

1. Parish: Herringfleet

Meaning: The stream of Herela's people

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

Deanery: Lothingland

Union: Mutford and Lothingland

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

Other administrative details:

Civil boundary change (1974) loses part known as St.
Olaves to Norfolk
Mutford & Lothingland Petty Sessional Division
Lowestoff County Court District

3. **Area:** 1,282 acres land, 23 acres water, 15 acres tidal water, 40
acres foreshore (1912)

4. **Soils:**

Mixed: a) Stoneless slowly permeable seasonally
waterlogged coarse loam affected by groundwater
b) Deep well drained coarse loam often stoneless
soils, risk water erosion

5. **Types of farming:**

1086		Wood for 12 pigs
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 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, rye, root, some pasture
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet

6. **Enclosure:**

1819 233 acres enclosed under Private Act of Lands 1812

7. Settlement:

1980 River Waveney forms natural county and parish boundary to west, associated marsh land restricts development in this area. Small dispersed settlement. Church in isolated position in centre of parish.
Area around priory known as St. Olaves transferred to Norfolk and amalgamated with Fritton (1974)
Few scattered farms

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 18, 1801 – 30, 1851 – 34, 1871 – 41,
1901 – 53, 1951 – 89, 1981 – 24

8. Communications:

Road: Roads to Ashby, Fritton and Somerleyton
1844 Coaches and carriers from Yarmouth and Beccles, Ipswich and Bury St. Edmunds daily

Rail: 1891 St. Olaves station 1 mile: Southtown (Yarmouth) Beccles line, opened (1859), station closed (1959)

Water: River Waveney: Act passed to make Waveney navigable (1670), declined marked by beginning of rail travel (1852)

9. Population:

1086 — 3 recorded
1327 — 15 taxpayers paid £1. 0s. 2d.
1524 — 17 taxpayers paid £1. 1s. 1d.
1603 — 44 adults
1674 — 19 inhabitants
1676 — not recorded
1801 — 160 inhabitants
1831 — 183 inhabitants
1851 — 179 inhabitants
1871 — 230 inhabitants
1901 — 257 inhabitants
1931 — 289 inhabitants
1951 — 255 inhabitants
1971 — 78 inhabitants
1981 — 58 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Lay Impropriation (1844), Donative (1891), Vicarage (1912)

1254 Valued £4. 13s. 4d.
1291 Valued £6. 13s. 4d.
1535 not recorded
1603 Curate, stipend £7 p.a. (1603)

19th cent. Cure also has tithes of Prior of St. Olaves and thereby has exclusive rights of fishing the river along parish boundary and the right to keep swans
Incumbents also holds Rectory of Carlton St. Mary, Norfolk

1831 Not recorded
1844 Curate appointed by Lord of Manor
1862 Considered free from all ecclesiastical jurisdiction
1912 Nett value £130 p.a.

Patrons: Col. H.M. Leathes (1912)

11. Church **St. Margaret (thatched)**
(chancel, nave, S. porch, round W. tower)

Saxon Possible E. window of tower
Norman Main structure including tower (now considered Anglo Saxon)
13th cent. Nave.

Seats: 104 (1912)

11a. Other religious institutions

St. Olaves Priory (Augustinian)

Virgin Mary and St. Olave, The King and Martyr

1216 Founded by Roger Fitz Osbert
Consisted of 6/7 canons
1291 Valued £27+
1493 Prior and 5 canons
1535 Valued £49. 11s. 7d.
1537 Dissolved
1784 Remains cleared, boundary wall used in road repairs although since 1904 restoration and excavation have preserved some fragments (walls of church cloisters and other buildings have since been revealed.)
Situated 300 yards NW of St. Olaves station
Contained 13th cent. church, S. aisle of 5 bays added (1310)
Cloister space visible N. of church
1961 Converted to dwelling house (16th cent.) also ruined

12. Nonconformity etc:

1603 1 recusant

13. Manorial:

1066 Manor of 1 carucate held by Wulfsi, a free man

1086 Manor of 1 carucate belonging to the King

Herringfleet Late Priory

13th cent. Roger Fitz Osbert owns (linked to Fritton)
-1536/7 Priory of St. Olave
1546 Henry Jernegan owns
1605 Sold to Matthew Bedell in order to pay debts
1674 Edward Taverner owns
1726 Sir Edmund Bacon owns
circa 1772 Carteret Leathes owns

Sub-Manor:

Loudham and Titsall's Herringfleet

1275 Robert de Loudham owns (linked to Cookley)
1446 William Jenny owns (linked to Gisleham)
1631 John Ufflet conveyed to John Hammond
1650 Sir Thomas Meadow
1743 Hill Mussenden owns passing via inheritance to the
Leathes family (absorbed by main manor)

14. Markets/Fairs

1226 Fair granted to St. Olaves

15. Real property:

1844 £1,297 rental value
1891 £1,539 rateable value
1912 £2,351 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844 J.F. Leathes, principal owner
1891/1912 Col. Hill M. Leathes, sole owner

17. Resident gentry:

1674 Sir Henry Bacon
1827 John Francis Leathers, High Sheriff of Suffolk
1844 Henry M. Leathes
1912 Col. J.H.E. Hinde CB, Col. H.M. Leathes JP, Rev. H.S.
Mercer MA

18. Occupations:

1550-1599 1 husbandman, tailor
1600-1649 1 yeoman, 1 husbandman
1650-1699 4 yeomen, 2 husbandmen

1831 29 in agriculture, 7 in retail trade, 1 professionals, 18 in domestic service, 1 others
 1844 Maltster/coal dealer/victualler, schoolmaster, gardener, curate, boot/shoemaker, 8 farmers
 1912 Sub-postmaster, station master, 5 farmer, market gardener, shopkeeper, 2 hotel owners, 2 yacht owners

19. Education:

1818 1 day school (30 attend)
 1833 1 daily school (70 attend, 12 free places endowed by Mrs. Elizabeth Merry)
 1844 1 Sunday school (18 attend)
 1844 1 schoolmaster recorded
 1873 School built
 1912 Children attend school at Somerleyton or Fritton

20. Poor relief:

1776	£28. 17s. 6d.	spent on poor relief
1803	£45. 3s. 6d.	spent on poor relief
1818	£79. 9s.	spent on poor relief
1830	£79. 6s.	spent on poor relief
1832	£113. 14s.	spent on poor relief
1834	£75. 10s.	spent on poor relief

21. Charities:

Poors Allotment:

1840 6 acres OR 35P let at £13. 15s. applied to purchase of coals for poor at Christmas

Merry's Gift:

1840 Bequest of Mrs. Elizabeth Merry: £20 p.a. for educate of 12 poor children

22. Other institutions

23. Recreation:

1844 The Bell Inn
 1891 The Bell Inn public house and brewer
 1912 The Bell Hotel and Cromwell Hotel

24. Personal:

25. Other information:

Old Manor house: formerly moated situated near the church

St. Olaves Bridge: spans the Waveney near Bell Inn and site of priory rebuilt (1770). First mentioned (1298), believed previous bridge however dated from (16th cent.) Now in Norfolk. Iron suspension bridge built (1847)

Village hall recorded (1949)

St. Olave's wind pump appears under protection of Suffolk Preservation Society

'St. Olave's Priory and Bridge' by W.A. Smith Wynne (1914) contains ground plan of Priory and Estate map (1784)

Tudor manor house built by Henry Jernegan after dissolution of Priory (circa 1546)

St. Olaves Bridge: only vehicular crossing of River Waveney between Yarmouth and Beccles (1914). Bridge built on site of ancient ferry (circa 13th cent.). Sketch of bridge (circa 1512) reproduced opposite page 56 of book by Wynne above, followed by painting of 2nd bridge (built 1768, pulled down 1847) and the modern bridge built (1847), pictured dated (1906) opposite page 62 of Wynnes book

Engraving of interior of crypt, St. Olaves Priory by John Weale (1846) see History and Antiquities of the County of Suffolk by Rev. A. Suckling

Windmill: built (circa 1830), octagonal smock mill. Used for drainage maintained as landmark

Priory Mill: built (1910), smock type mill for drainage, derelict (1961)

Archaeological Sites:

Rectilinear enclosure (CRN 1768)

Church of St. Margaret (CRN 1769)

Stray finds: Rom. coin (CRN 101)
 Rom. bronze skilnet (CRN 1772)
 B.A. flint arrowhead (CRN 1765)
 Neo. flint axe (CRN 1767)

Scatter finds: Med. metalwork (CRN 100)
 Pal. worked flint (CRN 1770, 1771)

St. Olaves Priory – see Norfolk