

1. Parish: Nacton

Meaning: Hnaki or Nokkvi's homestead

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 Petty Sessional Division
Ipswich County Court District

3. **Area:** 1,912 acres land, 152 acres tidal water, 449 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:**

1086		Wood for 8 pigs, 2 acres meadow, 1 mill, 1 cob, 123 sheep
1500–1640	Thirsk:	Light lands. Sheep corn region where sheep are main fertilizing agent, bred for fattening. Barley main cash crop.
1813	Young:	Their culture of carrots, their breed of courses is nowhere else to be seen
1818	Marshall:	Area known as the Sandlings where the cultivation of carrots is undertaken.
1937	Main Crops:	Sugar beet, 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:**

1807 541 acres enclosed at Nacton, Trimley St. Mary and St. Martin and Kirton under Private Acts of Lands 1805
1810 Nacton Heath enclosed (1891 Directory)

7. Settlement:

1958 Long well spaced settlement restricted to south by Orwell Park. Follows line of Bucklesham Road, Church situated at southern end of development
Southern boundary – River Orwell, Railway runs W-E.
Few scattered farms

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 34, 1801 – 51, 1851 – 126, 1871 –88,
1901 – 98, 1951 – 394, 1981 – 290

8. Communications:

Road: To Bucklesham, Levington and Ipswich
1891 Carrier to Ipswich on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
1912 Carriers from Levington to Ipswich on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Rail: Orwell station (in Nacton Parish). Ipswich to Felixstowe line opened (1877), closed (1959)

Water: River Orwell – navigable to sea-going vessels to Ipswich

9. Population:

1086 — 24 recorded
1327 — 37 taxpayers paid £2. 16s. 1 ½ d. (includes Levington and Stratton Hall)
1524 — 31 taxpayers paid £3. 13s. 4d. (incomplete)
1603 — 100 adults
1674 — 36 households
1676 — not recorded
1801 — 461 inhabitants
1831 — 712 inhabitants
1851 — 810 inhabitants
1871 — 591 inhabitants
1901 — 456 inhabitants
1931 — 468 inhabitants
1951 — 493 inhabitants
1971 — 727 inhabitants
1981 — 722 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Rectory (united with Levington)

1254 Valued £6.
1291 Valued £6.
1535 Valued £8. 7s. 1d.
1831 1 curate, stipend £100 p.a. Incumbent also holds PRebend in Cathedral of Lincoln
1839 Combined tithes commuted for £513 p.a.
1887 Combined glebe – 20 acres OR 29P

Patrons: Richard Brooke (1603), Lady Harland (1831), Major Benson Harrison (1891), Rt. Hon. E.G. Pretyman (1918)

11. Church **St. Martin**
(Chancel, nave, aisles, vestry, W. tower)

14/15th cent. Main structure, including tower
1907/8 Restoration. Aisles added, chancel arch enlarged

Seats : 350

12. Nonconformity etc:

1839 Wesleyan chapel built
1882 Independent school listed
1912 Congregational chapel

13. Manorial:

1066 Manor of 2 carucates held by Guthmund from St.
Etheldreda's
1086 Manor of 2 carucates belonging to Hugh de Montfort

Brokes Hall al Cowhugh al Cow Hall

13th cent. Linked to Bucklesham and Walton (Richard de Holbroke)
1387 Linked to Levingham (Sir John Fastolf)
circa 1514 Linked to Bucklesham, Blythburgh (Sir Richard Broke)
1860 Sir George Nathaniel Broke Middleton of Shrublands Hall
owns.
1909 Linked to Bucklesham (Lord de Saumarez)

Sub-Manors:

Sholond/Sholland Hall/Lame Manor

13th cent. Absorbed by main manor (Richard de Holbroke)

Purdies/Purdews

1580 Linked to Walton (John Barker). Conveyed in same year
to Richard Broke (absorbed by main manor).

St Peters

-1527 Owned by St. Peters, Ipswich
1527 Cardinal Wolsey owns
circa 1633 Absorbed by main manor (Richard Broke)

14. Markets/Fairs

15. Real property:

1844	£2,065 rental value
1891	£2,607 rateable value
1912	£2,944 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844	Sir Philip Broke, Sir Robert Harland and Major Walker are the principal landowners
1891	Capt. E.G. Pretyman, principal owner
1912	Lady de Saumarez and E.G. Pretyman are principal owners

17. Resident gentry:

1679	1 Bart., 1 gent
1680	Sir Robert Brooke
1808	John Vernon, High Sheriff of Suffolk
1817	Sir Robert Harland, High Sheriff of Suffolk
1844	Sir Philip Broke, High Sheriff of Suffolk
1864	Sir George Nathaniel Broke Middleton, High Sheriff of Suffolk

18. Occupations:

1500-1549	3 husbandmen, 2 mariners, 1 freemason, 2 carpenter
1550-1599	2 husbandmen, 3 fishermen, 2 mariners, 1 weaver, 1 yeoman, 1 labourer
1600-1649	5 husbandmen, 2 fishermen, 3 mariners, 7 yeomen, 1 pastor, 1 ploughwright, 1 spinster
1650-1699	1 husbandman, 1 tailor, 4 mariners, 1 house carpenter, 3 yeomen, 2 maltsters, 3 cordwainers
1831	94 agriculture, 35 in retail trade/handicrafts, 3 in manufacturing, 3 professionals, 1 labouring, 49 in domestic service, 11 others
1844	4 shopkeepers, 2 farmers, governor of workhouse, schoolmaster, joiner, 2 shoemakers, butchers, victualler, blacksmith, miller, tailor, wheelwright
1912	Sub post-master, teachers, station master, estate clerk, 2 farm bailiffs, 2 shopkeeper, 3 farmers, shoemaker, wheelwright, blacksmith, land agent, head gamekeeper, head gardener, clerk

19. Education:

1818	1 National school (30 attend), 1 Sunday school (48 attend) 2 schools held 3 days per week at the poor house (42 attend)
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1833 1 Infant school (16 attend), 1 National school (31 attend),
1 daily school (23 attend), 1 boarding school (20 attend),
1 established church Sunday school (79 attend), 1
dissenters Sunday school (25 attend)

1844 1 schoolmaster listed. 1 Boarding school

1891 National school (130 attend)

1911 Public Elementary school built, average attendance
(1912) 128

20. Poor relief:

1776	£67. 9s. 2d.	spent on poor relief
1803	£135. 0s. 4d.	spent on poor relief
1818	£614. 15s.	spent on poor relief
1830	£288. 6s.	spent on poor relief
1832	£462. 19s.	spent on poor relief
1834	£398. 14s.	spent on poor relief

21. Charities:

22. Other institutions:

1803 Woodbridge Union workhouse built (1756), 187 inmates
(1841), closed (1900), inmates transferred to Ipswich
House of Industry
2 Friendly Societies (72 members)

23. Recreation:

1844/1891 The Anchor public house

24. Personal:

Admiral Vernon created Peer of Ireland, Viscount Orwell (1776). Nephew of
Admiral Vernon (d. 1843) rebuilt house and surrounded it with grounds known
as Orwell Park

Admiral Sir Philip Bowes Vere Broke: distinguished himself as captain of the
Shannon in engagement with US frigate Chesapeake (d. 1841)

25. Other information:

Domesday vill – Kembroke

Orwell Park: extended (1851-53) and (1873) (by Col. Tomline), built (circa
1700's). Contains observatory holding 12th equatorially mounted refracting
telescope (1891)

Broke Hall: said to have been built (1526) by Sir Richard Broke. Redbuilt and
enlarged (1767) by Philip Bowes Broke. Remodelled (1773-5 and 1791-2)

Workhouse, built (1756). Amberfield School for girls built on site. Riot to pull down workhouse, dispelled by troops (1765)

Area called Seven Hills said to be sight of Earl Ulfketels engagement with the Danes (1010)

Reward of 5 guineas offered for apprehension of poachers from fishponds in Orwell Park (1764)

The first steeple chase was run between Ipswich barracks and Nacton church (1803), the officers wearing nightshirts over their uniforms and nightcaps on their heads.

3,000+ ducks trapped and killed each season at Nacton decoy for the London markets (1920/30's) Decoy leased to Wildfowl Trust (no dates)

Crows Hall: built by Sir Richard Broke (1526), enlarged (1767) by Philip Bowes Broke (could refer to Broke Hall)

Archaeological Sites:

Round barrows (CRN 3857-66)

Ring Ditches (CRN 3867)

Mound/Warren (CRN 3872)

Church of St. Martin (CRN 3873)

Stray finds:

Med. pottery (CRN 3868)

B.A. arrowhead (CRN 3869)

B.A. spearhead (CRN 3877)

B.A. axe (CRN 3878)

Rom. pottery (CRN 3870, 106)

B.A. socketed axe (CRN 707)

Neo. knife (CRN 3871)

Rom. broach (CRN CRN 2285)

Rom. coin (CRN 2297, 2287, 2299, 106)

B.A. rapier (CRN 3343, 706)

Neo. arrowhead (CRN 2286, 3875)

Med. strap end (CRN 2291, 2300, 2283)

P. Med. buckle (CRN 2284)

Med. buckle (CRN 3881)

Med. ampulla (CRN 2301)

Pal. knife (CRN 3874)

Sax. flagon (CRN 3880)

I.A. pottery (CRN 109)

Lead tray (CRN 11)

Med. horse harness mount (CRN 112)

I.A. gold coin (CRN 113)

I.A. bronze coin (CRN 714)

Scatter finds:

Med. scatter (CRN 2298, 110)

Sax. pottery (CRN 2288, 2290)

Rom. pottery (CRN 2289)
Worked flint (CRN 3876, 107)
Worked flint (CRN 108)