

1. Parish: Monk Soham

Meaning: Meadow/enclosure by the lake

2. Hundred: Hoxne

Deanery: Hoxne

Union: Hoxne (1835–1907), Hartismere (1907–1930)

RDC/UDC: (E. Suffolk) Hoxne R.D. (1894–1934), Hartismere R.D. (1934–1974), Mid Suffolk D.C. (1974)

Other administrative details:

Framlingham Petty Sessional Division and
County Court District

3. Area: 1,619 acres (1912)

4. Soils:

Mixed:

- a. Slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loam over clay
- b. Slowly permeable calcareous/non calcareous clay soils, slight risk water erosion

5. Types of farming:

1086		15 acres meadow, wood for 60 pigs, 1 horse, 10 cattle, 43 pigs, 43 sheep, 21 goats
1500–1640	Thirsk:	Wood–pasture region, mainly pasture, meadow, engaged in rearing and dairying with some pig-keeping, horse breeding and poultry. Crops mainly barley with some wheat, rye, oats, peas, vetches, hops and occasionally hemp.
1818	Marshall:	Course of crops varies usually including summer fallow as preparation for corn products
1937	Main crops:	Wheat, roots, barley, hay
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet

6. Enclosure:

1862 25 acres in Monk Soham enclosed under General Acts 1848

7. Settlement:

1958 Small dispersed settlement. Church situated separately in about the parish centre. Secondary settlement scattered around Monk Soham Green. Hungers Green appears unpopulated. Few scattered farms.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 30, 1801 – 46, 1851 – 90,
1871 – 90, 1901 – 59, 1951 – 58,
1981 – 68

8. Communications:

Road: To Bedingfield, Southolt, Bedfield, Ashfield cum Thorpe and Kenton
1891 Carried to Ipswich Thursday and Friday

Rail: 1912 2 miles Kenton station: Haughley–Laxfield line (Mid–Suffolk Light Railway) opened 1904, opened for passengers 1908, closed for goods 1912, closed completely 1952

9. Population:

1086 – 32 recorded
1327 – 84 taxpayers paid £3 14s. 10d.
(includes Worlingworth)
1524 – 35 taxpayers paid £3 14s. 6d.
1603 – 129 adults
1674 – 39 households
1676 – Not recorded
1801 – 329 inhabitants
1831 – 433 inhabitants
1851 – 448 inhabitants
1871 – 470 inhabitants
1901 – 244 inhabitants
1931 – 208 inhabitants
1951 – 191 inhabitants
1971 – 165 inhabitants
1981 – 191 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Rectory

1254 Valued £8 13s. 4d.
1291 Valued £16 13s. 4d.
1535 Valued £19 5s. 2½d.
1831 Glebe house. Gross income £533. Incumbent also holds Rectory of Earl Soham
1844 82 acres 3R 16P glebe
Modus of £445 p.a. in lieu of tithes 1840

1912 Rectory house built 1846
Nett value £450 p.a. 90 acres glebe and residence

Patrons: Lionell Talmach (1603), Rev. J.H. Groome (1844),
H. Wickham (1912)

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

1086 Church + 50 acres land
c.1300 Chancel and tower. N.doorway
15th cent. Nave and S.porch
1860 Restoration

Seats: 200 (1915)

12. Nonconformity etc:

1844 Wesleyan chapel (not mentioned 1891/1912)

13. Manorial:

Monk Soham Manor

1066/1086 Manor of 4 carucates belonging to Abbot of St. Edmunds
1545 Anthony Rous owns (linked to Badingham, Bedfield,
Brundish, Dennington, Fressingfield, Southolt and
Clopton)

1561 Lionel Talmach owns (linked to Stowmarket, Capel St.
Mary, Copdock, Hintlesham and Bentley)

Late 17th cent. Edmund Clench owns
1696 Sir Anthony Deane owns
1904 Major Clare Charles Anthony Deane owns

Sub-manors:

Blomvile's/Woodcroft Hall

1066 Manor of 1 carucate held by Oslac, a thane
1086 Manor of 1 carucate belonging to Hugh de Montfort and
held by Roger of Candos
1275 Adam le Carpenter owns
1460 John Caldewell owns
1567 Lionel Talmach owns (absorbed by main manor)

14. Markets/Fairs

15. Real property:

1844 £2,072 rental value

1891 £1,985 rateable value
1912 £1,374 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844/1891 Land sub-divided
1912 Major Clare C.A. Deane and Lord Henniker, principal owners

17. Resident gentry:

1679 Andrew Clench
1891 W.H. Groome MA

18. Occupations:

1500–1549 2 husbandmen
1550–1599 3 yeomen
1600–1649 3 yeomen, 2 husbandmen
1650–1699 1 labourer, 9 yeomen, 3 husbandmen, 1 spinster, 1 rector
1831 57 in agriculture, 19 in retail trade, 13 in domestic service, 11 others
1844 Shoemaker, corn miller, blacksmith, machine maker, schoolmistress, 14 farmers
1912 School teacher, 12 farmers, beer retailer, farm bailiff, shopkeeper cattle dealer, publican, thatcher

19. Education:

1844 Schoolmistress listed
National school built 1850, 50 attend 1891,
Average attendance 1912 48

20. Poor relief:

1776 £83 17s. 2d.
1803 £226 3s. 6½d.
1818 £579 19s.
1830 £539
1832 £547 4s.
1834 £439 7s.

21. Charities:

Town Halls:

1792 Guildhall and 2 cottages occupied by poor persons
48 acres 1R 35P let at £42 p.a. applied to maintenance of poorhouses, parish officers, expenses, surplus distributed among poor

22. Other institutions:

1792 Guildhall and poorhouses in existence

23. Recreation:

1891/1912 The White Elm public house and 1 beerhouse/retailer

24. Personal:

25. Other information:

Abbey House: former rectory built 1846.

'The Font at Monk Soham', by C. Morley. PSIA Vol.XVII, p.13.

'The Tithe-customs of Monk Soham, Suffolk in 1617'. East Anglian Notes and
Queries (New Series) Vol.10, p.245.

Published parish registers 1712-1823.