

1. Parish: Southolt

Meaning: Southern ridge of land or spur of hill and wood

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:

Abolished ecclesiastically to create Bedingfield with Southolt 1951
Hoxne Petty Sessional Division
Eye County Court District

3. **Area:** 821 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:**

Mixed: Slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loam over clay

5. **Types of farming:**

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, peas, beans

1969 Trist: More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet

6. **Enclosure:**

7. **Settlement:**

1958 Small well-spaced development situated between the church (at the western end) and around the Green (at the eastern end)
Railway clips southern sector of parish crossing NE–SW

Few scattered farms

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 19, 1801 – 23, 1851 – 39,
1871 – 34, 1901 – 28, 1951 – 25,
1981 – 25

8. Communications:

Road: To Occold, Bedingfield, Worlingworth and Monk Soham

Rail: 1891 5 miles Eye station: Mellis–Eye line opened 1865,
closed for passengers 1931, closed for goods 1964
1912 1 mile Worlingworth station: Haughley–Laxfield line
(Mid-Suffolk Light Railway) opened 1904, opened for
passengers 1908, closed for goods 1912, closed
completely 1952

9. Population:

1086 – Not recorded
1327 – 37 taxpayers paid £3 4s. 5d.
(includes Bedingfield)
1524 – 9 taxpayers paid £2 6s. 4d.
1603 – 245 adults (includes Southolt)
1674 – 24 households
1676 – Not recorded
1801 – 211 inhabitants
1831 – 193 inhabitants
1851 – 209 inhabitants
1871 – 165 inhabitants
1901 – 126 inhabitants
1931 – 109 inhabitants
1951 – 86 inhabitants
1971 – 61 inhabitants
1981 – 58 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Curacy (united with Worlingworth) (–1951)

1254 Value not recorded
1291 Value not recorded
1535 Value with Worlingworth at £19 12s. 4½d.
1831 Glebe house, joint gross income £790 p.a.
1844 Modus of £237 10s. in lieu of tithes
1891 Incumbent resides in Worlingworth
1912 Average joint nett value £534 p.a. and residence.
Incumbent resides in Worlingworth
1951 United with Bedingfield

Patrons: John Thurston (1603), Lord Henniker (1831–)

11. Church St. Margaret

(Chancel, nave, S. porch, W. turret)

15th cent. Nave and porch
1907 Restoration, chancel and W. end of nave modern
1978 Made redundant

Seats: 130 (1915)

12. Nonconformity etc:

Curate does not wear surplice 1597

13. Manorial:

1263 Anciently considered hamlet of Worlingworth
William de Bovile owns who reputedly gave it to St.
John's Abbey, Colchester
1545 Anthony Rous owns (linked to Badingham, Bedfield,
Brundish, Dennington, Fressingfield and Clopton)
1565 John Thurston owns (linked to Hoxne and Worlingworth)
c.1613 Bartholomew Brooke owns
c.1690 John Cudworth owns (linked to Bentley)
1763 Robert Palmer owns
1789 James Cardy owns
c.1828 George Edwards owns
1840 Edgar Chenery owns
1909 Rev. J.M. Brooke owns (linked to Badingham)

14. Markets/Fairs

15. Real property:

1844 £1,077 rental value
1891 £934 rateable value
1912 £574 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844–1912 Land sub-divided

17. Resident gentry:

18. Occupations:

1550–1599 1 yeoman, 1 cooper
1600–1649 4 yeomen, 1 baker, 1 bricklayer, 1 wheelwright, 1
merchant
1650–1699 1 yeoman
1831 27 in agriculture, 11 in retail trade, 3 in domestic service,
4 others
1844 3 farmers, victualler, wheelwright

1912 7 farmers, publican, grocer

19. Education:

1818 1 Sunday school (25 attend)
1833 1 Sunday school (22 attend)
1891 United with Worlingworth for educational purposes
1912 Children attend school at Worlingworth

20. Poor relief:

1776 £53 18s.
1803 £81 2s. 3½d.
1818 £250 6s.
1830 £253
1832 £228 19s.
1834 £207 7s.

21. Charities:

Town Lands:

1821 House, yard and 51 acres 2R 26P let at £61 p.a. applied to churchwarden's expenses, support of Sunday school, repairs to poorhouse and purchase of clothing for poor

22. Other institutions:

23. Recreation:

1844–1912 The Plough public house

24. Personal:

25. Other information:

Parish contains 2 commons of 12 acres 1908