Recreation:**

1620 Reputedly parish held public house called THE ROYAL OAK  
THE QUEENS HEAD public house: Grade II listed, records date from (1483), bought by parish (1694) and administered by Charity Trustees  
1844/1891 THE QUEENS HEAD public house, 1 beerhouse  
1912 THE QUEENS HEAD public house, 1 beer retailer  
1977 THE QUEENS HEAD and THE BELL INN (former beerhouse)  
Dennington and District Athletic Sports Club opened (1922)

### **24. Personal:**

Sir Charles Hotham K.C.B.: (1800-1855), native of parish, governor of Victoria  
Sir William Phellipp, Lord Bardolf: fought at Agincourt (1450), Captain of Harfleur (1421/22), treasurer of Henry V household, Chamberlain and privy councillor to Henry VI. Tomb in St. Margarets Chapel within the church  
Family tree of Edwards family of Dennington. PSIA Vol. XIX p.253

### **25. Other information:**

Water supply gained via four wells: well situated in centre of village and protected by ornamental cover (73' deep). Cover removed and base sealed (1920). Sign post placed on site, removed (1965)  
'The Village of Dennington' by H.R. Plant (1977)  
Recorded site of Domesday deer park  
Three greens are recorded: Maypole Green, Owls Green and Capon Green, however these have been reduced to place names only (1977)

Sand table (8' x 1') used to teach children to write (19<sup>th</sup> cent.) is situated in the church  
'Sand Writing Table' by Rev. F. Haslewood. PSIA Vol. VIII p.76

Parish Hall opened (1882), enlarged (1929), electric light connected (1950)

Street Farm: (Tudor Farmhouse) taken down and removed to Princes Risborough, Bucks (1929)

1<sup>st</sup> Council house built (1937)

Parish visited by Princess Victoria Mary (1906)

Mains water supply installed (1947)

Water tower built (1953)

Mains electricity connected (1949)

'Extracts from the parish book at Dennington'. East Anglian Notes and Queries (New Series) Vol. III p.273 (dates from 1538)

'The Dunthorpe Manuscript' by Rev. E. Farrer. PSIA Vol. XX p.147

'Dennington Notes' by Rev. Canon Raven. PSIA Vol. VII p.120

'Dennington Church Notes' by Canon Raven. PSIA Vol. X p.231

'Dennington Church' by Thomas E. Key. PSIA Vol. VIII p.65

'Rectors of Dennington' PSIA Vol. VIII p.80

### **Archaeological Sites**

Med. moated site/key (CRN 3100)

Med. moated sites (CRN 3103 – 3113, 3115, 3116)

Un. Enclosure (CRN 3117)

Med. fishpond (CRN 3118)

Church of St. Mary (CRN 1687)

Stray finds: B.A. spearhead (CRN 3099)

Rom. Pottery (CRN 3102)

Brooch (CRN 3119, 3120)

Neo. Worked flint (CRN 3121)

Scatter finds: Med. pottery (CRN 3103)

Rom. Coins (CRN 3114)