

# 1. Parish: Levington

**Meaning:** Leofa's homestead (Ekwall)

2. **Hundred:** Colneis

**Deanery:** Colneys

**Union:** Woodbridge

**RDC/UDC:** (E.Suffolk) Woodbridge RD (1894–1934), Deben RD (1934–1974), Suffolk Coastal DC (1974–)

## Other administrative details:

Woodbridge County Court and Petty Sessional Division

3. **Area:** 1,016 acres land, 28 acres tidal water, 6 acres inland water, 30 acres foreshore (1912)

4. **Soils:**

- Mixed:**
- a. Deep well drained sandy soils. Risk wind and water erosion.
  - b. Deep well drained coarse loams (often stoneless), some sandy loams. Risk water erosion.

5. **Types of farming:**

- 1500–1640 **Thirsk:** Light lands, sheep/corn region sheep main fertilizing agents, bred for fattening. Barley main cash crop.
- 1818 **Marshall:** Area known as the Sandlings where the cultivation of carrots is undertaken.  
**Young:** Their culture of carrots, their bread of horses is nowhere else to be seen (1813).
- 1937 **Main crops:** Wheat, barley.
- 1969 **Trist:** Sand is ideal for carrot production which was resumed in post war period, now mainly produced for canning. Other crops – turnip and kale seed.

6. **Enclosure:**

7. **Settlement:**

1958 Levington village appears divided by line of boundary. Small well spaced settlement following line of Bucklesham Road. Church situated at southern end. River Orwell forms southern boundary. Railway runs NW–SE.

Some scattered farms.

**Inhabited houses:** 1674 – 14, 1801 – 10, 1851 – 52, 1871 – 42, 1901 – 43, 1951 – 52, 1981 – 65.

## 8. **Communications:**

- Roads:** To Nacton and Bucklesham.  
1891 Carrier to Ipswich on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday (also 1912).
- Rail:** 1891 1½ miles Orwell station: Ipswich–Felixstowe line, opened 1877, Orwell station closed 1959.
- Water:** River Orwell – navigable to sea-going vessels to Ipswich. Levington Creek 1817 – smugglers were apprehended carrying 48 tubs of spirits aboard a boat called 'Daisy'.

## 9. **Population:**

- 1086 — 15  
1327 — 37 taxpayers paid £2. 16s. 1½ d. (includes Nacton and Stratton Hall)  
1524 — 13 taxpayers paid £2. 12s.  
1603 — Not listed  
1674 — 17 households  
1676 — Not listed  
1801 — 165 inhabitants  
1831 — 228 inhabitants  
1851 — 241 inhabitants  
1871 — 169 inhabitants  
1901 — 160 inhabitants  
1931 — 154 inhabitants  
1951 — 155 inhabitants  
1971 — 200 inhabitants  
1981 — 176 inhabitants

## 10. **Benefice: Rectory (united with Nacton)**

- 1254 Valued £2. 13s. 4d.  
1291 Not listed  
1535 Valued £6. 1s. 8d.  
1839 Tithes commute for £243 p.a.  
1887 Combined glebe – 20 acres 0R 29P

### **Patrons:**

As Nacton

## 11. **Church St. Peter** (Chancel, nave, S. porch, W. tower)

- 1086 1 church + 8 acres valued 12d.  
14/15<sup>th</sup> cent. Main structure.  
1636 Upper portion of tower built by Sir Robert Hitcham.

1643 double cross taken down, steps levelled by Puritanical vandals.  
 c.17<sup>th</sup> cent. Chancel paneling from Brightwell Hall.  
 Seats: 150

**12. Nonconformity etc:**

1606 3 persons not receiving communion  
 1839 1 house set aside for worship.

**13. Manorial:**

**Burnavilles**

1086 William de Burnaville held estate for Roger Bigot.  
 1233 Hugh de Burgh owns  
 15<sup>th</sup> cent. Linked to Nacton (Sir John Fastolf).  
 1466/1497 Linked to Trimley St. Martin (Elizabeth & William Brandon).  
 16<sup>th</sup> cent. Linked to Nacton, Ramsholt, Shottisham and Sutton (Sir John Wingfield).  
 1609 Linked to Walton (Sir Robert Hitcham).  
 mid 17<sup>th</sup> cent. Linked to Trimley St. Mary (Edmund Grimston)  
 1743 Admiral Edmund Vernon owns.  
 c.1818 Linked to Bacton, Falkenham (Col. George Tomline).  
 1909 Linked to Bucklesham, Falkenham, Kirton, Trimley St. Martin, Stratton Hall, Walton (E.G. Pretyman)

**14. Market/Fair:**

**15. Real property:**

1844 £686 rental value  
 1891 £1,231 rateable value  
 1912 £1,207 rateable value

**16. Land ownership:**

1844 Sir Robert Harland and Sir Philip Broke principal landowners  
 1891 Land sub-divided  
 1912 E.G. Pretyman and Lord de Saumarez principal landowners

**17. Resident gentry:**

1674 Robert Naunton occupies house with 37 hearths  
 1679 Robert Naunton and Sir Henry Wingfield  
 1891 Rev. J.E. Malins KACL

**18. Occupations:**

1500–1599 1 yeoman, 2 carpenters, 3 fishermen  
1600–1649 3 yeomen, 2 sailors, 1 mariner, 1 servant  
1650–1699 1 spinster, 2 yeomen, 1 husbandman, 3 mariners  
1831 50 in agriculture, 5 in retail/handicrafts, 2 professionals,  
10 in domestic service, 2 others  
1844 5 farmers, shoemaker, victualler, shopkeeper  
1912 Sub-postmaster, 2 carriers, farm bailiff, 2 shopkeepers, 2  
farmers, publican

**19. Education:**

1912 Children attend school at Nacton

**20. Poor relief:**

|      |            |                      |
|------|------------|----------------------|
| 1776 | £34. 9s.   | spent on poor relief |
| 1803 | £101. 19s. | spent on poor relief |
| 1818 | £320. 2s.  | spent on poor relief |
| 1830 | £245. 16s. | spent on poor relief |
| 1832 | £228. 3s.  | spent on poor relief |
| 1834 | £231. 14s. | spent on poor relief |

**21. Charities:**

**Church Estate:** Double tenement + 2 ½ acres let at £15 p.a. to church wardens accounts 1840.

**Hitchams Almshouses:** 6 almshouses founded by Sir Robert Hitcham 1636

**22. Other institutions:**

1803 1 Friendly Society (32 members)  
No date Levington Research station (Fisons)  
1636 Hitchams almshouses

**23. Recreation:**

1844/1912 The Ship public house

**24. Personal:**

1718 Edmund Edwards discovered fertilizing effects of Crag or shell

**25. Other information:**

Levington Yacht Marina opened 1967

Fisons Research Station

Levington Equestrian Centre 1982

Abolished ecclesiastically to create Nacton with Levington 1734