

1. Parish: Great Bealings

Meaning: Clearing of the Inga's (exact meaning not known)
(EKWALL)

2. **Hundred:** Carlford

Deanery: Carlford (–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 Country Court
District.

3. **Area:**

1,036 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:**

Mixed a. Deep well drained soils, often ferruginous soils.
Risk of wind and water erosion.

b. Deep fine loam soils with slowly permeable
subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging. Some
fine loam over clay fine loam and sandy soils.

5. **Types of farming:**

1086		11½ acres meadow, 4 cobs, 3 cattle, 12 pigs, 60 sheep
1500–1640	Thirsk:	Sheep-corn region, sheep 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, oats, roots
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet

6. **Enclosure:**

7. Settlement:

1980 Railway runs across parish W-E. Rivers crosses parish N-SE, forming southern boundary for part of its length. Development of moderate size, well spaced. Church situated slightly to NW of settlement. Secondary settlement at Boot Street. Scattered farms

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 24, 1801 – 35, 1851 – 87, 1871 – 84, 1901 – 68, 1951 – 79, 1981 – 109.

8. Communications:

Road: to Tuddenham St Martin, Lt Bealings, Martlesham and Woodbridge.
1891 Carriers pass through to Ipswich Tuesday and Saturday and Woodbridge on Monday and Thursday.
1912 Carrier to Ipswich Tuesday and Saturday.
Woodbridge Monday and Thursday

Rail: 1891 Rail station: 1 mile to Lt. Bealings station. Ipswich–Lowestoft line opened 1859. Closed for passengers in 1956, closed for goods 1965

9. Population:

1086 – 39 recorded (Includes Domesday vill of seckford)
1327 – 29 taxpayers paid £3. 5s. 6½d. (includes Little Bealings)
1524 – 42 taxpayers paid £9. 17s. 2d.
1603 – 58 adults
1674 – 31 households
1676 – Not recorded
1801 – 218 inhabitants
1831 – 367 inhabitants
1851 – 377 inhabitants
1871 – 341 inhabitants
1901 – 291 inhabitants
1931 – 270 inhabitants
1951 – 237 inhabitants
1971 – 305 inhabitants
1981 – 315 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Rectory

1254 Valued £6 13s. 4d
1291 valued £7. 6s. 8d.
1535 Valued £10. 4s. 7d
1831 Glebe house unfit for occupation. Gross income £250 p.a.
1844 Valued £300 p.a.
1891 20 acres glebe. Rectory house built (1845)

1912 Net value £184 p.a. 20 acres glebe and residence.

Patrons: Mr. Justice Clinch (1603), Lord Henniker (1831-)

11. Church ST MARY
(Chancel, nave, N porch, W. tower)

1086 Church + 20 acres, valued 40d

14th/15th cent. Main structure

N.porch (Circa 1520)

Tower built (1450)

To the steeple 6s. 8d. (1458)

19th cent Chancel

1845-50, 1876 Restorations

Seats: 200 (1915)

FREE CHAPEL: ST. PETER

Last referred to (1596) nothing further known. Only reference found in 'East Suffolk Illustrated' by Barker

12. Nonconformity etc:

1644 William Gibbons, rector of Gt. and Lt. Bealings, ejected by Suffolk Committee for scandalous ministers, accused of being a common drunkard, frequenter of alehouses and taphouses and keeping the company of lewd women and known harlots.

1850 1 house set aside for worship

13. Manorial:

1066 Manor of 100 acres held by Wulfmer

1086 Manor of 100 acres belonging to Hervey of Bourges

13th cent. Sir Hugh de Peche owns (linked to Grundisburgh and Kedington)

1310 Sir Robert de Tuddenham owns (linked to Kesgrave and Grundisburgh)

Circa 1474 Margaret Bedingfield owns

1585 John Clench owns (linked to Burgh and Holbrook)

Circa 1679 Dr. Thomas Wood owns

Circa 1710 John Pitt owns (linked to Ashfield and Debenham)

Circa 1781 Sir John Henniker owns

SUB MANORS:

SECKFORD HALL

1066	Manor of 2 carucates held by Aelfric, son of Wulfgeat under patronage of Harold.
1086	Manor of 2 carucates belonging to Bishop of Bayeux
1185	Bartholomew de seckford owns
1624	Samuel Atkinson owns
18 th cent.	Thomas Wilkinson owns
1838	John Wood (linked to Dallinghoo)
1844	George Moor owns

14. Markets/Fairs:

Charter for market and fair (1271) (does not specify Gt. Or Lt. Bealings)

15. Real property:

1844	£1,659 rental value
1891	£1,897 rateable value
1912	£1,697 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844	Land sub-divided.
1891	Lord Henniker and Capt. E.C Moor, Principal owners
1912	E.G Pretyman and Major E.C Moor, Principal owners.

17. Resident gentry:

	Edmund Clench (has house with 16 hearths) (1674)
	Sir Henry North (has house with 20 hearths) (1674)
	Edmund Smith (Bealings) (1679)
	John Pitt, sheriff of Suffolk (1721)
1891	Capt. E.C Moor JP
1912	Lt. Col. J.G. Downing, Lt. Col. Brigade Surgeon Oldham, Major E.C. Moor JP and Rev. H. Beech MA

18. Occupations:

1550- 1599	2 yeomen, 2 husbandmen, 1 tailor
1600–1649	5 yeoman, 5 husbandmen, 1 tailor, 2 spinsters
1650–1699	3 yeoman, 2 drapers
1831	48 in agriculture, 30 in retail trade, 4 professionals, 21 in domestic service, 4 others
1844	Victualler, brick/tile maker, hurdle maker, 2 shoemakers, joiner, wheelwright/machine maker, gardener, bricklayer,

blacksmith/drill maker, boarding /day school owner,
solicitor, corn miller, 8 farmers.
1912 Sub-postmaster, publican, farm bailiff, Shopkeeper, boot
repairer, 2 farmers, builder/contractor, market gardener,
carrier, beer retailer.

19. Education:

1818 1 Sunday school (40 attend)
1833 2 daily schools (22 attend), 1 Sunday school (40 attend)
1844 Boarding and day school run by F. Landon recorded
1891/1912 Children attend school at Little Bealings.

20. Poor relief:

1776 £42 9s. 10d.
1803 £87 10s. 2d.
1818 £323
1830 £216 11s.
1832 £226 14s.
1834 £238 6s.

21. Charities:

22. Other institutions:

1891 Clothing Club
Parish library

23. Recreation:

1844 The Boot Inn public house
1891/1912 The Boot public house and 1 beerhouse/ retailer.

24. Personal:

Thomas Seckford (16th cent) : Master of Court of Requests and
Surveyor of Court of Wards and Liveries. Founder of Woodbridge
grammar school and alehouse.
'The Seckfords of Seckford hall' by V.B Redstone. PSIA Vol. IX p.359

25. Other information:

Gt. Bealings Hall: taken down (circa 1784), had previously stood near
to church.
Seckford Hall: rebuilt and improved (16th Cent) by Thomas Seckford.
Part ruinous (1908), part farmhouse. Engraving exists (1818).
Restoration (20th cent). Hotel and country club (1981)

Theory: originally 'E' shaped, long brick façade achieved by infilling pedestal of wayside cross situated near 'The Rosery'.
 'Bealings Bells: An account of the mysterious ringing of the bells at great Bealings, Suffolk in 1834' by Major Edward Moor (1841).
 Concerns the unaided ringing of servants call bells at the house of Major E. Moor. They reputedly continued to ring at ¼ hour intervals for 53 days.
 'the impressions of a Parson's wife' by Kathleen Jarvis (1951)
 Rev. E.J. Moor is said to have compiled handwritten history of parish with pencil sketches (not known if these still exist)
 'A Nightingale in the Sycamore' by Kathleen Jarvis (1953)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES:

Iron working site (CRN 832)
 Neo. Pits excavation (CRN 2710)
 I.A. Pottery/loom weight/building/pit excavation (CRN 2721)
 B.A. excavation/pottery (CRN 3370)
 Site of Bealings Hall (CRN 3371)
 Mes. Excavation/worked flint (CRN 3373)
 Neo. Excavation/pottery and worked flint (CRN 3374)
 B.A. Excavation/Pottery and worked flint (CRN 3375)
 I.A. excavation/pottery (CRN 3376)
 PMed bridge (CRN 3377)
 Ring ditch (CRN 3378)
 Stray finds: Rom. Coins (CRN 1824, 1825)
 I.A. coin (CRN 656)
 Med. Coin (CRN 657)
 Pottery/metalwork (CRN 3404)
 LSax. Bronze balance (CRN 2915)
 Mes. Axes and macehead (CRN 3379)
 Neo. Worked flint (CRN 3380, 3381)
 B.A axe (CRN 3382)
 Stone implement (CRN 3383)
 Scatter Finds: Med. Pottery/ metalwork (CRN 68)
 Pottery (CRN314)
 Sax. Pottery (CRN 7495)
 Rom. Pottery/metalwork (CRN 2914)
 Un. Inhumation burial (CRN 3372)