

## 1. Parish: Gisleham

**Meaning:** Meadow/enclosure of Gysela and his people (Ekwall)

2. **Hundred:** **Mutford ( -1764), Mutford and Lothingland (1764- )**

**Deanery:** Lothingland

**Union:** Mutford and Lothingland

**RDC/UDC:** (E. Suffolk) Mutford and Lothingland RD (1894-1934),  
Lothingland RD (1934-1974), Waveney DC (1974- )

Other administrative details:

Civil Boundary change (1974)  
Mutford and Lothingland Petty Sessional Division  
Lowestoft County Court District

3. **Area:** 1,329 (1912)

4. **Soils:**

**Mixed:** a) Deep well drained sandy and coarse loam, some slowly permeable with slight seasonal waterlogging, risk wind erosion  
b) Slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loam over clay

5. **Types of farming:**

|           |             |   |
|-----------|-------------|---|
| 1500–1640 | Thirsk:     | Sheep corn region, where sheep are main fertilizing agent, bred for fattening. Barley main cash crop. Also has similarities with wood-pasture region with pasture, meadow, dairying and some pig-keeping. |
| 1818      | Marshall:   | Wide variations of crop and management techniques including summer fallow in preparation for corn and rotation of turnip, barley, clover, wheat on lighter lands.   |
| 1937      | Main crops: | Wheat, barley, oat, roots, clover, beans, peas  |
| 1969      | Trist:      | More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet  |

6. **Enclosure:**

1799 343 acres in Gisleham and Pakefield enclosed under Private Act of Lands 1798

**7. Settlement:**

1974 Coastal parish. Very small ribbon development situated inland. Church situated at northern end of development. Holiday accommodation occupies site on coast line, formerly Pakefield. Few scattered farms.

**Inhabited houses:** 1674 – 24, 1801 – 23, 1851 – 57, 1871 – 64, 1901 – 66, 1951 – 155, 1981 – 180

**8. Communications:**

**Road:** Roads to Carlton Colville, Lowestoft, Kessingland and Rushmere

1891 Carriers pass through to Lowestoft daily

**Rail:** 1891 2½ miles Carlton Colville station: (Oulton Broad South): Ipswich – Lowestoft line, opened (1859), station closed (1972)

**9. Population:**

1086 — 5 recorded

1327 — 41 taxpayers paid £2. 10s. 10d. (includes Rushmere)

1524 — 20 taxpayers paid £4. 13s. 6d.

1603 — 66 adults

1674 — 24 households

1676 — Not recorded

1801 — 198 inhabitants

1831 — 262 inhabitants

1851 — 310 inhabitants

1871 — 284 inhabitants

1901 — 306 inhabitants

1931 — 319 inhabitants

1951 — 459 inhabitants

1971 — 477 inhabitants

1981 — 456 inhabitants

**10. Benefice: Rectory (1831) Discharged Rectory (1891)**

1254 Valued £10

1291 Valued £13. 6s. 8d.

1535 Valued £13. 6s. 8d.

Parsonage has 3 hearths (1674)

1831 Curate, stipend £80 p.a. Glebe house, gross income £342 p.a.

1844 Modus of £410 p.a. Good residence

1912 Nett value £266 p.a. 7 acres glebe and residence

**Patrons:**

The Crown (1603-1891), Lord Chancellor (1891- )

11. **Church**      **Holy Trinity**  
 (Chancel, nave, south porch, round tower)
- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| Norman                 | Tower, upper portion (15 <sup>th</sup> cent.). Nave and chancel masonry |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> cent. | Main structure  |
| 1861                   | Restoration   |
| 1887                   | Restoration   |
| 1907                   | Restoration   |

Seats:            200 (1912)

12. **Nonconformity etc:**

13. **Manorial:**

**Gisleham Hall/Gisleham with Pies**

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| 1270                   | Alan de Wymenhale owns (linked to Kirkley and Brampton)   |
| 1282                   | William de Gisleham owns  |
| 1311                   | Sir Edmund de Hemegrave owns  |
| 1343                   | John de Biskele owns (linked to Frostenden)   |
| 1356                   | John de Ulverston owns (linked to Frostenden)   |
| 1418                   | Sir William Argentine owns  |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> cent. | Mid 15 <sup>th</sup> cent. Sir Giles Alington owns  |
| 1516                   | Sir Walter Hobart owns  |
| Circa 1669             | Robert Richman/Richmond owns (linked to Kirkley)  |
| Circa 1808             | Rachel Ives Drake owns  |
| 1885                   | Ricahrd Henry Reeve owns (linked to Ashby, Belton, Blundeston, Bradwell, Carlton Colville, Corton, Flixton, Rushmere, Pakefield, Mutford, Lound, Kirkley and Gorleston) |

**Sub-Manors:**

**Pyes Hall**

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 1483 | Sir William Jenney owns (linked to Herringfleet)  |
| 1534 | Henry Hobart owns (absorbed by main manor) (linked to Kessingland, Kirkley and Pakefield) |

14. **Markets/Fairs**

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 1270 | Alan de Wymenhale has grant of market and fair |
|------|--|

**15. Real property:**

|      |                       |
|------|-----------------------|
| 1844 | £2,120 rental value   |
| 1891 | £1,797 rateable value |
| 1912 | £1,753 rateable value |

**16. Land ownership:**

1844-1912 Land sub-divided

**17. Resident gentry:**

1912 Rev. T.H. Peak MA, Capt. C. Reeve RN, JP

**18. Occupations:**

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 1550–1599 | 2 yeomen, 1 smith, 1 husbandman  |
| 1600–1649 | 4 yeomen, 1 labourer, 2 husbandmen, 1 glover, 1 locksmith  |
| 1650–1699 | 8 yeomen   |
| 1831      | 52 in agriculture, 6 in retail trade, 2 professionals, 19 in domestic service  |
| 1844      | Gardener, blacksmith, 10 farmers, miller   |
| 1912      | School mistress, 6 farmers, asst. overseer, steam brick manufacturers, market gardener, apartment keeper, blacksmith |

**19. Education:**

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 1818 | 1 day school (20 attend)  |
| 1833 | 1 day and Sunday school (24 attend)   |
| 1844 | Small school endowed by Rev. M. Reynolds (Schoolhouse built 1848), 30 attend (1891), enlarged (1894 and 1910), average attendance 1912) 72. Supported by funds and government grant. New school expected to be built. |

**20. Poor relief:**

|      |                |                      |
|------|----------------|----------------------|
| 1776 | £43. 3s. 3d.   | spent on poor relief |
| 1803 | £56. 10s. 11d. | spent on poor relief |
| 1818 | £108. 14s.     | spent on poor relief |
| 1830 | £118. 14s.     | spent on poor relief |
| 1832 | £144. 17s.     | spent on poor relief |
| 1834 | £169. 2s.      | spent on poor relief |

**21. Charities:**

**22. Other institutions:**

**23. Recreation:**

**24. Personal:**

**25. Other information:**

Site of Gisleham Hall: surrounded by double moat. Formerly adjoined extensive common ( -1799). Drawbridge removed (circa 1794).

Bloodmore Hill – believed to be site of ancient battle with Danish invaders.

Former pest-house recorded (1838)

Shared 330 acres common with Pakefield, no open fields (1798)

**Archaeological Sites**

Med. moated sites (CRN 1599, 1600)

Sax. Barrow (CRN 1601)

Stray finds: Rom. brooch (CRN 1063, 2661)

Neo. flint axe (CRN 1604, 1606, 1614)

Med. coin (CRN 1064, 1615)

Bronze harness (CRN 1616)

Artefact (CRN 1617)

Scatter finds: Rom. metal work (CRN 1060, 1061)

Pottery (CRN 1609)

Pottery/metalwork (CRN 1610)

Neo. worked flint (CRN 1062, 1603, 1605, 1607, 1611, 1612, 1613)

Med. pottery (CRN 1602)

Sax. Metalwork (CRN 1608)