

1. Parish: Willingham

Meaning: Village of Willa's people

2. Hundred: Wangford

Deanery: Wangford (-1914), Beccles (1914-1972), Beccles and South Elmham (1972-)

Union: Wangford

RDC/UDC: (E. Suffolk) Wangford R.D. (1894-1934), Wainford R.D. (1934-1974), Waveney D.C. (1974-)

Other administrative details:

Beccles Petty Sessional Division
Beccles and Bungay County Court District

3. Area: 1,027 acres (1912)

4. Soils:

Mixed:

- a. Slowly permeable calcareous/non calcareous clay soils, slight risk water erosion
- b. Some permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loam over clay
- c. Deep well drained sandy and coarse loam soils, some with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging, risk wind erosion

5. Types of farming:

1086		Wood for 70 pigs, 8 pigs, valued at 3,100 herrings
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 Also has similarities with sheep-corn region where sheep are main fertilising agent, bred for fattening, barley main cash crop
1818	Marshall:	Wide variations of crop and management techniques including summer fallow in preparation for corn and rotation of turnip, barley, clover, wheat on lighter lands
1937	Main crops:	Wheat, barley, roots
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet

6. Enclosure:

7. Settlement:

1961 Small development on edge of Sotterley Park.
Scattered farms.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 18, 1801 – 16, 1851 – 32,
1871 – 34, 1901 – 32, 1951 – 43,
1981 – 55

8. Communications:

Road: Link roads only

Rail: 1891 3½ miles Beccles station: Ipswich–Lowestoft line,
line to Beccles opened 1854, closed for goods 1966
Tivetshall – Lowestoft line, line to Beccles opened
1863, closed 1965

9. Population:

1086 – 33 recorded
1327 – 68 taxpayers paid £4 3s. (includes
Sotterley and Shadingfield)
1524 – 3 taxpayers paid £9s. 6d.
1603 – Not recorded
1674 – 29 households
1676 – Not recorded
1801 – 136 inhabitants
1831 – 158 inhabitants
1851 – 160 inhabitants
1871 – 155 inhabitants
1901 – 138 inhabitants
1931 – 134 inhabitants
1951 – 166 inhabitants
1971 – 140 inhabitants
1981 – 156 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Rectory (united with Sotterley)

1254 Valued £10
1291 Valued £6 13s. 4d.
1535 Valued £6 13s. 4d.
United with North Cove 1526, consolidated with North
Cove 1743
Rector of Ellough has glebe and claims tithes from this
parish 1745

1831 Curate, stipend £63 p.a. No glebe house. Joint gross income £353 p.a. Incumbent also holds rectory of Frostenden
 United with Sotterley 1873
 1912 Joint nett value £310

Patrons: The Crown (1270–1831), Capt. M. Barne (1912)

11. Church St. Mary

1086 Church + 40 acres valued 7s.
 c.1529 Church demolished, definitely extinct by 1743

12. Nonconformity etc:

13. Manorial:

Willingham Manor

1066 Estate of 30 acres held by Gunnulf under patronage of Burghard
 1086 Manor of 30 acres belonging to Roger Bigot
 1531 Playters family owns (linked to Sotterley and Ellough)
 1896 Rev. Sir C. Clarke owns

14. Markets/Fairs

15. Real property:

1844 £965 rental value
 1891 £832 rateable value
 1912 £613 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844 Land sub-divided
 1891 St. J. Barne and Rev. Sir C. Clarke, principal owners
 1912 Capt. M. Barne, principal owner

17. Resident gentry:

1680 1 gent recorded

18. Occupations:

1550–1599 1 husbandman, 1 yeoman
 1600–1649 1 yeoman
 1650–1699 1 butcher, 5 yeomen
 1831 37 in agriculture, 6 in retail trade, 2 in labouring, 5 in domestic service

1844 1 victualler, 1 blacksmith, 1 wheelwright, 1 joiner, 4 farmers
1912 1 estate agent, 4 farmers, 1 smith, 1 gardener, 1 publican

19. Education:

1912 Children attend school in Sotterley

20. Poor relief:

1776 £24 17s. 8d.
1803 £53 14s. 4d.
1818 £194 12s.
1830 £97 16s.
1832 £146
1834 £145 19s.

21. Charities:

22. Other institutions:

Guild of St. John the Baptist (no dates)
Almshouses (12 inmates) 1674

23. Recreation:

1844 The Fox public house
1874 1 beerhouse
1912 The Fox public house

24. Personal:

25. Other information: