

1. Parish: Kirkley otherwise South Lowestoft

Meaning: Clearing with or belonging to the church

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

Deanery: Lothingland

Union: Mutford and Lothingland (-1890), Lowestoft MD (1890-1907)

RDC/UDC: (E.Suffolk) Lowestoft UD (-1974), Waveney DC (1974-)

Other administrative details:

Civil boundary change (1883)
Abolished as civil parish (1907), absorbed by Lowestoft
Abolished ecclesiastically (1974), to create Kirkley with
Lowestoft St. John
Mutford & Lothingland Petty Sessional Division
Lowestoft County Court District

3. **Area:** 579 acres including 40 acres water (1891)

4. **Soils:**

Urbanized area

5. **Types of farming:**

1500–1640	Thirsk:	Sheep-corn region where sheep are main fertilizing agent, bred for fattening. Barley main cash crop.
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:	Not recorded
1969	Trist:	Barley and sugar beet are the main crops with some rye grown on poorer lands and a little wheat, herbage, seeds and carrots

6. **Enclosure:**

7. **Settlement:**

1974 Suburb of Lowestoft

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 31, 1801 – 42, 1851 – 170,
1871 – 346, 1901 – 1,359, 1951 – 1,402,
1981 – included in Lowestoft

8. Communications:

Lake Lothing situated in North of parish, formerly connected to the sea by channel called 'Kirkley Ham'

Road: 1891 Carriers pass through to Lowestoft daily

Rail: 1891 1 mile Lowestoft station: Norwich-Yarmouth-Lowestoft Line, opened (1844), still operative
Yarmouth-Lowestoft line opened (1903), close for good (1967)
Close for passenger (1970)
Ipswich-Lowestoft line, opened (1859), still operative

9. Population:

1086 — 7 recorded

1327 — 32 taxpayers paid £2. 1s. 3d. (includes Pakefield)

1524 — 39 taxpayers paid £5. 5s. 10d.

1603 — 62 adults

1674 — 36 inhabitants

1676 — not recorded

1801 — 177 inhabitants

1831 — 374 inhabitants

1851 — 799 inhabitants

1871 — 1,626 inhabitants

1901 — 6,465 inhabitants

1931 — included in Lowestoft

10. Benefice: Rectory (1831), Discharged Rectory (1844)

1254 Valued £2

1291 Valued £4. 13s. 4d.

1535 Valued £5. 16s. 10 ½ d.

1831 Curate, stipend £50 p.a. No glebe house, gross income £165 p.a.

Incumbents also holds Rectory of Carlton St. Mary, Norfolk

1844 20 acres glebe. Modus of £142 10s. p.a.

1862 Rectory house for Pakefield parish built in Kirkley

1912 Nett value £200. 30 acres glebe and residence

Patrons: William Tyvetshall (1308), Abbot and Convent of Leiston (1349/61), John Lancaster (1421), Dukes of Norfolk (1436), John Viscount Beaumont (1453), John Wodeyvll (1469), Dukes of Norfolk (1484-1555), William Roberts (1570), Hobart family (1589-1642), Richmond family (1680-1748), Charles Garneys (1770-98), Robert Reeve (1809/12), Hon. G.J. Ireby (1831), Mr. H. James (1891), Rev. H. Cockeyne (1912)

11. Church **St. Peter**
(chancel, side chapel, nave, aisle, N. & S. porch, round W. tower)

-1749 In ruins
1749 Partly rebuilt
1875 Nave rebuilt
1885-90 Restoration
1887 S. porch
1908 Chapel, N. aisle and porch built

Seats: 1,100 (1912)

St. Matthews Mission Church

1899 Built

Seats: 500 (1912)

12. Nonconformity etc:

1900-3 Congregational chapel built, seats 400

13. Manorial:

Kirkley al Kirkley Fastolfs/Kirkley Hall

1271 Alan de Wymundhale owns (linked to Gisleham and Brampton)
1378 Hugh Fastolf own (linked to Carlton Colville and Pakefield)
1510 Thomas Russes owns (linked to Bradwell, Bawdsey and Bucklesham)
1558 Henry Hobart owns (linked to Kessingland, Gisleham and Pakefield)
1680 Robert Richman/Richmond owns (linked to Gisleham)
1855 George Ives owns
1885 Richard Henry Reeve owns (linked to Ashby, Bolton, Blundeston, Bradwell, Carlton Colville, Corton, Flixton, Rushmere, Pakefield, Mutford, Lound, Gorleston and Gisleham)

14. Markets/Fairs

1271 Grant of licence for market and fair to Alan de Wymundhale

15. Real property:

1844 £823 rental value
1891 £16,300 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844/1912 Land sub-divided

17. Resident gentry:

1891 W.F. Larkins JP

18. Occupations:

1550-1599 4 seamen/mariners, 1 yeoman, 3 husbandmen

1600-1649 4 fishermen, 1 sailor, 5 yeomen

1650-1699 6 fishermen, 1 sailor, 4 yeomen, 2 tailors, 2 merchants, 1 spinster

1831 33 in agriculture, 18 in retail trade, 2 professionals, 42 in labouring, 4 in domestic service, 5 others

1844 Includes Pakefield: Blacksmith, saw mills, 2 corn millers, 3 victuallers, keeper of Pakefield Lighthouse, joiner, 2 academics, 4 bakers, 3 beerhouse keepers, boot/shoemaker, 4 bricklayers, butcher, 5 fish curers, 8 farmers, 4 shopkeepers, tailor

19. Education:

1833 Children attend school in Pakefield

1871 Parochial school built for girls and infants

1885 Boys school built

1891 Ladies school run by Mrs. MH. Beauchamp

Private Ladies schools run by Misses Bignolds, Miss G.H. Oldacre and Miss F. Orris

Private school run by T. Bruce Payne

St. Peters Day and Boarding school

20. Poor relief:

1776 £32. 7s. 1d. spent on poor relief

1803 £45. 8s. 0 ½ d. spent on poor relief

1818 £97. 1s. spent on poor relief

1830 £88. 19s. spent on poor relief

1832 £97. 1s. spent on poor relief

1834 £79. 15s. spent on poor relief

21. Charities:

Poors Allotment:

1840 Allotment of 13 acres OR 24P let at £14. 12s. 9d. p.a. applied to purchase of coals for poor in winter

22. Other institutions

1464 Guild of St. Peter
1803 Friendly Society (28 members)
1891 Police officer recorded
circa 1919 Lord Kitchener Memorial Holiday Home for ex-
servicemen at Kirkley Cliff built
Hot and Cold Sea Water bath rooms

23. Recreation:

1891 3 beerhouse, beer and wine retailer
Marquis of Lorne public house
The Lion Hotel, Royal Oak Hotel and Cliff Hotel
Kirkley Café and Dining Room
1903 Claremont Pier opened, 760' in length

24. Personal:

25. Other information:

Floating hospital constructed on deck of large wherry moored in Kirkley Ham at height of cholera scare (1871)

Complaints lodged regarding Yarmouth men seeking to poach the fishing grounds and entitlement of Pakefield, Kirkley and Lowestoft. This appears to have been a long running disputes (1666)

Kirkley Ham: reputedly site of ancient haven and link water way of Waveney with the sea. Silted up and disappeared by making of map (1777)